



CONTROL OF DOGS

	Year to Date 06/12/2022
Number of dogs to enter the shelter	286
Number of dogs rehomed to charities	160
Number of dogs euthanised (court order / medical recommendation)	10
Number of dogs on hand	25
Number of dogs returned to owners	86
Number of dog licences issued	8,825

Dog Breeding Establishments Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010	Year to Date 06/12/2022
Reports received of suspected DBE (call & emails)	19
Inspections of reported properties	11
Dogs removed from inspected properties	4
Official application for DBE Boarding Kennel	2 (both in process)
DBE certificates issued in 2022	0

Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine - Report on Issues Impacting Dog Welfare in Ireland – Published 13th October 2022

The report includes a number of recommendations and expresses support for the [Animal Health & Welfare Dogs Bill 2022](#). The report also recommends that all legislation and policy on canine welfare should be brought under the remit of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM); currently three Acts fall under DAFM and two Acts fall under the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD).

Links for information - [Report on Issues impacting dog welfare in Ireland](#) ;
[Press Release](#)

CONTROL OF HORSES

Statistical information

	Year to Date 06/12/2022
Number of horses seized	42
Number of horses transferred to My Lovely Horse Rescue	33
Number of horses returned to owners	7
Number of horses in Pound @ 05/12/2022	2
Number of horses euthanised	0
Number of horse licences issued	12

Horse Drawn Carriages Bill

Further to the report to the October meeting, Dublin City Council has received correspondence from the Public Transport Regulation Division, Department of Transport confirming that observations on the draft General Scheme (Heads of Bill) prepared in 2021 have now been returned by all key stakeholders and are being evaluated. The correspondence further indicated that a follow up meeting of stakeholders will be arranged in Q1 2023. A request to include a representative of Dublin City Council Animal Welfare Unit in that group has been submitted to the Department.

Proposed representations to the Minister for Transport - In response to e-mail correspondence from a member of the public, a commitment was given to list this item on the agenda of the next meeting of the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee with a suggestion to make formal representations to the Minister to expedite the legislation in the interests of Animal Welfare. This is a matter for the Committee to agree.

Multi-agency checkpoints pre-Christmas

Following representations made by the Chair to Assistant Garda Commissioner, Dublin Metropolitan Region a senior Garda representative (Chief Superintendent) has been appointed by the Assistant Commissioner to act as the DMR point of contact in respect of Animal Welfare issues including Horse Drawn Carriages.

As discussed at the last meeting a series of multi-agency checkpoints will be carried out in the coming weeks as activity increases in the busy pre-Christmas period. The agencies requested to support this effort are An Garda Síochána, Revenue, Social Protection, Dublin City Council, and Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Operational details of checkpoints (times, dates, locations) will remain confidential.

ANIMAL WELFARE UNIT STAFFING

The optimum Staff Structure for the Animal Welfare Unit reporting to Senior Executive Officer and Executive Manager, Housing & Community Services is as follows:

Administration	Operations
1 Administrative Officer (Gr. 7) 2 Staff Officer (Gr 5) 1 Clerical Officer	1 Animal Welfare Inspector (Gr. 6) 1 Assistant Animal Welfare Inspector (Gr. 5) 3 Animal Welfare Officer (G.O.)

At present 4 of the 9 posts are filled, one of these is on an Acting basis. Updates are as follows:

- **Animal Welfare Inspector (open competition) and Assistant Animal Welfare Inspector (confined to Dublin City Council)** posts were advertised on Monday 29th November, Closing date Monday 19th December. See [Dublin City Council - Animal Welfare Inspector](#) for information. Committee Members are requested to notify interested parties of this career opportunity.
- Options are being considered for internal filling of the **Administrative Officer** post to be vacated by an officer expected to return from extended illness to a new appointment.

- We are actively seeking interest among existing personnel who may be interested and suitable for assignment as **Animal Welfare Officers (X2)**. Two further expressions of interests were considered but did not result in appointment.
- A request has been submitted for assignment of an additional **administrative post** to the AWU from the new Gr. 5 panel.

Joint Dublin City Council / An Garda Síochána Animal Welfare Training

Planning is underway with Dublin City Council Training & Development Unit to source suitable provider/s to design and deliver a joint training programme (DCC Animal Welfare Unit and An Garda Síochána) as discussed at the previous meeting. The Assistant Commissioner is supportive of this approach and input to the training programme design process has been sought from AGS nominee/s to ensure that needs are clearly identified. It is anticipated that the training programme will include relevant legislation / legal processes as well as practical training in relation to Animal behaviour, animal handling etc. It is anticipated that the programme will be rolled out when new personnel are assigned to the Animal Welfare Unit.

HOURS OF SERVICE – Temporary Reduction

Pending filling of staff vacancies it has become necessary to reduce the hours of service to prevent further breaches of Organisation of Working Time Act, 1997 and overtime thresholds. The evening cover will be reduced back from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This is considered reasonable with the reduced daylight hours during winter months. The hours will be reviewed again when new appointments are in place.

For clarification the current contact details and hours of operation for the Animal Welfare Unit are

Office Hours: Tel. **01 222 3368 / 5441** E-Mail animalwelfare@dublincity.ie
Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Out of Hours: **Tel. 01 222 6060**
Monday - Friday 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.

All other hours are **voicemail only**. All voicemails will be dealt with on the following working day.

The Animal Welfare Service is **not an Emergency Service**. A **life-threatening** Emergency incident involving an animal should be reported to An Garda Síochána via **999**
