



APLM 2016

Promoting Responsible Dog Ownership



Dog Warden Contract

- The dog warden collects stray dogs, deals with dangerous or aggressive dogs, provides general advice, and supports Officers in the Planning Enforcement and Environment Service to investigate complaints of noise and dog fouling incidents.
- If Dog Fouling is reported to HDC this may be cleaned by our Environmental Contractor- FCC

New Public Space Protection Order

- New PSPO in place from 1 June 2016, which includes the following offences
 - Fouling
 - Direction to put a dog on a lead
 - Provision of a means, or a suitable receptacle to pick up dog faeces
- Failure to comply results in fixed penalty notice of £100 and maximum fine of £1,000 if convicted.

Which Parishes are affected

- Dog Warden covers whole district, includes out of hours *for strays*. Also includes some time each week of proactive work - patrolling and investigation.
- PSPO covers any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission (s 74(1) of the Act). This means that the measures will also apply to agricultural land where the public have a right of way.

Offer to parishes

- Anyone can.
 - report dog fouling/ someone for not clearing up after their dog.
 - contact the dog warden for advice on ways of dealing with a dog's barking which is causing a nuisance.
 - Report a stray or lost dog.
 - contact the dog warden for advice on getting your dog microchipped.
- Parishes can assist Council by putting up signage for new PSPO – supplied by HDC.

Case Study – Dog Fouling

Great Glen Parish Council are encouraging responsible dog ownership as part of their efforts for a safer environment for the local community. In an attempt to try and reduce the number of dog fouling incidents, Lesley Sanderson purchased stencils online to apply on the pavements to remind dog owners to clear up after their dog.

Dog fouling can be tackled by the whole community working together. Some dog owners think that they can get away with not picking up after their pet if they believe they can not be seen. But as more and more people report dog fouling offences, irresponsible dog owners may start to think twice about their actions.



Case Study – Dog Watch Scheme

- The scheme uses the Neighbourhood Watch model to change dog walkers' attitudes and behaviour with eyes and ears on the streets in residential hotspot areas.
- Aim's to promote responsible ownership and deter dog owners from not picking up after their pets by empowering the community to take matters into their own hands. Volunteers can be kitted out with tools including-
 - Stencils, Sprays, High visibility jackets, Leaflets, "Report it" cards, Window stickers, Monitoring forms, Signage
- Parks and sports pitches are also targeted, with signage and patrols helping to encourage dog walkers to walk around the pitch, not on it.
- Volunteers may also visit schools, clubs, voluntary organisations or other groups to talk about this work and promote responsible dog ownership

Key issues

- There are resources available in the dog warden contract for some patrolling. There are also resources available in the Council's Planning Enforcement Team but this is very limited.
- Awareness that Dog fouling is a health risk.
- Often difficult for clean-up crews to locate dog fouling reported to the Council.

How can we work together?

1. Is this a key issue in your community?

2. Promotion of responsible dog ownership and deterring bad behaviour?
 - Individually in parishes?
 - A joint campaign?
 - A new Dog Watch type scheme?