West Midlands Police Freedom of Information

Q1: The number of dogs seized by your force (dogs that are out of control, aggressive, have attacked someone or are considered dangerous) in 2022?

01/01/22 - 25/10/22 - 591 dogs recorded as being involved in S3 offences, or assaults.

Q2: How many dogs have been put down/destroyed in 2021 and 2022 thus far? (hoping reducing the years will provide some data).

In order to locate and retrieve this information we would need to conduct a manual review, this search would exceed the FOI time limit.

Q3: How many suspected banned breeds of dogs have been seized by your force in 2022? Please can I clarify that the data you have given me for question 3 for previous years is numbers for banned breeds of dogs that have been seized? Specifically the 4 breeds of dog that are illegal to own in the UK? The data you have provided suggests that a significant numbers of the overall dogs that are seized in the West Midlands are banned breeds.

The answers provided below are the most accurate, and correct the previously supplied answer. 01/01/22 - 25/10/22 - 39 dogs seized as Sus S1

2021 - 61

2020 - 49

2019 - 59

2018 - 54

The above figure is for banned breeds - S1

The figure previously provided relates to dogs that we have been to see, not necessarily banned breeds, but a dog that may have bitten someone.

As previously advised we provided overall seized figures. However, due to the way the system operates we cannot differentiate how many dogs were allowed to remain at home under the terms of the seizure matrix. These figures represent the number of dogs investigated for offences, and recorded on the system, but many will not have been removed from their location. To retrieve this information would require an individual assessment of each case.

Q4: The combined annual cost (in financial years) to your force of kennels, veterinary treatment, and of putting down/destroying these dogs? I note your last reply which said "We have a yearly budget of £337,000 for the cost of kennelling, vet treatment etc for seized dogs". So would it be fair to say this was the annual cost in 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22? Or might costs be going up or down?

Please see below table with actuals and budgets from those financial years for the budget for the seizure of Dangerous Dogs. It covers costs for kennelling, treatment and destruction of dogs but also any associated equipment needs for the dangerous dogs team which I would suggest is fairly minimal.

Financial Year	2019- 20	2020- 21	2021- 22
Budget	340,000	337,800	337,800
Actual	310,500	222,013	296,389
Variance	29,500	115,787	41,411