



6049



The University of Nottingham

## The Postal Un-owned Pets Survey (PUPS)



### Who are we?

We are the Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine, within the University of Nottingham School of Veterinary Medicine and Science. Our remit is to look at ways of improving the health and welfare of animals, particularly pet animals, by using information observed in the real population. We do not perform any research which involves experimenting on or harming animals.

### What is this survey about?

We have set up this survey (PUPS) to collect information on un-owned dogs and cats, in order to help those working with these animals to improve their health and welfare. As a starting point, we're trying to answer some basic questions, for example 'how many un-owned animals are there in the UK?' We are initially focussing on cats and dogs for the first part of the project. Ultimately we hope to establish a program for shelter medicine, where people with an interest in un-owned animals can exchange information.

### Why are we contacting you?

We have compiled a list of organisations that care for unwanted cats and dogs using resources which include the Charity Commission records and internet animal welfare directories. We hope to contact as many organisations as we can in order to get as accurate a picture as possible of the situation.

### What happens to the data?

To maintain confidentiality of all information, all of the data collected will be pooled and analysed together. A summary of the data will be made freely available to all interested parties. All information will be kept completely anonymous, and no organisation, or branch, will ever be identified in any report (unless specific additional permission is given). No personal information will be passed on to anyone else.

### I have filled in a similar survey earlier this year - do I still need to fill in this one?

The University of Bristol has been conducting a survey asking for similar data from 2009. Even if you have already taken part in that survey, please fill in this questionnaire, as we are collecting information from 2010. Having both sets of results will be extremely helpful, and we plan to work together to make the best possible use of both surveys

### What if I have more questions?

Please look at our website [www.nottingham.ac.uk/CEVM](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/CEVM), email [CEVM@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:CEVM@nottingham.ac.uk) or phone Jenny Stavisky on 0115 951 6660.

Please return completed surveys to: PUPS survey, CEVM, University of Nottingham School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, Sutton Bonington Campus, College Road, LE12 5RD. A freepost return label can be downloaded from our website [www.nottingham.ac.uk/CEVM](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/CEVM) - follow the 'shelter medicine' link

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### A guide to filling in the questionnaire

This questionnaire is divided into sections to make it easier to fill in. Text in *italics* is used to guide you from section to section, as not all questions will apply to everyone. **Section 1 (white)** and **section 4 (white)** are for everyone; **section 2 (blue)** is about dogs, and **section 3 (yellow)** is about cats. If your organisation cares for both dogs and cats, please fill in all four sections.

When given a list of choices, please show your choice (or choices, as appropriate), with a firm cross in **black ink**, as below:

Choice 1

When asked to fill in words or numbers, please try to fit them inside the boxes, as below:

T I G E R T A I L S

*This is a description of the things that we do*

Some questions may not be applicable to your situation; in this case, please put a cross in the 'not applicable' (n/a) box.

In several places, we will ask you for figures, eg numbers of dogs or cats. We hope that you will find it easy to provide these numbers. If you do not have records, please estimate answers as accurately as possible. All of the number questions have the option to answer as a percentage, as this may be easier for some people. Please don't worry about working out both, but supply whichever is easiest for you.

An example of the different ways in which you can answer questions is shown below.

Example question:

How many of your dogs are spotty?

	Number	OR	Percentage	OR	Don't know
Possible answer 1: <i>ie 250 of our dogs are spotty</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 2 <input type="text"/> 5 <input type="text"/> 0		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OR</b> Possible answer 2: <i>ie 20% of our dogs are spotty</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> 2 <input type="text"/> 0		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OR</b> Possible answer 3: <i>ie I don't know how many of our dogs are spotty</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

We hope that you will enjoy filling in this questionnaire. If you have any queries or comments, please fill in the box at the end, or get in touch using the contact details on the front page.

**THANK YOU!**

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### Section 1: The basics

1.1 Today's date   /   /

*dd mm yyyy*

1.2 Name of your organisation, including which branch, if applicable. (If you are answering on behalf of more than one branch or site, or are known by more than one name, please list all.)

1.3 What services does your organisation provide for dogs or cats? (Please choose all that apply)

	<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Cats</b>
a. Housing unwanted animals (including fostering).....	<input type="checkbox"/> If you have chosen any of these options, please fill in section 2 (blue)	<input type="checkbox"/> If you have chosen any of these options, please fill in section 3 (yellow)
b. Rehoming animals.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Trap-neuter-return (TNR).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Providing or financing veterinary care.....	<input type="checkbox"/> If you have only chosen options in this box, please go straight to section 4.	
e. Providing financial support to other organisations.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Other (please describe in the box below).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



### Section 2: All about the dogs

2.1 How many dogs do you have in your care at the moment?

2.2 Is this figure: known  or estimated?

2.3 Of these dogs, how many are housed:

	Number	OR	Percentage	OR	Don't know
In kennels owned by your organisation.....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
In foster care.....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
In private kennels (eg boarding kennels).....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Elsewhere (please specify below).....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div>					
	<b>Total</b>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
			1 0 0 %		

2.4 What is the maximum number of dogs you can house at any one time?

2.5 How are dogs housed?

	Never	Sometimes	Usually	Always	Don't know
One dog per kennel/ house.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In pairs.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In groups.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.6 How often are you full to capacity?.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.7 Do you have an isolation facility for dogs (eg unwell dogs, young puppies etc)? Yes  No

2.8 If you do have an isolation facility, how many pens/ kennels does it have?  or n/a

2.9. Do you have a waiting list for dogs to enter your care? Yes  No

2.10 If so, how many dogs are currently on your waiting list?  or n/a

2.11 How many dogs entered your care in the year Jan 1st - Dec 31st 2010?

2.12 Is this figure: known  or estimated?

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2.13 Of the dogs entering your care over the past year (Jan 1st - Dec 31st 2010), please estimate where they came from. Please give a number OR percentage, whichever is easiest.

	Number	OR Percentage	Don't OR know
Surrender by the owner (or a friend/family member).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Found as a stray/ lost.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Another rescue organisation (please name below) .....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
A veterinary surgery.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Confiscation for welfare reasons.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please describe below).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
	<b>Total</b>		
	<input type="text"/>	1 0 0 %	

2.14 Of the dogs entering your care over the last year (Jan 1st - Dec 31st 2010), please state what happened to them. Please give a number OR percentage, whichever is easiest.

	Number	OR Percentage	Don't OR know
Were reunited with their original owner.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Were rehomed.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are still in your care (ie in kennels or foster homes).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have been sent to another animal welfare organisation..... (Please name below)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
Were euthanased.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Died.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had another outcome (please describe below).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
	<b>Total</b>		
	<input type="text"/>	1 0 0 %	

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2.15 What percentage of the dogs you re-home are later returned (re-relinquished) to you, for any reason?

%

2.16 Is there a particular time of year where you have most requests to take in dogs? (Select all that apply)

- January                       May                       September                       No specific time of year
- February                       June                       October                       Don't know
- March                       July                       November
- April                       August                       December

2.17 Does your organisation have a specific policy on euthanasing dogs?

- Dogs may only be euthanased for welfare reasons (ie severe health or behavioural problems)
- Dogs may be euthanased both for welfare reasons, or if they are considered difficult to rehome
- No stated policy on euthanasia
- Other (please describe below)

*If your organisation cares for cats, please now fill in section 3 (yellow) and section 4 (white).*

*If your organisation does not care for cats, please go straight to section 4 (white).*



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### Section 3: Let's talk about cats

3.1 How many cats do you have in your care at the moment?

3.2 Is this figure: known  or estimated?

3.3 Of these, how many are housed:

	Number	OR	Percentage	OR	Don't know
In catteries owned by your organisation?.....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
In foster care?.....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
In private catteries (eg boarding catteries)?.....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Elsewhere? (please describe below) .....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>	<b>Total</b>		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> %		

3.4 What is the maximum number of cats you can house at any one time?

3.5 How are cats housed?

	Never	Sometimes	Usually	Always	Don't know
One cat per pen/ house.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In family pairs/ groups.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In groups of cats from different origins.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.6 How often are you full to capacity?.....

3.7 Do you have an isolation facility for cats (eg unwell cats, young kittens etc)? Yes  No

3.8 If you do have an isolation facility, how many pens does it have?     or n/a

3.9 Do you have a waiting list for cats to enter your care ? Yes  No

3.10 If so, how many cats are currently on your waiting list?     or n/a

3.11 How many cats entered your care in the year Jan 1st - Dec 31st 2010?

3.12 Is this figure: known  or estimated?

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3.13. Of the cats entering your care over the past year (Jan 1st - Dec 31st 2010), please estimate where they came from. Please give a number OR percentage, whichever is easier.

	Number	OR Percentage	OR know
Surrender by the owner (or by a friend/family member)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Found as a stray/ feral/ lost.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Another rescue organisation (please name below).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
A veterinary surgery.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Confiscation for welfare reasons.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please describe below).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
	<b>Total</b>		
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
		1 0 0 %	

3.14 Of the cats entering your care over the last year (Jan 1st - Dec 31st 2010), please state what happened to them. Please give a number OR percentage, whichever is easier.

	Number	OR Percentage	OR know
Were reunited with their original owner.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Were rehomed.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are still in your care (ie in catteries or foster homes)....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have been sent to another animal welfare organisation (please name below).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
Were euthanased.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Were released (eg feral cats).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Died.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had another outcome (please describe below).....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>			
	<b>Total</b>		
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
		1 0 0 %	

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3.15 What percentage of the cats you re-home are later returned (re-relinquished) to you, for any reason?

%

3.16 Is there a particular time of year (month or months) where you have most requests to take in cats? (Select all that apply)

- January                       May                               September                       No specific time of year
- February                       June                               October                               Don't know
- March                               July                               November
- April                               August                               December

3.17 Does your organisation have a policy on euthanasia in cats?

- Cats may only be euthanased for welfare reasons (ie severe health or behavioural problems)
- Cats may be euthanased for welfare reasons, or if they are considered difficult to rehome
- No stated policy on euthanasia
- Other (please describe below)

*Now please go to section 4 (white).*



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### Section 4: Final details

**4.1. How many people does your organisation (or your branch/ branches) employ?**

**Paid full-time**

**Voluntary full-time**

**Paid part-time**

**Voluntary part-time**

**4.2 What do you see as the biggest problem or problems that your organisation faces?**

**4.3 Do you have any further comments or suggestions?**

**4.4 Would you be interested in participating in future studies undertaken by the Nottingham School of Veterinary Medicine and Science? (your details will NOT be passed on to anyone else)**

Yes  No

**4.5 Please enter your name if you would not mind being contacted again.**

**4.6 Please enter your email address if you would like an e-copy of the results**

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS STUDY**

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