

APPENDIX 3

QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS TRAINING ON DOG FOULING

7 NOVEMBER 2012

KEY QUESTIONS

Members raised the following areas of concern:

Enforcement:

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN):

- ✚ What are the areas where dog fouling is not acceptable i.e. where can a FPN be issued? It was discussed that FPN's can't be issued on farmland, rural common land, highway verges outside of a 40mph limit. It is a legal minefield but the enforcement team take a pragmatic view of each offence.
- ✚ Collaboration work with Conwy County Council – the working arrangements for Community Safety are no longer in place but evidence would be handed to officers in Conwy if cross border issues were identified
- ✚ Dog Control Orders – these are being considered and allow additional control areas within the County. Full consultation will take place.

Reporting & Evidence:

- ✚ The enforcement team need proof, with unreasonable doubt that an offence has taken place. The individual that witnessed the offence would need to commit to writing a statement, which might lead to standing up in court. Alternatively, they could contact their local town council and provide them with intelligence of where a regular offence was taking place at a certain time. The enforcement team would look into this and assign an officer to that area to try and catch the offenders.
- ✚ Concerns were raised that XFOR would only target areas that were guaranteed a result. The enforcement team manage where XFOR are set to within the County and the Lead Member, Dave Smith will monitor this on a quarterly basis.

Collection & Disposal:

Bin Emptying:

- ✚ Who is responsible for emptying bins? If Public Realm put the bins out, then they empty them. If a town council issues bins, they are responsible for emptying them,

St Asaph is an example. Denbighshire County Council do not have a legal duty to provide bins, they provide them for convenience to the public and as a more efficient way of collecting dog waste.

- ⊕ If Town Councils buy their own dog bins, they can ask Public Realm to empty them at a cost. It is preferred that shared use bins are purchased, rather than just dog waste bins.
- ⊕ The Prestatyn to Dyserth Walkway bins are always full. It was explained that this walkway has changed from a countryside walk to a cycleway and now needs to be treated differently.

Communication & Marketing:

- ⊕ Members were asked to vote on potential campaign visuals and agreed which one was to be developed further. They also voted on which marketing activities they thought were the most important. These activities included; consultation & engagement, PR & media, social media & technology, education & awareness roadshows, 0800 phone number, advertising & promotional materials and ways to feedback and measure the success of the campaign.