



Why you should have visible identification on your dog

Anyone who follows us regularly will know that it is a legal requirement for your dog(s) (when out in a public place) to be wearing a collar with a tag that has your contact details on. Though the law is written in such a way that it says we, as dog wardens can take your dog from you if not adhered to, this to my knowledge, has never happened. The law is written to help YOU – the dog owner and any choice not to have one, though unlikely to draw any formal punishment, will only ever hurt/hinder YOU

Let me start by saying that most dogs we pick up HAVE NOT escaped from their owners clutches whilst out and about but have escaped from their owners premises, can be a blown down fence panel, a gate left open, burglary etc. and in the case of the latter can be the difference to you being made aware your house has been broken into instead of waiting hours until you get home.

Those who purely put one on their dog when being walked are running a risk. Once free, a dog that is found wandering is more likely to be approached by a member of the public if he/she is wearing a tag because they will deem it to be someone's pet. In the event that these person(s) are decent and the majority of folk are, any call will come to you first without any unnecessary delay, meaning no action from the council, no charges and in most cases, a happy ending.

In addition, if your dog goes AWOL and is both chipped and tagged but doesn't appear within a couple of days, it shapes how you look for your dog and maximises your chances of getting them back. How? Well, after a day or two (depending whether it's the weekend or weekdays) of hearing nothing, you can then surmise that in order for the dog to have been kennelled by a dog warden and/or taken into a vets without your knowledge would mean that:



A) the tag would have to have fallen or be taken off and B) the chip would have to have been missed



The chances of these two happening in such cases would be minimal. Based on this, it leaves you free on day three or four to work on the basis that someone local has taken or is sitting on that dog and you should turn your immediate attention to raising local awareness where those whose dogs are without tag/chip are still ringing the same people and organisations they were contacting on day one. For me, going without a tag, you have everything to lose and nothing to gain.

If you need a basic Identity Tag for your dog contact Dun-Roamin'. We can also help with microchipping as we have a mobile service.

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