



Request

1. How many dog breeders are currently licensed by your council?
2. How do you assess compliance with the dog breeding licence condition set out in sch 6, para 6(5) of the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 ("LAIA"), which states, *"No dog may be kept for breeding if it can reasonably be expected, on the basis of its genotype, phenotype or state of health that breeding from it could have a detrimental effect on its health or welfare or the health or welfare of its offspring"*?

Response

7

For new applications, our Inspector is accompanied by an Approved Veterinary Surgeon, who will carry out their own health checks on the dogs that have been named on the application as a proposed breeding bitch, as well as any stud dogs at the premises.

The Veterinary Surgeon will check each dog for any known breed specific hereditary conditions. They will look for signs of any poor conformation, such as Brachycephalic, which may lead to breathing difficulties or any exaggerated features that could affect welfare. They will also assess the temperament and any behaviour that may affect the dog's ability to parent or cope with breeding.

Council Inspectors will ask applicants for evidence of any health screening test results, or any kennel club registration documents, such as 5th generation certificates, coefficient (COI) testing, details of any previous litters etc.

They will ask to see vet records for all dogs, recent vet checks, vaccination history, and any treatment for chronic conditions. The Inspector will also look for any signs of pain, distress, or poor condition during the inspection.

The professional opinion of the Approved Veterinary Surgeon will be considered by the Council Officer when writing their report and deciding if the applicant demonstrates compliance.

For renewal applications, Council Officers will continue to ask for the information referred to above. If there has been any change to the breed of dogs being proposed within the application, consideration will be given to the Approved Veterinary Surgeon accompanying them on the inspection.

3. Please advise:

a. How many instances of non-compliance with sch 6, para 6(5) of LAIAR has your council recorded since October 2018?

This information is not recorded in a reportable format

b. How many dog breeding licences have been
i. refused, ii. varied, iii. suspended, or iv. revoked by your council due to non-compliance with sch 6, para 6(5) of LAIAR since October 2018?

i. refused- 1
ii. varied - 0
iii. suspended
- 0

c. How many operators have been i. prosecuted for and ii. convicted of an offence contrary to reg 20(1)(a) LAIAR by your council for breaching the dog breeding licence condition contained in sch 6, para 6(5) LAIAR?

0 for all elements

d. If applicable, what penalties were imposed on any convicted operators referred to in your response to 3(c)?

N/A

Please provide a breakdown for the above information by year using the example table attached.

4. With reference to your answer to question 3(a) above, if any instances of non-compliance were recorded, please indicate the grounds upon which the operator was found to be in breach of sch 6, para 6(5) LAIAR?

This information is not recorded in a reportable format. Since 1 October 2018 we have received 244 applications for animal activity licences. To check each of these applications to determine the activity, and then compliance with the relevant condition would take on average 10-15 minutes per record. This would therefore exceed 18 hours.

5. Please provide copies of any internal policies relating to the enforcement and implementation of the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018.

Officers work in accordance with the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, the Statutory Guidance, as well as the Council's own Enforcement Policy.

[Enforcement Policy](#)

6. For all dog breeding licences issued or refused in the past three years, please provide copies of inspection forms held. I understand that any personal information will need to be redacted. If inspection reports are not held (e.g because inspections are carried out by another local authority or regulatory service on your council's behalf) please provide the name of the authority / service provider that holds this information.

See attached