Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Safer and Stronger Together
Protecting Communities Fighting Crime

AWS Quarterly Report July - September 2026

Overview

This report is to provide information about visits undertaken by Animal Welfare Scheme Visitors (AWS) between 1st July and 30th September 2026.

Visits

For information, the decision has been made to record the AWS from year start to year end rather than in line with the financial year. We will, however, continue to publish quarterly reports.

In 2025, there was one dog, that was not seen. These have been marked on the list below with '*' and the volunteers have been asked to prioritise seeing this dog during visits in 2026.

For the third quarter of 2026, report forms have been received for a total of 2 visits. Highlighted in green below, are the dogs that were visited by AWS Volunteers in quarter 3.

Dog	Breed	Handler	Has the dog been seen?
Alan*	Malinois	PC Morris	2
Bruno	Malinois X German Shepherd Dog	PC Mills	3
David	Sprocker	PC Pilgrim	1
Delta	Belgium Malinois	PC Pell	
Drogo	Malinois	PC Polydore	2
Elka	Malinois X Herder	PC Pilgrim	1
Flash	Cocker Spaniel	PC Polydore	1
Flora	Labrador	Trainer Geoff Newton	
Hank	Cocker Spaniel	PC Collier	1
Harris	Cocker Spaniel	PC Pell	
Indy	Springer Spaniel	PC Ellis	
Kruger	German Shepherd Dog	PC Collier	2
Lizzy	Labrador	PC Mills	2
Lola	Malinois	PC Stuart	1
Nyle	Springer Spaniel	PC Brassington	3
Peggy	Labrador	PC Morris	2
Piper	Herder X German Shepherd Dog	PC Towers	1
Rosie	Labrador	PC Starr	2
Rosy	Cocker Spaniel	PC Drew	2
Snitch	Spaniel	Sgt Parkin	2
Stark	Herder	PC Brassington	3
Ultor	German Shepherd Dog	PC Smith	1

Valco	German Shepherd Dog	PC Richmond	1
Yolo	German Shepherd Dog	PC Shaw	1
Ziggy	Sprocker	PC Richmond	1

In Training			
Nitro	German Shepherd Dog x Dutch Shepherd	Trainer Geoff Newton	1
Phoenix	German Shepherd Dog	PC Bowman	4

Examples of good practise

- Rosy was seen with her handler in the exercise field, enjoying fetching a new rubber kong repeatedly. Rosy has recently changed handler as previous one retired, been with current handler around 2.5 weeks. She seems to settle well and new handler excited to be working with her- not currently operational as handler needs to be accredited. Previously encouraged back into car with treats- but now returned to handler's personal car easily and handler shared change in regular feeding regime as no longer needing multiple daily treats just to get back into car. Has regained healthy weight (apparently a little heavy previously)

- Lola - Trialling a mat in her bedding area as she use to previously chew this but now seems to be settling well with one (just maturing)? Rubber kong in kennel. Good evidence of ongoing individualised care here

- Valco - The kennel staff showed individualised care by warning me that we should approach the kennel from the side rather than walking directly towards Valco and not engaging in eye contact. Valco remained quiet and calm throughout the time I spent outside his kennel which was roughly 10 minutes. A comprehensive risk assessment was easily visible outside his kennel.

- Piper - The interaction between Piper and PC Towers is really special and Piper appears to be a super stable dog, all her needs appear to be being met at home from the description given by the handler. No welfare concerns noted regarding the vehicle or the dog

- Giardiasis - A recent outbreak of Giardiasis was identified and contained quickly through the proactive actions of kennel staff. Although no formal protocol was in place at the time, staff drew upon their experience to implement effective infection control measures, including isolation procedures, enhanced cleaning regimes, PPE, restricted access, and adapted exercise arrangements. The volunteer praised the professionalism of staff and recognised their efforts in preventing wider disruption to the Dog Section's operational capability.

Causes of concern

- Exercise field - I had a long discussion with kennel staff, who felt that whilst the exercise field is certainly safe, the area could be enhanced to include areas with different surfaces, and exercise challenges such as tyres, stony areas etc. We believe this has been agreed in principle but has not been progressed and could be achieved at very little cost. Please could this be looked at again at a decisional level? These working dogs need opportunities during their "down time " to keep their brains engaged, which may help them settle, reduce boredom and/or anxiety and enhance their time in kennels.

- Giardiasis - The outbreak highlighted areas for potential improvement, particularly the absence of a formal infection control protocol prior to the incident, which has now been addressed. In addition, the kennels do not currently have a dedicated isolation area for dogs with infectious conditions or those requiring separation, which can make managing future outbreaks more challenging and may increase operational disruption. Concerns were also raised regarding parts of the kennel infrastructure that are more difficult to clean effectively, together with opportunities to further enhance enrichment provision for dogs in kennels.

Conclusion

- 8 dogs were visited last quarter
- The feedback received from the volunteers in quarter 3 was mainly very positive.