

Enquiry Number - 1-683749012

Request and Response:

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 28th August 2014.

Under the Freedom Of Information act, I would like to know why you lied about slaughtering over 200 geese at Tipton and West Bromwich, and I would also like to know how they were killed and what was done with their bodies. Were they shot, gassed, sent to a slaughterhouses or did they have their necks broken and how were they 'disposed' of? Please explain in full.

Please find below the information you have requested.

No lies were told – the geese were displaced to a suitable location to be culled. The culling of the geese was undertaken by a company employed by the council whom are licensed to undertake this work. They apply for a licence from Natural England and follow specific guidance offered by Natural England both in the containment, dispatching and culling.

The methodology of culling can be obtained from Natural England web site:
http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/canadageese_tcm6-4547.pdf

The licence issued by Natural England stipulates the methodology to be adopted. As there are a number of methods regards culling of birds the company employed adopted the most humane approach as clearly stated within Natural England guidelines. Once culled they were sent for incineration.

With regards to your question regarding humans as this is not a relevant I believe this does not constitute a question the council can answer under the Freedom of Information Act, which is designed at granting individuals with access to information held by public bodies. In this case the question does not pertain to any information held by the council and therefore cannot be answered.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your request, and should be addressed to:

Information Management Unit

Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 3DE

Email – contact@sandwell.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

If you wish to receive further information in regards to this request or wish to submit a Freedom of Information Request please forward your request to contact@sandwell.gov.uk or Information Management Unit, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE.