

What to do if your Dog goes Missing

If you have lost your dog, it is important that within seven days you contact the Council on 01279 655261. The Council has full responsibility for the acceptance of stray dogs.

You should also contact your local vets, local animal rescue charities and other neighbouring Councils who may have picked up your dog as a stray, and inform the Police who may have been notified.

Some helpful numbers are listed below:

Animal Rescue Charity	01279 501547
Mutts in Distress	01279 654785
Police non emergency	0845 3300222 or 101

Neighbouring Councils: Animal Rescue

Broxbourne Council	01992 785555
Welwyn Hatfield Council	01707 357000
Stevenage Council	01438 242242
North Herts Council	01462 474000
Uttlesford Council	01799 510510
Epping Forest Council	01992 564000
Harlow Council	01279 446611

To recover a stray, you will have to provide proof of your identity, ownership and pay a statutory fee of £25 plus administration and kennelling costs.

Dogs wearing a collar and tag will, on the first occasion and wherever possible, be returned to their owner. If we are successful there is normally only an administration charge on the first occasion. However, on subsequent occasions they are placed in kennels and will not be released unless all fees and kennelling costs are paid.

Any stray dog will be held at the kennels for up to seven days. If you do not collect your dog within seven days, you will lose the right to reclaim it, and we will try to re-home it.

The Police no longer accept stray dogs.

If you find a stray dog in East Herts outside office hours, please contact the Council on 01279 655261 and follow the instructions on the answer phone.

01279 655261

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Preventing your Dog from Straying

Losing your dog can be very distressing. Sadly, the reality is that many thousands of dogs go missing each year. It's estimated that less than half of them are reunited with their owners because they can't be identified.



PLATINUM STRAY DOGS 2018

Don't wait until it's too late. Ensure your dog can be easily identified if it strays and rest assured that should it become lost, it will be returned to you safe and sound.

Why do I need to have a collar and a tag on my dog?

Dog owners have a legal obligation to make their dogs visibly identifiable by means of a collar and tag, with the contact details of the owner clearly marked. Even if your dog carries a micro-chip or ear tattoo, you are still required by law to provide your dog with a collar bearing the correct identification mark. Failure to comply with this law can carry a fine of up to £5,000.

Micro-chipping

Micro-chipping is recognised as the most effective and secure way of permanently identifying a pet. Micro-chipping, in addition to the collar and tag, is a permanent method to ensure your dog's safe return. With a microchip, your dog will never be lost for long!

What is micro-chipping?

The micro-chip is the size of a grain of rice. In dogs, the micro-chip is inserted into the loose skin on the back of the dog's neck using a specially designed implanting device. Insertion is a quick and easy process that causes no more discomfort than a usual vaccination. The microchip will last for the animal's lifetime.

How does the micro-chip work?

Each micro-chip carries a unique number that is logged onto a national database. Against this number key information is stored about the dog and its owner. When a scanner is passed over the microchip the unique number is read.

Approximately 10,000 scanners are in use throughout the UK by most veterinary practices, local authorities and animal welfare groups.

Keep your details up to date

If you move house don't forget to update your details. If your pet is already micro chipped but you are unsure if your details are up-to-date, please contact your chip company or **PETLOG** on **0844 4633 999**.

How much does it cost?

It costs approximately £21 to get your dog micro-chipped via the Council. Contact us for the current price and to make an appointment. The majority of veterinary practices can also micro-chip your dog. Many animal charities may also offer chipping at a subsidised rate.