

14 November 2024

**To inform Members of the Award of the PDSA
Order of Merit to BWY Canine Limited Tobacco
Dogs YoYo and Scamp.**

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Purpose of the report

**To inform Members of the Award of the PDSA Order of Merit to BWY Canine
Limited Tobacco Dogs YoYo and Scamp.**



On stage, from left to right, is: John Miller, Chair of PDSA, Jan McLoughlin, PDSA's Director General, HRH Sophie, the Duchess of Edinburgh, Stuart Phillips, owner of B.W.Y Canine, Kay Burley, Sky News broadcaster, and stood in front of them are YoYo and Scamp, wearing their PDSA Order of Merit medals. At the ceremony held in London on the 2 October 2024.

1. In recognition of the key role that tobacco dogs continue to play in the Trading Standards services work across Tyne and Wear with the assistance and support of Northumbria Police and HMRC under Operation CeCe and Operation Joseph; we are extremely proud to report that this important role has now been recognised by the PDSA.
2. *“Tobacco detection dogs Yoyo and Scamp have been awarded the PDSA Order of Merit for their devotion to duty and service to society for over ten years. Yoyo and Scamp are two of the longest-serving specialist detection dogs working in the UK and have now retired after extremely successful careers. Their actions throughout their careers as detection dogs have shown outstanding devotion to duty, going above and beyond, making both Yoyo and Scamp worthy recipients of the PDSA Order of Merit”*. PDSA citation.
3. In a ceremony held in London on 2 October 2024, tobacco dogs YoYo and Scamp from BWY Canine Limited were both awarded Orders of Merit by the PDSA. HRH Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh presented the individual awards to the two dogs. Kay Burley of Sky News hosted the ceremony.
4. Paul Leighton, a Newcastle City Council Trading Standards Officer, as the person who nominated the dogs for the prestigious award was lucky enough to attend the ceremony. I am sure Members would wish to congratulate the fact that the work of the dogs over the last decade has now been recognised.
5. The Committee is asked to note the information.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.pdsa.org.uk/what-we-do/animal-awards-programme/pdsa-order-of-merit/yoyo-and-scamp>

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