

Crime and Disorder Select Committee
Review of Dog Fouling Enforcement
Outline Scope

Scrutiny Chair: Councillor Wilburn	Contact details: david.wilburn@stockton.gov.uk
Scrutiny Officer: Graham Birtle	Contact details: 01642 526187 graham.birtle@stockton.gov.uk
Departmental Link Officer: Colin Snowdon	Contact details: 01642 526555 colin.snowdon@stockton.gov.uk
Finance Link Officer: N/A	Contact details:

Which of our strategic corporate objectives does this topic address?

We aim to make the borough a better place to live and a more attractive place to do business, with clean streets, carefully tended parks and open spaces, affordable and desirable housing.

What are the main issues and overall aim of this review?

Dog fouling is consistently high on issues of concern to the public of Stockton and indeed on a national basis in urban areas. As all ward councillors will be aware complaint levels are high as is the level of dog ownership, but there is general support from the public, including the majority of dog owners to seek a resolution to this problem, caused by a minority of irresponsible dog owners.

DNA testing potentially provides a technical solution to this problem and although not viable now may be so in the future.

The Committee will undertake the following key lines of enquiry:

Current Service Provision
Dog Fouling Legislation
DNA Testing
Other Dog Fouling Initiatives

Who will the Committee be trying to influence as part of its work?

Cabinet, Dog owners

Expected duration of review and key milestones:

2 months (2 meetings)

What information do we need?

Existing information (background information, existing reports, legislation, central government documents, etc.):

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

New information:

Who can provide us with further relevant evidence? (Cabinet Member, officer, service user, general public, expert witness, etc.)

What specific areas do we want them to cover when they give evidence?

Cabinet Member
Principal Environmental Health Officer

How will this information be gathered? (e.g. financial base-lining and analysis, benchmarking, site visits, face-to-face questioning, telephone survey, survey)

Desktop research, meetings

How will key partners and the public be involved in the review?

N/A

How will the review help the Council meet the Public Sector Equality Duty?

N/A

How will the review contribute towards the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, or the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities

Provide an initial view as to how this review could lead to efficiencies, improvements and/or transformation:

Reduced incidences of dog fouling
Cleaner streets and public spaces

Project Plan

Key Task	Details/Activities	Date	Responsibility
Scoping of Review	Information gathering	Aug/Sept 16	Scrutiny Officer Link Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss aims and objectives of review	13.9.16	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Corporate Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Agree Project Plan	Scope and Project Plan agreed by Committee	22.9.16	Select Committee
Publicity of Review	Press Briefing at start of review		Chair, Link Officer, Press Officer Scrutiny Officer
Obtaining Evidence	Committee meeting	22.9.16	Select Committee
Members decide recommendations and findings	Review summary of findings and formulate draft recommendations	22.9.16	Select Committee
Circulate Draft Report to Stakeholders	Circulation of Report	w/c 3.10.16	Scrutiny Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss findings of review and draft recommendations	TBA	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Corporate Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Final Agreement of Report	Approval of final report by Committee	20.10.16	Select Committee, Cabinet Member, Corporate Director
Consideration of Report by Executive Scrutiny Committee	Consideration of report	25.10.16	Executive Scrutiny Committee
Report to Cabinet/Approving Body	Presentation of final report with recommendations for approval to Cabinet	10.11.16	Cabinet/ Approving Body