



Hampshire Constabulary
Chief Constable Alex Marshall

Amanda Dunckley
request-8542-
xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Police Headquarters
West Hill
Romsey Road
Winchester
Hampshire
SO22 5DB

Our ref: HC/00795/09

Your ref:

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1st April 2009

Dear Ms Dunckley

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: HC/00795/09

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act was received by the Information Compliance Unit at Hampshire Constabulary on 4th March 2009. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. How many dogs have been seized under Section One of the Dangerous Dogs Act in each year from 2000 to 2008?
2. How many prosecutions under Section One and Section Three of the Dangerous Dogs Act did the Hampshire police proceed with in 2007 and 2008?
3. How many dogs have been seized under Section One of the Dangerous Dogs Act so far this year (2009)? Of those seized, how many have been signed over for destruction by their owners?
4. How many applications have been made to the magistrate's court under section 4b of the Dangerous Dogs Act in the last three years?
5. Of those 4b applications, how many resulted in destruction orders and how many resulted in registration onto the Index of Exempted Dogs?
6. How many dogs are currently held under Section One and Section Three of the Dangerous Dogs Act?
7. What number of dogs seized under Section One of the Dangerous Dogs Act over the last three years, have been destroyed or have died whilst in police custody, due to illness, injury or disease?

RESULT OF SEARCHES

Point 1

This information is exempt from disclosure under s21 of the Freedom of Information Act, Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means.

Information relating to the seizure of dangerous dogs has been released previously under FOI and is published on the Hampshire Constabulary website at the following link:

<http://www.hampshire.police.uk/NR/rdonlyres/2B819E04-0E92-4B72-A6D6-CD058C0C1F85/0/HC0119808.pdf>



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Point 2

The number of prosecutions under Section One and Section Three of the Dangerous Dogs Act are as follows:

	2007		2008*		
	8/21	8/23	8/21	8/22	8/23
Charged	7	20	9		9
Summoned	40	1	30		
Charged - Lesser Offence		1			
Charged - alternative offence rule			1		3
Simple Caution	9	6	9	1	2
Conditional Caution		1			
Juvenile Reprimand	1	6			4
Offender Dead	1				

* Please note that not all charges may have been finalised for the 2008 calendar year

Point 3

Hampshire Constabulary does not hold this information as the answer is none.

Points 4 & 5

Hampshire Constabulary does not hold this information. Destruction orders are issued by the Magistrates/ Judge following a trial, therefore you may wish to contact the courts for this information.

Point 6

5 dogs are currently being held in kennels.

Point 7

4 dogs.

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet detailing your rights.

Thank you for your interest in Hampshire Constabulary.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact Becky Hill on telephone number 01962 814757 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Becky Hill
Freedom of Information Decision Maker



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COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to require Hampshire Constabulary to review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint, you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer who dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again –

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of Hampshire Constabulary made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding access to information, you can lodge a complaint with Hampshire Constabulary to have the decision reviewed. Hampshire Constabulary must be notified of your intention to complain within 2 months of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Freedom of Information
Information Compliance Unit
Police Headquarters
West Hill, Romsey Road
Winchester
Hants SO22 5DB

In all possible circumstances, Hampshire Constabulary will aim to respond to your complaint within 3 months.

The Information Commissioner

If, after lodging a complaint with Hampshire Constabulary, you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you may make application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner, please visit their website at www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 01625 545 700