



Ards and
North Down
Borough Council

APPLICATION PACK

FOR

AN EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

TO KEEP AN

XL BULLY DOG

IN

NORTHERN IRELAND

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS

You must:

1. Keep the dog at the same address as the certificate holder, except for a maximum of 30 days in a year.
2. Notify Ards and North Down Borough Council of any change of address, excluding changes within the 30-day period mentioned above.
3. Notify Ards and North Down Borough Council of the dog's death or export.
4. Maintain suitable third-party insurance for the lifetime of the dog.
5. Keep the dog muzzled and on a lead in public places. Muzzling must adequately prevent biting, and the lead must be held by someone at least 16 years old.
6. Keep the dog in sufficiently secure conditions to prevent the dog's escape.
7. Provide access for reading the dog's microchip upon request by Ards and North Down Borough Council Officer.
8. Provide confirmation of suitable third-party insurance to Ards and North Down Borough Council Officers within 5 days of their request.
9. Provide the Certificate of Exemption to Ards and North Down Borough Council Officers within 5 days of their request.
10. If your dog is 18 months or older on 31st December 2024, we will need the neutering form returned by the 30th June 2025.
11. If your dog is younger than 18 months, we need the form returned by 30th June 2025 or within one month of the dog turning 18 months, whichever is later.
12. Provide a microchip number to Ards and North Down Borough Council by 31st March 2025, if not given at the time of application, unless the dog is exempt.

Signature of Owner

Date of Signature

Declaration

I understand the requirements listed above must be complied with throughout the lifetime of the dog, or by the date specified in the condition, for the dog to remain exempted.

I understand that I must not do any of the following in relation to the dog:

- breed from it
- sell or exchange it
- advertise or expose it for sale, give it as a gift, or advertise it as a gift
- abandon it or allow it to stray

I acknowledge that providing false details or failing to comply with the Certificate of Exemption requirements will invalidate the certificate, and the dog will not be exempt from the prohibition. In such cases, I may face prosecution, and the dogs mentioned in this application may be seized and put to sleep.

Dog's Name

Microchip Number

Signature

Date of Signature

PLEASE RETAIN THIS COPY FOR YOUR PERSONAL RECORD

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Dog's Name

Microchip Number

Signature

Date of Signature

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS COPY WITH APPLICATION
OFFICER TO BRING THIS BACK AFTER PACK IS HAND DELIVERED**

OWNER DECLARATION

Name of Owner

Email address of Owner (optional)

Enter an email address if you have one.

Address of Owner

Postcode of Owner

Contact Telephone Number

Signature of Owner

Date of Signature

DETAILS OF DOG

The dog owner to complete.

Use **BLOCK CAPITALS**. All fields are mandatory unless stated otherwise.

Dog's Name

Microchip number or confirmation that a veterinary exemption has been issued

Dog Licence Number

Colour of Dog

Date of Birth of Dog

Sex of Dog

Enter male or female.



	Name of Dog	Microchip Number (Leave blank if the dog is not microchipped)	Licence Number	Colour of Dog	Date of Birth of Dog (Estimate the date if you don't know it)	Sex of Dog (Male or Female)
Dog 1						
Dog 2						
Dog 3						
Dog 4						
Dog 5						
Dog 6						

MUST BE COMPLETED BY VET AND STAMPED

VETERINARY PRACTICE DETAILS

I hereby confirm that the dog identified on this form has been neutered through castration in the case of a male dog, or through spaying in the case of a female dog.

I hereby confirm that the microchip number of the dog that has been neutered matches the number on this form.

If the dog is unfit to be microchipped, I hereby confirm that a veterinary microchip exemption has been issued stating the period for which the dog will be unfit to be microchipped.

Name (MRCVS)

RCVS Number

Veterinary Practice Name

Practice Postal Address

Dog's Name

Microchip number or confirmation that a veterinary exemption has been issued.

Date of neutering

OR

If you have not neutered the dog, but you are confirming it has previously been neutered, enter the date you confirmed this.

Signature of Veterinary Surgeon

Practice stamp

Use your practice stamp to mark this form if you have one.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF DOG

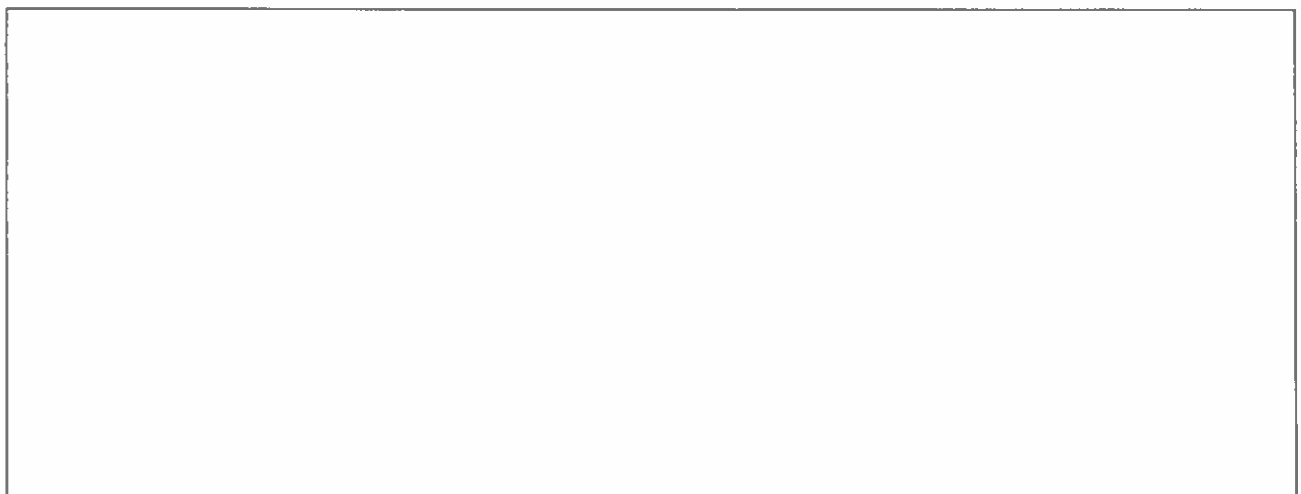
Dog's Name

Microchip Number

SIDE VIEW PHOTO



FRONT VIEW PHOTO



THIRD PARTY PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

You must have third party public liability insurance for your dog. The cover must begin no later than 1st January 2025. You may wish to consider signing up for The Dogs Trust Companion Club which includes insurance for XL Bully type dogs, however other companies are available.

The policy/membership must:

- be renewed annually for the life of the dog and proof given to your local council
- be in the same name as the person named on the Exemption Certificate

If you use a different insurance provider, you must check that the policy:

- covers the policyholder for death or bodily injury to any person caused by the exempted dog
- is suitable for a prohibited breed as defined under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

Name of Owner:

Dogs Name:

Microchip No:

Policy Number:

Expiry Date of Policy:

**PLEASE ENCLOSE ORIGINAL INSURANCE POLICY
AND WE WILL RETURN CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE VIA POST**

WHERE TO SEND THIS FORM

You should complete this pack and post it or deliver to:-

**Neighbourhood Environment Team
Ards and North Down Borough Council
2 Church Street
Newtownards
BT23 4AP**

We will process your application and send you either:

- a Certificate of Exemption
- a Rejection Letter or email

How to pay the Exemption Certificate Fee

Payment for the exemption Certificate **£92.40** can be made in the following ways:

1 TELEPHONE PAYMENT

Contact the Neighbourhood Environment Team at Ards and North Down Borough Council on 0300 013 3333 Ext. 40401

2 BY POST

Complete the form, sign it and return with the appropriate fee to:

Neighbourhood Environment Team Ards and North Down Borough Council,
2 Church Street, Newtownards, BT23 4AP

3 IN PERSON

Please check the details and return the form in person to either:-

- 2 Church Street, Newtownards, BT23 4AP or
- City Hall, The Castle, Bangor, BT20 4BT

THIS PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO OR ON THE DATE OF APPLICATION

DAERA COMPENSATION SCHEME FOR OWNERS WHO DO NOT WISH TO KEEP THEIR XL BULLY TYPE DOG

If you currently own an XL Bully dog and choose not to adhere to new measures and no longer wish to keep your dog, arrangements may be made to surrender that dog, and for compensation to be paid.

For compensation to be payable, owners must arrange for the XL Bully type dog to be euthanised **prior to 31st December 2024**.

Please note that the compensation scheme is provided independently of the Councils exemption scheme, and any claims for compensation must be sent directly to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for processing by 28 February 2025 using the prescribed compensation claim form for XL Bully owners.

For XL Bully dog owners £100 compensation is payable in respect of the dog and £100 towards the veterinary fees for euthanising the dog. Rehoming organisations can claim £100 towards the veterinary fees for euthanising.

For further details on the compensation scheme, please see the following link <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/xl-bully-dogs>

MUZZLE

These are some examples of the type of muzzle you may want to purchase:



