

**CONTINGENCY PLAN D11
RABIES**

Force Contingency Plan – D11

This Plan has been drafted in consideration of the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998. Action has been taken by the implementation of these procedures has the potential to impact on an individuals private and family life and property.

Therefore action will only be taken in the interest of national security, public safety or the economic well being of the country, for the prevention of disorder and crime, for the protection of health and morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedom of others.

Any action taken will be the least intrusive, necessary, proportionate and justifiable with regards to the issue that is being addressed.

Anyone having cause to make a complaint against any officer working in compliance with this plan will recourse to the Police Complaints Procedure through the Duty Inspector or the Professional Standards Branch of the Humberside Police.

The plan is subject to review every three years or sooner in the case of changes in policy and legislation.

Race Equality Scheme

The content of this plan has been considered under the provisions of the Race Equality Scheme, as dictated by the Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended) and deemed to be non-relevant.

Date of Publication
13 July 2007

RABIES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Rabies is a viral disease, which attacks the central nervous system of all mammals including man. The disease is transmitted through the saliva of an infected animal. If treatment is not commenced soon after infection then death will ensue, as once the disease reaches a certain stage its effects are irreversible.
- 1.2 Rabies is not endemic in the British Isles and strict laws have been enacted to prevent the disease entering Britain from abroad.
- 1.3 Responsibility for co-ordinating the required action in the event of an outbreak of rabies in this country rests with the Veterinary Officer of the Department for Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), assisted by the Animal Health Inspectors of the Trading Standards Department of the Local Unitary Authority in whose area the outbreak occurs. The police will provide whatever assistance is required to attempt to contain the outbreak.

2. PROCEDURE

- 2.1 Speed in isolating suspect animals and identifying the disease is crucial if its spread is to be avoided. It is therefore essential that any intimation of a suspected case of rabies is relayed via the Force Duty Officer to the Divisional Veterinary Manager of DEFRA and that Animal Health Inspectors of the Trading Standards Department for the council's area where the outbreak occurs.
- 2.2 On confirmation or continued suspicion of the disease, a Rabies Control Order will be served by the Veterinary Manager or the Animal Health Inspector and a declaration of an infected area or place will be made by the DEFRA. The boundaries will be defined and the order may provide for the division of the infected area into zones.
- 2.3 The police will act as requested by the co-ordination officer, Trading Standards Department of the Local Authority and Veterinary Manager of DEFRA.
- 2.4 The main role of the police will involve:-
 - (i) Give warnings instigated by DEFRA to the public in an infected area.
 - (ii) Provide, where necessary, a Silver Commander, and set up, if deemed appropriate the Silver Command Vehicle near to the incident.

3. RABIES CONTROL POINT

- 3.1 The Trading Standards Department for each of the four council areas will set up their own control to deal with the outbreak, provide accommodation for animals, protective clothing and other equipment, including transport for animals. In whichever council's area the incident occurs it will be necessary for a police liaison officer (nominated by the Superintendent, Operations Branch) to be in attendance at the Trading Standards Rabies Control.

COMMAND CENTRE – ACTION

IN THE EVENT OF A REPORT OF A SUSPECTED CASE OF RABIES, THE FOLLOWING ACTION WILL BE TAKEN:

↓

1. Direct an officer to the immediate area to act as initial contact officer.

↓

2. Inform Divisional Veterinary Manager, DEFRA. (See Appendix A for contact details).

↓

3. Inform Animal Health Inspector, Trading Standards Department for the council area where the outbreak occurs. If the Trading Standards Depts are not available contact with ANY of the Local Authorities can be made through Humber Emergency Planning Duty Manager (See Appendix A for contact details).

↓

4. Inform the Duty Divisional Inspector.

↓

5. Inform Supt. Ops Branch who will nominate a Police Liaison Officer.

↓

6. Despatch the nominated Police liaison officer to Trading Standards Rabies control.

↓

7. Inform Ambulance Service.

↓

8. Inform the Force by email, or other appropriate means.

↓

9. Inform Force Duty Officer.

↓

10. Consider informing Duty Chief Officer.

↓

11. Consider informing the Duty Divisional Superintendent.

↓

12. Consider informing Media liaison officer.

DIVISIONAL – ACTION

IN THE EVENT OF A REPORT OF SUSPECTED CASE OF RABIES, THE FOLLOWING ACTION WILL BE TAKEN:



1. Inform the Command Centre (unless call initiated by them).



2. Divisional Duty Inspector to act as Police Silver Commander (if necessary) until relieved by Duty Divisional Superintendent, if appropriate.



3. Via the Force Duty Officer, alert the public as requested by Trading Standards Department and/or Divisional Veterinary Manager.



4. Provide officers to assist as requested by Trading Standards Department and / or Divisional Veterinary Manager.



5. On no account must suspect animals be moved without the authority of the Divisional Veterinary Manager and then never to police premises and never in police vehicles.

FIRST OFFICER AT SCENE

IN THE EVENT OF A REPORT OF A SUSPECTED CASE OF RABIES, THE FOLLOWING ACTION WILL BE TAKEN;



1. Set up Forward Control Point and act as Incident officer until relieved. **DO NOT APPROACH SUSPECT ANIMALS.**



2. Once relieved, assist the officer of the Trading Standards Department and DEFRA as requested.



3. On no account will suspect animals be moved without the authority of the Divisional Veterinary manager and then never to Police premises and never in Police vehicles.



4. Pass on warnings instigated by DEFRA or Trading Standards to public within the infected area, and appraise the Force Duty Officer of any warnings.



5. Ensure Force Media Officer is consulted.

APPENDIX A

CONTACTS

<u>Local Authority</u>		<u>Telephone</u>
North Lincolnshire Council	Trading Standards (24 hour)	01724 276444
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Trading Standards (24 hour)	01482 887700
North East Lincolnshire Council	Trading Standards (24 hour)	01472 313131
Hull City Council	Trading Standards (24 hour) (before 8.30am and after 5.00pm Answer Machine)	01482 615552
Humber Emergency Planning	Emergency Duty Officer (24 hour)	
DEFRA	Divisional Veterinary Managers	
North Yorkshire Police	Headquarters	0845 6060247
Lincolnshire Police	Headquarters	01522 532222