

Dog Control Orders
Environment, item 9

Committee: Environment
Date: 26th September 2006
Title: Dog Control Orders
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Agenda Item

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Item for
decision

Summary

This report asks Members for their views on introducing Dog Control Orders to replace the existing Byelaws which are scheduled to be repealed, and makes a number of suggestions.

Recommendations

That the Committee instructs Officers to start the consultation process to introduce a range of Dog Control Orders as the Committee feels are appropriate.

Background Papers

DEFRA Guidance on sections 55-67 Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, PB11577g

Impact

Communication/Consultation	Public, Town and Parish Councils, all as specified in The Dog Control Orders (Procedures) Regulations 2006
Community Safety	Underlying purpose of Control Orders
Equalities	Will impact on dog owners
Finance	Cost of signage and consultation
Human Rights	None
Legal implications	Enforcement of Orders
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	Training in the service of Fixed Penalty Notices will be required

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Situation

1. The existing byelaws will be automatically repealed in the near future and there is an opportunity to replace them with Dog Control Orders and to expand the range of applicable measures to include excluding dogs from specified areas and requiring owners to keep their dogs on a lead.
2. Presentations have been given to Parish and Town Councils on the new powers which are similarly available for them to introduce. These secondary authorities have been advised that assistance in the process would be available from this Council. Although there has not been a great deal of feedback from secondary authorities, officers believe that Parish and Town Councils are generally best placed to decide what powers if any should be exercised in their areas.
3. There are however parcels of land directly under the Council’s control, for example Radwinter Road Cemetery, Jubilee Gardens, Walden Place and Bridge End and Dorchester House Gardens where dogs could be required to be on a lead or excluded entirely. In addition highways, including footpaths and verges, within 30mph (or less) speed limits could be required to clean up after their dogs much like the present byelaws.
4. Members are asked for their views on taking this matter forward but officers suggest that the consultation process be commenced with a view to making an Order excluding dogs from Bridge End Gardens and Dorchester House Gardens, that an Order that dogs must be kept on a lead and requiring the removal of dog faeces be made in respect of Radwinter Road Cemetery, Jubilee Gardens and Walden Place, and that a Order be made requiring the removal of dog faeces from highways and verges within 30mph (or less) speed limit areas.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
That an opportunity to update measures to control dogs will be missed	High	High, dog fouling is consistently near the top of the public’s environmental concerns	That Parish and Town Council’s will make their own Dog Control Orders