

HOUNDED OUT

FORMER England cricketer Andrew "Freddie" Flintoff says one of the good things about having children is that the landing light stays on – because at 37 he is still afraid of the dark. The 6ft 4in athlete has also battled with bulimia and depression.

Care for devil dog-risk kids

FOUR children a week may be being taken into care because of fears their lives are in danger from their pet dogs.

Red tape means kids at risk of being harmed by a pet in their home are put in foster care.

Social workers have no right to evict a dog. But they can remove the child to a place of safety. A Freedom of Information Act survey uncovered a clutch of cases where parents lost their children but kept their potentially-killer animals.

We found 13 cases where youngsters were taken into care amid safety fears over a pet dog.

But that is just the tip of the iceberg as social services do not have to record all dog worries.

Our survey suggests as many as 200 of the 30,000 care cases every year could involve fears over pets.

We uncovered cases in Redcar & Cleveland, where a child was taken into care amid worries about a bull

EXCLUSIVE
by **MATTHEW DAVIS**

terrier. Wakefield Council took two youngsters into care and action was also taken in Warrington over dog hygiene issues.

Two kids were removed in Sutton, three in Walsall, a baby in Bristol and a baby and two children from Leicester over dog concerns.

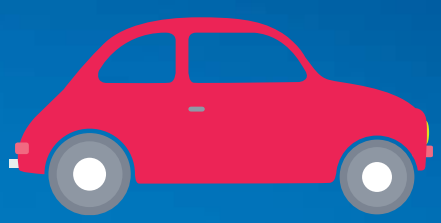

The NSPCC's Alan Wardle said: "Decisions to remove children will be based on social workers taking into account a wide range of other factors."



Frogs porn?

THIS lusty lizard got a front row seat to watch some real life frogs porn. Wildlife photographer Hendy Mp snapped the pair romping in West Kalimantan, Indonesia. Their froggy-style antics saved them from the forest dragon lizard, which was about to eat them. Despite being in the throes of passion the frogs realised just in time and escaped. Hendy said: "Luckily these lovers escaped becoming a meal for the predator."


Picture: CATERS NEWS

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