



Information Rights
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11th November 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/06602

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/06602

I write in connection with your request for information received on 15th October. I note you seek access to the following information:

Further to successful FOI requests made to APHA re the importation of trail fluid, please respond to the following:

- 1. Since 2010, how many reports of cubbing / illegal foxhunting have been made to your force?**
- 2. Since 2010, how many of those reports have been resolved as trail hunting?**
- 3. Since 2010, how many of those investigations resolved as trail hunting have included proof seen and verified by police of the purchase/acquisition of trail fluid for use in said trail hunting?**

CLARIFICATION REC'D - APHA stands for Animal and Plant Health Agency

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore, in the public domain without caveat.

RESPONSE - Following enquiries conducted by Bedfordshire Police and their incident recording system within the Force please see our response below: -

Illegal fox hunting is a non-notifiable crime and would not be recorded on our crime system. Such reports may get logged on the incident system but there is not a specific category identifying 'cubbing or illegal fox hunting'.

1. Since the start of the current incident system (May 2013) there have been 160 incidents opened in the "ANIMALS / WILDLIFE" or the "COURSING / POACHING" categories which mention the word "fox". There are 24 incidents which relate to hunting and these are often reports by members of the public where none of the details are verified and Bedfordshire Police are not able to identify whether any of the incidents relate specifically to the questions asked. Two refer to 'cubbing / illegal fox hunting' but as stated no offences disclosed.
2. 3 incidents mention the wording 'trail hunting'.
3. Nil

The numerical data presented in this response is an un-audited snapshot of un-published data sourced from "live" systems and is subject to the interpretation of the original request by the individual extracting the data.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

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Bedfordshire Police provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Bedfordshire Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.