

MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL POLICY IN RELATION TO DOGS ADMITTED TO MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL DOG POUND

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(Published on the Carrick Dog Shelter Facebook page)

The function of Monaghan County Council Dog Pound is to remove stray and unwanted dogs from the area of Monaghan, for their own safety and for the safety of motorists, livestock and the public, and to maintain the dogs in satisfactory conditions of welfare until they can be disposed of, either back to their owner, or rehomed, or through securing an animal rescue placement via Carrick Dog Shelter(CDS) or Dogs Trust(DT), or destroyed. The Dog Pound is not an animal rescue centre. Monaghan County Council endeavours, through its connections with CDS and DT, to minimize the number of dogs euthanized in the Pound.

Dogs admitted to Monaghan County Council Dog Pound are categorized as stray dogs or voluntarily surrendered dogs.

Stray dogs are dogs where the owner or person in charge of the dog(s) cannot be readily identified, and/or are dogs that are not being kept under adequate control.

Voluntarily surrendered dogs are dogs surrendered by their owner to the Dog Pound. The owner must pay the appropriate fee.

Stray dogs are kept in the Dog Pound for at least 5 days to allow the owner an opportunity to reclaim their dog.

Voluntarily surrendered dogs may be rehomed or secured an animal rescue placement via CDS or DT immediately. Where rehoming or transfer to animal rescue does not take place, these dogs are kept in the Dog Pound for at least 5 days.

Once these periods have elapsed, these dogs may be euthanized.

Dogs that have bitten a person or worried livestock, or are suspected of having bitten a person or worried livestock, will not be rehomed or made available to CDS or DT. If these dogs are not reclaimed by their owners, they will be euthanized.

Reclaiming of Dogs:

Where the owner of the dog wishes to reclaim the dog from the Dog Pound he/she, or a person authorized by the owner, must:

- present themselves at the Dog Pound,

- satisfy the local authority representative and/or the Dog Warden that they are the owner of the dog or have been authorized by the owner to claim the dog:-
 - They must produce for inspection their driver's licence or passport or other form of photographic identification issued by the Government and a utility bill issued within the previous 3 months giving the owner's address. A person authorized by the owner to claim the dog must produce their own photographic identification in addition to the owner's identification and address.
- complete the prescribed form,
- produce a dog licence (this may be purchased online at www.monaghan.ie or at any Post Office), or proof of purchase of the licence, and microchip certificate of registration for the dog, and
- pay the appropriate fees in respect of the seizure and detention of the dog.

Where the owner does not have a certificate of registration, Monaghan County Council will organize for the certificate to be issued to them.

Rehoming of Dogs:

- Dogs may be rehomed directly from the Dog Pound.
- The person rehoming the dog must accept it on the understanding that it has not received any treatment or vaccinations (other than vaccination against Parvovirus on admittance to the Dog Pound) to protect its health and that Monaghan County Council Dog Pound does not guarantee the health, temperament or behaviour of the dog.
- The person rehoming the dog must accept full responsibility for the dog when they rehome it.
- The dog is microchipped prior to rehoming and registered to the new owner.
- The person rehoming the dog must purchase a dog licence (this may be purchased online at www.monaghan.ie or at any Post Office) for the dog before they take possession of the dog.
- There is a fee charged for rehoming dogs directly from the Dog Pound. Included in this fee are the costs of Parvovirus vaccination and of microchipping and registering the dog. The new owner may apply for a refund of part of the fee by submitting written confirmation to Monaghan County Council, signed and stamped by a veterinary surgeon, that the dog has been neutered.
- Any person rehoming a dog, or rehoming a dog on behalf of another party, must produce proof of identification and address as set out above under Reclaiming of Dogs.

Dogs that have spent the prescribed period of time in the Dog Pound, and have not been reclaimed or rehomed, and are deemed suitable by Monaghan County Council, will be made available for animal rescue placement via CDS or DT. Dogs that are not directly rehomed from the Dog Pound, and that CDS or DT are unable to offer an animal rescue placement to, will be euthanized.