| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1491  Responded to: 17th June 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2000 to request information regarding the use of private contracted kennels by your Police Force for seized dogs under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.

## Specifically, I am interested in understanding how contracted kennels are selected, how dog welfare is monitored, the frequency of visits by Police Officers as well as the provisions for dogs who may be unable to be exercised outside of their kennel on a daily basis.

**Do you follow the RSPCA’s Welfare of Seized Dogs in Kennels Guide?**

## If no, what guidelines do you use when selecting contracted kennels and monitoring the welfare of dogs within contracted kennels?

## Where do you house seized dogs?

## What provisions do you have in place for seized dogs if/when capacity is full?

## How often are visits made to seized dogs in police/private kennels?

## Is your private kennel in your police force area?

## If no, what is the distance to the kennel from seizing area?

## Do you provide individual plans for seized dogs that the private kennels can follow i.e. environmental, dietary, veterinary support and exercise plans?

## If yes, please can you provide an example of this?

## What provisions are in place for dogs whose behaviour restricts them from being taken out of their kennel for daily exercise or contact with people?

## What provisions are in place to provide opportunities for dogs to perform natural behaviours such as exercise, chewing/digging, socialising and to meet the medical needs of dogs who are considered unsafe for staff to enter the kennels of?

## Are there processes in place to request support from a Clinical Animal Behaviourist to meet the welfare needs of individual dogs?

## Do you provide the following for seized dogs in both police kennels and contracted kennels?

## Individual dietary requirements i.e. allergies Yes No

## Medicines provided by the owner’s vet for ongoing medical conditions Yes No

## Preventative Medicines i.e. flea, tick, worm, and vaccinations Yes No

## Medicines provided by kennels vet for conditions developed whilst kennelled? Yes No

## Enrichment toys/food puzzles, sniffing/chewing Yes No

## Bedding of Suitable Material Yes No Top of Form

I regret to inform you that the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation, once a dog has been seized, Police Scotland take no further part in its care.

Licensed kennels are based across Scotland and Police Scotland utilise the nearest kennel facility to where the dog has been seized.

Individual local authorities license the kennelling facilities that are used by Police Scotland for stray and dangerous dogs and therefore they are responsible for all aspects of the dog’s welfare and care.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.