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[Redacted]

By email: [Redacted]

Our ref: FOI2024/01163
7 February 2024

Dear [Redacted],

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: XL Bully ban and exemptions under the Dangerous Dog Act

Thank you for your request for information of 15 January 2024 about the XL Bully ban and exemptions under the Dangerous Dog Act. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

Under the freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I am seeking information about the number of exemptions applied for under the XL Bully ban between the day when registrations were opened (31st October 2023) and up to the point at which you can respond.

1) The number of exemptions applied for

We received 26,586 applications for certificates of exemption as of 15 January 2024 (date of your request).

2) How many have been successful

Out of the number above, 22,420 applications have been successful as of 15 January 2024 (date of your request).

3) How many have been denied

We can confirm that 4,166 applications have been unsuccessful as of 15 January. The reasons include: invalid insurance start dates; owners less than 16 years of age; invalid payment references; or they were duplicate applications.

4) Total revenue generated by non-refundable fee

The application fee is £92.40. This covers the administrative costs for the life of the dog, including processing the application and lifetime record management.

5) The number of applications for the £200 refund for Euthanasia of an XL Bully

We received 137 applications for the £200 compensation payment as of 15 January 2024



(date of your request).

6) The total cost of refunding euthanasia fees to date.

We had paid £13,600 in compensation for euthanasia under the XL Bully compensation scheme as of 15 January 2024 (date of your request), which reflects 68 completed compensation payments.

Information disclosed in response to this FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]

Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

Annex A

Copyright

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to ^[Redacted], Head of Information Rights via email at InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted using the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>