



Ref: FOI / 5692

15<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Email:

Dear

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request - Animal Welfare**

I refer to your FOI request and respond as follows:

**In response to two visits from the council Animal Welfare Officer can you provide answers to the following:**

### **1. Date/time of when council received both complaints**

- Complaint One: 30th January 2024 @ 10.20am
- Complaint Two: 14th April 2025 @ 12:15pm

### **2. Date/time of welfare inspection visit to our home**

- First inspection: 26th February 2024
- Second inspection: 15th April 2025

### **3. Result of both inspections.**

- First visit to property officer's observations: German Shepherd type dog seen in good condition. Build of faeces in the yard of property. Advice given to keep the yard clean. All other needs being met for the dog.
- Second visit to property officer's observations: Black German Shepherd type dog seen at the property. The dog has a shed with a bed inside. One day's faeces observed. Work getting done to the property; dog has been damaging

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the fence. All needs being met for the dog at time of visit. 5 cats also at the property- no concerns.

**4. In relation to both complaints, a record of the complaint wording noted at the time by council officers be forwarded to us.**

This information was received by admin officers upon receipt of calls to the central telephone number in the first instance.

- First complaint: Reporter concerned for GSD at address, advises dog is out day and night in small garden sometimes confined in cage. Says dog barks constantly and is never walked.
- Second complaint: Reporter has informed Animal Welfare of an Alsatian-type dog being kept in a very small cage at the property. The dog is often heard barking and crying in apparent distress. It reportedly never leaves the pen and is difficult to see.

**5. What method was used by the complainant to contact council:**

Contact made by telephone

**a. Has a record been retained by council of the complainants contact details?**

Yes

**b. Has it been identified if the complainant is male/female?**

No

**c. Is the complainant in both cases the same person?**

Yes

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly, our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie  
Chief Executive  
Derry City and Strabane District Council  
98 Strand Road  
Derry BT48 7NN  
Tel: 028 71253253 or email: [john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com](mailto:john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com)

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

I would however advise that the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely



**Seamus Donaghy**  
**Head of Health & Community Wellbeing**