



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

Comhairle Contae Lú  
Halla an Chontae  
Ionad na Mílaoise  
Dún Dealgan  
Contae Lú  
A91 KFW6

Louth County Council  
County Hall  
Millennium Centre  
Dundalk  
County Louth  
A91 KFW6

Local 1890 202303  
T +353 42 9335457  
F +353 42 9334549  
E info@louthcoco.ie  
W www.louthcoco.ie

## CLOSURE NOTICE

To: **Colette McQuillan, Dromin, Dunleer, Co. Louth**

I, Garrett Shine being an authorised officer of Louth County Council under the Dog Breeding Establishments Act, 2010 ("the Act"), and in exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 21(1) of the Act, hereby direct that the premises identified in Part 1 of the Schedule be closed with immediate effect until the earliest of:

- (i) an Order to contrary effect by a Court of competent jurisdiction; or
- (ii) further written direction by Louth County Council

I make this order for the particular reasons set out in Part 2 of the Schedule.

### Schedule

#### Part 1 Premises

The premises of Colette McQuillan, Dromin, Dunleer, Co. Louth

#### Part 2 Particular reasons for making of Order

I am satisfied that the operation of the dog breeding establishment poses a serious and immediate threat to public health or animal welfare, details of which are specified below. You are required to cease breeding or keeping dogs at the establishment, to surrender the registration certificate to the Local Authority and take such measures as directed to enable the re-housing, at your expense, of all dogs being kept for the time being at the establishment. If you contravene this closure notice you shall be guilty of an offence.

The conditions at the establishment were completely unsatisfactory. The kennels, the runs and the operation of the establishment did not satisfy the Guidelines.

- There is inadequate provision to maintain an acceptable temperature for dogs being housed. At the time of inspection, 14:30 on the afternoon of 31.01.19, the average temperature of the walls and floor of the kennels ranged from 0C to -3C. The food in the bowl was 0C. The only method of heat in the kennels is the use small head pads, solid circular pads approx 6" diameter that are heated in a microwave and placed in the dog bed. At the time of inspection the 3 heat pads that were measured were at temperatures of 6C, 3C & 2C. As this is the only source of heat it is inadequate to rely on this method alone. The requirement under section 2.4 of part 1 of the Guidelines, to maintain a microclimate of 10C to 25C in the kennels, is not being met, and as dogs are primarily kennelled individually and are of the small toy breeds, the temperature exposure is unacceptable.
- The contact surfaces were not all of an impervious material and not able to be cleaned and disinfected, with large amounts of bare wood in use. Separation

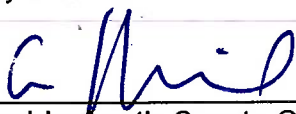
between numerous kennels is made up of an open chicken wire fence, which is not a suitable barrier to restrict spread of disease. Bedding is assorted scattering of newspapers. The construction and arrangement is not adequate to maintain good levels of hygiene, disease control or adequate bio-security as outlined in section 3.7 of part 2 of the guidelines.

- Animal care as outlined under section 3 of part 1 of the guidelines was poorly observed, with evidence of inadequate grooming.
- The premises was not appropriately licensed under the Control of Dogs Act 1986, as amended, as outlined in section 1, part 1 of the Guidelines.
- Records required under section 2 of part 2 of the guidelines, to have a SOP for personnel detailing the operation of the DBE, section 4 of part 2, to have a written programme showing the exercise, socialisation, enhancement and enrichment, and section 9 of part 2, records of all micro-chipped dogs and records of all births, deaths, sale and movements, are all absent and requests to see documents by authorised officers were refused by the Mrs. McQuillan, who refused to present certificates of registration of micro-chipping to an authorised officer during the inspection of 06/2/19, stating it was private property. Also from the inspections of the 31/1/19 and 6/2/19 there was no evidence of socialisation, enhancement or enrichment programmes in operation. Furthermore the reduction in dogs numbers, from 23 to 11 dogs, in the days sometime between inspections of 31.01.19 and 06.02.19, was explained by Mrs McQuillan, who had been given the official caution at this stage, as she stated that 1 was re-homed to Cork and the other 10 were put to sleep by herself using strong sleeping tablets. When asked where the bodies were, or how they were disposed of them, she refused to give any more details. The failure to produce documents for inspection or to detail movement of dogs on request represents an obstruction of an Authorise Officer, a breach of section 19(5) of the Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010. The statements from Mrs McQuillan also show scant regard for animal welfare

You may appeal this notice to the District Court in accordance with the Act.

Dated this day **07/02/2019**

Signed:



(authorised officer)

duly authorised by Louth County Council for purposes of Sections 21 of the Dog Breeding Establishments Act, 2010.