



Ref: FOI / 1975

24 August 2018

Mr
BBC Radio Foyle

Email: @bbc.co.uk

Dear Mr

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request Dog control issues

I refer to your FOI request and respond as follows:

1 – The number of incidents recorded of loose or out of control dogs to the council in 2015, 2016, 2017 and the year to date.

Answer 1.	2015 – 2016	1,122
	2016 – 2017	1,651
	2016 – 2017	976
	2018 - 2019	367

2 – The number of complaints about dogs on beaches in 2015, 2016, 2017 and the year to date.

Answer 2.	Council does not have a beach
	2015 – 2016 0
	2016 – 2017 0
	2016 – 2017 0
	2017 – 2018 0

3 – The number of fixed penalty fines for dog waste issued for 2015, 2016 and 2017 (broken down into months) and the year to date.

Answer 3. We do not hold information in a format where it is broken down into months

2015 – 2016	7
2016 – 2017	4
2016 – 2017	5
2018 – 2019	3

4 - Please supply figures for the number of dogs seized as a banned breed type under the Dangerous Dogs Act in 2015, 2016, 2017 and the year to date.

Answer 4. 2015 – 2016 0

2016 – 2017 0

2016 – 2017 0

*2018 – 2019 0

*1 dog with Pitbull characteristics was surrendered to Council

5 - How many complaints did you receive about dog fouling in 2015, 2016 and 2017 (broken down into months) and the year to date?

Answer 5. We do not hold information in a format where it is broken down into months

2015 – 2016	1265
2016 – 2017	1688
2016 – 2017	1465
2018 – 2019	660

6 - Who deals with the dog fouling complaints within your local authority i.e. cleansing team, dog warden or enforcement officers?

Answer 6. Council uses a joined up across council functions which include: dog control, public health, waste management, cleansing and litter control.

Derry

C/o Council Offices
98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

Strabane

C/o Council Offices
47 Derry Road
Strabane
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253
info@derrystrabane.com
www.derrystrabane.com

f Derry City & Strabane District Council
@dcsdcouncil

7 - What are you currently doing to tackle the issues around dog fouling?

Answer 7. Balanced enforcement and education initiatives. Efficient and effective response to complaints, proactive patrols of problem areas, partnerships with community groups, large scale provision of dog foul bins, installation of signage including CCTV signage and cameras. Schools and community education programmes.

8 - The number of seized/abandoned dogs in 2015, 2016, 2017 to the year to date.

Answer 8.	2015 – 2016	299
	2016 – 2017	263
	2016 – 2017	188
	2018 – 2019	52

9 – The number of abandoned/seized dogs euthanized in 2015, 2016, 2017 and the year to date.

Answer 9.	2015 – 2016	7
	2016 – 2017	19
	2016 – 2017	7
	2018 – 2019	4

10 – How long are abandoned/seized kept for by the council before euthanasia?

Answer 10. Stray dogs must be kept for a minimum of 5 days before council can rehome or euthanize dogs. Fortunately the vast majority of dogs are rehomed through the Council Dog Shelter or through a number of animal rehoming services who we work in partnership with. Some dogs are not re-homeable such as dogs that have a history of aggression or are in poor health.

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

I would advise however, the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Director of Health and Community



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