

Appendix 2 – Consultation with Rescue Centres

Two local Charitable Rescue Centres were contacted to gauge their experience of the impact the pandemic may have had on their Services.

We did not receive a response from one Rescue Centre, however the other Centre, North Clwyd Animal Rescue provided an outline of Stray Dogs and those handed in by the public. North Clwyd Animal Rescue is our authorised kennels to take in stray dogs as part of our Dog Warden Services, however they are an organisation who deals with rescued dogs from a wide geographical area and not just Denbighshire.

They have kindly provided information for the purposes of this report. From Figure 1 below you can clearly see the correlation between the first lockdown of the pandemic and a marked drop in dog admission for both the Dog Warden Service and Dogs handed in by the public from across the Region. These low admissions continued throughout the first lockdown however there was a slight increase in admissions for the second half of 2020. Overall admission remained much lower during the pandemic compared to the pre-pandemic period.

However, as you will see during the latter part of this year (October 2022) they have seen the highest number of admissions which is comparable with the pre-pandemic periods. The Centre has been extremely busy in recent months and have been close to capacity on many occasions.

During hand over admissions the Rescue Centre actively try to understand the reasons as to why dog owners decide to hand over their dogs, this is outlined in Figure 2 below.

There are many reasons as to why dogs are handed over to the rescue centre, however few disclose financial as a reason pre and post pandemic.

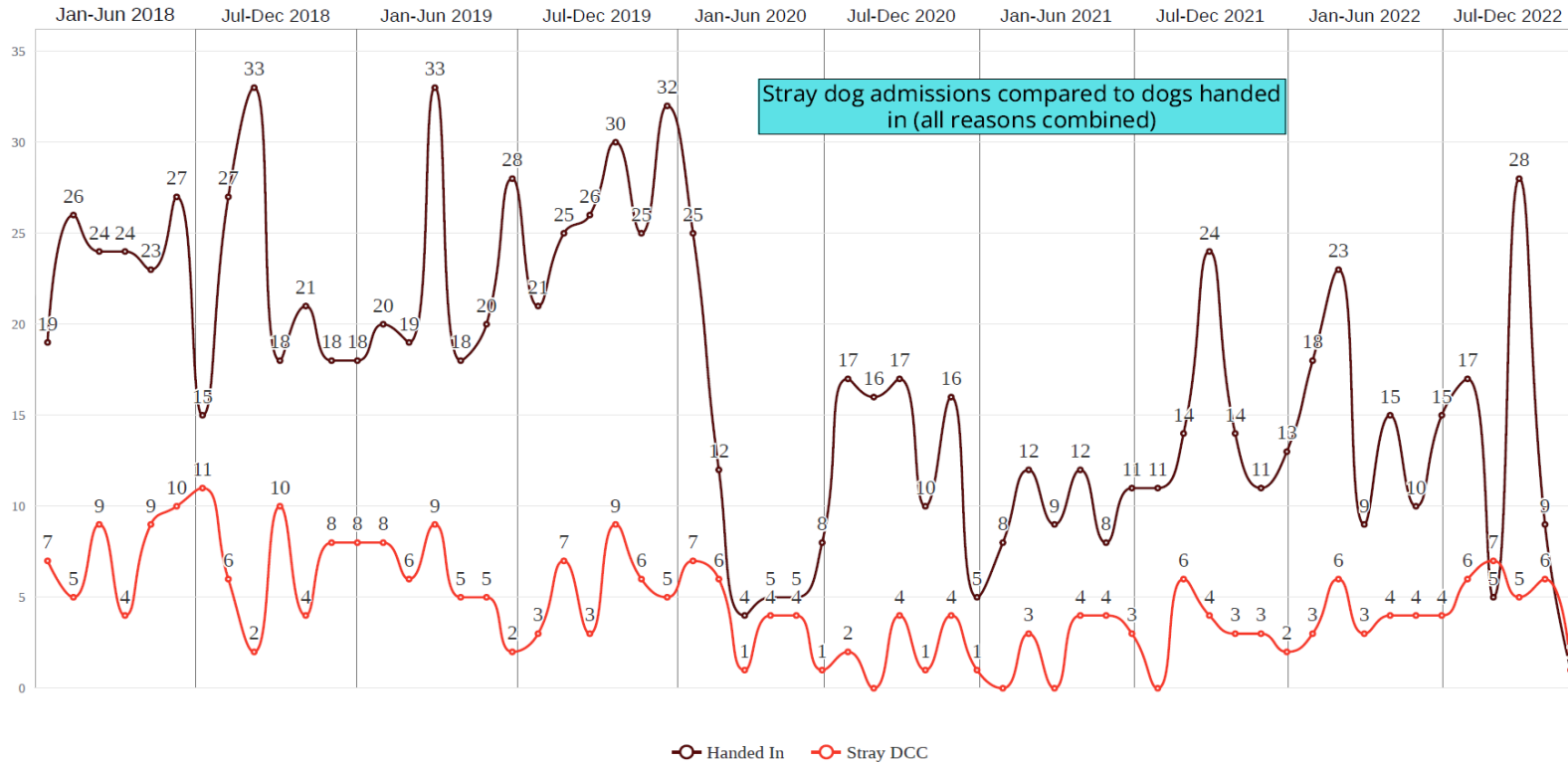
There were 5 admissions during the April-June of this year who disclosed Homelessness as a reason, however this is comparable with figure pre-pandemic.

During this year 27 dogs were handed over due to the owner's death with 21 of this occurring in the latter quarter of this year. This is significantly higher than the previous 3 years. This may be an indication that other family members may not have capacity or the financial resources at this time to care for their loved one's pet dog.

Stray Dog admission are on the increase but have not reached the same levels as pre pandemic.

North Clwyd Rescue Centre have confirmed they currently have over 400 dogs on a waiting list awaiting handing over, this is the highest number since before the pandemic. The waiting list pre-pandemic was at approximately 100 dogs.

Figure 1 – Stray Dogs and Dogs Handed-In January 2018 – December 2020



Data source: North Clwyd Animal Rescue 12/12/2022

Figure 2 - Dog Admissions by Reasons January 2018 – December 2020

Reason for Admission	2018				2019				2020				2021				2022			
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Handed In - Can't cope with behaviour	14	5	7	6	3	9	7	9	10	1	7	7	3	6	13	9	12	8	3	6
Handed In - Change of circumstances	19	14	21	8	7	15	27	30	12	11	15	9	6	10	6	8	9	11	9	5
Handed In - Change of job							1				1			1			1		1	
Handed In - Chases livestock							1													
Handed In - Escape artist	1	1				1														
Handed In - Failed worker				1																
Handed In - Financial	3		2					1							1				1	
Handed In - Homeless	4	3			2	2	1	1	3	2	1		1		1	1		5		
Handed In - Ill health of owner	5	7	9	8	13	7	9	10	10			9	10	4	3	6	17	1	3	1
Handed In - Moving house		6	2	3	2	3	2	5	5		1	5		2	3	1	3	2		1
Handed In - No good with children											1					1				
Handed In - Not enough time	11	8	5	3	11	10	5	4	9		6	6	1	2	5	5	7		5	2
Handed In - Owner allergic	1	2				4	2	1	5						1	3				
Handed In - Owner died	1	12	3	6	4	2		6	4		5	4	2	1	1	6	1	2	3	21
Handed In - Owner pregnant or new baby	2	1			3	7		1	1					1			3		1	
Handed In - Relationship breakdown	2	10	3	5	4	6	4	7	2		2	3	2	1	1	2		1	2	2
Handed In - Unplanned litter	1		15	7	2											4			5	
Handed In - Unwanted	6	6	8	11	6	6	16	6	8		2			1	1	3	1	4	4	
Stray DCC	21	23	19	22	22	19	12	18	18	9	3	9	4	8	9	10	11	11	17	12

Data source: North Clwyd Animal Rescue 12/12/2022