

Business Assurance
Information
Compliance

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[REDACTED]

By email only to: [REDACTED]

30 August 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”)

Further to your recent request for information held by King’s College London, I am writing to confirm that the requested information is held by the university.

Your request

We received your information request on 3 August 2022 and have treated it as a request for information made under section 1(1) of the Act.

You requested the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request some information.

Re regulated procedures on protected animals under ASPA 1986 for 2021

1) May I have the number of scientific procedures undertaken and split between species during the year. Can you please let me know when the annual statistics will be published on your website, currently data is only shown for 2017-2020
<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/facilities/bsu#:~:text=The%20use%20of%20animals%20in,our%20researchers%20and%20our%20animals.>

2) Could you please provide a numerical breakdown of the severity classification for procedures carried out. Please split between sub threshold, mild, moderate, severe and non recovery. These will be the figures you provided in your annual return to the Home Office.

3) Finally, were any animals rehomed in 2021? If so, please may I have their number and species.

As the severity figures were provided within the costs constraints for 2020 (see attached) I would expect them not to be exempted for cost reasons.

Our response

1) *May I have the number of scientific procedures undertaken and split between species during the year.*

Animals	Sum of Procedures
Mice	89,258
mild	17,261
moderate	17,739
non	2,071
severe	1,064
sub	51,123
Rabbits	15
mild	1
moderate	14
Rats	2,599
mild	388
moderate	1,123
non	906
severe	155
sub	27
Guinea pigs	32
non recovery	32
Fish	19,504
mild	4,486
moderate	461
non	14
severe	1,560
sub	13,053
Amphibians	272
mild	272
Grand Total	111,750

Can you please let me know when the annual statistics will be published on your website, currently data is only shown for 2017-2020

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/facilities/bsu#:~:text=The%20use%20of%20animals%20in,our%20researchers%20and%20our%20animals.>

Having checked with the Biological Services team I can confirm that the team is currently in the process of updating the website and is planning to make the information available in the near future.

2) Could you please provide a numerical breakdown of the severity classification for procedures carried out. Please split between sub threshold, mild, moderate, severe and non recovery. These will be the figures you provided in your annual return to the Home Office.

Annual return 2020:

Animals	Number
Mice (Mus musculus)	70,218
Non-recovery	2,368
Mild	21,285
Moderate	11,556
Severe	534
Sub-threshold	34,475
Rats (Rattus norvegicus)	1,405
Non-recovery	714
Mild	299
Moderate	238
Severe	129
Sub-threshold	25
Guinea-Pigs (Cavia porcellus)	71
Non-recovery	71
Xenopus (Xenopus laevis and Xenopus tropicalis)	58
Mild	58
Zebra fish (Danio rerio)	12,380
Non-recovery	50
Mild	2,212
Moderate	2
Severe	1,428
Sub-threshold	8,688
Grand Total	84,132

3) Finally, were any animals rehomed in 2021? If so, please may I have their number and species.
No animals were rehomed during this period.

This completes the university's response to your information request.

Your right to complain

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your information request or feel that it has not been properly handled you have the right to complain or request a review of our decision by contacting the Assistant Director of Business Assurance (Information Compliance) within 60 days of the date of this letter.

Further information about our internal complaints procedure is available at the link below:

http://www.kcl.ac.uk/college/policyzone/assets/files/governance_and_legal/Freedom_of_Information_Policy_updated_Oct_%202011.pdf

In the event that you are not content with the outcome of your complaint you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the internal complaints procedure provided by King's College London.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Information Compliance