



OIA16-0730
OIA16-0731

22 DEC 2016

Ophelia
Care of FYI website

Dear Ophelia

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information requests on 1 December 2016 about the welfare of dogs left in cars and pets left alone during the Christmas/New Year period.

The Ministry for Primary Industries does not hold information on the number of dogs left in cars, or that have died in cars. Therefore your request is refused pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act (OIA).

Primary responsibility for enforcing the Animal Welfare Act 1999 for dogs falls to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). While the SPCA is not subject to the OIA, MPI spoke with the SPCA, in an effort to provide you the information requested. Unfortunately, due to the current data management system, the SPCA would need to review details of each complaint and investigation for the periods covered by your request, in order to collate the information relating specifically to dogs in cars and dog deaths in cars.

You may be interested to know that as a part of the SPCA's review of its inspectorate function, they have an initiative for an improved and better integrated data management system which may make similar information available in the future.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our decision to refuse your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Dansted', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Paul Dansted
Director Animal and Animal Products