

Report on	Animal Welfare
Date of Meeting	1 st July 2019
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements, Head of Environmental Health

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report																												
1.1	To provide an update to Members on the levels of activity in the Animal Welfare function within Mid Ulster District Council area and beyond over the last financial year.																												
2.0	Background																												
2.1	<p>From 1st April 2018 until 31st March 2019 the Western Region for Animal Welfare functions, of which MUDC is a part, have received 1426 animal welfare calls and carried out 2006 inspection visits, 665 of which were carried out in the Mid Ulster District Council area. It was noted that there was 67 calls received in Mid Ulster District area that were not Animal Welfare Cases and were referred to other agencies.</p> <p>In the last financial year councils in NI have received 6267 animal welfare calls, carried out 9441 inspection visits and served 149 Improvement Notices.</p> <table><tr><th>Period 01/04/2018 – 31/03/2019</th><th>NI</th><th>Western Region</th><th>Mid Ulster</th></tr><tr><td>No. of Calls received to date</td><td>6267</td><td>1426</td><td>430</td></tr><tr><td>No. of Referrals other agencies</td><td>951</td><td>303</td><td>67</td></tr><tr><td>No. of Animal welfare cases</td><td>5316</td><td>1123</td><td>363</td></tr><tr><td>No. of AWO Inspection visits</td><td>9441</td><td>2006</td><td>665</td></tr><tr><td>No. Of Improvement Notices served</td><td>149</td><td>26</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>No of cases where Animals Seized</td><td>127</td><td>9</td><td>3</td></tr></table>	Period 01/04/2018 – 31/03/2019	NI	Western Region	Mid Ulster	No. of Calls received to date	6267	1426	430	No. of Referrals other agencies	951	303	67	No. of Animal welfare cases	5316	1123	363	No. of AWO Inspection visits	9441	2006	665	No. Of Improvement Notices served	149	26	6	No of cases where Animals Seized	127	9	3
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3.0	Main Report																												
3.1	<p>Enforcement of the Welfare of Animals Act (NI) 2001</p> <p>Enforcement of the Welfare of Animals Act (NI) 2001 is carried out as per the Animal Welfare Enforcement Guidelines. Files with recommendations for legal action are prepared by the lead Council and forwarded to Mid-Ulster District Council for decision making purposes.</p>																												

3.2	Communication with Public <p>An Animal Welfare website has been set up within the NI Direct website (www.nidirect.gov.uk/animal-welfare) to include all relevant information for the public in relation to Animal Welfare.</p>
3.3	Western Region Animal Welfare Forum (AWF) <p>As per the Service Level Agreements between Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, Derry City & Strabane District Council and Mid Ulster District Council, an Animal Welfare Forum meeting takes place between the Animal Welfare Manager and the Head of Service from councils. The AWF provides sub-regional liaison and ensures consistency and efficient working practice across the councils within the Western Region.</p> <p>The contact details for the Western Region are:</p> <p>This region covers Fermanagh and Omagh District Council; Derry City and Strabane District Council; and Mid Ulster District Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone: 028 8225 6226 (same contact no for Out of Hours) • email: animalwelfare@fermanaghomagh.gov.uk • Fermanagh and Omagh website: Welfare of Animals(external link opens in a new window / tab) • Derry City and Strabane website: Welfare of Animals(external link opens in a new window / tab) • Mid Ulster website: Animal Welfare
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications <p>Financial: The service is fully funded by DAERA.</p> <p>Human: Animal Welfare staff are employed by Fermanagh & Omagh District Council.</p> <p>Risk Management: N/a</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: N/a</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note update report in relation to Animal Welfare.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1 - NI Direct Website details