CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000320
Date 27 July 2016

Stray Dogs

Request:

Section 1 - Your Local Authority:

Name of Local Authority - City of Wolverhampton Council
County operate in – West Midlands
Your name - Shaun Walker
Your job title - Public Protection Service Lead (Residential 6)
Your telephone number – 01902 554548
Name of dog warden (if applicable) – Noah's Ark
Name of external provider (if applicable) – N/A

Is your dog warden service:

Employed directly? Contracted out? ✓

Who out of the following handles your strays?

Council owned pound
Private Boarding kennels
Welfare Charity kennels ✓
Other

What hours does your dog warden service work (tick all that apply)?

Working hours Mon – Fri ✓
On call out of working hours Mon - Fri
Working hours Sat - Sun
On call out of working hours Sat - Sun
Other

Section 2 – Stray Dogs

During the period 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, how many dogs were:
(If you are providing an estimate, please tick here ✓☐)

Seized by the local authority as stray dogs - 411
Brought in / surrendered by the general public - 25
Brought in by the police - 11
Brought in by other means (please specify) - 0
Already in local authority kennels on 1 April 2016 - 15
Seized by the local authority or brought in by the police or general public under or in response to the Dangerous Dogs Act/Order - 20
TOTAL – 502

Of the dogs taken in between 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, how many were:

Reclaimed during the statutory local authority kennelling period - 225
Returned directly to the owner without kennelling - 60
Rehomed by the local authority - 0
Passed on to a welfare organisation or dog kennel for possible rehoming after the statutory period - 102
Put to sleep - 103
Still in local authority kennel at 31 March 2016 - 12
Other (please specify)

Of the dogs put to sleep between 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, how many were (if known):

Put to sleep due to ill health - 41
Put to sleep due to behavioural problems/aggression - 51
Put to sleep under the Dangerous Dogs Act/Order – 11

The media often refers to '**status dogs'** as those whose looks or breed type are thought to convey a particular impression of their owner - such as Bull breeds, Rottweilers, Akitas or Crosses of these. (please provide estimate if exact figures unknown):

a) Of the dogs taken in between 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, how many dogs were so called 'status dogs'? – 326

b) Of the 'status dogs' taken in over the same period, how many had to be put to sleep due to aggression? - 45

Section 3 – Microchipping & Returning to Owner

Of the dogs taken in between 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, how many were microchipped (total figure)? – 123

Of the dogs that were returned to owner between 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, how many were returned as a result of:

Dog having a microchip (with correct, up to date information) - 60
Dog wearing an identification disc *
Dog having both an identification disk and a microchip*
Owner contacting the local authority/pound direct - 151
Dog already known to warden *
Other (please specify)
In respect of your above questions that have been marked with a blue asterisk, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

How many dogs who were microchipped were not able to be returned to their owners between 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016 as a result of:

Incorrect contact/keeper details registered - 75
Unwanted by owner - 48
Other (please specify)

Compared with the same period last year, has the number of dogs with non-UK microchips taken in between 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016:

Increased significantly
Increased slightly
Stayed the same
Decreased slightly
Decreased significantly
Don't know/can't remember ✓

Do you offer a microchipping service?

Free at a cost to the council - no
Free using Dogs Trust chips - no
Fee passed on to client - no
No

How many microchipping enforcement notices have been served post April 6th?

Unchipped - 0
Incorrect details - 0