



Our Ref: 000629/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 25 March 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 23/02/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *What does the police service do if they receive any reports of animal cruelty under either section 4 or section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006?*
 - a. *Record the incident only and no further action*
 - b. *Record the incident and pass on to the appropriate council*
 - c. *Record the incident and pass on to the RSPCA*
 - d. *Record the incident and investigate*
 - e. *Other (please explain below)*
2. *Does the police service have any members trained in animal welfare legislation? And if so how many and what aspects, e.g. pet animals, dogs, wildlife, etc.?*
3. *How many incident complaints has the police service received under the national incident category list of "animals/wildlife" (as per the National Standard for Incident Reporting) for each year for the last ten years? (Please use the table below)*
4. *Does the police service filter such incidents to specific teams within the service to assess and respond to accordingly?*
 - a. *Yes*
 - b. *No*
 - c. *Other (please explain below)*
5. *Does the police service use any sub-categories for recording such incidents, for example 'cruelty', 'pet animal', etc? If so please can you share below?*
6. *How many crimes has the police service recorded under the national incident category list of "animals/wildlife" (as per the National Standard for Incident Reporting) for each year for the last ten years?*

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Leicestershire Police to locate information relevant to your request.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information asked for is as follows: -

1. If Leicestershire Police receive any reports of animal cruelty under either Section 4 or Section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 we:

- a. Record the incident and pass onto the RSPCA
 - b. Record the incident and investigate
2. Leicestershire Police currently have 6 wildlife trained officers, in addition we have a further 18 Officers being trained this year. Annual refresher training is undertaken by the trained officers.
3. Leicestershire Police recorded the below incidents relating to your request in the period requested:

Year	Number of Incidents Animal/Wildlife
2011	1685
2012	2161
2013	2864
2014	2810
2015	2612
2016	2770
2017	2364
2018	2378
2019	1854
2020	1825
2021	323
Grand Total	23646

4. Leicestershire Police do filter and assess such incidents and respond accordingly.
5. Leicestershire Police do not use specific sub-categories for these offences
6. Leicestershire Police are only able to provide information for the number of crimes from 28th April 2015 due to a change in recording systems below is the information for this:

Year	No. of Crimes
2015 from 28th April	
2016	
2017	1
2018	
2019	1
2020	4

Leicestershire Police provides you the right to ask for a re-examination of your request under its review procedure. Letters should be addressed to Information Manager, Corporate Services Department at the above address. If you decide to request such a review and having followed the Force's full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer
Leicestershire Police

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