# **Oversight Committee on Animal Welfare**

# **27th of March 2023**

Meeting in Housing Maintenance Conference Room 233 Block 2 Floor 3 and via Teleconferencing (Zoom)

9.00 am – 9.45am

**Minutes**

**Members In Attendance:**

Cllr. Deirdre Heney, Chair (DH)

Lord Mayor Caroline Conroy (CC)

Martina Kenny (MK) (My Lovely Horse)

Cllr. Cieran Perry (CP)

Cllr. Donna Cooney (DC)

Catherine Lawlor (CL) (Department of Agriculture)

Chief Superintendent John Gordon (CS,JG)

**DCC Representatives**

Ursula Donnellan, Senior Executive Officer (UD)

Richie Herlihy, Administrative Officer (RH)

**Minute Taker**: Gareth Matthews, Staff Officer (GM)

Apologies:

Inspector Peter Woods

David Gibbons, DCC Asst. Inspector

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|  |  | **Discussion** | **Matters Arising/ Actions** |
| 1 | Minutes of last meeting | Chair welcomes new members to the Committee and thanks previous members for their efforts. | Minutes agreed |
| 2. | Manager’s Report and Updates |  |  |
|  | * Dog Control Statistics | (CP) questioned the average time spent for a dog in our care.  Priority for dogs entering shelter are stray and dogs with welfare concerns. Current numbers reduce capability to accept surrenders.  (DC) expressed concerns in relation to this topic | RH to have average time for dog spent in shelter included in next meetings report. |
|  | * Dog Shelter Facility | To be revisited |  |
|  | * Control of Horse Statistics | Summer time predicted to arise issues with improper horse ownership in high horse owner DCC areas.  (DC) raised possibility of monitoring the sale of horses | Planned multi agency operation required in targeted areas.  A factor to consider in the future. |
|  | * Procurement Process for New Control of Horses Contract | Ongoing-DCC had a direct input in contract details |  |
|  | * Multi Agency checkpoints | Ongoing- successful and to be continued | Peak holiday times and late night inspections to be carried out |
|  | * DCC Animal Welfare Unit Staffing | (UD)- gave update | Administrative Officer position and Asst. Inspector filled (not additional staff member), Inspector of Unit has been identified.  Dog Warden posts in DCC recruitment process. |
|  | * Joint Training Programme | Training to take place, legislation and powers of the authorised officer to be covered. | Training will be designed as joint venture between An Garda Síochana, DCC & Dept of Agriculture |
|  | * Hours of Service and contact information | Out of hours number is working | To remain the same until increase in staff levels |
| 3 | Update on Equine Centre | CP pointed out progress discussed in October meeting | Report on this topic to be included going forward |
| 4 | Issues impacting Dog Welfare in Ireland Report | No update since last report in 22. |  |
| 5 | Correspondence; email correspondence from Chair to Minister re Horse Drawn Carriages legislation. | Chair confirmed email sent. |  |
| 6 | A.O.B | No further discussion |  |
|  | **Next meeting date to be confirmed** |  |  |

* Horse Drawn Carriage Bill

Multi-agency checkpoints

* DCC Animal Welfare Unit Staffing
* Joint Training Programme
* Hours of Service and contact information

1. Update on Equine Centre
2. Issues impacting Dog Welfare in Ireland Report
3. Correspondence; email correspondence from Chair to Minister re Horse Drawn Carriages legislation.
4. A.O.B