

**DOG BREEDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 2010**

**CLOSURE NOTICE**

To: **Maureen Mahon, Mill House, Lugmore, Geashill, R35 X858, Co. Offaly**

I, Aidan Grant being an authorised person of Offaly County Council under the Dog Breeding Establishments Act, 2010 ("the Act"), and in exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 21(1) of the Act, hereby direct that the premises identified in Part 1 of the Schedule be closed with immediate effect until the earliest of:

- (i) an Order to contrary effect by a Court of competent jurisdiction; or
- (ii) further written direction by Offaly County Council

I make this order for the particular reasons set out in Part 2 of the Schedule.

**Schedule**

**Part 1 Establishment**

The premises of the owner/operator **Maureen Mahon, Mill House, Lugmore, Geashill, R35 X858, Co. Offaly**

**Part 2 Particular reasons for making of Order**

On the basis of my inspection of the premises above on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and on the information gathered by the Dog Warden at an inspection on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021 a total of 44 eligible breeding females (a female over age of six months that is capable of breeding), 6 litters of pups, 9 adult males were recorded. None of the dogs were licensed or identified with a microchip. No records were available on request by authorised officers. No registration in place or applied for.

I am satisfied that the operation of the dog breeding establishment poses a serious and immediate threat to animal welfare, details of which are specified below. You are required to cease breeding or keeping dogs at the establishment, and take such measures as directed to enable the rehousing, at your expense, of all dogs being kept for the time being at the establishment.

Grounds that the continued operation of this dog breeding establishment poses a serious and immediate threat to animal welfare are as follows:

I am satisfied that this dog breeding establishment has:

1. Fallen far short of to the required duties of a Dog Breeding Establishment (DBE) Operator outlined in Section 15 of the Act with respect to the hygiene, disinfection measures, biosecurity to control the spread of disease.
2. Stored dog vaccines on premises contrary to licensed storage conditions presenting risk of lower adequate immunity in dogs and pups vaccinated at the premises; giving rise to concerns of unnecessary risk to health and welfare outcomes as a result.
3. Failed to comply with Section 16 of the Act which details the requirement to identify dogs with microchip; giving rise to concerns around illegal exportation under conditions that cause serious threat to welfare of pups born at the premises.
4. Failed to adhere to the published DBE guidelines.
5. Failed in requirements of record keeping associated with the activity; Section 15(2)-the operator maintains no records of births relating to breeding females, deaths, sale and transfer of dogs from the premises.
6. Failed to comply with the requirement of section 17 of the Act concerning notification of sale or transfer of dogs from the premises.

~~You are required to surrender the DBE registration certificate; not applicable – registration had not been sought as required by the Act.~~

**You are required to take the following steps:**

**Cease breeding activity until the following Measures are met:**