

Report to Housing SPC

Date: Wednesday 12th October 2022

Item No. 5 v.

#### **CONTROL OF DOGS**

	Year to Date 23/09/2022
Number of dogs to date to enter in the shelter	226
Number of dogs rehomed to charities	126
Number of dogs euthanised (court order / medical recommendation)	7
Number of dogs on hand	18
Number of dogs returned to owners	75
Number of dog licences issued	7,304

#### **National Control of Dogs Statistics 2021**

Published by Department of Rural & Community Development on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021 file:///C:/Users/50714/Downloads/231416 af5662bc-22e8-490e-a27f-7529dc0615b2%20(5).pdf

## **CONTROL OF HORSES**

	Year to Date 23/09/2022
Number of horses seized	34
Number of horses rehomed to My Lovely Horse Rescue	28
Number of horses returned to owners	6
Number of horses euthanised	0
Number of horse licences issued	12

#### **Horse Drawn Carriages Bill**

The proposed Department of Transport **Horse Drawn Carriages Bill** is listed again on the <u>Government Legislation Programme - Autumn Session 2022</u> (Pg. 15) published on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The purpose of the legislation is *to repeal the Dublin Carriage Acts 1853-55 and relieve An Garda Síochána of responsibility for the regulation and licensing of horse-drawn carriages in Dublin and assert the power of local authorities, including Dublin City Council. The status is listed on the Programme as "Work is ongoing". It is <u>not</u> included in the 'Priority Legislation for Drafting and Publication this Session – Autumn 2022' category so it is unlikely that it will progress to Draft Bill this year.* 

Pending publication of the Carriages legislation, periodic multi-agency compliance checks have and will continue to be carried out under Control of Horses legislation.

#### **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:

- Following submission made in early July 2022 formal approval was received from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage on 22<sup>nd</sup> September for the posts of Animal Welfare Inspector and Assistant Animal Welfare Inspector. Arrangements will be made with HR Department to proceed to recruitment for these posts as soon as possible.
- We are actively seeking interest among existing personnel who may be interested and suitable for assignment as **Animal Welfare Officers** (X2).
- A request has been submitted for assignment of an additional **administrative post** to the AWU from the new Gr. 5 panel (Interviews currently underway).

### **Training**

The Department of Rural & Community Development arranged a **Dog Control Service Training and Networking Day** in Tullamore on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Dublin City Council Animal Welfare Unit was represented at this event. There were a number of presentations and discussions on topical dog control issues by the Department, other local authorities and dog control practitioners.

### COMMUNICATIONS AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITY

For clarification the 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 to Friday 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

All other hours are **voicemail only**. All voicemails will be dealt with between 9am-9pm the following.

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

# **Community Engagement**

The Animal Welfare Unit attended the Rose Festival in St Anne's Park on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th of July. Located opposite the Dog Agility show we engaged with attendees communicating our role and responsibilities within DCC and requirements for appropriate dog ownership. Responsible

dog ownership was promoted through handing out free dog waste bags attached with ou	r
responsible dog ownership leaflet.	

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