

Ref: EIR / 6047

07th November 2025

Environmental Information Regulations Request - Environmental Enforcement Activity and Appeals (2024-2025)

I refer to your EIR request and respond as follows:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the use of civil enforcement officers and related enforcement activity for environmental offences within your council area.

Please provide the following information:

Enforcement model

- 1. Does the council employ its own civil enforcement officers for environmental offences, or is this service contracted out to a third-party provider?**

The Council employs dog wardens, enforcement officers and litter wardens.

- 2. If the service is contracted out, please state the name of the contractor(s) and provide the start and end dates of the contract(s) valid during the requested period.**

N/A.

Enforcement statistics (2024 & 2025)

For the period from January 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, provide the following statistics broken down by month:

Derry

C/o Council Offices
98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

Strabane

C/o Council Offices
47 Derry Road
Strabane
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253
info@derrystrabane.com
www.derrystrabane.com

f Derry City & Strabane District Council
@dcsdcouncil

1. The number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued.

Derry City and Strabane District Council through its Tascomi management information systems provide the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) with statistical information on a wide range of dog control service areas, including fixed penalty notices inter alia. This information is provided by Councils on a quarterly basis, collated and held by DAERA. It is then referred to by Councils and DAERA when providing responses to dog related information requests from the media, the public and animal welfare stakeholders. The information provided below is taken from these quarterly returns and can be also found in the DAERA website along with compounded yearly figures, listed under Council Dog Summary Statistics, the link page is <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/council-dog-summary-statistics>.

| Financial Year | Quarter | Total FPNs |
|----------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| 2023 - 2024 | 2024 – Quarter 4 (Jan to March) | 29 |
| 2024 – 2025 | 2024 – Quarter 1 (April to June) | 28 |
| | 2024 Quarter 2 (July – Sept) | 25 |
| | 2024 Quarter 3 (Oct – Dec) | 27 |
| | 2025 Quarter 4 (Jan to March) | 31 |
| 2025 – 2026 | 2025 Quarter 1 (April – June) | 51 |
| | 2025 Quarter 2 (July to Sept) | 46 |

2. A list of each offence type for which an FPN was issued (e.g., littering, dog fouling, fly-tipping).

| | Q4 (2024) | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 (2025) | Q1 | Q2 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|-----------|----|----|
| No Licence | 16 | 19 | 16 | 11 | 20 | 37 | 31 |
| Straying | 12 | 9 | 7 | 14 | 8 | 13 | 13 |
| Breach of Control Conditions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Dog Fouling | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |

3. The total revenue collected for each specific offence type.

Please note that a fixed penalty is simply an opportunity for the person to discharge their liability to the original offence and where this doesn't occur the council will pursue such offences in court. In these circumstances the courts retain any fines issued.

| | Q4 (2024) | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 (2025) | Q1 | Q2 |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-----|-----|
| Total Income | 680 | 360 | 250 | 450 | 460 | 600 | 960 |

4. The cost of the fine for each offence type.

£80 for all offences except Dog Fouling which is set separately at £100.

5. Specify if the fines are reduced if paid within a certain timeframe and state what that timeframe is.

All fines are reduced to £50 if paid within 14 days.

6. The amount of people for each offence who paid within the specified time frame for a reduction.

| | Q4 (2024) | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 (2025) | Q1 | Q2 |
|-------------------------|--------------|----|----|----|--------------|----|----|
| Total Income | 12 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 12 | 13 |

Appeals process and outcomes

1. Provide information on the process for appealing a Fixed Penalty Notice issued by your council or its contractor.

There is no statutory right of appeal for a council-issued Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) as paying it is an alternative to prosecution. Recipients of FPN can make a formal representation (challenge) to the council, and if rejected, the matter can be heard in a Magistrates' Court.

2. State the total number of FPNs that were appealed for the period January 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, by month.

Nil

3. Provide a breakdown showing how many of these appeals were successful (resulted in the cancellation of the FPN) and how many were upheld by month.

Not applicable.

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

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

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 reconsider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Seamus Donaghy

Head of Health & Community Wellbeing