

15 July 2026

Dear

ATISN 27208 - Dog Breeding Licences, Inspections and Enforcement Activity (2016–2026)

Thank you for your request which we received on 13 July 2026.

You asked for:

Information for each year from 2016 to 2026, or for the most recent ten-year period available on the following:

1. Licensed dog breeders

- The total number of licensed dog breeders registered within your authority area, broken down by year.
- The number of new dog breeding licence applications received each year.
- The number of applications that were: Approved
Refused
Suspended
Revoked

2. Inspections and compliance

- The total number of inspections carried out on licensed dog breeders, broken down by year.

Where recorded, please provide the number of: Routine inspections

Unannounced inspections

Follow-up compliance inspections

3. Complaints and enforcement activity

The number of complaints received relating to:

- Illegal dog breeding
- Unlicensed dog breeding or suspected puppy farming
- Animal welfare concerns linked to breeding activities

You also asked for the number of enforcement actions taken in relation to illegal or unethical dog breeding, including:

- Warning notices
- Fixed penalty notices or fines
- Prosecutions
- Licence suspensions or revocations
- Seizures or removal of animals

4. Animal seizures and welfare interventions

- The number of dogs seized, rescued, or removed in connection with illegal breeding operations or welfare investigations.

5. Internal reports and assessments

- Copies of any internal reports, assessments, briefing documents, committee papers, or summaries relating to trends, challenges, or enforcement activity concerning illegal dog breeding or puppy farming within your authority area.

You asked if the information could be provided in spreadsheet or CSV format and if the request exceeds the appropriate cost limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you asked if we could advise how the request could be refined.

You will receive a response by 7 August 2026. If you have any queries about this request, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address below. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future correspondence.

The request you sent us contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response. We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
Email: DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

The contact details for the Information Commissioner's Office are:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Website: www.ico.org.uk

Any information released under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004 will be listed in the Welsh Government's Disclosure Log (at <https://gov.wales/about/open-government/freedom-of-information/responses/?lang=en>).

Yours sincerely