West Midlands Police Freedom of Information

Has your Police Force received any information about the LEAD Initiative? (Please see below for a description of the LEAD Initiative if needed.)

The LEAD Initiative is covered on the recently circulated DEFRA Webinar that officers were encouraged to log onto.

Have you ever engaged in-person with someone involved in running the LEAD Initiative to find out more?

Our Data supplier from our Dog Unit has advised yes - on a DLO course in 2010

Have you looked into implementing the LEAD Initiative or something similar in your Police Force? Not as a formal project, but many of the component parts are standard practice within WMP.

## Why/why not?

WMP is covered by several different local authorities, all with their own different practices. We do not have the resources to liaise with all the LA's to make it standard practice, and ensure that the model is complied with. We already have information sharing protocols with LA's where incidents are reported to them.

Have you introduced the LEAD Initiative or something similar in your Police Force? - No

## Why/why not?

WMP has a dedicated Dangerous Dog Unit / Investigation Team to deal with reports of dangerous dogs and liaise with partner agencies.

- If you have not:
- o Is there anything that would encourage you to consider introducing the LEAD Initiative or something similar in your Police Force?

Given the number of reports received around dogs, liaising with the LA's and receiving their reports as per the LEAD Initiative information sharing, and organising community events and free or discounted microchipping for owners etc, would be more than enough work for several people, additional funding would be needed to create suitable posts.

- If you have:
- o Have you seen an improvement in the frequency and seriousness of dangerous dogs' incidents handled by your Police Force?
- o What is the process of training staff?
- o Have there been any drawbacks to the LEAD Initiative or similar scheme?