



CONTROL OF DOGS

	Total 2022	Year to Date 21/08/2023
Number of dogs to enter the shelter	286	100+11 pups
Number of dogs transferred out to charities	163	51
Number of dogs euthanised (court order / welfare recommendation)	10	21 & 11 pups
Number of dogs on hand	15	30
Number of dogs returned to owners	98	22
Number of dog licences issued	9,203	5,866

Dog Breeding Establishments Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010	Total 2022	Year to Date 2023
Reports received of suspected DBE (call & emails)	19	14
Inspections of reported properties	11	9
Dogs removed from inspected properties	4	15
Official application for DBE Boarding Kennel	1	1
DBE certificates issued in 2022	0	0

Breakdown of Time in Shelter by Breed – August 2023*

No.	Name	Breed	Approx. Age	Colour / Markings	Entry Date
0.09	Cleo	Belgian Shepard	1 year	Black/brown	17/01/2023
001	Mack	Pitbull X	12 months	Black/brown	18/01/2023
003	Gandalf	Husky X Lab	9-12 months	Golden	25/01/2023
004	AJ	Husky X Lab	9-12 months	Golden/white chin	25/01/2023
005	Ralph	Husky X Lab	9-12 months	Golden/black hair on back	25/01/2023
012	Kane	Boxer X	2-3 yrs	Brown/Tan	20/02/2023
017	Princess	Lab X	12-14 months	Black	28/02/2023
027	Jackson	Pitbull	12-14 months	Brown	09/03/2023
044	Penny	Chihuahua	9 months	Light brown/tan	05/04/2023
045	Flash	Chihuahua	9 months	Light brown/tan	05/04/2023
046	Annabell	Staff X	2 Yrs	Light brown/tan and white	05/04/2023
046	Buttons	Staff X	5 months	Black/white brown paws	05/04/2023
047	Jolean	Pocket bully	3 years	Blue/White	12/04/2023
049	Daisy	Mali X	12-14 months	Brown	01/05/2023
059	Diva	Staff	2-3 yrs	Black	02/06/2023

062	Murphy / Loki	GSD	3 years	Black / tan	09/07/2023
065	Tonto	Boxer X	2 - 3 years	black	14/07/2023
068	Heuston	JRT	3 - 4 years	Tan	24/07/2023
069	Marley	Pitbull	2-3 years	White/brown	27/07/2023
072	Mildred	Bichon Fris	4 years	white	09/08/2023
073	Honey	Shitzu	4 years	White/brown	09/08/2023
076	Leo	Mali x	3 year	Black/brown	14/08/2023
078	Kuna	Pocket bully	10 months	White Fawn	16/08/2023
079	Scratch	cocka -poo	6 months	Black	17/08/2023
081	Dessie	Pocket bully	2-3 years	Brown	17/08/2023
083	Jasper	Lurcher	2 year	Brown	18/08/2023
084	Betty	XL Bully	3-5 yrs	Champagne merle /white	20/08/2023
085	Poppy	Labradoodle	8 yrs	fawn	21/08/2023
086	Rutty	XL Bully	1 year	Brown/White	21/08/2023
087	Sandy	Staffy	2 year	Red/fawn	21/08/2023
088	Sparkles	Staffy	3 year	Brown/White	22/08/2023

*This table represents a snapshot of the dogs in care at a point in time. The situation as at 22nd August 2023 shows 31 dogs in situ.

Dog Shelter Capacity

The Shelter at Hollygrove continues to operate above capacity. Discussions are continuing to explore the potential of further expansion at this site. Negotiations are also continuing so secure space at and an alternative site and there has been good progress on this. Clarifications have been sought regarding Licencing, Security, Isolation Facilities and Veterinary Services.

CONTROL OF HORSES

Statistical information

	Total 2022	Year to date 2023
Number of horses seized	43	20
Number of horses transferred to Animal Welfare Charity	36	19
Number of horses returned to owners	7	1
Number of horses in Pound @ 29/08/2023	0	0
Number of horses euthanised	0	0
Number of horse licences issued	12	20

CURRENT PROJECTS

Procurement Process for New Control of Horses Contract

As previously reported a nationwide tender process will be run, by an OGP appointed company Education Procurement Service on behalf of Local Authorities, the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine (DAFM) and Coillte.

A draft tender for the “*Provision of Services for the Control of Stray, Abandoned and Unidentified Horses for DAFM*” has been circulated to the inter-agency working group. DCC have made a number of recommendations that have been incorporated into the tender specification. It is anticipated that the Tender will be published in the coming weeks by Education Procurement Service (EPS). In the meantime a short term contract has been agreed between the existing contractor and all of the Dublin Local Authorities that will maintain services until a new national framework can be put in place.

Horse Carriage Multi-agency checkpoints

A multi-agency operation was held over the August bank holiday weekend. The operation was attended by Animal Welfare and eight 10-day-notices were issued where licences could not be produced. A number of these cases have since produced a licence or are in the process of obtaining one. In one case the owner will not be returning to this jurisdiction. There were no obvious cases of mistreatment or neglect but neither was there any evidence of food and water being provided for the animals. The area provides little in the way of shelter for the horses who may have to stand for long periods in the sun.

Ballyfermot Horse Situation

The situation in the Ballyfermot area remains a serious difficulty for the Animal Welfare Unit and its partners. Unmanned Light Aircraft video footage has helped to gain a clear picture of the extent of the issue but security issues for the staff engaged in seizures still poses the main concern. A number of attempts have been made to seize horses in this area but most have failed either because the situation was deemed too dangerous or simply because the horses had been moved before a response could be mounted. At present the horses identified in the aerial photography are being moved to private property overnight making operations difficult to plan. The Animal Welfare Unit will continue to liaise with the DCC local Area Office as well as members of An Garda Síochána and other local interested parties to see if an alternative approach to seizures can be found as the traditional approach of night-time/early morning operations do not seem to be effective in this situation.

Joint Dublin City Council / An Garda Síochána Animal Welfare Training

Progress is being made to design and rollout a new programme of training for all parties involved with Animal Welfare issues. The AWU have attempted to contact with the legal team in the DAFM with a view to developing a version of the seminar that was first delivered in June 2014. It is hoped that DCC would host this seminar at our Wood Key Venue and invite parks and other community staff as well as members of An Garda Síochána and other interested parties.

The unit has also identified a number of practical dog and horse handling courses that will be suitable for staff who have occasional interactions with these animals up to field operatives involved with daily animal welfare issues. These courses will be carried out over the next number of months as staff arrive in the Animal Welfare Unit and will also be offered to our colleagues in AGS and Parks.

The modules will include:

- Case building
- Practical Dog Handling
- Powers of Authorised Officers
- Aggressive Behaviour & Lone Working
- Court Reporting & Witness Statements

- Facility Inspections

It is anticipated that this programme will evolve over time to include a wide variety of Animal Welfare and Control issues.

ANIMAL WELFARE UNIT STAFFING

Animal Welfare Staff	Status
Administration	
Administrative Officer	Post Filled
Staff Officer	Post Filled
Assistant Staff Officer	Vacant – awaiting appointment from new panel
Clerical Officer	Post Filled
Operations	
Animal Welfare Inspector	Post Filled
Assistant Inspector	Post Filled
Temporary Dog Warden	Post Filled
5 Animal Wardens**	Competition Advertised pending interviews

** The Animal Warden Post will be advertised publicly on Friday 1st September as an insufficient number of applications were received internally by the closing date of Friday 25th August. Interviews for the internal candidates will be held in parallel with the external recruitment process. It will be necessary for the Animal Welfare Unit to contract with the Warden Service from HMS to manage our obligations under the Control of Dogs Act until suitable permanent staff can be identified and fully trained.

HOURS OF SERVICE

Difficulties remain in managing the out of hours service due to staffing levels. It is hoped that once new staff are employed and fully trained the unit will be in a position to increase its hours of service.

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**
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.

It is important to emphasise that 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**
