

ANGUS COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 25 NOVEMBER 2008

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT – HELP FOR ABANDONED ANIMALS

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

ABSTRACT:

This report provides information on the operational performance in relation to a service level agreement between Angus Council and Help for Abandoned Animals.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- (I) Notes the successful progress on re-homing stray and abandoned dogs as specified in the service level agreement with Help for Abandoned Animals (HFAA), and,
- (II) Requests that the Head of Environmental & Consumer Protection monitors compliance with the terms of the Agreement.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A Service Level Agreement exists between Angus Council and HFAA for a three year period from September, 2007 until August 2010 for the purpose of re-homing straying or abandoned dogs caught by the Council's Dog Warden Service and not claimed by owners.
- 2.2 The purpose of this report is to review annually the performance of HFAA in accordance with the recommendations set out in Council Audit 06/28 – service level agreements.

3. SLA PERFORMANCE 2007/2008

- 3.1 A review of the service delivery in relation to schedule A of the service level agreement is appended.
- 3.2 It will be noted that HFAA have performed an important role in ensuring 53 of the 58 dogs abandoned to the care of Angus Council Dog Warden Service are re-homed (91%).
- 3.3 Dogs have been re-homed within a reasonably short period of time with no dogs in long term stay.
- 3.4 HFAA have taken appropriate action to deal with dogs in poor state of health.
- 3.5 While the agreement permits in certain circumstances that a dog maybe returned to its original owner after the statutory period for claiming dogs, no dogs were returned to owners

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The service level agreement specifies the payment that the Council makes by way of a payment for each dog passed to HFAA. The costs of such fees are met from the Environmental & Consumer Protection Revenue Budget.
- 4.2 The level of payment made to HFAA under the agreement is to be reviewed every two years and adjusted for inflation. This review is not due until September 2009 but the estimated financial impact of this review will be considered as part of the 2009/10 Revenue Budget setting process.

4.3 The current payment is £100 per dog which is required to include veterinary costs of a health check on the dogs.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The issues dealt with in this Report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An equalities impact assessment is not required.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS

6.1 There are no human rights implications arising as a result of this report.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Law and Administration and Head of Finance have been consulted on the contents of this report.

Eric S Lawson
Director of Infrastructure Services

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

E&CP/IW/GK
30/10/2008

Help for Abandoned Animals Sanctuary

Record of Unclaimed Stray Dogs Handed Over by Angus Council for Re-Homing

3rd Quarter 2007

Month	Dogs In	Dogs Re-Homed	Dogs PTS
September	2	2	0
Totals	2	2	0

4th Quarter 2007

October	8	8	0
November	2	2	0
December	1	1	0
Totals	11	11	0

1st Quarter 2008

January	6	6	0
February	12	12	0
March	6	6	0
Totals	24	24	0

2nd Quarter 2008

April	6	5	1
May	1	0	1
June	2	2	0
Totals	9	7	2

3rd Quarter 2008

July	7	6	1
August	3	2	1
September	2	1	0
Totals	12	9	2

Since the 1st September 2007 until 30th September 2008 the total number of unclaimed dogs handed over by Angus Council for re-homing was **58**. The number of dogs suitably re-homed is **53**. During this period **4** dogs were humanely destroyed. **1** dog remains in the sanctuary still awaiting to be re-homed.

Signed: *I. Robb*

Date: 13 October 2008

Vice Chairman
Mr Ian Robb