

We are writing to you with a Freedom of Information Request relating to equine care and welfare. We are conducting a project for the RSPCA exploring equine welfare and management in England and Wales (incorporating Equine Overpopulation, Overbreeding, Neglect and Abandonment) and would be grateful for any information you have on this issue.

We specifically request information you have on the following aspects in your area each year for the last 10 years, and welcome associated information you have:

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| 1) Number of licensed equine establishments (both riding schools and those hiring out horses, ponies and donkeys) | In the last 10 years there have been 13 licences issued. |
| 2) Number of livery yards | Information not held by Wigan Council |
| 3) Number of licenced equine slaughtermen (knackermen) and abattoirs | Information not held by Wigan Council |
| 4) Number of equines slaughtered in the abattoirs and killed by knackermen in your area | Information not held by Wigan Council |
| 5) Number of complaints/ calls relating to equine welfare, and the outcome of those calls | None |
| 6) Number of calls received about fly grazing or equine abandonment with number of horses, ponies and donkeys involved. | Due to the infrequency of reports no official records have been kept. There were a number of reports for a short period in 2018, we took action at the time with horse seizures, which seems to have addressed the problem. |
| 7) Number of horses, ponies and donkeys detained after being reported as fly grazing or abandoned | Due to the infrequency of reports no official records have been kept. There were a number of reports for a short period in 2018, we took action at the time with horse seizures, which seems to have addressed the problem. |
| 8) Number of equine welfare related prosecutions | None |
| 9) Number of equine passport fixed penalty notices | None |