

Dublin City Council
Oversight Committee on Animal Welfare

Meeting via Hybrid Teleconferencing (Zoom) and Room 233 DCC Civic Office Building
Block 2 Floor 3

Wednesday 5th October 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Minutes

Members In Attendance:

Cllr. Deirdre Heney, Chair (DH)
Garda Gillian Duffy (GD)
Martina Kenny (MK) (My Lovely Horse)
Cllr. Cieran Perry (CP)

DCC Representatives

Coilin O'Reilly, Executive Manager (COR)
Ursula Donnellan, Senior Executive Officer (UD)

Minute Taker: Gareth Matthews, Staff Officer (GM)

Apologies:

Lord Mayor Caroline Conroy (CC)
Catherine Lawlor (CL) (Department of Agriculture)
Cllr. Janice Boylan (JB)
Cllr. Donna Cooney (DC)
Garda Áine McQuillan (AMC)
Frank D'Arcy (FD)
Pat Teehan, Administrative Officer (PT)
David Gibbons, A/Staff Officer (DG)

		Discussion	Matters Arising / Actions
1.	Minutes of last meeting	Agreed	
2.	Manager's Report	Presented by U.D. Report noted.	Stats. On Dog Breeding Establishments to be included in future reports. Issue with out of hours contact no. has been resolved. Committee members to test call from time to time and feedback any issues. Chair to contact Asst. Commissioner in relation to Education programme for An

			<p>Garda Síochána to be trained in their official Animal Welfare capacity</p> <p>Animal Welfare Unit to contact Parks Dept. to ensure farm animals / petting farms are not used in future DCC community events.</p>
3.	National Dog Control Statistics 2021	<p>Report Noted. Overview of DCC Animal Welfare Unit in comparison to other L.A.</p> <p>Dog Breeding Establishment (DBE) Figures discussed</p>	<p>Report on suspected DBE inspections and actions to be prepared for discussion at next meeting (GM)</p>
4.	Update on temporary dog shelter facility and progress report on replacement facility closer to the city	<p>Location within Dublin City Boundary for provision of a municipal dog shelter remains as the preferred long term option.</p> <p>Hollygrove Kennels continues to provide a satisfactory services in the interim.</p>	<p>Potential for multiple Dog Shelter facilities to include charities and dog care facilities to be considered.</p> <p>Clarification required on public procurement rules.</p>
5.	Progress update on staff complement of the Unit	<p>Optimum Staffing Level</p> <p>1 Administrative Officer (Gr. 7)</p> <p>2 Staff Officer (Gr 5)</p> <p>1 Clerical Officer (Gr 3)</p> <p>1 Animal Welfare Inspector (Gr. 6)</p> <p>1 Assistant Animal Welfare Inspector (Gr. 5)</p> <p>3 Animal Welfare Officer (G.O.)</p> <p>5 of the 9 posts are vacant.</p>	<p>Animal Warden and admin. posts to be filled internally.</p> <p>Approval has been received from Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for Inspector and Assistant Inspector posts and liaison with HR Dept. is ongoing re job spec. and recruitment. This post to be circulated by committee members once advertised.</p> <p>It is estimated that the posts will be advertised by year end.</p>
6.	Meakstown Equine Centre	<p>Chair gave an update on her recent meeting with C’O’R and actions agreed.</p>	
7.	A.O.B Horse Drawn Carriages	<p>Discussion on level of horse drawn carriage activity and potential for this to increase towards the busy Xmas period.</p>	<p>Series of multi-agency inspections to be arranged, specifically late in the evening/night in areas (other than just St. Stephen’s Green and Guinness Storehouse) in the lead up to</p> <p>(a) Christmas 2022</p> <p>(b) other big known events</p>
		<p>Next meeting date to be confirmed in early December.</p>	