

Dangerous Animals - Other

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## Policy Statement

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<b>Summary</b>	<p>West Yorkshire Police (WYP) will provide the necessary information to ensure that its officers deal correctly with dangerous animals.</p> <p>This policy aims to explain how to deal with dangerous animals and when to contact the local authority.</p>
<b>Scope</b>	<p>This policy applies to all police officers and police staff.</p>

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## Responsibilities

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<b>General</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• When dealing with an incident involving a dangerous animal the individual must:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Protect members of the public; and</li><li>○ Resolve the incident in the most humane manner.</li></ul></li><li>• When considering how to deal with a dangerous animal the officer must, where possible, consult with the owner, or their representative.</li><li>• This does not prevent the officer taking any necessary action, without the agreement of the owner.</li><li>• While the interests of the owner must not be ignored, the safety of the public is paramount.</li><li>• The officer must consider having the animal destroyed immediately if it cannot be safely captured or contained. Please refer to APP Armed Policing, and Animal destruction policy.</li></ul>
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## Local Authority

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<b>Reporting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The owner of certain types of animals must immediately obtain a licence from the local authority.</li><li>• These animals are listed under Schedule 1 to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976, and generally refer to protected, endangered or rare species.</li><li>• For further advice, contact the local authority.</li></ul>
<b>Requests to Assist</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Officers may be requested by the local authority to assist them exercise their powers under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976.</li><li>• The local authority must be advised that any police action will be restricted</li></ul>

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to preventing a breach of the peace.

- The local authority will be responsible for providing the necessary equipment and personnel to exercise their powers.
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## Additional Information

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### Compliance

This policy complies with the following legislation and guidance:

- APP Armed Policing – Destruction of Animals
  - Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
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