

First picture of the girl, 14, who died after being mauled by pack of dogs: Police destroy four 'aggressive and out of control' animals

- **Police find body of teenager Jade Anderson after being called to house**
- **Officers called to property following reports of unconscious girl**
- **It is believed she was eating a meat pie when the dogs attacked**
- **Officers who attended confronted by 'aggressive and out of control' dogs**
- **Four of the animals were put down 'humanely' by armed officers**
- **Jade believed to have been at friend's house when tragedy occurred**
- **Dogs believed to be Bull Mastiffs and Staffordshire Bull Terriers**

By James Rush and Tara Brady



It is believed Jade had been at a friend's house when the tragedy occurred

Four rampaging dogs were shot dead by armed police after a schoolgirl was 'mauled to death in a house over run by household pets'.

Jade Anderson, 14, was staying at a friend's property when dogs suddenly went berserk and attacked her after she began eating a meat pie, it is believed.

She was staying at a friend's house for the Easter holidays and was in the house alone at the time of the incident.

It is thought she tried to fight off the dogs but they overpowered her as they went to grab the pie and left her bleeding on the floor.

Police were called at 2pm to the modern £80,000 terraced house in Chaucer Grove, Atherton, Greater Manchester after neighbours reported seeing a teenage girl unconscious and dogs 'out of control.' Officers attended and were confronted by a number of dogs in the back yard which were aggressive and barking ferociously.

The house bears a sign saying 'Beware of the Dog' and neighbours say the five animals were a danger.

Armed police were called out to 'humanely' kill four of the dogs to get inside the property. A fifth dog was inside the house and was securely contained throughout. Tonight a post mortem test was underway to establish exactly how Jade died.

The carcasses of the dogs which are believed to be two Staffordshire Bull Terriers and two Bull Mastiffs will also be examined.

Police said officers were offering support to Jade's family.

The youngster lived with her family in a nearby house and was in Year Nine at the 1,281 pupil Fred Longworth High School in Tyldesley.

Neighbour Kenneth Lindsay said he heard gun shots being fired. 'I just heard gun shots. It was going on without me realising it,' he told ITV News. 'When I heard the gun shots I came out of the door. There was a policeman talking to people.'



Police forensics officers arrive to investigate the scene where a 14-year-old girl was found dead amid five aggressive dogs



An officer stands guard at a police cordon near the house. Police have said it is 'too early to speculate' about what took place



Police at the scene on Chaucer Grove where Jade Anderson was found dead

He added: 'I went down... to see what it was all about and the policeman shouted at me to get back inside and stay inside.'

Superintendent Mark Kenny said: 'First and foremost, our thoughts are with the family of the girl who has tragically lost her life. Specialist officers are offering them every support.'

'While our enquiries to find out what happened are ongoing, this girl's injuries are consistent with her having been attacked by dogs.'

'I understand this is an extremely distressing incident for all concerned, including the community, and we will work hard to establish the full circumstances that lead to this tragedy.'

'There will be a significant police presence in the area, which will remain this evening. We will be there to carry out an investigation and address any concerns residents may have.'



Jade lived with her family in a nearby house and was a pupil at Fred Longworth High School in Tyldesley

Jade was believed to have been staying with friends when the tragedy occurred

Tragic: A Facebook photo of Jade Anderson who was found dead at a house in Atherton

Paula Carden posted a message on Facebook saying: 'She was staying at her friends and it's the families dogs who attacked her. You will be probably know who's dogs they were.'

Paula Hughes said: 'It is awful to know if something happened to one of our loved ones then facebook will be first way we would find out.. thoughts are with the poor family of the young girl who have found out on here. xx RIP sweetheart. xx.'

Hayley Hughes said: 'Jade was one of my best mate sat here in tears!'

Leanne Marie Smith said: 'R.i.p jade anderson such a beautiful girl'.



Destroyed: A male Staffordshire Bull Terrier (left) and Buddy (right) were put down by police after the death



Armed police were called out to 'humanely' kill four of the dogs to get inside the property including Neo (pictured)



Police have said it was 'too early to speculate about what took place' at the house in Atherton



Tributes: A friend leaves flowers and a teddy bear outside the home where Jade Anderson died

Milly Lewis said: 'No one deserves to be taken so young and in such a horrific way, rest In peace Jade Anderson x.'

Chelsea Balmer said: 'R.I.P Jade lomas anderson who sadly loss her life today, my hearts goes out to her family&close friends, heaven has gained another special beautiful angel, sweet dreams xxx.'

The death of 14 year old Jade Anderson comes after a number of vicious dog attacks in recent years. In 2009 three-and-a-half-month-old Jaden Mack was killed by a Staffordshire bull terrier and a Jack Russell at his grandmother's home in Ystrad Mynach, South Wales.

The same year there was the tragic case of John-Paul Massey, a four-year-old who died at his grandmother's house in Liverpool after suffering 'massive injuries' inflicted by a pitbull, a breed banned under the Dangerous Dogs Act.



Officers found the body and were confronted by 'aggressive and out of control dogs', four of which have now been destroyed



A police forensic officer investigates the scene where 14-year-old Jade Anderson was found dead. There was a warning sign on the side of the fence



Closed: Police cordoned off Chaucer Grove where the body of Jade Anderson was found today

Eight-day-old Harry Harper died from a head injury last November after being bitten by a dog in Kettleby, Telford.

A post-mortem concluded the cause of death was a 'significant' head injury, caused by the family Jack Russell. Earlier in March, a pit bull-type dog mauled five police officers during a raid in Newham, East London. All five officers needed hospital treatment for leg and hand wounds.

A woman who approached a dog in Falmouth, Cornwall, after being concerned for its welfare was viciously attacked and required surgery to her leg last June.

The 19-year-old called police from her car to report the tan-coloured Staffordshire bull terrier had bitten her and was attempting to chew its way into her car.

Last month a police dog injured four people, including a 13-year-old girl, after escaping from its kennel. The teenager was taken to hospital for treatment after being bitten on her arm and leg by the German Shepherd-type dog in Glossop.

The Government has announced that microchipping will become compulsory and dog owners will also face prosecution if an animal attacks anyone in their home.

SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT BE DOING MORE TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM DANGEROUS DOGS?

The dangerous Dogs Act 1991 was introduced after a series vicious attacks on children by pit bull terriers. The act bans breeding and sale of four breeds: pit bull terriers, Japanese tosas, fila brasileiro and dogo argentino. It is illegal to possess such dogs without a certificate of exemption, which is given only after the dog is neutered, insured, and has a transponder implanted beneath its skin.

They must also be muzzled in public places and be led by a person over the age of 16. There are an estimated 5,000 dog attacks on British Telecom, Royal Mail and Parcel Force staff in England every year. Postal workers union the CWU estimate that 70 per cent of the attacks on their staff happen on private property.

They have also said the police will have more powers to investigate attacks. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has set out plans to make it compulsory for all dogs in England to be microchipped from 2016 and extend laws governing dog attacks to cover incidents on private property.

Officials estimate around 210,000 people are attacked by dogs in England every year.