

Orkney Drugs Dog

Keeping Orkney Safe for Future Generations



Annual Report 1st April 2020 – 31st March 2021

Welcome to our 2020/21 Annual Report. With COVID restrictions having prevailed through-out the year, we have focused on carrying out scanning/searches at both Kirkwall and Stromness Post Offices and at points of entry into Orkney (i.e. Air and Ferry Ports). This has resulted in a higher rate of 'finds' than in the previous years.

Detections: Police Scotland, with the assistance of Orkney Drugs Dog, have confirmed that in the period 01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 the following illegal drugs with an estimated street value having been seized and removed from circulation:



- Heroin - £610
- Cannabis - £72,236
- Cocaine - £9,430
- Tablets - £6,532

Ongoing drugs recovery at Post Office and Points of Entry linked to support from Orkney Drugs Dog.

Educational Role: Our face-to-face contact with Schools, College and Community Groups has seen the most disruption but we continue to respond to the needs of OIC Education and provide resources as appropriate. In order to address this, we produced an on-line drug awareness resource for Secondary school pupils, designed for use by Teaching Staff which sits within the curriculum. Our Youth and Senior Community Groups have not been meeting; therefore, we have not been able to deliver our educational message during 2020/21 but are prepared to re-start when restrictions are lifted.

We took part in the annual Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) scheme run by KGS and Stromness Academy, for the third year running. We produced and submitted a video presentation to give students an understanding of the aims of Orkney Drugs Dog and our activities. Through the provision of information, we support pupils to undertake further research into the work of the charity so that they can then share their findings with others.

We are prepared to recommence our Schools, College and Community Group activity once the Government lift current restrictions. In the meantime, we have provided electronic resources for free use in the secondary schools.

Fundraising: 2020/21 has highlighted our fragility as a charity as fundraising both locally and nationally has seen limited opportunity. The Board's hands-on face to face approach in our local community has been hampered but we are pleased to say that there are several strong supporters who have continued to donate in-kind services and monetary donations throughout the year and together with members fundraising activities, I'm pleased to report that we have raised £3,831. This sum includes ongoing support from the team at the Blue Door who kindly raised £1,670 for us. For 2021/22, the Board has engaged the services of a local fundraiser and plan to resume fundraising activity by expanding our on-line profile and hold events in order to bring in additional funding.

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation Reg No SCO47543
Registered Office: SFRS, Great Western Road, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1QS
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Partnership: We continue to work in partnership with the Post Office/Royal Mail (Kirkwall and Stromness); Northlink Ferries; Pentland Ferries; Kirkwall Airport/HIAL; Dogs Against Drugs. We also work closely with Police Scotland who provide ongoing training for our Handler and Dog and with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service who, among other assistance, kindly support us with free use of office accommodation and have again finalised an MOU extending the agreement for a further 12 months.

Kevin and Zoe attended their training course being delivered by Dogs Against Drugs, Shetland for their re-licensing. Great partnership working by both drugs dog organisations.



Commercial Contracts: We continue to work towards our planned Commercial Contract agreements with local/international businesses where we are offering our services (search of premises) for an agreed sum in order to boost our funds. This had been progressing well before COVID but unfortunately this has now temporarily stalled due to the additional and ongoing pressures on businesses. In order to keep the conversation live, our Handler continues to engage with business managers to discuss their changing policies and procedures and we remain hopeful in gaining contracts in due course. Therefore, given the delays with this, we did not receive any income from this within the full year reporting period.



Zoe on training exercise at Orkney Marine Services compound at Hatston.

Getting back to normal: As soon as practicably possible, and within Government guidelines, we plan to build on our previous work and will continue to engage with our schools, community groups and our statutory and voluntary organisations in order to increase awareness of illegal drug supply and misuse within Orkney and to encourage reporting of such activity through Police Scotland and the anonymous reporting organisations, Crimestoppers or Fearless.

Acknowledgements: Thanks to Orkney Alcohol and Drugs Partnership for awarding us the Commissioned Service provision, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services for providing office accommodation, Police Scotland for ongoing Handler and Dog training, local business for in-kind support and Kevin & Zoe for working towards Keeping Orkney Safe through directly reducing the harm caused by illegal drug misuse, impacting on drug related offending, and bringing positive outcomes for our community. Welcome to Debbie Delday in her new start role as Orkney Drugs Dog Fundraising Coordinator.

Andrew Drever
Chairman, Orkney Drugs Dog



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