

Dog owners urged to keep their dogs under control during lambing season

Spring marks a significant time for British farmers as they prepare for the arrival of lambs across the local countryside.

We are urging dog owners to take care of their pets around newborn lambs as they find it difficult to deal with stressful situations – such as encounters with dogs – and can even die from shock days after.

If you are taking a walk in the countryside with your dog, be sure to keep an eye on whether you may encounter any livestock.

Should you encounter livestock on land you walk thorough then please -

- Ensure your dog is on a lead at all times
- Keep them under close control when walking through fields of livestock, particularly sheep

Livestock worrying is a criminal offence and comes under the [Dogs \(Protection of Livestock\) Act 1953](#).

‘Worrying’ is where a dog attacks or chases livestock causing injury or suffering.

This isn’t just a threat to a farmer or land owner’s livelihood, it’s also a dangerous situation for the animals involved, and could lead to more risk if the animals get onto the road.

A farmer is allowed to take action if dog(s) are worrying their livestock.

Always keep your dog under control around other animals and if you see a dog on the loose worrying animals please report this to us.

For more information please refer to our website - [Animal crime | Staffordshire Police](#)