

FOI 16487 Dangerous Dogs Act

Request:

I am submitting a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding oversight, expenditure, and policy relating to the enforcement of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 within your police area.

Please provide the following information for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2025, or the most recent period available.

If providing this information for the full period would exceed the cost limit, please provide the most recent 3-year period instead.

1. Expenditure
 - a. The total annual expenditure relating to dogs seized under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, including:
 - i. kennelling costs
 - ii. veterinary costs
 - iii. transportation
 - iv. and any associated care costs
 - b. Any available breakdown of these costs by category
2. Kennelling Contracts and Provision
 - a. Details of any contracts, agreements, or commissioned services for the kennelling of dogs seized under the Dangerous Dogs Act
 - b. The names of providers (where disclosable) and the nature of services provided
 - c. Any information held regarding capacity, demand, or pressure on kennelling provision
3. Policy, Oversight, and Strategy
 - a. Copies of any Police and Crime Plan sections, policy documents, or strategy papers relating to dangerous dogs or dog-related incidents
 - b. Copies of any internal briefings, reports, or reviews relating to:
 - i. enforcement of the Dangerous Dogs Act
 - ii. costs associated with seized dogs
 - iii. welfare or kennelling concerns
 - iv. or operational pressures
4. Scrutiny and Governance
 - a. Copies of any meeting minutes, reports, or correspondence where dangerous dogs legislation, seized dogs, or associated costs have been discussed
 - b. Any correspondence between the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the police force relating to:
 - i. Costs
 - ii. policy concerns
 - iii. or enforcement practices under the Dangerous Dogs Act



01392 497700 devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk/contact-us

The office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Andy Hocking House, Alderson Drive, Exeter EX2 7RP

devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk

Schedule of Response Information:

Following receipt of your request, I can confirm the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) holds some information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

1. Expenditure

- a. **The total annual expenditure relating to dogs seized under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, including:**
 - i. kennelling costs
 - ii. veterinary costs
 - iii. transportation
 - iv. and any associated care costs
- b. **Any available breakdown of these costs by category**

After conducting reasonable searches, I can confirm that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner does not hold any the total annual expenditure from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2025 relating to dogs seized under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.

The only financial information the OPCC holds can be seen in the disclosure documents in relation to question 4a and 4b.

The OPCC is not responsible for the expenditure of seizing dogs under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, this is instead the responsibility of Devon and Cornwall Police. If you wish to make a Freedom of Information Request with them directly, you can do so via the following link: [Request information about the police | Devon & Cornwall Police](#)

2. Kennelling Contracts and Provision

- a. **Details of any contracts, agreements, or commissioned services for the kennelling of dogs seized under the Dangerous Dogs Act**
- b. **The names of providers (where disclosable) and the nature of services provided**
- c. **Any information held regarding capacity, demand, or pressure on kennelling provision**

After conducting reasonable searches, I can confirm that the OPCC does not hold any information in relation to kennelling contracts and provision in regard to the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.

This would fall under the responsibility of Devon and Cornwall Police. If you wish to make a Freedom of Information Request with them directly, you can do so via the following link: [Request information about the police | Devon & Cornwall Police](#)



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3. Policy, Oversight, and Strategy

- a. **Copies of any Police and Crime Plan sections, policy documents, or strategy papers relating to dangerous dogs or dog-related incidents**

After conducting reasonable searches, I can confirm that the OPCC does not hold any information in relation to this question.

- b. **Copies of any internal briefings, reports, or reviews relating to:**
 - i. **enforcement of the Dangerous Dogs Act**
 - ii. **costs associated with seized dogs**
 - iii. **welfare or kennelling concerns**
 - iv. **or operational pressures**

After conducting reasonable searches, I can confirm that the OPCC does not hold any information in relation to this question.

4. Scrutiny and Governance

- a. **Copies of any meeting minutes, reports, or correspondence where dangerous dogs legislation, seized dogs, or associated costs have been discussed**

Please see the attached disclosure document. The information for this question can be found on page 1.

- b. **Any correspondence between the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the police force relating to:**
 - i. **Costs**
 - ii. **policy concerns**
 - iii. **or enforcement practices under the Dangerous Dogs Act**

Please see the attached disclosure document. The information for this question can be found on pages 3-6.

Please note that some information has been redacted or removed under the following Freedom of Information Act exemption: **Section 40(2) Personal Information**

Section 40 is a class-based absolute exemption (does not require the consideration of the public interest test) where it can be evidenced that disclosure of the information would breach the General Data Protection Regulation Act 2018 (GDPR).

We consider that disclosure of personal data of OPCC staff and Devon and Cornwall Police staff would contravene the data protection principles, in particular Article 5(1) of the GDPR which requires that personal data shall be (a) processed lawfully, fairly



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and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals ('lawfulness, fairness and transparency').

GDPR protects personal information from being disclosed to any person other than yourself. An unlawful disclosure of such information would leave a Public Authority vulnerable to civil litigation.



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Disclosure document for FOI 16487

4. Scrutiny and Governance

a. Copies of any meeting minutes, reports, or correspondence where dangerous dogs legislation, seized dogs, or associated costs have been discussed

Extraction from indexed speaking notes for the Police and Crime Panel January 2025

29. XL Bully Dog Costs

XL Bully dogs were banned on the 1 February 2024 and the cost of kennelling, vet bills to Forces has grown enormously, from 4 million pounds in 2018 to 11 million in the first 8 months of the ban.

How much has it cost your force to seize and destroy dogs in 2024 (up until the 31st September), 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020?

2020	£8,000
2021	£17,200
2022	£79,400
2023	£91,700
2024	£155,000 (up to September)

On the 11th November I presented the following information to the Operations Strategic Meeting.

1. Are you able to provide me with the cost of Kennelling from 1st February 2024 (When XL Bully Ban came into place) to 15th October 2024. Is there a way to break it down further into the cost to each LPA and Ops?

Kennelling from 01/02/24 – 15/10/24 is £145,328 associated with dangerous dogs only.

2. Is there the ability to also provide the cost of vet's fees for the dogs we have seized for the same date period?

Vet costs associated with dangerous dogs are £18,793 from 01/02/24 – 15/10/24.

3. As a comparison can you provide me with the cost of kennelling from 1st Feb 2023 to 15th October 2023?

Kennelling costs from 01/02/23 – 31/10/23 associated with dangerous dogs are £43,612. Vet costs for the same period associated with dangerous dogs are £2,198.

Finance do not differentiate breeds when allocating costs so the costs are for all dogs seized. So cannot provide information purely for XL Bully's.

What I can tell you is the number of XL Bully's seized and/or Euthanised in 2024 Please can you provide the following information for the 2024 calendar year:

- How many suspected banned or dangerous dogs were seized by police - 180
- How many of the seized dogs were suspected XL Bullies – Of the 180 seized 110 were XL Bullies
- How many banned or dangerous dogs were destroyed by police - 89
- How many of the destroyed dogs were XL Bullies – of the 89 destroyed 42 were XL Bullies

- b. Any correspondence between the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the police force relating to:
 - i. Costs**
 - ii. policy concerns**
 - iii. or enforcement practices under the Dangerous Dogs Act****

Please see pages 3-6.

XL Bullies / Dangerous Dogs

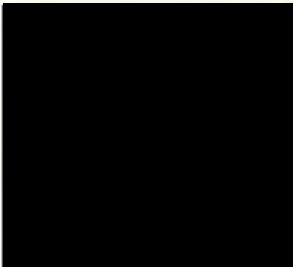
From [redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Date Fri 31-Jan-25 8:40 AM

To [redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Hi [redacted]

I know [redacted] found some information on this yesterday, but the below contains some more detail that may come in handy. I will keep it in my standard list of speaking notes for a while in case it comes up again,
Thanks
[redacted]



[redacted]

Policy and Projects Officer

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for
Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Tel: [redacted]

 **PCC**
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Devon and Cornwall

devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk

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 Putting victims at the heart of their own care

VictimCare
Devon • Cornwall • IOS

victimcare-dc.org

Criminal justice and you

An essential guide for victims and witnesses



From: [redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Sent: 30 January 2025 13:36

To: [redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Subject: FW:

Ive emailed finance for the below

I do not have an up to date costing. If you do need an up to date costing then can you approach our Finance Department as they are the ones with access to the information.

From: [REDACTED]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Sent: 30 January 2025 12:41

To: [REDACTED]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Subject: RE:

Hi [REDACTED]

With the assistance of Finance the following FOI response was sent out:

How much has it cost your force to seize and destroy dogs in 2024 (up until the 31st September), 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020?

2020	£8,000
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2022	£79,400
2023	£91,700
2024	£155,000 (up to September)

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What I can tell you is the number of XL Bully's seized and/or Euthanised in 2024

Please can you provide the following information for the 2024 calendar year:

- **How many suspected banned or dangerous dogs were seized by police - 180**
- **How many of the seized dogs were suspected XL Bullies – Of the 180 seized 110 were XL Bullies**
- **How many banned or dangerous dogs were destroyed by police - 89**
- **How many of the destroyed dogs were XL Bullies – of the 89 destroyed 42 were XL Bullies**

I hope this is of some use to you and the OPCC?

I do not have an up to date costing. If you do need an up to date costing then can you approach our Finance Department as they are the ones with access to the information. The dog section do not record costs.

Regards, [REDACTED]



[Redacted]

Inspector, Specialist Operations

Dogs & Drones

Tel: [Redacted]

ass Sustainable Policing

Dog Section, Hamilton Drive, Middlemoor, EX2 7RY

Visit Sharepoint for information & to submit a tasking request: [Drone Team Homepage](#)

Visit Sharepoint for information about Dangerous Dogs, DLO's & more - [Alliance Dogs Team - Home](#)

Twitter: [@PoliceDrones](#) Facebook: [PoliceDrones](#) Instagram : [Police.Drones](#)

From: [Redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Sent: 30 January 2025 12:21

To: [Redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Subject: FW:

Good afternoon Sir,

Are you able to assist me with the below?

Many thanks in advance

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Sent: 30 January 2025 11:36

To: [Redacted]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Subject: RE:

Hi [Redacted]

[Redacted]. If you make contact with Insp [Redacted] he is the Dogs Inspector he should be able to let you have that info.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Admin and Business Support Officer
PA to Chief Supt [Redacted]
Alliance Operations Commander

Phone: [Redacted]

Internal: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Address: Devon & Cornwall Police, Exeter Police Station, Sidmouth Road, Exeter, EX2 7RY



WORKING
TOGETHER



DORSET
POLICE

Official: handling instructions: for named recipient only

From: [REDACTED]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Sent: 30 January 2025 09:40

To: [REDACTED]@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk>

Subject:

Good morning Sir,

I'm a staff officer and work in the OPCC to link the two offices. Mr [REDACTED] directed me to you.

Would you be able to assist me with a query from the OPCC.

They are asking what the force has spent on XL bullies?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Sgt [REDACTED]
Staff Officer to The Executive & Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
Executive Support Team
Working between Executive Staff Office and Andy Hocking House
Force Headquarters, Middlemoor, Exeter EX2 7HQ