

Service Standards

Animal Welfare

The Animal Welfare Service aims to provide help and advice on dangerous dogs, stray dogs, pet shops, riding establishments, dog breeding and performing animals. We have licensing and control powers which are used in respect of classified “Dangerous Wild Animals” and in relation to farm animals.

We aim to:

- Ensure all animal establishments that are licensed by this authority, or are registered, are inspected annually.
- Respond immediately when possible if there is an alleged risk to the life or health of an animal. The first available officer will contact you on receipt of the enquiry.
- Respond within 24 hours to reports of stray dog sightings. If the stray is not wandering we will attend within 1 hour. If the stray is wandering we will attempt to seize the dog the same day. Once the stray has been taken into our care the owner has 7 days to come forward to claim the dog.
- Seize suspected dangerous dogs and hold for up to 7 days pending identification. Pit Bull Terrier types can be held for long periods of time and the owner prosecuted.
- Microchip pets within 10 working days of your request.
- Respond to all enquiries regarding animal welfare within 3 working days. You will be allocated to an officer who will contact you, provide advice, discuss possible outcomes and may make an appointment to visit if necessary.