

## DOG CONTROL

The Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010 states that it is an offence for any dog owner to allow their dog to be out of control in such a way as to cause alarm or make another person feel apprehensive. Community Services will investigate reports of dogs acting out of control and a Dog Control Notice may be issued to the dog owner. For more information on the Dog Control Act please see the Dog Control leaflet.

## DANGEROUS DOGS

The police enforce the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991. If a dog is seriously out of control in any place (e.g. bites or attempts to bite a person or seriously injures/kills another animal) this should be reported immediately to Police Scotland (Tel: 101) for action under the Act.



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**Community Services can advise on any issues outlined in the leaflet. To get more information or report an incident please use contact details below:**

**Tel: 01349 886603**

**Email: [service.point@highland.gov.uk](mailto:service.point@highland.gov.uk)**

**For more info:**

**[www.highland.gov.uk/  
animalsandpestcontrol](http://www.highland.gov.uk/animalsandpestcontrol)**



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# RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP



Community Services

## YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

### Time

Leaving dogs alone for extended periods can lead to excessive barking, destructive behaviour and soiling due to boredom and separation anxiety. Ideally your dog should not be alone for more than 4 hours.

### Energy

Dogs require regular exercise and training. Different dog breeds have different exercise and training needs so make sure you choose the breed that suits your circumstances.

### Control

It is your responsibility to ensure your dog does not upset other members of the Community by being allowed to stray, bark excessively, foul indiscriminately and behave aggressively or anti-socially.

**Complaints from the public will be investigated and could lead to legal proceedings.**



## STRAY DOGS

Community Services have staff who catch stray dogs and arrange for them to be kennelled until claimed by the owner. The dog owner must pay for the cost of kennelling, together with a fixed penalty of £25.00 and any veterinary fees, before the dog is released. **Dogs must be claimed within seven days or they will be found a new home.**

If you have lost or found a dog call the Service Centre on **01349 886603** (Mon- Fri 9am to 5pm) where you will be given information on what to do. If you have found a dog outwith those hours contact your nearest police station. The Police have a joint responsibility for dealing with stray dogs that have been found by the public and have been taken to the police station. If you have lost a dog outwith Service Centre hours, it might be helpful to make use of social media to help find the dog.

## MICROCHIPPING, COLLARS & TAGS

From 6th April 2016 the Microchipping of Dogs (Scotland) Regulations 2016 made it compulsory for all dogs over 8 weeks old to be microchipped. The person responsible for ensuring that dogs are microchipped will be the current keeper. All pet dogs are also legally required to wear a collar and tag with the owner's name and address on it. Dog owners can be prosecuted and fined for not complying with these legal requirements. Having all of these measures in place will greatly assist with reuniting you with your pet should it get lost.

## DOG FOULING

It is an offence under the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003 to fail to clean up after your dog in any public place. Dog fouling is anti-social, unhygienic and can be dangerous for children and other animals. You can help by always picking up after your dog has fouled. "Grab it, Bag it, Bin it" in any litter bin, dog bin or your own rubbish bin.

Community Services can help by:

- Educating the public through campaigns and advice;
- Erecting appropriate signs;
- Investigating complaints from the public; and
- Issuing fixed penalty notices to offenders.

Local Authority Officers and Police Officers can deal with this offence by means of issuing a £80 Fixed Penalty Notice to offenders (which increases if not paid within 28 days).

**Continual refusal to pay the penalty can result in prosecution with a possible fine of £500.**



**A WELL TRAINED DOG IS A HAPPY DOG**

**IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE YOUR DOG DOES NOT UPSET MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**BAG AND BIN YOUR DOG WASTE OR DISPOSE OF IT AT HOME**