



**Knowes Housing Association Lt  
&  
Dogs Trust  
Community Event Summary  
20/11/2017**

# Results

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November we carried out a Responsible Dog Ownership roadshow in Faifley, Clydebank, West Dunbartonshire in association with Knowes Housing Association LTD.

Our remit is to work with local authorities, stakeholders and the general public across Scotland to address dog-related problems, deliver general awareness campaigns, work within communities, gather baseline data and carry out monitoring and evaluation on a wide range of issues that directly impact on the welfare of dogs across Scotland.

By working together we are able to promote all aspects of responsible dog ownership including:

- The change in the law regarding compulsory microchipping.
- The legal requirement of keeping the microchip owner information up to date.
- The legal requirement for collar and tag.
- The legal requirement to pick up after your dog.
- The importance of proper training/socialisation to prevent anti-social behaviour.
- How to be safe around dogs.
- The importance of the five freedoms (Freedom from hunger and thirst; discomfort; pain, injury or disease; fear and distress and freedom to express normal behaviour.)

On the day, our Dogs Trust Veterinary Nurse was able to offer free microchipping, nail clipping and carry out a general assessment of a dogs health and where appropriate advise owners if they should visit their vet.

The team were also on hand to provide health & wellbeing advice including promoting the importance of:

- Taking out pet insurance
- Registering with a vet
- Neutering
- Maintaining a healthy weight
- Recognising signs of ill health
- Regular flea/worm treatment
- Annual vaccinations
- Regular dental checks

## At The Roadshow

During the Dogs Trust Responsible Dog Ownership Roadshow, the team met a total of 51 dogs and their owners. Health checks proved the most popular service on the day with 33 dogs (65%) having a health check (Figure 1). Despite the law change in April 2016, which saw microchipping become compulsory, microchipping also proved very popular with 29 dogs (57%) being microchipped by the Dogs Trust team (Figure 1). The other 21 dogs (43%) were already microchipped, but 10 of these dogs (20%) needed their microchip details updated and were informed how to do so by the Dogs Trust team (Figure 1). Nail clipping was also available on the day with 11 dogs (22%) having a nail clip (Figure 1).

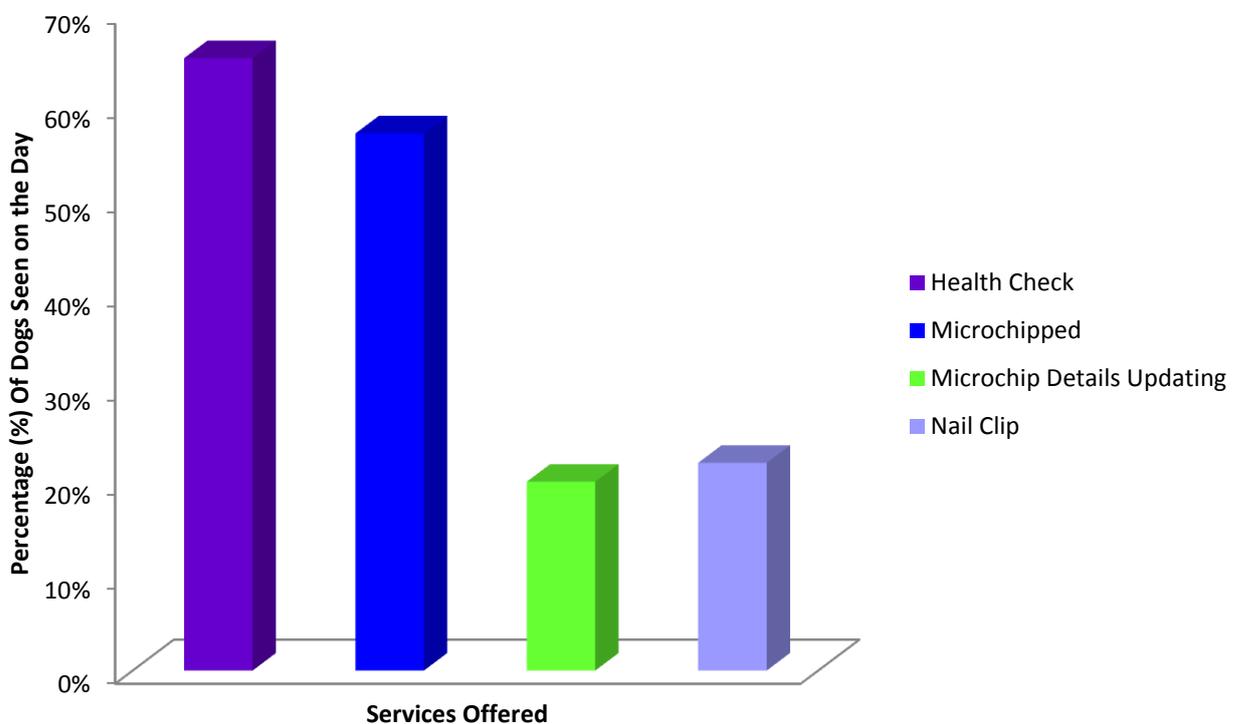
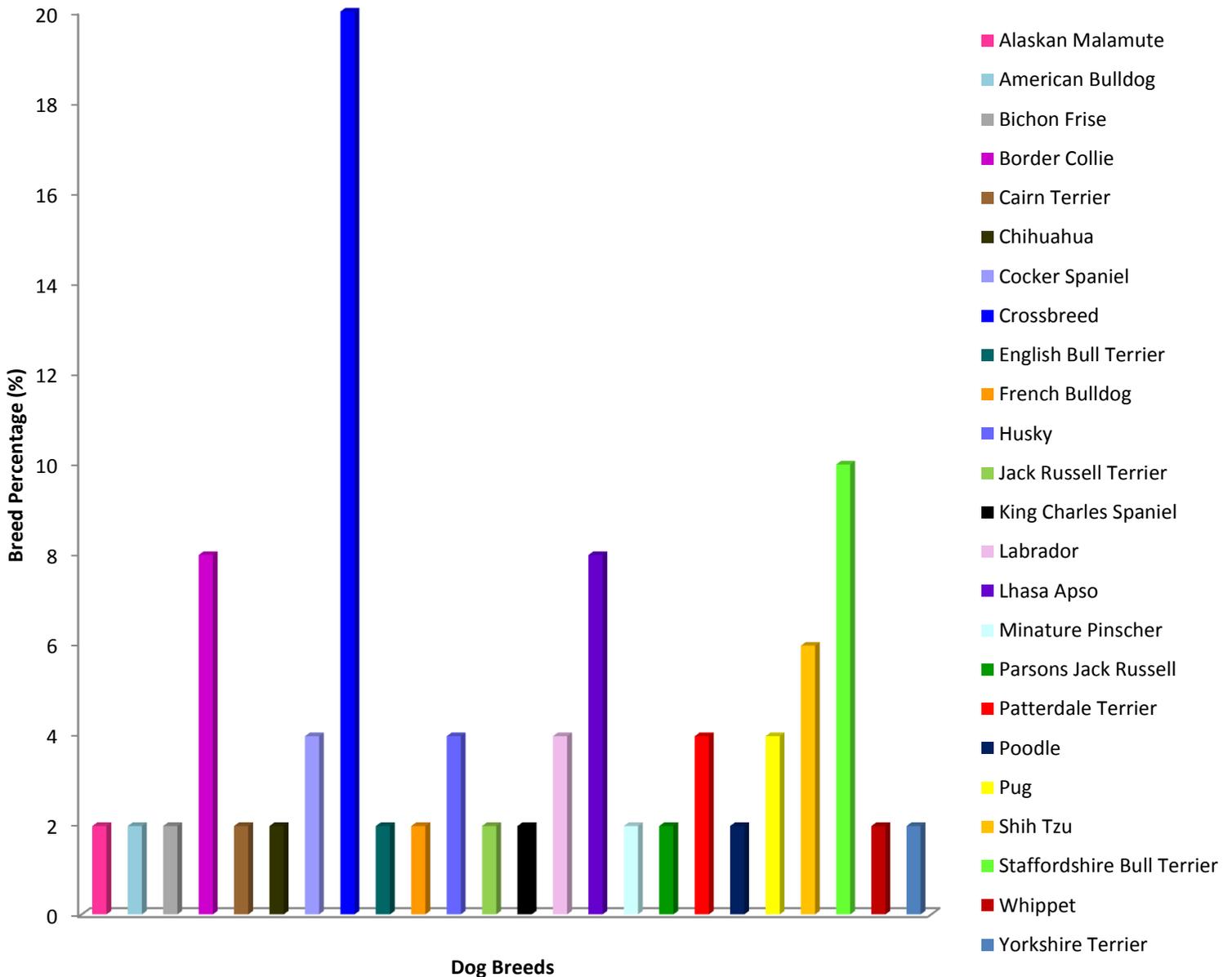


Figure 1: Percentage of dogs who received a Microchip, Health Check or updated their Microchip Details

In total, 24 different dog breeds attended the event in Faifley, Clydebank (Table 1). Of all the breeds that attended the event, Crossbreeds proved to be the most common breed, accounting for 20% of all the dogs seen on the day (Figure 2). Crossbreeds were followed by Staffordshire Bull Terriers, who accounted for 10% of the breeds who attended, and then Border Collies, who accounted for 8% of the breeds seen on the day (Figure 2).

**Table 1: Number of Dogs by Breed who Attended the Event**

<b>Breed</b>	<b>Number That Attended</b>
Alaskan Malamute	1
American Bulldog	1
Bichon Frise	1
Border Collie	4
Cairn Terrier	1
Chihuahua	1
Cocker Spaniel	2
Crossbreed	10
English Bull Terrier	1
French Bulldog	1
Husky	2
Jack Russell Terrier	1
King Charles	1
Labrador	2
Lhasa Apso	4
Miniature Pinscher	1
Parsons Jack Russell Terrier	1
Patterdale Terrier	2
Poodle	1
Pug	2
Shih Tzu	3
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	5
Whippet	1
Yorkshire Terrier	1



**Figure 2: Dog breeds present at the event in Faifley and their percentage (%) of all breeds seen**

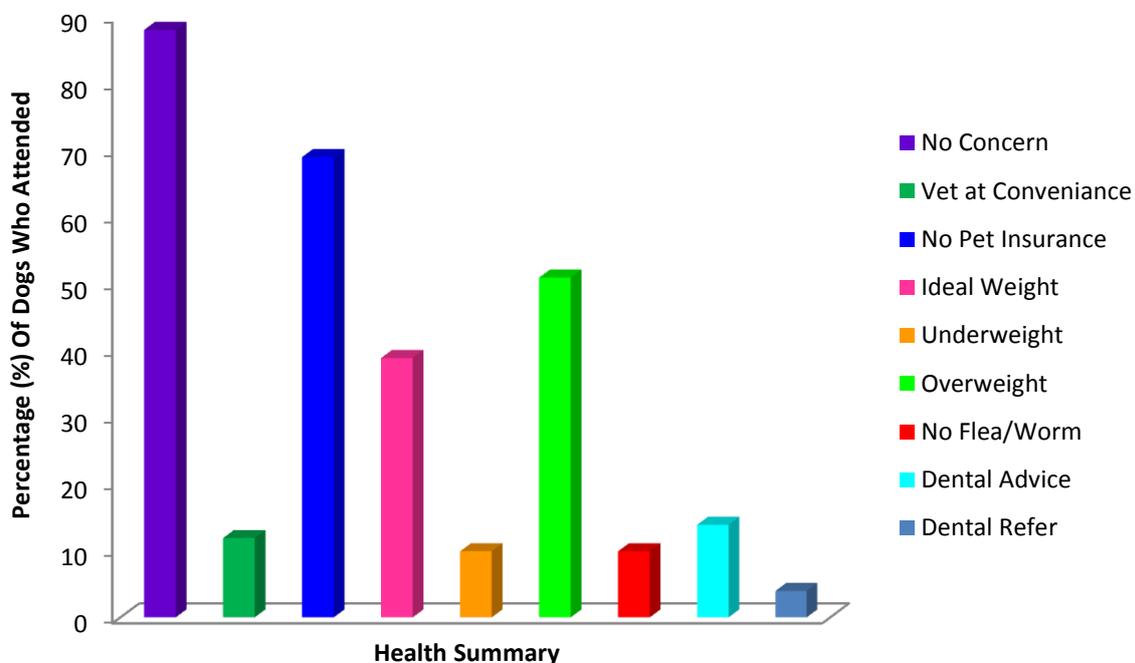
Since 1992 it has become compulsory for any dog in a public place to wear a collar and an ID tag, which should include the owners name, telephone number and home address. At the event in Faifley, 42 dogs (82%) were not wearing an ID tag on their collar. Owners were subsequently provided with a Dogs Trust temporary ID tag, as well as being informed of the legal requirement of both collars and ID tags and the importance and relevance of this legislation.

There are numerous and considerable health benefits for neutered dogs. Therefore, educating the owners on the importance and benefits of neutering is also a main objective of the Dogs Trust team. Out of all the dogs who visited us in Faifley, 20 dogs (39%) were already neutered, whilst 31 (61%) were not neutered. For some individuals, there were reasons why they did not want their dogs neutering and these reasons differed greatly. In Faifley, 7 owners (14%) did not want to neuter as

they believed it took away their dogs manhood or womanhood, whilst 2 owners (4%) wanted to breed from their dogs. In addition, 4 owners (8%) believed it was cruel and 3 owners (6%) believed that it would alter their dogs personality. Each owner was therefore informed of the health benefits of neutering for their dog and were provided with the relevant information on neutering. The Scotland Campaigns team is soon to launch a subsidised neutering scheme and those owners who qualified for the scheme were informed of its existence and were asked to provide their full details if they wished to be contacted once it is launched.

Out of the 51 dogs that attended the event in Faifley, 45 (88%) were believed to be in good health and did not require a visit to their vet, whilst 6 dogs (12%) were told to visit a vet at the owner’s convenience with minor issues (Figure 3). Dog obesity has become a serious issue across the UK in recent years and this is now a major canine care problem. At the event in Faifley, 20 dogs (39%) were considered to be of an ideal weight, whilst 5 dogs (10%) were considered underweight and 26 dogs (51%) were considered overweight (Figure 3). Diet and nutritional information and advice were given to all these dog owners in order to help them address any weight issue’s their dog had.

Dental issues also proved to be common on the day with 14 dogs (27%) needing dental advice and 2 dogs (4%) needing vet referral for their dental issues. Dogs Trust advocates the use of both flea and worm treatment for dogs as these parasites can cause dogs to suffer from certain illnesses. On the day it was found that 5 dogs (10%) were not given regular flea and worm treatment (Figure 3). Pet insurance is also considered an integral part of responsible dog ownership. In Faifley, it was found that 35 people (69%) did not have pet insurance for their dogs (Figure 3). These owners were consequently informed of the benefits of pet insurance and how it can help both them and their dog in the long term.



**Figure 3: Health Summary of Dogs That Attended the Dogs Trust RDO Event in Faifley**

