

Take the Oops out of Poops Consultation Results

256 people responded to the questionnaire which ran from 16 November 2015 until 11 January 2016.

Respondents were asked 'How bad is dog fouling in your area?'

The majority of respondents believed the problem of dog fouling in their area was Poor or Very Poor.

- 25% Very Poor
- 32% Poor
- 11% OK
- 17% Good
- 17% Very Good

Respondents were asked to detail particular hotspots in their area (within 5 minutes of their home). The most common area's reported are:

Leisure facilities and parks

- Wicor Recreation Ground and surrounding roads
- Holly Hill Woods
- Blackbrook Park
- Titchfield Canal Footpath
- Fareham Creek
- Park Lane Recreation Ground
- Redundant School of navigation playing fields
- AFC Portchester pitches
- Seafield Park
- Park Lane
- Hook park
- Lockshealth Park Road and surrounding roads
- Cams Golf Course/Cams Alders
- Fareham Creek

Roads and Streets

- Ranvilles Lane
- Castle Street – Junction to Whitehart Lane
- Coastal Path between Portchester Castle and Cams Hall
- St Anne's Grove
- Hill Head, private residents in Bell Lane
- Near Sarisbury Infants School
- Warsash Shore path
- Park Glen to Longacres and along to Westminster Gardens
- Lower Quay and Eastern Parade
- Northmore Road

Respondents were asked ‘What do you think would encourage you or others to pick up dog poo that is your/their responsibility?’

The key themes are as follows:

Responsibility

- Dog litterers simply don't care/can't be bothered
- Most are responsible it is just a few that aren't
- Some dog owners pick up others mess

Fines

- Dog/owner community responsibility course
- Financial fine
- Council enforcement/ Visible dog wardens
- Rewards for reporting offenders
- Rewards for owners who clean up dog litter

Facilities

- More bins, positioning and frequency
- Signs
- Raise awareness at sites
- Quicker clean up – some bins are overflowing
- Bags

Other suggestions

- Highlighting mess on pavements
- CCTV at problem sites
- Ban dogs e.g. leisure facilities and football pitches
- Remove the dog from regular offenders
- Educate schools and public
- Public shaming
- Public lighting during darker months
- Requirement for dogs on leads in public areas/football pitches

Respondents were asked ‘Should the council have greater power in dealing with irresponsible dog owners by putting a PSPO in place across the Borough?’

In total, out of 256 respondents 249 answered this question. Of those, 91% respondents think the council should have greater power and 9% do not.

Respondents were asked whether the council should ‘set the fixed penalty notice for not clearing up after a dog has fouled at either £75 or £100?’

252 people answered this question:

- 24% said £75
- 61% said £100
- 15% said 'other'

Comments given in support of 'other' responses focused on:

- Having a larger fine than £100 to hurt so offenders so they won't risk it again
- Some agreed that £100 fine was correct
- Repeat offenders should receive increased fines and community service to help clean the streets
- Fining less than £75 for first time offenders
- Giving an initial warning first then follow up with a fine to offenders who are making a point about not having bins to dispose of the mess efficiently.
- There shouldn't be a fine as cat mess is a bigger problem in the Borough.
- This fine should be applied to littering as well
- Provide a volunteer group that can give out fines or provide wardens to enforce the fines and educate the public

General comments about the survey:

The majority of comments focused on:

- The risk to children from dog fouling
- Dog fouling on play areas and football pitches and the need for a lead only or banned policy in these areas
- One of the most common problems is owners bagging the mess and then leaving it on paths and in trees
- More bins are needed
- More wardens patrolling the streets to educate offenders