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By email:

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Our ref: FOI2024/02479  
14 February 2024

Dear

Redacted

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Exempt dogs by breed, including XL Bully

Thank you for your request for information of 31 January 2024 about exempt dogs by breed, including the XL Bully. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

1. *As of 1 February 2024, how many dogs are currently on the Index of Exempted Dogs?*

As of 1 February 2024, there are 41,526 dogs on the Index of Exempted Dogs.

Please note that all figures in this response are as of 1 February 2024. The work processing applications for the XL Bully type dog is not yet finalised and therefore, these figures are subject to change. We will be looking to publish a final figure shortly on Defra's GOV.UK website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

2. *Can you break this down by breed please?*

Please see the breakdown of banned breed types on the Index of Exempted Dogs below.

Breed type	Number on the Index of Exempted Dogs as of 1 February 2024
XL Bully	38,424
Pit Bull Terrier	3,079
Dogo Argentino	20
Japanese Tosa	3
Fila Brasileiro	0



3. *Can the public access the index to see if dogs living close by are on the list?*

The public cannot access the Index of Exempted Dogs.

4. *Do you have any record of dogs listed on the index being destroyed after attacking a human?*

We do not hold this data; however, local police forces may store these figures.

Information disclosed in response to this FOIA 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](mailto: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 <sup>Redacted</sup> <sup>Redacted</sup>, Head of Information Rights via email at [InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk](mailto: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/>