

Dog Control Order

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers (FAQ's)

What is dog control?

Dog control is a way that councils can introduce restrictions as to where dogs are allowed, when dogs have to be on a lead and where it is an offence to allow a dog to foul without cleaning it up.

What is a Dog Control Order?

A Dog Control Order is an optional measure for controlling potential dog related issues as described above.

Where do Dog Control Orders come from?

The Clean Neighbourhood & Environment Act 2005 gave Councils new powers to deal with the control of dogs by way of fixed penalty notices. The Act replaced the previous system of Byelaws for the control of dogs and also the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, which has been repealed (cancelled). The Act seeks to give communities the power to control problems caused by dogs and carry out enforcement in a quick and efficient manner.

What can Dog Control Orders cover?

- Exclusion of dogs from certain areas
- A requirement for a dog to be on a lead
- Power to request that a dog is put on a lead
- Power to make failure to clear up after a dog has fouled an offence
- Restrict the number of dogs that can be walked by an individual at any one time

What Dog Control Orders have the Council implemented?

- Dog Exclusion Order for sensitive areas such as children's playgrounds, sports courts and marked pitches (when in use)
- Dogs On Lead order for roads, footpaths, car parks, communal areas on estates, church yards and some public parks or parts of parks / gardens

- Dogs On Lead Direction Order for the whole of the borough which would give officers the power to request that dogs are placed on a lead.
- Fouling of Land by Dogs Order to cover the whole borough
- Restricting the number of dogs that can be walked by an individual to six

Why are we doing this?

During the past three years we have worked within an award winning partnership which includes the RSPCA, Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, the Police, Wood Green Animal Shelter, Friends of Parks and other stakeholder groups to promote responsible dog ownership. As a result of this work residents, police and friends of parks groups have raised with us their concerns over dogs that appear to be out of control and how intimidating this can be.

When will Dog control orders come into effect?

Dog Control Orders will come into effect on the 1st April 2013

Anyone who contravenes an Order is liable to be issued a fixed penalty notice. We are not an authority which aims to issue large numbers of fixed penalty notices, our preferred approach is to encourage responsible behaviour and to only issue fixed penalty notices where there are clear breaches of the Orders.

Aren't there adequate powers at the moment?

The Dog Fouling of Land Act has limitations. Therefore, it is ill-equipped to tackle some of the issues our residents are concerned about.

Who will enforce Dog Control Orders?

Authorised Officers and the Police will enforce Dog Control orders

How will they enforce this?

There will be random joint patrols of the Borough. However, information provided on non compliant individuals and or information on non compliance hotspots will be reviewed by the Enforcement teams and action taken where applicable