

### Animal Welfare Unit – Draft Procedures for dealing with banned breeds in Tenancies 2022

Where banned breeds of dogs are in Dublin City Council Properties and Dublin City Council are notified either by An Garda Síochána or Tenants, the following procedure should be followed:

- The Local Area Office should notify the Animal Welfare Unit by email requesting that the breed of the dog is verified or if there are any animal welfare or compliance issues.
- The Area Office should notify the Animal Welfare Unit if there are concerns relating to an address or its occupants at the initial complaint stage in order to safeguard AWU staff.
- The Animal Welfare Unit will visit the property to ascertain whether the animal is a restricted breed or not and/or if there are any welfare/compliance concerns.
- If there are issues with compliance or the welfare of the animal, the Animal Welfare Unit would act appropriately under the Animal Welfare Act 2013 or the Control of Dogs Act 1986 as appropriate.
- If there are no issues and the dog is a banned breed, the Animal Welfare Unit will notify the Area Office by email stating the breed (or cross breed) and will provide back-up documentation as needed.
- Any further action will be taken by Dublin City Council Housing and Community Services Department/Local Area Office using Section 34 of the Tenancy Agreement if necessary.

The Control of Dogs (Restriction of Certain Dogs) Regulations, 1998 impose certain rules in relation to the following breeds (and strains/cross-breeds) of dog:



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Doberman



Bull Mastiff



American Pit Bull



Rottweiler



Rhodesian Ridgeback



Japanese Tosa



German Shepherd



Japanese Akita



English Bull Terrier

- and to every dog of the type known as a Ban Dog (or Bandog) and to every other strain or cross of every breed or type of dog” as legislated under the Control of Dog Regulations 1998  
**Please note:** German Shepherd also includes dog breeds known as Alsatian.

**NOTE:** Fees and/or fines will apply to the owners of the dog/s in all cases where Animal Welfare Unit assist in the removal or surrender of dogs.



**The rules state that:**

1. These dogs (or strains and crosses of them) must be kept on a short strong lead by a person over 16 years who is capable of controlling them;
2. These dogs (or strains and crosses of them) must be muzzled whenever they are in a public place;
3. These dogs (or strains and crosses of them) must wear a collar bearing the name and address of their owner at all times;

The rules on muzzling and leashing do not apply to dogs used by the Gardai, the Dublin Harbour Police, State Airport Police and bona fide rescue teams in rescue operations. The rules on muzzling do not apply to guide dogs for the blind.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT