

## **Ban on XL Bully Dog Breeds**

The transition period for owners of XL Bully dog breeds began on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

During the transition period, which runs until 31 January 2024, owners who wish to keep their dogs must apply to an exemption scheme. Applications for exemption certificates are [now open](#).

Further information on this transition period can be found here:

[Transition period for XL Bully owners begins - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Following a concerning rise in attacks and fatalities caused by XL Bully dogs, the government has added this breed to the list of dogs banned under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.

From **31 December 2023** it will be against the law to:

- sell an XL Bully dog
- abandon an XL Bully dog or let it stray
- give away an XL Bully dog
- breed from an XL Bully dog
- have an XL Bully in public without a lead and muzzle

From **1 February 2024** it will be a criminal offence to own an XL Bully dog in England and Wales unless your dog has a Certificate of Exemption.

The Government have published advice on what you can do to prepare for the ban on XL Bully type dog breeds.

[Prepare for the ban on XL Bully dogs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

The RSPCA have also produced guidance in regards to the ban on XL Bullies which can be found here:

[American XL Bullies \(rspca.org.uk\)](#)