

**MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY REVIEW - ANIMAL WELFARE
FRIDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2008**

Councillors Davies

Observer None

Apologies Councillor Dodds

LC7. URGENT BUSINESS:

None notified

**LC8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY, IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS
AGENDA:**

None notified

LC9. ANIMAL WELFARE IN HARINGEY - EVIDENCE FOR THE REVIEW:

**ANIMAL WELFARE IN HARINGEY - ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS [RSPCA]**

Piers Cloughton - Senior Local Government Adviser attended the meeting to discuss the work of the organisation. The RSPCA is the world's oldest animal organisation and currently has 267 inspectors, 148 animal collection officers responding to 1.1 million calls which the society receives [2007 figures].

The society has 17 regional; 40 branch run animal centres in addition to 34 clinics in England and Wales.

The two major pieces of legislations passed in the last few years are:

Clean Neighbourhood & Environment Act 2005 [section 68]

This legislation amended aspects of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and was anticipated to tackle the inconsistency in the delivery of stray dogs services. The new legislation:

Removes police responsibility for receiving stray dogs

Requires local authorities to 'where practicable' provide an out of hours reception centre. Local authority remains ultimately responsible for the stray dogs regardless of any outsourcing.

Animal Welfare Act 2006

The Animal Welfare Act is one of the most significant legislation passed. It impacts on a variety of services that local authorities provide including licensing of boarding, breeding and pet shop establishments, stray dog service and allotments management. The primary legislation:

MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY REVIEW - ANIMAL WELFARE
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- Covers vertebrate
- Introduces the 'Duty of Care'
- Maintains the cruelty offence under the Protection of Animals Act 1911
- Gives local authorities new 'optional powers' to issue improvement notices/powers of entry.

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Postcode Sector	household	Domestic - Non Canine			Domestic - Canine		
		2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
N10 2	3842	3	0	2	7	8	9
N10 3	3864	4	0	4	3	2	3
N11 2	3637	2	2	3	3	9	10
N15 3	3576	2	4	3	5	15	10
N15 4	3924	1	4	3	11	18	17
N15 5	3463	2	4	6	10	9	22
N15 6	4377	4	1	3	12	12	13
N17 0	4325	2	4	3	13	17	16
N17 6	7298	4	4	4	10	13	18
N17 7	3597	6	4	13	20	24	25
N17 8	2743	1	3	7	4	8	12
N17 9	4848	7	3	13	16	20	21
N22 5	4452	6	9	8	16	16	10
N22 6	4580	15	15	20	16	19	15
N22 7	2834	1	3	3	4	6	9
N22 8	3651	1	3	4	12	11	9
N4 4	3289	2	2	0	8	4	6
N6 4	2231	5	2	1	1	3	9
N6 5	5073	1	4	1	2	5	3
N8 0	3646	1	4	4	7	13	13
N8 7	4103	2	2	4	4	10	11
N8 8	3375	2	6	3	8	3	6
N8 9	4491	3	7	3	3	11	12
TOTAL		77	90	115	205	256	279

With regard to animal welfare incidents, we expect anything to do with a stray - including animal welfare is the local authorities responsibility. We investigate any complaint that is made to our cruelty and advice line but we are looking at working more closely when investigating issues surrounding establishments licensed by the local authority such as breeding establishments, pet shops etc.

A Council animal welfare officer, if sufficiently trained, could actual reduce incidents regarding establishments occurring by assisting licensing officers in the inspection and licensing process, hopefully reducing the number of welfare complaints made to both the Council and the RSPCA.

I think more general joint working could be established by an early introduction to any new welfare officer and the areas inspector and Chief. It is through that relationship, parameters of work can be agreed and a mechanism for reporting incidents or discuss issues can be agreed.

LACORS and RSPCA are finalising a MOU of communication that should be launched in early 2009.

LC10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

4th December 2008.

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FRIDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2008**

LC11. URGENT BUSINESS

None submitted

Cllr Ray Dodds

Chair