

# ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019

## DOG BREEDING IN CARMARTHENSHIRE

### Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to:

- Detail the current position in relation to the licensing of dog breeding in Carmarthenshire and the approach that is taken;
- Outline the level of pro-active regulation and enforcement that has taken place in the last couple of years and how our approach has evolved and the challenges we face;
- Consider how we continue to improve standards at licensed breeders and where best to target resources in future;
- Provide recommendations to support the above; and
- To ensure we comply with Scrutiny Procedure rule 10 (1) for this matter to be placed on the agenda.

### To consider and comment on the following issues :

1. Our current approach in regulating dog breeding, and our planned future approach to high risk and illegal dog breeding establishments.
2. Increasing the level of unannounced visits outside of regulatory requirements to breeders based on informed risk assessments.
3. Publishing a new set of standards, promoting our “Buy with Confidence” scheme.
4. Reviewing current dog breeding licensing conditions to ensure clarity in approach.
5. Reviewing current licensing fees to ensure balance between cost incurred and disincentive to trade legally.
6. Reviewing what resources will be required in the future to regulate and enforce dog breeding standards.

**Reasons:**

- To note the pro-active approach that is currently being undertaken in relation to dog breeding;
- To ensure our approach moving forward is “fit for purpose” as dog breeding further increases;
- To provide clarity on the standards expected for dog breeding;
- To ensure our “Buy with Confidence” scheme promotes good practice;
- To ensure consistency in approach in implementing licensing conditions;
- To ensure license fees are appropriate and proportional; and
- To ensure the appropriate level of resources are in place for future activity.

To be referred to the Executive Board/Council for decision: NO

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-**

Cllr. Philip Hughes- Public Protection

<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Designations:</b>	<b>Tel Nos.</b>
Communities		01267 228960
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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Detailed Report Attached:

Yes

## IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed:          Jonathan Morgan                          Head of Homes and Safer Communities

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

There will be potential policy implications as we review our licensing conditions and charges- these will be subject to a separate report.

### Legal

The legal section will continue to have a significant input into the prosecution of unlicensed and illegal dog breeding in the County.

### Finance

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report but licensing charges and potential resources to deliver the service will be reviewed.

### Risk Management Issues

Failure to continue to pro-actively regulate dog breeding establishments will have significant reputational and service delivery risk for the Council.

### Staffing Implications

There are no direct staffing implications associated with this report but future staffing resources will be reviewed.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed:          Jonathan Morgan                          Head of Homes and Safer Communities

**1.Local Member(s)** n/a

**2.Community / Town Council** n/a

**3.Relevant Partners** n/a

**4.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** n/a

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**  
**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**  
**THERE ARE NONE**