



Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 09153
Date 1 September 2015

Circuses

Request:

Please could you let me know whether your council allows circuses with animals to use council-owned land for performances?

[We have not, to date allowed any.](#)

If not, can you confirm whether any ban on the use of council land is applied to circuses with all animal species or specific animal species (e.g. wild animals)?

[Our Animal Welfare Charter would restrict all animals in circuses.](#)

Finally, can you confirm the date that any ban was implemented?

[Animal Welfare Charter was implemented in March 2007 \[originally the charter was implemented in 1986\]. The third revision develops further the commitment of the Council to animal welfare and takes account of the Animal welfare Act 2006.](#)

[Additionally, the charter states:](#)

[The council will only allow circuses that include performing animals on council owned or managed land where:](#)

- [The circus must be open to inspection by the RSPCA and/or a vet nary surgeon appointed by the council at any time.](#)
- [The circus is a member of the Circus Proprietors Association.](#)

[The Council will use its powers to prevent inappropriate performing animal acts in theatres whenever possible.](#)