



Phoebe Bosco

Please ask for: Olivia Crawford
Reference: 54435305
Email:
kcc.information@email.icasework.com
Date: 24 February 2025

Dear Phoebe Bosco

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 relating to Illegal Vapes. Please see the response provided below:

Store Closure Orders:

- 1. The number of stores that have been issued closure orders by your council during this period due to the sale of illegal tobacco and vaping products**

Unfortunately, closure orders are not a function of the County Council and so none have been issued by Kent County Council. Therefore, we cannot provide any information regarding the above question.

Seizures of Vapes:

- 2. The total number of vapes seized by your council's Trading Standards or other relevant teams during this period.**

Year	Number of vapes seized
2020	0
2021	3,769
2022	329,276
2023	426,653
2024	140,342

- 3. The total estimated monetary value (£) of the seized vapes.**

Please note, due to the range of prices of the seized vapes, it is difficult to place an accurate estimate of the value. To provide the requested information, the taking of an average selling price of £10 provides the figures in the table below.

Year	Estimated monetary value (£)
2020	0
2021	37,690
2022	3,292,760
2023	4,266,530
2024	1,403,420

If you are unhappy with this response, and believe KCC has not complied with legislation, you have 40 working days from the date of this response to ask for a review. You can do this by following our complaints process; details can be found at this link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/complaints-and-compliments#tab-10> on our website. Please quote the reference number 54435305 in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner, who oversees compliance with both the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Details of what you need to do, should you wish to pursue this course of action, are available from the Information Commissioner's website <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>, or you can phone the ICO Helpline on 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely,

Olivia Crawford
Information Access Officer
Chief Executive's Department