

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 29 JANUARY 2004

PROVISION OF DOG FOULING BINS

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Committee on the provision of dog fouling bins within the local area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee on 6th November 2003, it was agreed that a report be submitted to provide information on the provision of dog fouling bins within the local area.
- 2.2 During the last seven years, East Ayrshire Council has continued to draw the public's attention on a regular basis to the ongoing nuisance of dog fouling and recently advised the community of the intention to use new powers which allow authorised officers of the Council to issue fixed penalty notices.
- 2.3 The Council has also invested in a number of specialist bins which should be used exclusively for dog waste but continues to point out that dog waste can be placed in any bin provided by East Ayrshire Council. As far as the area of the Cumnock Local Committee is concerned, there are currently 166 free-standing and pole-mounted bins provided. Subject to the availability of funding it is proposed to provide additional dog bins across the area.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 It is understood that the original request for this report was prompted by a community representative pointing out that there were no specific dog fouling bins within the Main Street of Catrine.

There are however four free standing bins at Mill Square in Catrine and informal discussions between the Head of Protective Services and the community representative concerned, suggests that the small number of individuals who permit their pets to foul public areas are known to most of the local community. This being the case, the Head of Protective Services has suggested that if information (e.g. names and addresses) on those concerned is handed to him in confidence, he will then write to them in appropriate terms explaining that if they continue to behave in this manner then they may find themselves the subject of a report to the Procurator Fiscal.

It should be noted that such action is of course available to the members of any Local Area Committee in East Ayrshire.

3.4 Arrangements will also be made for additional patrols of the Mill Square area by authorised officers of the Council with a view to issuing fixed penalty notices to anyone failing to clean up after their pet.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Nil.

7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The Local Area Committee requested a report on the provision of dog fouling bins within the local area.

7.2 There are 166 free-standing and pole-mounted litterbins in the area and it is Council policy that the public should be encouraged to place dog waste bins in these in addition to any specialist dog waste bins provided.

7.3 Given the fact that the original request from the Local Area Committee arose from a community representative concerned about the behaviour of a small minority of individuals in Catrine, additional patrols of the area by Dog Warden staff will be carried out. At the same time the Head of Protective Services will issue appropriate letters to anyone reported as failing to clean up after their pet.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Local Area Committee is invited to note this report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

12th January 2004

WS/JFC/CAM

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

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