



Title of Report:	Dog Control Information
Committee Report Submitted To:	Environmental Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	14th May 2024
For Decision or For Information	For Information
To be discussed In Committee	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Healthy and Engaged Communities
Outcome	Implementation of statutory requirements
Lead Officer	Head of Health & Built Environment

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	N/A
Capital/Revenue	N/A
Code	N/A
Staffing Costs	N/A

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	NO

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No N/A	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Paper

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide Members with information on dog control requested at ES240417.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Council's Enforcement Team are responsible for enforcing legislative provisions relating to dog control including dog fouling and ensuring dogs are kept on leashes where legally required.

3.0 Control of Dogs

- 3.1 Requirements relating to the control of dogs and whether they are required to be kept on leashes is primarily regulated under the following article of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

- 3.2 *Article 25 - Control of dogs on certain roads and on land*

25 (1) A keeper of a dog and, if it is in the charge of a person other than its keeper, that person also shall not cause or permit that dog to be—

(a) in any road in respect of which an order has been made under Article 100 of the Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1991;

(b) on any land where livestock are present and have a right to be there;

unless the dog is under control.

- 3.3 In relation to a dog, "under control" is defined in the Order as meaning restrained by a chain or other sufficient leash held by a person exercising proper control over the dog.
- 3.4 For clarification, the Order only requires dogs to be kept on a leash in two specific circumstances, namely on lands where livestock is present and roads subject to Article 100 of the Planning Order. This Planning Order relates to when streets or roads are permanently pedestrianised.
- 3.5 In public spaces, other than those specified in 3.4, dogs are not required to be on a lead unless there is a specific dog control order in place to require it.
- 3.6 Under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 a District Council may make a Dog Control Order specifying lands or areas where a dog must be kept on a leash.
- 3.7 Such orders can be made by Councils when a significant, demonstrable problem exists that cannot be dealt with by other dog control provisions. To impose such a Dog Control Order on lands requires Council to consult members of the public and any other interested parties. Any subsequent objections must be considered by Council before determining if an Order is necessary and appropriate.

3.8 Council has exercised these powers and introduced Dog Control Orders requiring dogs to be kept on a leash in the areas listed below:

- All cycle/shared use paths listed below
- Any new cycle/shared use paths within the Borough of Coleraine*
- All Council owned cemeteries and burial grounds within the Borough of Coleraine*
- All Council owned caravan parks namely Carrick Dhu and Juniper Hill
- Within all designated areas below:

Articlave

Cycle paths/shared use path

Castlerock

Cycle paths/shared use path

The cliff path at the Moors lands, Castlerock from the road at Tunnel Brae westward to the ravine and lands owned by the National Trust.

Coleraine

Christie Park footpath/cycle lane

Somerset/Riverside Park footpath/cycle lane

Cemetery at Shellbridge

Anderson Park including Rose Gardens and section at Circular Road, Coleraine.

Cycle paths/shared use path

Downhill

Shared use paths/cycle paths

Garvagh

Cycle paths/shared use path

Kilrea

Cycle paths/shared use path

Macosquin

Cycle paths/shared use path

Portballintrae

Cycle paths/shared use path

Portrush

Antrim Gardens Upper, Portrush

Coastal path along Ballyreagh Golf Course

Cemetery at Ballywillin.

Cycle paths/shared use path

Portstewart

All cemeteries in the area

Convent Walk from Portnahapple, Berne Road to Crescent
Juniper Hill Caravan Park and Carrick Dhu Caravan Park
Paths to Herring Pond
Harbour Hill, Portstewart
Cycle paths/shared use path/shared use path

Ballintoy

Lands where a public right of way exists from Ballintoy to Whitepark Bay

*applies to legacy Coleraine Borough Council area

- 3.9 Further information on all Council Dog Control Orders including an interactive map is available on the Council website at <https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/live/health-and-built-environment/licensing/dog-licensing/dog-control-in-public-spaces> .

4.0 Fixed Penalties Issued for Dog Fouling in the last 3 years

Year	Number of Dog Fouling Penalty Notices issued
2021*	52
2022*	60
2023	5

- 4.1 It should be noted that during 2021 and 2022 Council employed the services of a private contractor to assist with litter and dog fouling enforcement. This contract with WISE has since ceased.

5.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Council notes the information above.