

## Animal Welfare Oversight Committee Minutes of Meeting held on 7th May 2024

Conference Room 233 Block 2 Floor 3, Civic Offices and via Teleconferencing (Teams) 9.00 am – 10.00am

## **Members In Attendance:**

Cllr. Deirdre Heney, Chair (DH)

Chief Superintendent John Gordon, An Garda Síochána (CS,JG)

Cllr. Cieran Perry (CP)

Cllr. Donna Cooney (DC)

Cllr. Caroline Conroy (CC)

Catherine Lawlor (CL) Dept. of Agriculture

Martina Kenny (MK) (My Lovely Horse Rescue)

## **Dublin City Council Representatives**

Ursula Donnellan, Senior Executive Officer (UD)

Richie Herlihy, Administrative Officer (RH)

Maeve Furlong, Animal Welfare Inspector (MF)

Minute Taker: Gareth Matthews, Staff Officer (GM)

## **Apologies:**

Inspector Peter Woods, An Garda Síochána (I.P.W)

		Discussion	Matters Arising / Actions
1	Minutes of last meeting (19/02/24)		Minutes agreed.
2.	Manager's Report and Updates		
	Dog Control Statistics	YTD statistics presented and noted. Explanation of increase in numbers of dogs PTS provided.	No. of surrendered dogs and of those surrendered the no. PTS included in next report.
	Rehoming of Animals	Difficulties arising in the rehoming of restricted breed dogs and effecting capacity.	Increase of the social media platforms used in progress.
		Muzzling requirement noted and agreement in rehoming difficulties.	Muzzling item to be included in education programme to reflect legislation.

	Dog Shelter Facility	Capacity of shelters combined is 45 spaces.	Noted.
	Horse Control Statistics	YTD statistics presented and noted.	Noted.
	Procurement Process for New Control of Horses Contract	Two procurement documents at final process before release of competition.  1) Horse seizure procurement 2) Vet services procurement	C.L) Horse procurement documents due to be circulated to operators by end of May.
	Horse Carriage Multi- agency checkpoints	M.F) update on last two checkpoints provided.	Follow up from actions during checkpoints in process.
		CS,JG) Written request submitted for the review of Horse and Carriage Legislation.	Next operation in planning stage.
	Animal Welfare Grants from Department of Agriculture	Dept of Rural and Community Development responsible dog ownership media campaign backed and supported by Animal Welfare Oversight Committee.	Application for grant funding from both DRCD and Dept of Agriculture to be explored
	DCC Animal Welfare and Control Services Staffing	Full staff capacity in service.  Training of new warden's on-going.  Hours of service to be increased once staff training complete.	Noted.
	Staff and Joint training programme	Confirmed 26 <sup>th</sup> June date for 1 <sup>st</sup> module and guest speakers confirmed and North City operation Depot.  Dog seizure process the central focus for the first module.	Noted.
	Feasibility Study for Meakstown Site Municipal Shelter	Services of City Architects has been secured for study of site.	Noted.
	School Visits – Talks on Safety around Animals	M.F and A.W Warden with educational experience to visit schools in coming weeks.	Noted.
3.	Animal Welfare Charter	Two workshops completed, mission station and A.W Charter quotation to be agreed.	Dublin Sporting/ Celebrities to feature in support of A.W.

4.	A.O.B	Change in current layout/designs of Dog Parks in Park requires a change in the Park Bye-Laws.	Off lead/open space area for dogs a more suitable possibility.
	Next meeting date TBD		