Appendix 1

Handler Survey of the Causes of Loss of Working Police Dogs

The purpose of this survey is to identify the major causes of loss of working police dogs. Police dogs are retired/rehomed, die on the job or are euthanased for many reasons. If we can identify these causes then effective strategies to mitigate losses may be possible.

The Centre for Service and Working Dog Health and Research at Massey University and the Police Dog Section would appreciate your time to fill out this survey as the information is vital to developing future strategies to mitigate these losses.

In order for an accurate analysis it is important that we also collect data on dogs that are still in service, especially if they are known to be suffering from an ailment that could lead to retirement. For fit and healthy dogs we are simply recording numbers in service.

For each dog that you are currently handling, or have worked in the past (i.e. was once your operational dog) can you please give as many of the following details as possible. If a date is not known completely accurately, please estimate the month and/or year.

1. Date of survey completion
2. Your Name
3. Name of dog
4. Date of birth of dog
5. Tattoo number if known
6. Microchip number if known
7. Police District to whom you were assigned at the time his dog was in service.
8. Date of this dog entering service with you as handler

9. Is this dog still in active service with no known health issues for which retirement may be indicated, if yes go to survey completion, if no (health issues or not in service/died) continue to 10.

10. Date of loss or retirement from active service or still in service [ ] tick
11. Reason for loss or retirement from active service
   Retired due to inability to continue to work [ ] tick go to 12
   Euthanased (put to sleep) whilst in active service [ ] tick go to 13
Died of a disease / illness whilst in service [ ] tick go to 14
Killed whilst in active service [ ] tick go to 15

12. What was the MAJOR reason your dog was unable to continue to work and which led to retirement?

Please indicate by placing a numeral 1 in the appropriate box

(if there was more than one contributing factor please indicate a (1) for the most important reason and a (2, 3 etc) for other minor but contributing causes).

Behavioural problem [ ]

Type of behavioural problem aggression [ ]
not following commands [ ]
other [ ]

Loss of tracking [ ]

Inability to meet the physical demands of the job [ ]

Other, please describe [ ]

13. What was the MAJOR reason your dog was euthanased whilst still in active duty

Please place a numeral 1 in the box for the most important contributing factor and a (2, 3 etc) for other minor but contributing causes).

Behavioural problem [ ]

Type of behavioural problem aggression [ ]
not following commands [ ]
other [ ]

Medical problem [ ] (place a tick next to as many below as apply)

Heart problem [ ]
Musculoskeletal [ ]
Neurological [ ]
Breathing issues [ ]
Urinary Issues [ ]
Back/Spinal problems [ ]
Arthritis [ ]
Stomach problems [ ] but not bloat/GDV see below
Intestinal [ ]
Gastic Bloat/GDV [ ]
Other [ ] Please give the name of the medical condition

(if known) _____________________________________________

Inability to meet the physical demands of the job
14. What was the medical condition / illness which led to the death of your dog whilst on active duty

(if there was more than one contributing factor please indicate a (1) for the most important reason and a (2, 3 etc) for other minor but contributing causes).

Medical problem

- Heart problem [ ]
- Poisoning [ ]
- Seizuring [ ]
- Breathing problem [ ]
- Infectious disease [ ]
- Spinal problems [ ]
- Bloat/GDV [ ]
- Perforated bowel [ ]

Other (please describe ____________________________________________)

15. How was your dog killed in active service.

- Injured by offender (stabbed / gun shot / other please describe) _____________________
- Motor vehicle accident
- Poisoning

Other (please describe) _____________________

16. If you indicated arthritis as a cause of retirement or euthanasia in 12 or 13 above, please state the joint/s affected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joint</th>
<th>[ ]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hip</td>
<td>Stifle (knee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hind foot</td>
<td>Shoulder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpus (wrist)</td>
<td>Fore foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hock (ankle)</td>
<td>Elbow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. If you indicated back/spinal problem as a cause of retirement or euthanasia in 12 or 13 above, please state the area/s affected

- Neck [ ]
- Thoracic spine (between the neck and the last rib) [ ]
- Lumbar spine (the rest of the spine except for the lumbo-sacral junction) [ ]
- Lumbo-sacral junction (junction between the lower back and the pelvis/tail bone) [ ]

Yours sincerely

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