

Appendix B

Summary of responses received from Community Assembly Feedback Forms for the Dog Fouling Scrutiny Project Group

Compiled by: Martin Elliott, Committee and Scrutiny Coordinator

	Assembly	Feedback
1/2	West	Request for information on how to get mess cleared up and also on the number of fines issued by Chesterfield Borough Council. Respondent did think the Council was doing enough to reduce dog fouling and understood that enforcement is difficult. Noted that dog fouling is from a small minority of dog owners.
3	East	Advising of persistent dog fouling near Brimington Methodist Church. Request for more signage to discourage fouling and highlight the penalties in that area.
4	South	Request for information on the cost of cleaning up fouling and the provision of bins. Respondent said they would like all bins removed and reallocate resources to more patrols of problem areas to educate dog owners in responsible ownership and behaviour. Also noted that the dog bins around Seagrave Drive are often overflowing and are not emptied enough. Wants more posters put up.
5	North	Advised that at Firth Court there is persistent fouling on a grass area and this happens late at night and early in the morning. Would like patrols on an ad-hoc basis to catch the perpetrators. Also thinks dog bins need emptying more and areas around them need paving and regularly cleaned in order to encourage their use.
6	North	Advised that dog fouling has reduced in last few months and always sees owners picking the mess, wondered if this is due to offenders being fined. Does see unaccompanied dogs fouling, asked if the owners are indetified can they be fined. Also asked what information is given to owners when stray dogs are returned. Thought that highlighting the facts and figures IRO the problems and the resolutions would show that fouling is a particular concern of the community being taken seriously by the council.
7	West	Dog fouling signs on Linacre Road are badly worn and illegible. Would like them replaced.
8	East	Situation with dog fouling around Coronation Road, Brimington is very variable. Commented that the service provided when they have contacted Environmental Services has been excellent and wanted to note a special thanks to Mark Rawson for his help when needed.
9	East	Would like the dog bin sited on Goodwins Lane, Brimington resited as walkers no longer use the overgrown lane. Advised the bin would be more useful sited at the field end of Jubilee Walk of Catterhill Lane and a new bin placed at the top of the same field which leads to North Moor View, Manor Road, Brimington. These bins would service the most used dog walking area. Bin on Manor Road at entrance could be re-sited as gets waterlogged and is not much used.
10	South	Wants better enforcement and execution of existing powers. Perhaps a community clean up could be organised from time to time.

11	South	Thinks that without more dog bins you cannot hope that dogs owners who are letting their dogs foul will pick it up.
12	South	Advised that dog fouling has noticeably reduced in last few months. Unsure what has changed but wants it to continue. Advises that Berwick upon Tweed* Council are successfully addressing this problem, could we liaise? Thinks that engaging with school children trivialises what an unpleasant problem this is. Thinks advertising should focus on the antisocial and disease spreading nature of dog fouling.
13	South	Wants the entire service withdrawing. Advertise over 6-12 months in press, on website and signs to encourage dog walkers to pick up the mess and take it home. All dog bins to be removed on a given day, vans to be sold and wardens redeployed to other duties such as patrolling and issuing fines.
14	South	Notes that despite lots of local action over the years dog fouling still persists on the green at Grangewood near the Coop and also behind the police house on Birchwood Crescent.

Summary

1. There has been a noticeable improvement in incidents of dog fouling in the last 3 months especially in the South of the borough.
2. Residents feel the service provided by Environmental Services is good and are impressed with the quality of the service and the professionalism of the staff.
3. Some of the information respondents asked for example on fines issued was available on the website but they were unaware of this.
4. Residents understand that fouling is committed by a minority.
5. There is a definite divide between those who think more dog bins are needed and those who think they should all be removed totally.
6. There is a consensus that there needs to be more signage and that it should be hard hitting it its message.

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<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=3175>

<http://www.berwick-advertiser.co.uk/news/local-news/all-news/more-than-100-owners-hit-with-dog-fouling-fines-1-3594348>