Keeping your dog safe

There are lots of things that can cause your dog to run off and get himself lost…

There's someone at the door!
Before you answer the door, take a moment to check if your dog is secured? Some dogs will make a break for freedom the second the door is opened.

Born to run
Is your dog getting enough exercise. If he's not getting enough then he may choose to stretch his legs without you.

In the mood
Has your dog been neutered? If not then he, or sometimes she, may try to escape to find a mate.

BOO!
If your dog is young or particularly timid, loud noises or scary situations might cause him to run away. Try and get him more accustomed to the different things he might encounter on your walks so he doesn't find them so scary.

Back to school
If your dog doesn't come back to you when you call him try some basic training. There are plenty of books on dog training that can help or sign up for some classes. Remember, never hit your dog if he doesn't come when you call - would you want to go over to someone who hit you?

Useful Contacts

Report a lost/found/stray dog (office hours)
Hartlepool Borough Council - 01429 523333

Report a lost/found/stray dog (evenings and weekends)
Out of hours contact number - 07932 039647

Low Fallowfield Farm Kennels
0191 526 1829

LOST DOG

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS DOG?

Don't let this be your dog!

Here are 3 simple steps you can take to help make sure that if your dog goes missing he can be returned to you as soon as possible.

1. **Ensure he wears a collar with an ID tag**
Not only is this a legal requirement but it means if a member of the public finds him they can contact you. Remember most members of the public wont have micro chip scanners so a visible ID tag is a must.

2. **Get him microchipped**
A micro chip is a permanent way to identify your dog even if he slips his collar.

3. **Keep your micro chip details up to date**
Your dog's micro chip will be useless if you don't keep your details up to date. Check your details today and update if necessary.

www.facebook.com/dogwardenhpool
www.hartlepool.gov.uk/dogs

HARTLEPOOL
BOROUGH COUNCIL

What to do if the worst happens

If the worst happens and your dog goes missing try not to panic. Dogs found roaming in Hartlepool usually get picked up by the Council's dog warden service where they will be held for up to 7 days before being rehomed.

As soon as you notice your dog is missing you should contact us on **01429 523333** (during office hours) so the dog warden can look out for your dog. If your dog goes missing on an evening or weekend please use our out-of-hours service on **07932 039647.**

If you have access to the internet you can now post a picture of your dog along with details of when and where it was lost on our dog warden service's Facebook page at **www.facebook.com/dogwardenhpool**. We will also check strays against the lost dogs posted on the site.

You could also try leaving details of your dog at local vets, pet shops, and police stations.

Updating your micro chip details

If you move house or your details change it is important that you update the database in case your pet goes missing.

If your dog was micro chipped by Hartlepool Council it will be registered on the "Anibase" database. You can contact Anibase on 01904 487 600.

If you don't know which company your dog is registered with contact your vet for advice.

The other main company is "Pet Log " - 0844 463 39 99.

Getting your dog micro chipped

Getting your dog micro chipped is a simple and relatively painless way to protect him. The best news is that for Hartlepool residents' dogs it can even be done free of charge!

Hartlepool Council hold regular micro chipping sessions throughout the year at venues all across the town. These are publicised in the local press and via our Facebook page. There is no need to book, simply bring your dog along, and proof of Hartlepool address, to get him chipped for free.

Micro chipping is a simple procedure that involves injecting a micro chip into the scruff of your dog's neck. It doesn't hurt your dog and lasts for life but please remember to keep your details up to date.