

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London, NW9 4EW
21 October 2021
Our ref: 7712640

Thank you for your request received on 8 October 2021, for the following information:

Please could you provide with the following information regarding the number of smuggled dogs seized at UK borders:

*** The number of reports you have received, either from the public or anyone else, in relation to the suspected illegal importation of puppies? Please provide the figures for each year since January 2016, as well as the latest data you have for 2021.**

*** Please confirm how many of these reports have been investigated further. Please provide the figures for each year.**

*** Over the same period, broken down by year, a) how many puppies were seized by Trading Standards on suspicion that they were in breach of the Rabies Order 1974; and b) how many of these puppies were subsequently quarantined?**

*** Over the same period, broken down by year, how many prosecutions has the Local Authority carried out in relation to illegally imported puppies under either a) the Rabies Order 1974 or b) The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals Order 2011)?**

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide assistance, under your Section 16 obligations, as to how I can refine my request to be included in the scope of the Act.

We have processed this request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Response

I am writing to inform you that we have searched our records and the information you requested is not held by London Borough of Barnet.

Unfortunately, upon undertaking a thorough search of our records, We have found no complaints/notifications dating back to 2016 (or further) pertaining to either the illegal importation of puppies or suspected breaches of either The Rabies Order 1974 or the Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals Order 2011.

A reason for this may be that the Borough of Barnet is not a location with a significant amount of import as it is neither a port nor hosting an airport - both of which would likely be the key methods of illegally smuggling puppies into the country

Further information

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link www.ico.org.uk

For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.

Your rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: foi@barnet.gov.uk. Or by post to Records & Information Management Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website www.ico.org.uk). There is no charge for making an appeal.