

Report to Housing SPC

Date: Wednesday 12th May 2021

Item No. 3iv

Oversight Committee on Animal Welfare Issues

- A new Animal Welfare Oversight Committee is being set up and a terms of reference document has been drafted for discussion.
 - The committee will oversee the procurement process for the new framework agreement and the service to be provided, the councils role in animal welfare, the development of partnerships with other organisations and stakeholders, the development of policies and practices in relation to the animal welfare and a review of the current bye laws in the control of horses and dogs.
 - The committee will be made up from City Councillors, An Garda Síochána, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marines Veterinary Inspectorate, Dublin City Councils Animal Welfare Unit and agreed members from voluntary animal welfare groups.
- ➤ The Single Party Framework Agreement for the Provision of a Dog Shelter Service has been published on etenders. A notice to this effect will be issued by the press office to ensure that the tender has maximum exposure to potential service providers. The closing date is the 21st May 2021. An evaluation committee will be set up to evaluate all tenders. After the standstill period is completed it is expected that the successful tenderer will be able to provide services from the 1st July 2021.
 - Alternatives are currently being developed to ensure a continuation of service in the event that the framework cannot be implemented on the agreed date.
- The Prior Information Notice (PIN) publication has been completed. There were eight expressions of interest. All premises have been visited where applicable and all parties have been contacted prior to the etenders publication. Information gathered as part of this process has informed the Single Party Framework Agreement for the Provision of a Dog Shelter Service.
- > The Control of Horses and Dogs has been rebranded to the Animal Welfare Unit as this reflects Dublin City Councils new ethos in providing for the welfare of animals within the councils remit.
 - Unit staff can be contacted on email at animalwelfare@dublincity.ie or phone on 01 222 5441 or 01 222 3368. Equipment, transport and personnel are currently being sought to provide the council with the best service available.
- The Animal Welfare Unit has met with the Dublin Regional Horse Welfare Group and also with the other Dublin Councils. Personnel from the Unit has also visited various animal shelters and rescue centre over the last number of weeks to ascertain what.
- > The Unit is working to develop and improve policies and procedures to ensure that animal welfare is central to our work across the city.
- > The Unit is also seeking to develop relationships with statutory, voluntary, charitable and community organisations with a specific interest in animal welfare.