

# **Tackling Disease Outbreak in a Shelter Environment**

**Practical Considerations and Lessons Learnt**



**Runa Hanaghan – Deputy Veterinary Director  
Dogs Trust**

**06.10.2022**

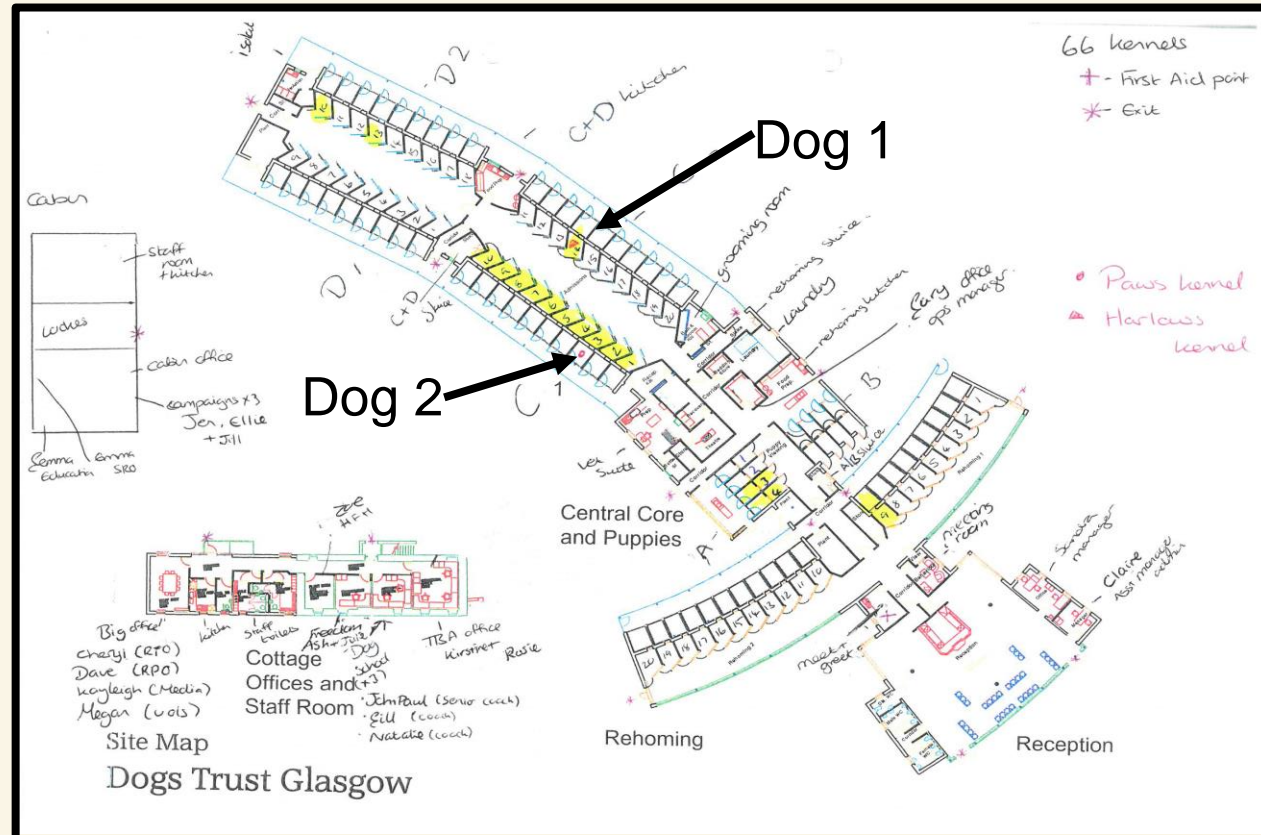
# Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre (shelter) network



# Glasgow – the first Distemper case



**#1 Map and Context – understanding any staff or volunteers on site**



**#2 Contact tracing and linked dogs**

**#3 Experts for guidance**

# Operation Cadmium



## More than 100 dogs removed in Killingholme rescue centre raid

© 22 March 2018



Rescue vehicles and dog ambulances were at the 4 Paws Veterinary Clinic during a police raid at a property in South Killingholme

**More than a hundred dogs have been removed from a vets and rescue centre in North Lincolnshire during a huge raid by police and RSPCA inspectors.**

The RSPCA said they were taken away from the 4 Paws Veterinary Clinic on



Dogs were shared across four sites at Dogs Trust:

- Evesham – intake block
- Loughborough – intake block
- Leeds – spare kennels
- Manchester – puppy block
- Commercial Quarantine kennels for 5 dogs who were non-compliant

# A multi-charity operation



Handwritten notes on lined paper:

- IKH/1 662 Leeds 552 552 Standard poodle beige
- IKH/2 956 Leeds 913 Fawn x black pug
- IKH/3 Loughborough No dog Yorkshire terrier 5-6 F
- IKH/5 Loughborough 662 778 White + tan x breed. weight 8
- IKH/6 Loughborough 953 6 White + grey Shih tzu
- IKH/7 Loughborough 662 995 x-breed female fawn + 7 pups
- 55P/30 Loughborough 969 071 Red + tan terrier
- 55P/30

IDENTIFICATION FORM  
EXHIBIT NO. 55P 56

Dog Owner - FAIRBROTHER, 4PAWS, JANIKER KENNELS, SOUTH KILLINGHOLME

Dogs Name/Type: COLLIER CROSS BREED	Sex: F <input type="radio"/> M <input checked="" type="radio"/>	Age:
Colour: TAN	Microchip No. —	Weight: (Animals Centre Only)
Kennel ID No: 1C	Total number of animals in kennel: 2	
Date/Time Seized: 1515 22/3/18	Seized by Whom:	
Date/Time transported	Transported RSPCA / DT	
Date/Time Rec'd At Animal Centre:	By Whom: Dogs Trust Evesham	
Condition of Dogs/Vet Comments:		

IDENTIFICATION FORM

Dog Owner - FAIRBROTHER, 4PAWS, JANIKER KENNELS, SOUTH KILLINGHOLME

Dogs Name/Type: BRITISH BULLDOG	Sex: F <input type="radio"/> M <input checked="" type="radio"/>	Age:
Colour: GREY, TAN + WHITE	Microchip No. 9810 498	Weight: (Animals Centre Only)
Kennel ID No: 2C	Total number of animals in kennel: 2	
Date/Time Seized: 1532 22/3/18	Seized by Whom: 786	
Date/Time transported	Transported RSPCA / DT	
Date/Time Rec'd At Animal Centre:	By Whom:	
Condition of Dogs/Vet Comments:		



Missing information



**#4 Record everything at the first point of contact**

## The next turn of events..

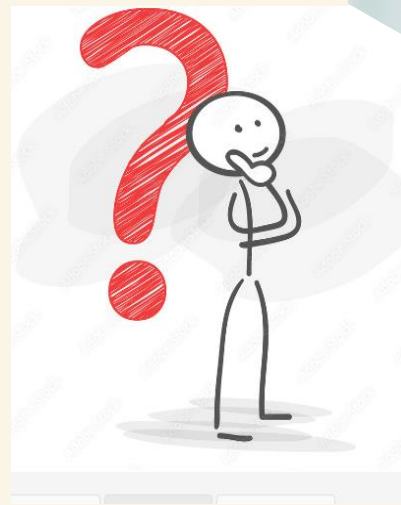
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...16 days after Operation Cadmium a call came through...

Blood testing – snapshot of results known at the time

- Rabies titre – 0.1mmol/L (failed)
- Brucella test – unsure of results as pending
- Leishmania antibody - +ve low/moderate
- Leishmania PCR – not detected
- Distemper antibody – unsure as pending results
- Distemper PCR – not detected



**#5 Rabies vaccination of staff across our network**

# #6 Note keeping to manage linked cases



AutoSave Off | List of dogs | Search (Alt+Q) | Runa Hanaghan

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help | Comments | Share

Clipboard | Font | Alignment | Number | Styles | Cells | Editing | Analysis | Sensitivity

	A	B	C	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	Exhibit number	Chip number	DT Code	Sex	Breed	Colour	DOB	RC	Pair	Comment	Bloods?	
2	SJP/50	#####	1189890	F	Terrier Cross	Black and grey	23/03/2008	Evesham		No chip found. Chipped by DT		
3	SJP/56	#####	1189894	M	Spaniel: English Cocker	Red	23/03/2010	Evesham	SJP/57	No chip found. Chipped by DT		
4	SJP/57	#####	1189896	F	Spaniel: English Cocker	Red	23/03/2010	Evesham	SJP/56			
5	SJP/35	#####	1189897	F	A Crossbreed	Ginger	23/03/2012	Evesham				
6	SJP/45	#####	1189898	M	A Crossbreed	Black and tan	23/03/2016	Evesham				
7	SJP/31	#####	1189899	F	Terrier	White and black	23/03/2015	Evesham		We have no copy of form.		
8	SJP/48	#####	1189900	M	Terrier Cross	Black and white	23/03/2016	Evesham				
9	SJP/51	#####	1189901	M	Shih Tzu	White and tan	23/03/2012	Evesham	SJP/52+53			
10	SJP/55	#####	1189903	F	Spaniel: English Cocker	Red	23/03/2014	Evesham	SJP/54			
11	SJP/54	#####	1189905	M	Cocker Spaniel	Red	23/03/2014	Evesham	SJP/55			
12	SJP/37	#####	1189907	F	A Crossbreed	Black and white	23/03/2014	Evesham				
13	SJP/36	#####	1189908	M	Terrier Cross	Tan and white	23/03/2016	Evesham				
14	SJP/43	#####	1189909	F	Bearded Collie	Blue merle	23/03/2016	Evesham				
15	SJP/32	#####	1189910	F	A Crossbreed	Black and tan	23/03/2016	Evesham				
16	SJP/44	#####	1189911	M	A Crossbreed	Tan	23/03/2016	Evesham				
17	SJP/49	#####	1189912	F	Terrier Cross	Tan	23/03/2014	Evesham				
18	IKH/14	#####	1189932	F	Labrador	Chocolate	01/03/2008	Evesham	IKH/15			
19	SJP/33	#####	1189936	M	A Crossbreed	Grey and white	01/03/2014	Evesham		Chip found at DT, not found on seizure, not on form		
20	SJP/52	#####	1189939	M	Bichon Frise	White	01/03/2008	Evesham	SJP/51+53	No chip found. Chipped by DT		
21	SJP/61	#####	1189948	F	Bulldog: French	Black and white	01/03/2014	Evesham				
22	SJP/59	#####	1189950	M	Bulldog: English	Blue	01/03/2015	Evesham	SJP/60	Ref not written on form		
23	SJP/60	#####	1189951	F	Bulldog: English	Tan and white	01/03/2014	Evesham	SJP/59			
24		#####	1189952	F	Terrier Cross	Brindle	01/03/2012	Evesham		We have no copy of form.		
25	SJP/53	#####	1189954	F	Bichon Frise	White	01/03/2008	Evesham	SJP/51+53	No chip found. Chipped by DT		
26	IKH/12	#####	1189955	F	Bulldog: English	White and tan	01/03/2017	Evesham	IKH/13			
27	IKH/9	#####	1189958	M	Terrier	Black and white	01/03/2016	Evesham				
28	IKH/11	#####	1189959	M	A Crossbreed	Tricolour	01/03/2015	Evesham				
29	SJP/46	#####	1189961	M	A Crossbreed	Black and tan	01/03/2015	Evesham				
30	IKH/15	#####	1189963	F	Labrador	Chocolate	01/03/2014	Evesham	IKH/14	Chip number different than written on form		
31	IKH/13	#####	1189964	F	Bulldog: English	White and tan	01/03/2017	Evesham	IKH/12			

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# #7 Communication Plans

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Internal Groups - our Rehoming Centre teams



External groups – those people connected to our rehoming centre

Shelter staff

Volunteers

Vet practices

Dog School classes

General Public



## Lessons Learnt

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- #1 Shelter Pack
- #2 Contact tracing between residents/dogs
- #3 Experts for guidance
- #4 Record everything at first point of contact
- #5 Rabies vaccination of network of staff
- #6 Note or Record keeping to manage linked cases
- #7 Communication plan

**...little did we know how useful this would be...**

# The subsequent challenges..



## Covid-19



# The subsequent challenges..



## Brucella canis

### Brucella canis explained as woman is first in UK to get rare animal-borne disease

The 'nasty' disease affects dogs' reproductive systems and in rare cases, can spread to humans.

**LIFESTYLE** By **Lucy Farrell** Trainee Trends Writer  
11:53, 17 AUG 2022 | UPDATED 12:04, 17 AUG 2022


Enter your postcode for local news and info



**MOST READ**

- **DWP confirms £150 disability cost of living payments to start landing in bank accounts this week**
- **Argos shoppers praise 'amazing' Ninja air fryer 'dupe' that has them ditching the oven**
- **Warning issued over dangerous 'energy saving boxes' being sold online**

### What is Brucella canis?









Brucella canis is a bacterial organism which primarily affects the reproductive organs of male and female dogs.

In female dogs, the bacterium can cause infertility and miscarriage. In male dogs, it can result in testicular inflammation and infertility, according to [Pet Health Research](#).




This nasty disease can cause pain to the owners, which is unfortunately what Mollie experienced. Dogs pass it on through contact, including during sex.

Dogs of all ages and breeds can suffer from brucella canis, but it is more common in purebred dogs. It is often known as a zoonotic disease, meaning it can be transmitted from animals to humans.

**RECOMMENDED**

-  Must try any of these: the best 10 'best' dog products you need to buy now
-  What Lusham about dog's life? A more caring for health
-  Argos's dog day: how to get the best of the best
-  Canary Islands making progress on a 'dog-friendly' holiday
-  How to appear in front of the camera with a dog-friendly background
-  The Best Walking Shoes for When to Wear All Day

**RECOMMENDED**

-  The Best Bath for Dogs: What to Buy for Your Dog's Skin
-  DWP confirms £150 disability cost of living payments for most people this week
-  Argos shoppers praise 'amazing' Ninja air fryer 'dupe' that has them ditching the oven

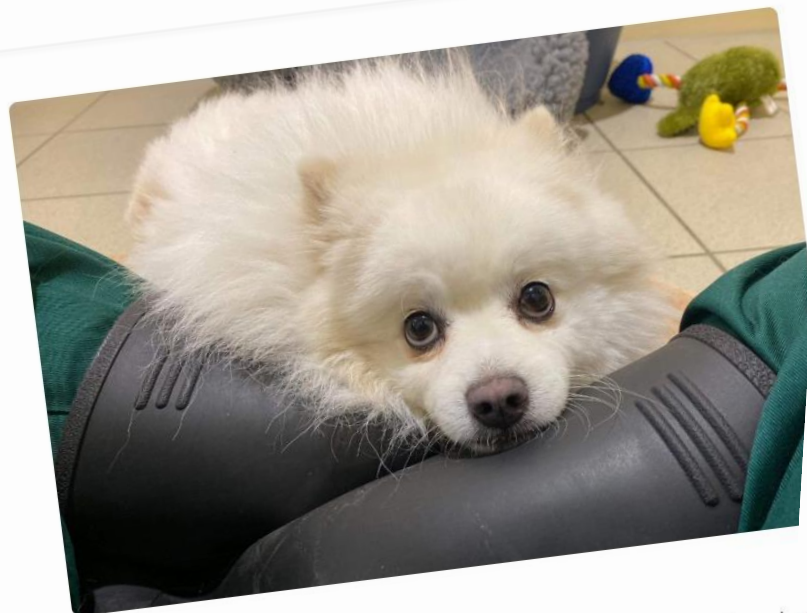
# The subsequent challenges..



## Ukraine conflict

The screenshot shows a GOV.UK webpage with the following elements:

- Header:** GOV.UK logo, navigation links for "Topics" and "Government activity", and a search icon.
- Language:** "English | [Русский язык](#) | [Українська](#)"
- Section:** "Guidance" followed by the main title "Bringing your pet to the UK from Ukraine".
- Text:** "What you must do to bring your pet to the UK from Ukraine if you are seeking refuge."
- Metadata:** "From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)", "Published 8 April 2022", and "Last updated 12 August 2022 — [See all updates](#)".
- CTA:** "Get emails about this page" button.



Our dedicated quarantine staff have received their rabies vaccinations, been provided with full PPE, and given specific training to care for the dogs from Ukraine. Each dog receives a full vet check-up, essential vaccinations and treatments to ensure they are healthy and comfortable.





**Thank you and  
any  
questions?**



# Plan for Presentation

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Plan for presentation and objectives (30mins):

Theme for discussion	Focus of this element	Times
Dogs Trust Shelter network	Scene setting	3mins Slide 1&2
The story – two in one	Outlining the first, and then the second story	4mins slide 3 6mins slide 4&5
The main case presented	Outline the resonance of case	4 mins slide 6
Records and Communication	Share how we learnt these	6mins slide 7,8
Lessons learn	Discuss clearly with examples after this event	2mins Slide 9, 5mins Slide 10,11,12