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| **PRESS RELEASE** | A red and white logo  Description automatically generated with low confidence |

Date: 23/12/2021

**For immediate release**

**Dogs seized following Naturewatch Foundation investigation into puppy trade**

Following information provided by animal welfare charity Naturewatch Foundation, a search warrant was executed in the London Borough of Hillingdon on Thursday, 16 December 2021. Officers of Hillingdon Borough Council attended, together with the Metropolitan Police.

Naturewatch Foundation conducts covert investigations into illegal dog breeding, based on confidential reports from members of the public. The charity researches viable leads and sends comprehensive information packs to relevant statutory organisations.

“We would like to congratulate Hillingdon Borough Council on their investigation and decisive action,” said Caroline Ruane, CEO of Naturewatch Foundation. “This operation is part of an ongoing fight against the puppy trade and puppy farming.

“We urge people to do their homework and check the authenticity of puppies and that the breeder is licensed,” said Ruane. “If you are ever in any doubt about the origin, condition or background of a puppy, don’t buy them. Never let your heart rule your head.”

**More information and advice are available on the Naturewatch Foundation website: www.naturewatch.org**

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**NOTES FOR EDITORS**

About Naturewatch Foundation

Naturewatch Foundation is a registered charity that has been speaking out on behalf of animals for 30 years by:

* Campaigning peacefully against animal abuse
* Lobbying to improve animal protection legislation
* Raising awareness through education
* Supporting the World Animal Day movement to raise the status of animals around the globe

[www.naturewatch.org](file:///C:\Users\Caroline.NATUREWATCH\Downloads\www.naturewatch.org)

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**Naturewatch Foundation’s covert investigations into puppy farming:**

https://naturewatch.org/get-involved/report-suspected-animal-abuse/

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