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Please contact Information Governance
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Dear Sir/ Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ06576

Thank you for your request for information relating to Animal health, animal welfare and equine legislation from 2017

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

1. Which of the below legislation do you actively enforce, and which department/team is responsible for it?

a. Animals Act 1971 (as amended by The Control of Horses Act 2015)

b. Equine identification (England) Regulations 2018

In response to a – b, we can confirm the legislation is enforced via Trading Standards.

c. Animal Welfare Act 2006 - YES

We can confirm the legislation is enforced via Trading Standards, discretion with farmed animals as voluntary.

d. Animal Health Act 1981 and 2002

We can confirm the legislation is enforced via Trading Standards.

e. Animal Welfare (Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, including 'hiring out horses'

We can confirm the legislation is enforced via Animal Welfare.

f. Welfare of Animals at Markets Order 1990

Not currently enforced as we have no markets.

g. Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 2006

We can confirm the legislation is enforced via Trading Standards.

2. Do you have a dedicated resource for animal welfare and/or animal health legislation and, if you do, how many people does this include?

Yes, we have 2.1 FTE dedicated resource for animal welfare; 2 animal welfare FTE and 0.1 FTE = Trading Standards

3. How many times were the pieces of legislation listed above enforced for equines, if not possible could this be given for all animals, (if possible, could this answer be given separately for each piece of legislation) in:

- a. 2017 – 2 (all animals)
- b. 2018 – 0
- c. 2019 to-date – 4 (all animals)

4. If known, could you state the cost associated with enforcing this legislation for equines (or for all animals if not known). This could be either in total or, if possible, separately for each piece of legislation for the below dates. If this is not feasible would you be able to give an approximate total figure or state as an approximate percentage of your total budget?

- a. 2017
- b. 2018
- c. 2019 to-date

In response to q a- c, we can confirm that we have no dedicated budget for this and any action would be absorbed into the overall running costs for the service.

5. In the event of a disease outbreak, what resources do you have to trace animals and control the spread of the disease? Are these resources equally available for all livestock and equine species?

Trading Standards are primarily responsible for animal disease control and have seven operational staff and one manager that can be deployed to undertake various tasks for disease control. Other Council staff can be called upon if need be.

6. What training do those who are enforcing this legislation receive, including anything specific for equines?

Trading Standards personnel have a range of qualifications and levels of experience. The level of training an officer receives varies and is focused on their main tasks / responsibilities.

7. How many years' experience, on average, do those who are enforcing the legislation listed above have with equine specific legislation or working with equines?

Trading Standards personnel have generally been in post for a long time the average would be 20 years plus. Most would have little specific experience of equine specific legislation. They would consult an expert if required.

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If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance