
Fact Sheet 14

What do I do if find a dog or cat?

If the animal is wearing a tag, attempt to contact the owner directly, so as to organize the return of the animal.

If you are unable to return the animal to it's owner you must, by law, either take the animal to a council pound or a Vet as soon as practical.

Failure to take an animal that does not belong to you to the owner, a Vet or a pound may result in you being issued with an infringement notice for a minimum of \$550.00.

You can take the animal to your local Vet, where they will scan the animal in an attempt to locate a microchip. If it is microchipped, an attempt to contact the owner will be made, so the animal can be returned to them.

If the animal is not microchipped, or the owners are uncontactable, the Vet will then organize for the animal to be transferred to the Shelter.

At the Shelter, the animal will again be scanned for a microchip, and checked for ownership tags. If the animal is microchipped we will attempt to contact the owners by telephone and mail.

The animal will then be photographed, which will then be loaded onto the website (which is updated at least once per day). They will then be wormed. If it is a dog, they will also be vaccinated with a C3 vaccination.

A microchipped animal is held at the Shelter for a minimum of 18 days, and a non microchipped animal is held for a minimum of 8 days.

If the animal is not claimed by their owner after this time frame, the animal is then available for sale.

