

#### TUESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 7.00 PM

#### **Conference Room 2 - The Forum**

The Councillors listed below are requested to attend the above meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Membership

Councillor Anderson (Chairman) Councillor Bateman Councillor Birnie (Vice-Chairman) Councillor Fisher Councillor S Hearn Councillor Hicks Councillor Howard Councillor Matthews Councillor Ransley Councillor Riddick Councillor Silwal Councillor Timmis Councillor C Wyatt-Lowe

**Substitute Members:** Councillors G Adshead, England, Link, McLean, Pringle, Ritchie and Tindall

For further information, please contact Corporate and Democratic Support or 01442 228209

# AGENDA

#### 1. MINUTES

To agree the minutes of the previous meeting.

#### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest.

#### 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

# 5. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO CALL-IN

None.

- 6. **BUDGET MONITORING Q2** (Pages 3 10)
- 7. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES Q2 PERFORMANCE REPORT (Pages 11 17)
- 8. ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION Q2 PERFORMANCE REPORT (Pages 18 - 24)
- 9. PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION Q2 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Report to follow

10. RESULTS OF THE FOOD WASTE COLLECTION TRIAL

Report to follow

- **11. DOG PSPO** (Pages 25 141)
- **12. UPDATE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICE 2017-2018** (Pages 142 176)
- **13. ANNUAL REVIEW OF CIL** (Pages 177 197)

# Agenda Item 6 Agenda Item Page 1 of 6



# **AGENDA ITEM:**

SUMMARY

Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	
PART:	20 November 2018
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Budget Monitoring Quarter 2 2018/19
Contact:	Cllr Graeme Elliot, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources Nigel Howcutt, Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) Fiona Jump, Group Manager, Financial Services
Purpose of report:	To provide details of the projected outturn for 2018/19 as at Quarter 2 for the: • General Fund • Housing Revenue Account • Capital Programme
Recommendations	That Committee note the forecast outturn position for 2018/19.
Corporate objectives:	Delivering an efficient and modern council.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> This reports outlines the financial position for the Council for 2018/19 and so summarises the financial implications for service decisions expected to be made for the financial year. <u>Value for Money</u>

	Regular budget monitoring and reporting supports the effective use of the financial resources available to the Council.
Risk Implications	This reports outlines the financial position for the Council for 2018/19 and in so doing quantifies the financial risk associated with service decisions expected to be made for the financial year.
Community Impact Assessment	The content of this report does not require a Community Impact Assessment to be undertaken.
	There are no Health and Safety implications arising from this
Health And Safety Implications	report.
Consultees	The position reported within this report has been reviewed and discussed with relevant Council Officers.
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	GF – General Fund HRA – Housing Revenue Account

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the councils forecast outturn for 2018/19 as at the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. The report covers the following budgets with associated appendices:
  - General Fund Appendix A
  - Capital Programme Strategic Planning and Environment- Appendix B

#### 2. General Fund Revenue Account

- 2.1 The General Fund revenue account records the income and expenditure associated with all Council functions except management of the Council's own housing stock, which is accounted for within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).
- 2.2 Appendix A provides an overview of the General Fund forecast outturn position. In summary, there are various areas of both under and overspends which broadly offset each other. The net overall pressure of £249k is a significant improvement on quarter 1 with a reduction in the overall pressure of £470k quarter on quarter. The pressure is largely attributable to the forecast pressure on recycling income, following the impact on global markets of change in Chinese government policy on the amount of recyclables it will allow into the country.

The table below outlines the service areas with a significant financial pressure:

Scrutiny Committee		Key Financial Pressure	Description		
Strategic Planning	&	£450k	Waste recycling income		
Environment					

Strategic Planning & Environment	£100k	Building Control service
Housing & Community	£160k	Garages

#### 2.3 Corporate items

A surplus on Investment Properties of £74k is now forecast due to relatively strong performance in rental income, with a number of successful rent reviews having been carried out.

- 2.4 There is additional income of £284k against core funding budgets, relating to government funding and investment income. This includes additional funding relating to the Revenues and Benefits service, new burdens funding relating to the Strategic Planning service and enhanced new homes bonus. Interest forecasts from treasury management activities are projected to exceed budget by £100k due to higher than anticipated cash balance and a rise in the Bank of England base rate from 0.5% to 0.75% in August.
- 2.5 The table below provides an overview by Scrutiny area of the current forecast outturn for controllable budgets within the General Fund.

	Current Budget	Forecast Outturn	Varia	ance	
	£000	£000	£000	%	
Finance & Resources	12,968	13,093	125	1.0%	
Housing & Community	753	768	15	2.0%	
Strategic Planning & Environment	7,717	8,184	467	6.1%	
Total	21,438	22,045	607	2.8%	
Investment Property	(4,103)	(4,177)	(74)	1.8%	
Core Funding	(17,342)	(17,626)	(284)	1.6%	
Contribution (to)/from General Fund Working Balance	(7)	242	249		

2.6 Section 3 provides an analysis of the projected outturn and major budget variances within the Strategic Planning and Environment Scrutiny area.

Strategic Planning and Environment	Current Budget	Forecast Outturn	Varia	ance
	£000	£000	£000	%
Employees	9,688	9,796	108	1.1%
Premises	864	888	24	2.8%
Transport	1,201	1,334	133	11.1%
Supplies & Services	1,914	2,364	450	23.5%
Third-Parties	88	72	(16)	(18.2%)
Income	(5,898)	(5,948)	(50)	0.8%
Earmarked Reserves	(140)	(322)	(182)	130.0%
	7,717	8,184	467	6.1%

#### 3. Strategic Planning and Environment

#### 3.1 Employees £108k over budget

Pressure of £120k- Recruitment challenges within Building Control have led to vacant posts being filled by agency staff, the service are preparing an options paper to outline the options for the future delivery of Building Control within the approved budgets.

A short- term requirement to support the successful implementation of new software is driving a pressure of £90k within Planning. This pressure is forecast to be offset by a drawdown of £90k from the Management of Change reserve, subject to Cabinet approval.

There are several staffing underspend in Clean, Safe and Green where posts have been able to be kept vacant in the short term, whilst still allowing the service to meet service delivery plans. This is under constant review.

#### 3.2 Transport £133k over budget

There are overspends as a result of maintaining the ageing fleet in the waste services including additional short term hire costs and repair costs. The procurement of the renewal of the waste fleet is underway and deliver is expected from midway through 2019.

#### 3.3 Supplies and Services - £450k over budget

This is the continued pressure relating to the cost of disposal of co-mingled waste due to the recent decline in the global market for recycled material.

#### 3.4 Income - £50k over -achievement of budget

The overachievement of income overall in the Strategic Planning division is due to various under and over achieved income in the Building Control and Development and Waste Services.

The Waste Service overall income is in line with the budgeted levels with the commercial waste service underachieving its income by £150k and the additional £150k of income forecast as a result of incentive payments from Hertfordshire County Council (HCC), to reward Dacorum for improvements in the rate of recycling. This is under the Alternative Financial Model (AFM) methodology. The commercial waste service is under review and independent advice is being provided on how to improve the financial performance of the service.

The Building Control service and Land Charges income is forecasting a shortfall of  $\pounds$ 100k as a result of decreased customer numbers, and action is being taken to improve the quality of service delivered and the marketing of the building control service. In contrast to this, the Planning service is projecting and overachievement of income of  $\pounds$ 275k as a result of large one- off fees, with a smaller proportion of the surplus due to a high volume of applications.

There are other minor net pressures against income within Strategic Planning and Environment.

#### 4 Capital Programme

4.1 Appendix C shows the projected capital outturn in detail by scheme.

The table below summarises the overall capital outturn position for Strategic Planning and Environment Scrutiny area.

The current budget is the original budget approved by Cabinet in February 2018, plus approved amendments. Slippage identified at Quarter 1 2018/19 has been rephased to 2019/20.

The 'Slippage' column refers to projects where expenditure is still expected to be incurred, but it will now be in 2019/20 rather than 2018/19, or conversely, where expenditure planned initially for 2019/20 has been incurred in 2018/19.

The 'Variance' column refers to projects which are expected to come in under or over budget and projects which are no longer required.

	Current Budget £000	Slippage £000	Revised budget £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Varia £000	ance %
Strategic Planning and Environment	2,915	(124)	2,791	2,791	0	0%
G F Total	2,915	(124)	2,791	2,791	0	0%

#### 4.2 General Fund Major Variances

Slippage to future years is detailed in Appendix C and is relatively low in value against Strategic Planning and Environment schemes.

#### 5 Conclusions and recommendations

- 5.1 As at Quarter 2 2018/19, there is a forecast pressure of £249k against total General Fund budgets and a forecast pressure of £467k against Strategic Planning and Environment General Fund budgets.
- 5.2 As at Quarter 2 2018/19, against Strategic Planning and Environment General Fund capital there is slippage of £124k and a forecast outturn on budget.
- 5.3 Members are asked to note the forecast outturn position for 2018/19. Further financial monitoring reports will be brought before Committee for consideration during the financial year 2018/19.



# Dacorum Borough Council

Revenue Budget Monitoring Report for September 2018 (Cost of Services Analysis By Scrutiny Committee)

		Month			Year-to-Date			Full Year		
	Budget £000	Actuals £000	Variance £000		Budget £000	Actuals £000	Variance £000	Budget £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Variance £000
Cost of Services										
Finance and Resources	660	687	27		6,290	6,410	120	12,968	13,093	125
Housing and Community	105	817	712		911	2,062	1,151	753	768	15
Strategic Planning and Environment	352	399	47		4,144	4,469	325	7,717	8,184	467
Net Cost of Services	1,117	1,903	786	-	11,345	12,941	1,596	21,438	22,045	607
Other Items										
Investment Property	(46)	(47)	(1)		(2,968)	(3,025)	(57)	(4,103)	(4,177)	(74)
Investment Income	(13)	(60)	(47)		(79)	(172)	(93)	(158)	(262)	(104)
Interest Payments and MRP	81	0	(81)		485	0	(485)	970	970	0
Parish Precept Payments	0	0	0		778	778	0	778	778	0
Googenment Grants	(174)	(110)	64		(1,043)	(2,293)	(1,250)	(2,086)	(2,266)	(180)
Revenue Contribution to Capital	0	0	0		0	0	0	2,111	2,111	0
Taxation (Council Tax and Business Rates)	(1,237)	1,754	2,991		(7,421)	11,398	18,819	(14,843)	(14,843)	0
Surplus / Deficit on Provision of Services	(1,389)	1,537	2,926	-	(10,248)	6,686	16,934	(17,331)	(17,689)	(358)
Transfers between Reserves / Funds										
Net Recharge to the HRA	(343)	(25)	318		(2,057)	97	2,154	(4,114)	(4,114)	0
Net Movement on General Fund Working Balance	(609)	3,415	4,024		(526)	19,724	20,250	(7)	242	249

#### Interpreting this report

**Net Cost of Services** 

This subtotal includes those costs which are directly attributable to specific Council services, excluding recharges and capital items.

`

#### **Other Items**

This subtotal shows corporate costs and income, including grants from central government and taxation.

#### Net Movement on General Fund Working Balance

This line shows the increase or decrease to the General Fund working balance

#### CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

Richard Rice	0	20.000	0	20.000	(20.000)	0	0	0
	0	20,000	0	20,000	(20,000)	0	0	0
		,						
Craig Thorpe	20,000	0	0	20.000	0	20,000	20.000	0
<b>v</b> .	0	-	0	,	0	,	,	0
•	15,000	75,000	30,000	120,000	0	120,000	120,000	0
Craig Thorpe	0	25,000	0	25,000	0	25,000	25,000	0
Craig Thorpe	200,000	40,192	0	240,192	0	240,192	240,192	0
Craig Thorpe	0	121,783	0	121,783	0	121,783	121,783	0
Craig Thorpe	250,000	0	0	250,000	0	250,000	250,000	0
Craig Thorpe	0	0	15,000	15,000	0	15,000	15,000	0
Craig Thorpe	875,000	1,716,653	(1,090,141)	1,501,512	141	1,501,653	1,471,653	(30,000)
Craig Thorpe	155,000	0	0	155,000	0	155,000	185,000	30,000
	1,515,000	2,257,350	(1,045,141)	2,727,209	141	2,727,350	2,727,350	0
Chris Taylor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chris Taylor	0	54,015	0	54,015	(54,015)	0	0	0
Chris Taylor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chris Taylor	0	(531,570)	550,000	18,430	0	18,430	18,430	0
Chris Taylor	(50,000)	125,159	0	75,159	(50,000)	25,159	25,159	0
Chris Taylor	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000	20,000	0
Chris Taylor	(20,000)	75,000	(55,000)	0	0	0	0	0
	(70,000)	(257,396)	495,000	167,604	(104,015)	63,589	63,589	0
	1 445 000	2 010 0F4	(550 141)	2 014 943	(100 074)	2 700 020	2 700 020	•
	1,445,000	2,019,934	(330,141)	2,914,013	(123,074)	2,790,939	2,790,939	U
	1,445,000	2,019,954	(550,141)	2,914,813	(123,874)	2,790,939	2,790,939	0
	Craig Thorpe Craig Thorpe Chris Taylor Chris Taylor Chris Taylor Chris Taylor Chris Taylor Chris Taylor	0           Craig Thorpe         20,000           Craig Thorpe         0           Craig Thorpe         155,000           Craig Thorpe         155,000           Chris Taylor         0           Chris Taylor         0	0         20,000           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000           Craig Thorpe         0         20,000         40,192           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         Craig Thorpe         0         0           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         Craig Thorpe         0         0           Craig Thorpe         0         1,716,653         Craig Thorpe         0         0           Craig Thorpe         1,515,000         2,257,350         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         0         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         20,000         125,159         0         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         20,000         75,000	0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722         0           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000         30,000           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         0           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         0           Craig Thorpe         0         0         15,000           Craig Thorpe         0         0         15,000           Craig Thorpe         0         0         15,000           Craig Thorpe         875,000         1,716,653         (1,090,141)           Craig Thorpe         155,000         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         0         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         0         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         20,000         0         0           Chris Taylor         0         20,000         0 <td< td=""><td>0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722         0         278,722           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000         30,000         120,000           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         250,000         120,000           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         0         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         0         0         0         0         1550,010         18,430         1550,000         167,604         1445,000         2,019,954         (550,141)         2,914,813         2,914,813</td><td>0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722         0         278,722         0           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000         30,000         0         120,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         250,000         0         250,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         150,000         0         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         0         0         0         0         0         0         0,54,015         0         75,159         0         75,159         0</td><td>0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722         0           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000         30,000         0         226,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         120,000         0         120,000         0         120,000         0         120,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         226,000         226,000         226,000         226,000         226,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         250,000         250,000         0         250,000         0         250,000         0         150,000         250,000         0         155,000         250,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         27,77,350         0         0</td><td>0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0</td></td<>	0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722         0         278,722           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000         30,000         120,000           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         250,000         120,000           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         0         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         250,000         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         150,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         1550,000         0         0         0         0         1550,010         18,430         1550,000         167,604         1445,000         2,019,954         (550,141)         2,914,813         2,914,813	0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722         0         278,722         0           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000         30,000         0         120,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         250,000         0         250,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         121,783         0         150,000         0         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         0         1,50,000         0         0         0         0         0         0         0,54,015         0         75,159         0         75,159         0	0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         0           Craig Thorpe         0         278,722         0           Craig Thorpe         15,000         75,000         30,000         0         226,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0           Craig Thorpe         0         25,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         120,000         0         120,000         0         120,000         0         120,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         226,000         226,000         226,000         226,000         226,000         0         226,000         0         226,000         0         250,000         250,000         0         250,000         0         250,000         0         150,000         250,000         0         155,000         250,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         155,000         27,77,350         0         0	0         20,000         0           Craig Thorpe         20,000         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0



Report for:	SPAE Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	20 November 2018
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Environmental Services Quarter 2 Performance						
Contact:	Councillor Janice Marshall, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services and Sustainability						
	Craig Thorpe, Group Manager, Environmental Services						
Purpose of report:	1.To report on Quarter 2 performance						
Recommendations	1.That the report be noted						
Corporate objectives:	To provide a clean, safe and green environment						
Implications:	Financial						
	None as a result of this report						
'Value For Money Implications'	Value for Money						
·	None as a result of this report.						
Risk Implications	None as result of this report						
Equalities Implications	N/A						
Health and Safety Implications	None as a result of this report						
Consultees:	Officers within Environmental Services						
Background papers:	Waste Tonnages and CSG Performance – Appendix 1						
	Corvu Report - Sickness – Appendix 2						
	Corvu Report – Performance – Appendix 3						
	Page 11						

Historical background (please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).	This report has been produced to provide an update to Members on performance against key objectives and an overview of progress on a number of ongoing projects
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	CSG – Clean, Safe and Green

#### Environmental Services Overview and Scrutiny Quarter 2 – Performance Review

#### Introduction

• Environmental Services consists of the following:

#### 1.1 Refuse and Recycling – Domestic and Commercial Waste Collections.

- Providing scheduled collections of waste and recycling materials from over 62,000 domestic properties and 800 commercial waste customers
- Collection of over 5000 "paid for" bulky collections per annum upon request

#### • Waste Transfer Site – ISO 14001 compliant

- Storage and bulking of over 24,000 tonnes of recycling materials for onward processing
- Separation, storage and disposal of hazardous waste including asbestos, dead animals, paints and flammables.

#### • Clean, Safe and Green (CSG)

- Scheduled grass cutting on behalf of Herts County, Housing Landlord and on Dacorum owned land
- Maintenance of hedges, shrub beds and some roundabouts
- Maintenance of parks and open spaces including play equipment
- Maintenance of sports pitches
- Weed spraying
- Clearance of fly tips
- Removal of graffiti
- Removal and disposal of road kill
- Management of Trees on behalf of Herts County, Housing, Dacorum owned land, parks and open spaces and woodlands
- Management of Rights of Way and Countryside access

• Initiating campaigns to promote the waste hierarchy through school talks and other initiatives. Also undertakes anti littering campaigns with local residents and businesses.

#### • Fleet Management (Vehicle Repair Shop)

• Servicing and maintenance of all the Councils fleet of vehicles to ensure legal compliance with Road Transport Law and effective running of front line services.

#### Resources

• Recording and producing of key performance data such tonnages, reports from public and sickness figures which are shown as part of this report.

#### Service Updates:

#### • Waste Services

- Carried out Agency Training.
- Identified frontline staff through appraisals to undertake their LGV entitlement.
- Supplied external provider to carry out Loader shovel training for two frontline staff.
- Assisted with Armed Forces Day.

#### • Environmental Awareness

- Completed a Food Waste Trial to over 1500 flats
- Completed the logistical planning, design work, comms and procurement for the roll out of recycling to over 3000 flats. Roll out to take place throughout Q3 and Q4
- The new Environmental Awareness Officer Amir Fogel commenced employment.
- Advertised the Clean, Safe and Green Community Champion Awards and selected our winners ceremony held in October
- Held social media campaigns; Plastic Free July, Zero Waste Week, Recycle Week
- Recycle Week activities held stalls at supermarkets and a social media takeover day
- The outlines for a Plastic Free Dacorum project was presented to CMT and got the green light to start the ball rolling with this project.
- Fly tipping pavement signs were put in place at bring banks with high fly tipping levels

#### • Clean, Safe and Green

- Splash Park closed after successful opening and short season. Bothe splash park and the New Gadebridge Park play area is working out well has proved very popular.
- Winter/Spring bulbs have been ordered to be planted out in October/November. Expected to plant over 200,000
- Water Gardens has achieved its Green Flag.

#### Personnel

Environmental Services	July 18	Aug 18	Sept 18
Long Term Sickness (days lost)	273	245	221
Short Term Sickness (days lost)	77	56.5	61.5
Total Sickness (days lost)	350	301.5	282.50

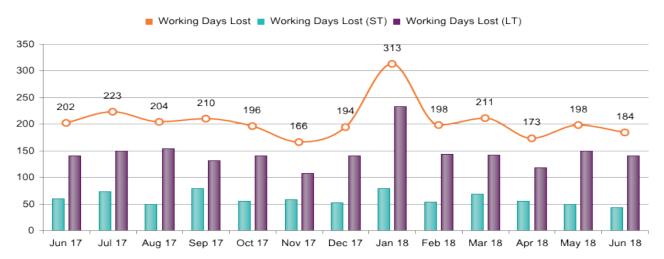
Days lost per FTE	1.79	1.55	0.92
-------------------	------	------	------

#### Sickness days lost due to sickness:

Department	HCount	July 18	Aug 18	Sept 18
Environmental Services Total	194	38	16	27
Operational Services + GM	4	38	16	26
Clean Safe & Green Management	4	15	9	11
Area Teams	86	14	9	11
Refuse & Recycling	4	23	7	15
Refuse & Recollection Crews	74	22	7	13
Depot Services	4	1	0	1
Trees & Woodlands	5	1	0	0
Vehicle Repairs	6	0	0	0
Resources	4	0	0	0
Waste Development (S)	3	0	0	0

#### Return to work compliance:

Department	July 18	Aug 18	Sept 18	Total over 12 months	Average days to complete
Environmental Services	79.4	73.9	78.4	77.5	4.21



Total Working Days Lost per Month

Indicator Name	Results Sep-2018	Last Quarters Results Jun-18	Last Years Results Sep-17	RAG	Comments	Actions
Dacorum Delivers - Perform	nance excellence		<u>.</u>			
ECP09 - Percentage of high risk (A-C) food inspections/intervention s achieved within the quarter	100% 44 / 44 Target: 95	65.52% 19 / 29 Target: 95	13.95% 6 / 43 Target: 95	1   1   2	Updater Comments: Despite staff shortages the team have work extremely hard to bring this KPI back under control	No Inf
Safe and Clean Environmen	nt - Maintain a clean a	nd safe environment				
CSG01a - Number of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	27 Info Only	31 Info Only	25 Info Only		No Comments	No Inf
CSG02a - Number of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	389 Info Only	332 Info Only	273 Info Only		Approver Comments: Approved	No Inf
CSG01 - Percentage of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	100% 27 / 27 Target: 95	100% 31 / 31 Target: 95	100% 25 / 25 Target: 95	0   0   4	Updater Comments: All completed within the set timescale.	No Inf
CSG02 - Percentage of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	95.34% 389 / 408 Target: 95	94.32% 332 / 352 Target: 95	96.47% 273 / 283 Target: 95	0   1   3	Updater Comments: 19 reports took over 7 days to complete of which 7 were passed to a contractor for collection.	No Inf
CSG04a - % of litter area inspections graded A or B - Litter	100% 120 / 120 Info Only	100% 120 / 120 Info Only			Updater Comments: Litter = 90.83% Grade A&B Detritus = 84.17% Grade A&B No controlled sweeps carried out.	No Inf

				_		
Indicator Name	Results Sep-2018	Last Quarters Results Jun-18	Last Years Results Sep-17		Comments	Actions
WR01a - Justified Missed collections (Excluding Assisted Collections)	839 Bins Target: 750	897 Bins Target: 750	776 Bins Target: 750	2   0   2	Approver Comments: The service currently has a number of vacancies that are bing filled with temporary agency staff wiht little or knowledge of the rounds	Attempting to recruit permanent staff.
WR03 - Number of justified missed assisted collections	133 Collections Target: 120	142 Collections Target: 120	145 Collections Target: 120	2   0   2	No Comments	Trying to recruit permanent staff
ECP01 - Percentage of Noise Nuisance cases closed within 60 days	90.41% 66 / 73 Target: 85	88.33% 53 / 60 Target: 0.85		0   0   2	Updater Comments: Some of the case have been protracted such as Runways Farm with a planning inspectorate hearing, also staff shortages at the early part of Q2	No Info
ECP02 - Percentage of registered food premises that have a rating of 4 or 5.	85.58% 1318 / 1540 Target: 90	85.56% 1310 / 1531 Target: 0.9		0   1   1	Updater Comments: This is better than the national average	No Info
ECP03 - Percentage of ECP Service Requests responded to within target.	90.65% 1251 / 1380 Target: 95	75.06% 608 / 810 Target: 0.95		0   1   1	Updater Comments: Slightly lower than expected due to more complex cases	No Info
ECP05 - Percentage of Fly tips reported assesed by an Enforcement Officer within 3 working days	41.49% 334 / 805 Target: 90	36.1% 335 / 928 Target: 0.9		1   0   1	Updater Comments: This reflects a backlog due to recruitment, next quarter figures should give a true picture of perfomrance	No Info
ECP06 - Development Control Consulations to ECP with a first formal response within 20 days.	91.72% 155 / 169 Target: 90	62.5% 110 / 176 Target: 0.9		0   0   2	Updater Comments: Role being covered by a temp on less hours than the normal officer	No Info

Indicator Name	Results Sep-2018	Last Quarters Results Jun-18	Last Years Results Sep-17	RAG	Comments	Actions
ECP07 - Number of FPN's Served	Value Info Only	No Data Info Only	No Data Info Only	•	No Comments	No Info
WR08 - % change in commercial waste customers in the quarter	No Data Info Only	No Data Info Only	No Data Info Only		Approver Comments: Data not completed at time of sign of. Decline in customers is part of a bigger project to ascertain reasons for loss	No Info
HS01 - All reported accidents/incidents (Including those required to be reported to the HSE)	33 Info Only	52 Info Only	33 Info Only		No Comments	No Info
WR06 - Total tonnage of garden waste collected	2470.57 Tonnes Target: 3600	4162.4 Tonnes Target: 3600	3333.98 Tonnes Target: 3600	3   0   1	Approver Comments: Doe to unseasoably hot weather which has led to a decrease in grass growth	No Info
WR07 - Tonnage of food waste.	1130.02 Tonnes Target: 1020	1183.21 Tonnes Target: 1020	1142.97 Tonnes Target: 1020		No Comments	No Info
WR05 - Dry recycling Collected	3720.6, Tonnes Target: 3600	3575.63, Tonnes Target: 3600	3817.52, Tonnes Target: 3600	0   2   2	No Comments	No Info
HS02 - Accidents / incidents that are notifiable to the HSE under RIDDOR (	1 Info Only	3 Info Only	3 Info Only		No Comments	No Info
Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) This includes occupational diseases						



Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Q2- Performance Report for Environmental and Community Protection
Contact:	Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Community and Regulatory Services
	Author/Responsible Officer
	Emma Walker, Group Manager, Environmental and Community Protection
	David Austin, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Delivery)
Purpose of report:	To provide Members with the performance report for Quarter 2 in relation to Environmental and Community Protection.
Recommendations	For Information only.
Corporate	Resources and Value for Money;
objectives:	Optimise Resources and Implement Best Practice.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> None.
	Value for money
'Value for money' implications	Monitoring Performance supports the Council in achieving Value for Money for its citizens.
Risk implications	Risk Assessment completed for each service area as part of service planning and reviewed quarterly. Key risks are recorded on the Council's Risk Register.
	The key risks relate to not achieving statutory targets and failing to protect the public/businesses from Environmental Health Risks:
	If statutory targets are not achieved the service can be

	<ul> <li>taken over and managed by the Government.</li> <li>Potentially the public &amp; businesses put at risk</li> <li>Legal action taken against the Council</li> <li>Reputational damage to Council</li> </ul>
Equality Impact Assessment	Equality Impact Assessment completed for all enforcement policies.
Health and safety Implications	None at this stage.
Consultees:	None
Background papers:	Quarterly Performance Report – Quarter 2(attached).
Historical background (please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).	This is a regular item for this Committee.
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	

# 1. Team Updates

## 1.1 Environmental Health Team

*(Team Leader- Paul O'Day)* Food Hygiene, Health and Safety Enforcement, Infection Control, Environmental Protection (including, Contaminated Land, Private Water Supplies, Statutory Nuisance and Air Quality).

- Mark Dewey and Becky Prescott have restarted their 2<sup>nd</sup> year at University.
- Neil Poulden (NP) has been appointed as Lead Officer on the 'pollution' side of the team.
- Excellent performance in high risk food inspections in Quarter 2 (100%).
- Paul O' Day has received 17 expressions of interest for a new initiative of paid inspections for food visits given ongoing difficulties with recruitment.
- Tesco hearing scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2018 but likely to be adjourned.

## 1.2 Operations and Public Health Team

#### (Team Leader- Dawn Rhoden)

Pest Control, Dog Warden, Public Health (including, accumulations, filthy and verminous properties, and prevention of damage by pests) and Technical Support Services

- The dog PSPO consultation closed, see separate report on agenda.
- The Dog Warden Service was awarded with a Gold Stray Dog Footprint award by the RSPCA, and as we have held this for 5 years they have awarded us a Platinum one as special recognition.
- Under the Public Health Act 1936, cleared two Filthy and Verminous properties. One of these properties was full of food, animal and human waste floor to head height in every room.
- Pest Control has had a busy wasp season with 458 requests for treatment in Quarter 2.

## 1.3 Corporate Health, Safety and Resilience

(Team Leader- Russell Ham)

Corporate Health and Safety Advice, Accident Reporting and Service Auditing. Resilience Services including Emergency Planning arrangements and Business Continuity matters.

- A proposal to update accident reporting software in 'Civica' was put forward to include new categories, which will improve our ability for trends to be identified.
- In Quarter 2, there was one notifiable accident which was a fall from height.
- Introduced an investigation form to aid managers in carrying out detailed investigations in a timely manner following an accident. The investigation form will aid managers in identifying any actions to prevent a reoccurrence, understand the real cause of the accident, assist in defending against claims, and informing Human Resources on sickness management.
- All Health and Safety Policies had been reviewed to ensure a consistent approach and to meet current corporate guidelines.
- All new staff are expected to complete a Display Screen Equipment assessment. This required extensive administrative work but has now been reviewed to allow for it to be automated

to remove the administrative work required and increase the frequency of invites from quarterly to monthly.

# 1.4 Anti-Social Behaviour and Environmental Enforcement

(Team Leader- Nicola Lobendhan)

Anti-social Behaviour Officers, dealing with high level anti-social behaviour across the Borough. Fly-tipping, Littering, Abandoned Vehicles and accumulations.

- Several complex ASB cases in this quarter which has led to closure orders and injunctions in cases across the Borough.
- Two newest enforcement officers attending Keep Britain Tidy enforcement academy training over the next month.
- Three pending prosecutions for fly tipping as people haven't turned up for interviews, legal being involved to take forwards.
- Following the success of the last clean up day (as reported at last Committee meeting) provisional dates for next clean up operations 26<sup>th</sup> February and 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019 have been agreed. In the meantime, Officers are also setting up a Pit Stop event for vehicles carrying waste to make sure it is correctly documented and contained.

END

Indicator Name	Results Sep-2018	Last Quarters Results Jun-18	Last Years Results Sep-17	RAG	Comments	Actions
Dacorum Delivers - Perform	nance excellence				J	
ECP09 - Percentage of high risk (A-C) food inspections/intervention s achieved within the quarter	100% 44 / 44 Target: 95	65.52% 19 / 29 Target: 95	13.95% 6 / 43 Target: 95	1   1   2	Updater Comments: Despite staff shortages the team have work extremely hard to bring this KPI back under control	No Inf
Safe and Clean Environmen	it - Maintain a clean a	nd safe environment				
CSG01a - Number of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	27 Info Only	31 Info Only	25 Info Only		No Comments	No Inf
CSG02a - Number of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	389 Info Only	332 Info Only	273 Info Only		Approver Comments: Approved	No Inf
CSG01 - Percentage of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	100% 27 / 27 Target: 95	100% 31 / 31 Target: 95	100% 25 / 25 Target: 95	0   0   4	Updater Comments: All completed within the set timescale.	No Inf
CSG02 - Percentage of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	95.34% 389 / 408 Target: 95	94.32% 332 / 352 Target: 95	96.47% 273 / 283 Target: 95	0   1   3	Updater Comments: 19 reports took over 7 days to complete of which 7 were passed to a contractor for collection.	No Inf
CSG04a - % of litter area inspections graded A or B - Litter	100% 120 / 120 Info Only	100% 120 / 120 Info Only			Updater Comments: Litter = 90.83% Grade A&B Detritus = 84.17% Grade A&B No controlled sweeps carried out.	No Inf

Indicator Name	Results Sep-2018	Last Quarters Results Jun-18	Last Years Results Sep-17		Comments	Actions
WR01a - Justified Missed collections (Excluding Assisted Collections)	839 Bins Target: 750	897 Bins Target: 750	776 Bins Target: 750	2   0   2	Approver Comments: The service currently has a number of vacancies that are bing filled with temporary agency staff wiht little or knowledge of the rounds	Attempting to recruit permanent staff.
WR03 - Number of justified missed assisted collections	133 Collections Target: 120	142 Collections Target: 120	145 Collections Target: 120	2   0   2	No Comments	Trying to recruit permanent staff
ECP01 - Percentage of Noise Nuisance cases closed within 60 days	90.41% 66 / 73 Target: 85	88.33% 53 / 60 Target: 0.85		0   0   2	Updater Comments: Some of the case have been protracted such as Runways Farm with a planning inspectorate hearing, also staff shortages at the early part of Q2	No Info
ECP02 - Percentage of registered food premises that have a rating of 4 or 5.	85.58% 1318 / 1540 Target: 90	85.56% 1310 / 1531 Target: 0.9		0   1   1	Updater Comments: This is better than the national average	No Info
ECP03 - Percentage of ECP Service Requests responded to within target.	90.65% 1251 / 1380 Target: 95	75.06% 608 / 810 Target: 0.95		0   1   1	Updater Comments: Slightly lower than expected due to more complex cases	No Info
ECP05 - Percentage of Fly tips reported assesed by an Enforcement Officer within 3 working days	41.49% 334 / 805 Target: 90	36.1% 335 / 928 Target: 0.9		1   0   1	Updater Comments: This reflects a backlog due to recruitment, next quarter figures should give a true picture of perfomrance	No Info
ECP06 - Development Control Consulations to ECP with a first formal response within 20 days.	91.72% 155 / 169 Target: 90	62.5% 110 / 176 Target: 0.9		0   0   2	Updater Comments: Role being covered by a temp on less hours than the normal officer	No Info

Indicator Name	Results Sep-2018	Last Quarters Results Jun-18	Last Years Results Sep-17		Comments	Actions
ECP07 - Number of FPN's Served	Value	No Data	No Data		No Comments	No Info
	Info Only	Info Only	Info Only			
WR08 - % change in commercial waste	No Data	No Data	No Data		Approver Comments: Data not	No Info
customers in the quarter	Info Only	Info Only	Info Only		completed at time of sign of. Decline in customers is part of a bigger project to ascertain reasons for loss	
HS01 - All reported	33	52	33		No Comments	No Info
accidents/incidents (Including those	Info Only	Info Only	Info Only			
required to be reported to the HSE)						
WR06 - Total tonnage of garden waste collected	2470.57 Tonnes	4162.4 Tonnes	3333.98 Tonnes	3   0   1	Approver Comments: Doe to unseasoably hot weather which has led	No Info
	Target: 3600	Target: 3600	Target: 3600		to a decrease in grass growth	
WR07 - Tonnage of food waste.	1130.02 Tonnes	1183.21 Tonnes	1142.97 Tonnes		No Comments	No Info
	Target: 1020	Target: 1020	Target: 1020			
WR05 - Dry recycling Collected	3720.6, Tonnes	3575.63, Tonnes	3817.52, Tonnes	0   2   2	No Comments	No Info
	Target: 3600	Target: 3600	Target: 3600			
HS02 - Accidents / incidents that are	1	3	3		No Comments	No Info
notifiable to the HSE under RIDDOR ( Reporting of Injuries,	Info Only	Info Only	Info Only			

HS02 - Accidents / incidents that are notifiable to the HSE under RIDDOR ( Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) This includes occupational diseases



Report for:	Strategic Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny
Date of meeting:	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Public Space Protection Orders – Dogs
Contact:	Councillor Neil Harden Portfolio Holder for Community and Regulatory Services
	Author/Responsible Officer: Dawn Rhoden –Team Leader Operations & Public Health David Austin – Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Delivery)
Purpose of report:	To propose the introduction of a Public Space Protection Order to provide a means of controlling a number of dog activities having a detrimental effect on the quality of life for those living in, working in and visiting the area of Dacorum Borough Council
Recommendations	The committee note the results of the consultation and that any comments are passed to the portfolio holder prior to cabinet
Corporate Objectives:	Safe and Clean Environment <ul> <li>Maintain a clean and safe environment</li> </ul>
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> The local authority must arrange for the display of signage advising of the effect of the Order. There is no prescribed format nor size requirements for these signs, and costs will ultimately depend upon the number of signs required and the design/materials used. There will be ongoing maintenance costs to replace any damaged signage.

	There may be additional income from fixed penalty notices, which could partially defray the costs of enforcing the Order. No data is held that would allow an estimate for the likely income, as much would depend on the availability of resources to carry out enforcement activities.
	It is proposed that enforcement of the PSPO will be carried out within existing resources.
'Value For Money Implications'	<u>Value for Money</u> PSPO's are seen as a more cost-effective means of controlling the activities in question than under byelaws, also providing a wider range of enforcement options.
Risk Implications	There will be risks associated with Council enforcement officers who will be tasked with enforcing the PSPO and appropriate training will need to be given. Individual risk assessments will be completed for the enforcement activity and all reasonable precautions taken to minimise any risk.
	There are also reputational risks in terms of the council being perceived as enforcing against vulnerable persons and seeking to criminalise certain behaviours which wouldn't normally attract fixed penalty notices or prosecution for non-payment.
	There are also limited resources for enforcement and therefore enforcement will have to be targeted at certain periods. The PSPO will raise expectations that prohibited behaviours will be eliminated entirely; however due to difficulties in identifying some of the contraventions and taking a proportionate approach to enforcement there will not always be immediate results which will be noticeable to the public.
Health And Safety Implications	Some H&S implications may arise from the enforcement of orders, and will be incorporated within individual service risk assessments for authorised enforcing officers.
Background papers:	Home Office – Reform of anti-social behaviour powers: Statutory guidance for frontline professionals (section 2.6)
	Home Office - Anti-social behaviour powers Statutory guidance for frontline professionals Updated December 2017
	Cabinet Minutes 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2018. Proposal for consultation to commence.

	PSPO Consultation questionnaire analysis (numerical analysis of response to questions) – Appendix A
	Consultation analysis (written comments) – Appendix B, C, D, E, F, G & H
	Kennel Club official response to consultation – Appendix
	Consultation Paper – Appendix J
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	PSPO – Public Spaces Protection Order FPNs – Fixed Penalty Notices

# 1. Background

- 1.1. Under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, local authorities may make orders to prohibit specified activities, and/or require specified activities to be carried on in accordance with certain requirements, within a designated area in the public domain, which may include public highways and footways, parks and open spaces, pedestrianised areas, or similar. Such orders are known as Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO).
- 1.2. PSPO's can be used by authorities to control a variety of problematic behaviours which satisfy two statutory conditions:

*"The first condition is that—* 

- (a) activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or
- (b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

The second condition is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities—

- (a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
- (b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
- (c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice."
- 1.3. Prohibitions or requirements on activities covered by a PSPO must be reasonable in order to:
  - (a) prevent the detrimental effect from continuing, occurring or recurring, or
  - (b) reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence.

- 1.4. Where a PSPO is in force, it is a criminal offence to do anything which is prohibited under the Order, or to fail to comply with requirements of the Order. Persons guilty of such offences are liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (currently up to £1,000). Offences may also be disposed of by way of a fixed penalty notice of up to £100, payable to the local authority.
- 1.5. PSPOs may be enforced by a police officer, PCSO, or a person authorised by the local authority for that purpose.
- 1.6. A PSPO will be valid for a period of up to 3 years, at the end of which it may be extended. Orders may also be varied or discharged by the local authority at any time during their validity.
- 1.7. Prior to making, extending, varying or discharging a PSPO, a local authority must:
  - Consult the chief officer of police and the Policing and Crime Commissioner for the applicable area; any community representatives that it is thought appropriate to consult; and the owners/occupiers of land included within the restricted area;
  - Publish the draft Order (or details of variation/discharge proposal);
  - Notify any parish/town councils within the restricted area, and the County Council;

with regards to its proposals. The authority must also consider its proposed restrictions against the rights of freedom of expression (Article 10) and assembly (Article 11) under the European Convention on Human Rights. The proposed restrictions have been considered against the rights in Article 10 and 11 but it is not considered that there will be any infringement on these rights. If there is any infringement it is considered that it is proportionate for the prevention of disorder and crime.

- 1.8. PSPO's may apply to all persons or only to persons in/not in specified categories; at all times or only within/not in specified times; and in all circumstances or only in/not in specified circumstances.
- 1.9. The power to make PSPO's replaced and consolidated several earlier areacontrol orders, including designated public place orders which have previously been used by the Council in respect of street drinking
- 1.10. PSPO's may be challenged in the High Court by any person who lives in, regularly works in or regularly visits a restricted area, within 6 weeks of an Order being made or varied.

## 2. Proposal for new PSPO's

- 2.1. A variety of dog related educational programs have taken place across the Borough, these events include:
  - targeted fouling events in Chaulden and surrounding areas
  - dog fouling educational patrols across the Borough
  - attending community meetings
  - involving local schools
  - letter drops
  - joint events with the PDSA and other local charities to promote responsible dog ownership.

Despite all of these events concerns still exist around a number of dog related activities currently occurring across Dacorum, these activities are considered detrimental to the quality of life for persons living in and using Dacorum.

2.2. It is therefore proposed to introduce PSPO's covering the whole of Dacorum

The public consultation considered the following Orders:

- A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (excluding National Trust land shown in schedule 3) must forthwith clear up and remove any faeces deposited by the dog and either take away the faeces or place the faeces in a general litter or dog waste bin;
- (ii) A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with any request from a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog where they have otherwise failed to do so. The faeces must either be taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin;
- (iii) A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog. The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.
- (iv) A person in charge of a dog on any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead (no more than 2m fixed length) unless:
  (a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or
  (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so. Failing to comply with such a direction is an offence.
- A person in charge of a dog in a public space within the borough of Dacorum Borough Council is prohibited from allowing the dog to enter the "Dog Exclusion Zones" these include fenced children's play areas, adventure playgrounds and splash parks defined in Schedule 1 hereto;

## 3. Consultation

Following Cabinet's recommendation in April 2018 a public consultation was initiated which invited comments from residents and interest groups on the proposals for the PSPO. There were over 1220 responses to the consultation and a summary of the responses provided under each proposal is set out below.

Members will also find annexed to this report a consultation questionnaire analysis, which is a numerical analysis of responses to questions (see Appendix A), a consultation analysis which analyses responses provided in the written "additional comments" section of each question (see Appendix B to F), and a written response from the Kennel Club (see Appendix I).

3.1. Aside from ensuring that the statutory tests, particularly in respect of proportionality and justifiability, are satisfied, there are a number of considerations around the introduction of PSPO's which would also need to be considered and are highlighted further below.

## 4. Clearing & Removing Faeces

#### Proposed Order One

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (excluding National Trust land shown in schedule 3) must forthwith clear up and remove any faeces deposited by the dog and either take away the faeces or place the faeces in a general litter or dog waste bin;

## Proposed Order Two

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with any request from a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog where they have otherwise failed to do so. The faeces must either be taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin;

#### Proposed Order Three

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog. The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces. Note: Order one, two

4.1. **Question 1:** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that faeces deposited by a dog must be removed and either taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 3 (Please note this excludes National Trust land).

The consultation highlighted that 95.2% of respondents supported this proposal

There were 44 written comments in response to this proposal, these were mainly focused on the need for more bins and for a 'stick and flick' approach to be taken when

walking in more rural/wooded areas, which is the approach the National Trust use on their land.

Full comments can be seen in Appendix B

4.2. **Question 2:** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that if any person responsible for a dog fails to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog they can be requested by a Constable or an authorised officer to do so within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2.

The consultation highlighted that 95.1% of respondents supported this proposal

There were 33 comments in relation to this proposed Order, specific issues highlighted in the responses included:

- That the 'stick and flick' approach should be taken in more rural areas.
- That any enforcing officer should carry a supply of bags to give someone the opportunity to pick up and remove their dogs faeces

Full comments can be seen in Appendix C

4.3. **Question 3:** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that any person responsible for a dog must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2? The consultation highlighted that 92.9% of respondents supported this proposal

Specific issues highlighted in the responses included a response from the Kennel Club (Appendix I) stating 'these proposals in certain circumstances would perversely incentivise dog walkers not to pick up after their dog. Should a dog walker on witnessing their dog fouling realise they are down to their final poo bag (or other receptacles), they will be forced into a decision of whether to use the bag and risk being caught without means to pick up, or risk not picking up in order to retain a means to pick up should they be stopped later on their walk'. This was also echoed in some of the other responses. Concern was also raised over the definition of appropriate means and the possibility over legal challenges over this.

Full comments can be seen in Appendix D

#### 5.0 Dogs on Leads

#### Proposed Order Four

A person in charge of a dog on any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead (no more than 2m fixed length) unless: (a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

5.1. **Question 4:** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs must be placed on a lead if required by a Constable or an authorised officer within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?

The consultation highlighted that 91.9% of respondents supported this proposal

The Kennel Club strongly welcomed this order in their response they stated that they strongly welcome 'dogs on lead by direction' orders, as these allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst allowing the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control. A small number of respondents wanted to see dogs on leads across Dacorum at all times. There was also a number of responses requesting areas where dogs could be exercised securely within a fenced dog area.

5.2. **Question 5:** Do you agree or disagree with this proposal to define the length and type of lead to be used when there is a requirement for a dog to be on a lead?

The consultation highlighted that 72.4% of respondents supported the proposal

There were over 140 written responses to this question and the majority of these written responses were against defining the length of the lead. Specific points highlighted were that any lead should be okay as even an extendable lead can be locked to a certain length, different dog breeds should have different lead lengths and that it wouldn't be fair to make people go out and buy new leads.

Full comments can be seen in Appendix E

# 6.0 Dog Exclusion Zones

# Proposed Order Five

A person in charge of a dog in a public space within the borough of Dacorum Borough Council is prohibited from allowing the dog to enter the "Dog Exclusion Zones" these include fenced children's play areas, adventure playgrounds and splash parks defined in Schedule 1 hereto;

6.1. **Question 6:** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs should be prohibited from all children's play areas?

The consultation highlighted that 89.6% of respondents supported this proposal.

One of the main points raised in the consultation for this order was the lack of fencing around some play areas including the new play area in Gadebridge Park and the play area on The Moor in Berkhamsted. The other main point raised was that perhaps people could just be asked to keep their dogs on a lead instead of excluding them entirely. Comments also suggested that we consider making an enclosed dog play area to allow owners the chance to let dogs off a lead safely.

Full comments can be seen in Appendix F

## 7.0 Other Concerns

The consultation also asked for other dog related issues that the respondents thought were detrimental to their quality of life in Dacorum which they would like to be considered for inclusion in any order that is implemented.

There was a wide range of responses to this question these can be found in Appendix H where they have been grouped in similar responses, the responses also highlighted some additional play areas to include.

The Kennel Club also suggested wording for the definition of assistance dogs this can be seen in Appendix K.

#### 8.0 Enforcement

- 8.1 If the Order is imposed, consideration will also need to be given to enforcement as there will be raised expectations from the public which will need to be managed. A stepped and proportionate approach to sanction will need to be developed. The Councils enforcement policy must be followed in all instances.
- 8.2 Furthermore, there is currently no dedicated resource, enforcement sits across a numbers of different council services. Accordingly, a coordinated and targeted approach to enforcement, working together with other enforcement agencies, will need to be developed.

#### Appendix A Consultation Responses

#### Proposed Order One

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (excluding National Trust land shown in schedule 3) must forthwith clear up and remove any faeces deposited by the dog and either take away the faeces or place the faeces in a general litter or dog waste bin;

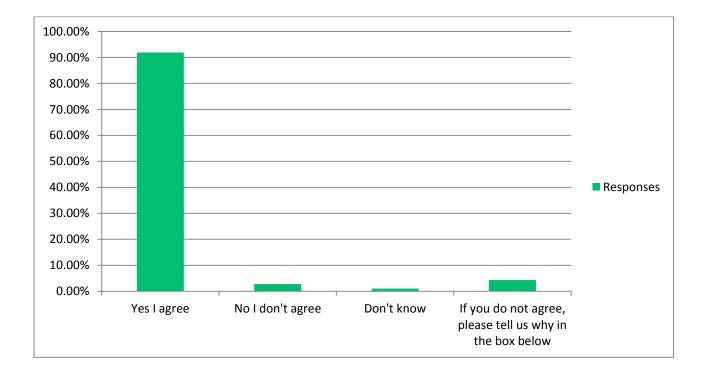
#### Proposed Order Two

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with any request from a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog where they have otherwise failed to do so. The faeces must either be taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin;

#### **Proposed Order Three**

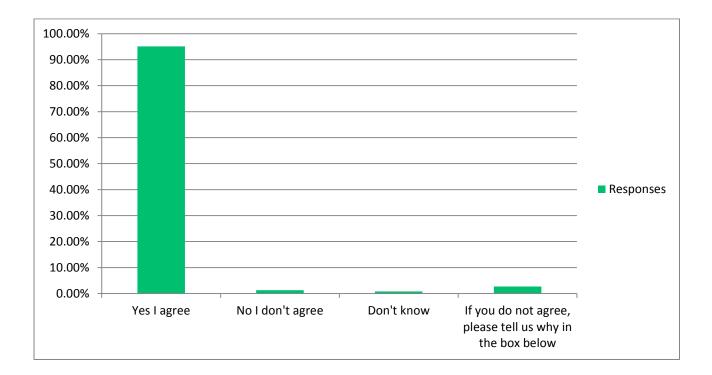
A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog. The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces. Q1. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs must be placed on a lead if required by a Constable or an authorised officer within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2 (the whole of Dacorum)?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes I agree	91.90%	1066
No I don't agree	2.76%	32
Don't know	1.03%	12
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below	4.31%	50
	Answered	1160



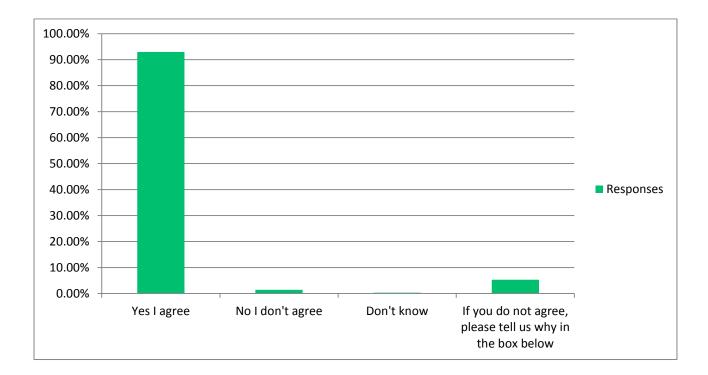
Q2. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that if any person responsible for a dog fails to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog they can be requested by a Constable or an authorised officer to do so within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2 (the whole of Dacorum).

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes I agree	95.09%	1142
No I don't agree	1.33%	16
Don't know	0.83%	10
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below	2.75%	33
	Answered	1201



**Q3.** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that any person responsible for a dog must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2 (the whole of Dacorum)?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes I agree	92.96%	1123
No I don't agree	1.41%	17
Don't know	0.33%	4
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below	5.30%	64
	Answered	1208



# Proposed Order Four

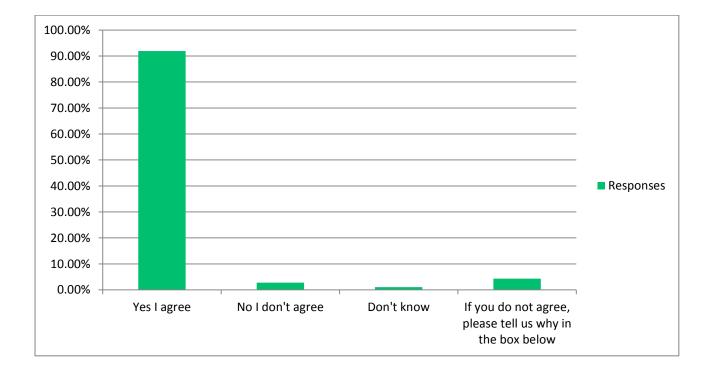
A person in charge of a dog on any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead (no more than 2m fixed length) unless:

(a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

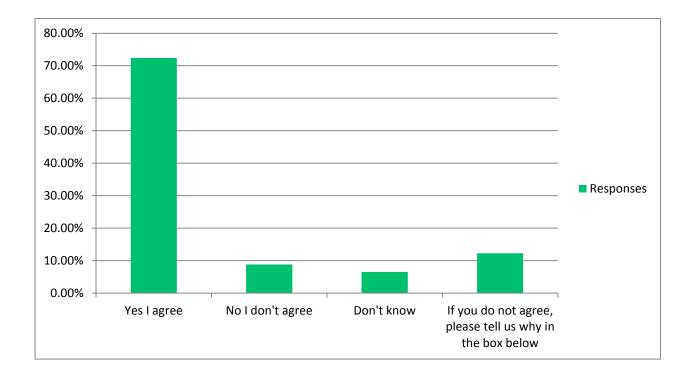
**Q4.** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs must be placed on a lead if required by a Constable or an authorised officer within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2 (the whole of Dacorum)?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes I agree	91.90%	1066
No I don't agree	2.76%	32
Don't know	1.03%	12
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below	4.31%	50
	Answered	1160



Q5. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to define the length and type of lead to be used when there is a requirement for a dog to be on a lead?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes I agree	72.40%	837
No I don't agree	8.82%	102
Don't know	6.49%	75
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below	12.28%	142
	Answered	1156



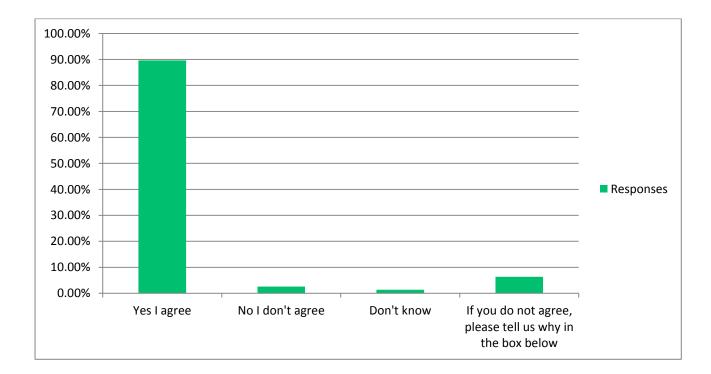
# **Proposed Order Five**

A person in charge of a dog in a public space within the borough of Dacorum Borough Council is prohibited from allowing the dog to enter the "Dog Exclusion Zones" these include fenced children's play areas, adventure playgrounds and splash parks defined in Schedule 1 hereto;

Note: This prohibition does not apply to any person who is disabled in respect of any dog which is trained by a registered charity on which he/she relies for assistance.

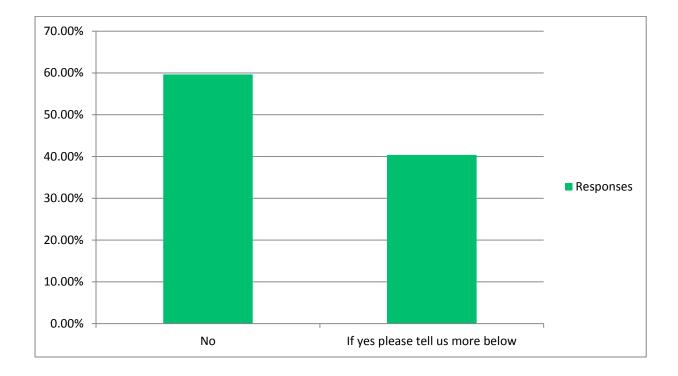
Q6. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs should be prohibited from all children's play areas defined in Schedule 1 (all fenced playgrounds, splash parks and adventure playgrounds)?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes I agree	89.64%	1030
No I don't agree	2.61%	30
Don't know	1.39%	16
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below	6.35%	73
	Answered	1149



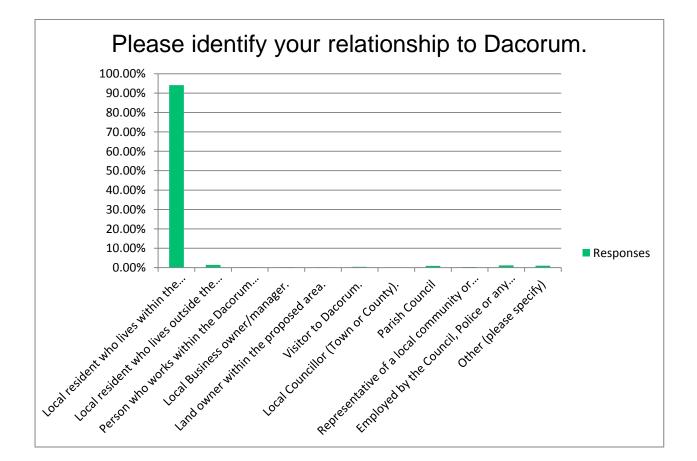
Q7. Are there any other dog related issues that you feel are detrimental to your quality of life in Dacorum that you would like to see included in a PSPO?

Answer Choices	Responses	
No	59.65%	674
If yes please tell us more below	40.35%	456
	Answered	1130



# Q8. Please identify your relationship to Dacorum.

Answer Choices	Response	S
Local resident who lives within the Dacorum Borough Council Boundary.	94.13%	1075
Local resident who lives outside the Dacorum Borough Council Boundary.	1.40%	16
Person who works within the Dacorum Borough Council Boundary.	0.18%	2
Local Business owner/manager.	0.26%	3
Land owner within the proposed area.	0.18%	2
Visitor to Dacorum.	0.44%	5
Local Councillor (Town or County).	0.09%	1
Parish Council	0.88%	10
Representative of a local community or voluntary group.	0.35%	4
Employed by the Council, Police or any other agency with an interest.	1.14%	13
Other (please specify)	0.96%	11
	Answered	1142



# Appendix B

## Proposed Order One

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (excluding National Trust land shown in schedule 3) must forthwith clear up and remove any faeces deposited by the dog and either take away the faeces or place the faeces in a general litter or dog waste bin;

**Q1.** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that faeces deposited by a dog must be removed and either taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 3 (Please note this excludes National Trust land).

## Responses

## **Bins & Bags**

• This is too prescriptive

I agree in principle with the idea but what about land in private ownership that is available to the public?

Where are all the dog bins?

Who will police it?

 The area is too vast. I agree in built-up areas, surfaced pavements/paths and recreational fields/parks but it is ridiculous to expect Dacorum to spend money on Officers and dog/litter bins for countryside woodland, hedgerow and field public footpaths. If people pick up in these areas they frequently do not take the bag home, as there are no bins, but throw it into the hedge or just leave it and so it never degrades.

Bags should be available in these areas as it is always possible that the dog produces more than expected and you use all the bags you have with you - this can happen to even the most responsible of owners

- I think dog faeces should be removed by who ever is in charge of the dog and taken away from the area and disposed of at elsewhere, home, not in bins provided by Council. I am a regular walker/runner around the Boxmoor area and dog faeces waste bins are often overflowing and pretty disgusting. I do not think it is necessarily wise to provide these as a facility as they can create more of a problem.
- For dog walkers further on in their walk and in a "no bin" area—an area of natural habitat—the sign at the entrance to the walk should show them that they ought to use the "stick and flick" approach, which the Forestry Commission advocates on its website
- It should include all land in Dacorum. National Trust do not provide bins, they expect people to take the rubbish home with them. The Council should provide bins for the National trust at entrances to their land, ie the start of the road to the Monument which should be collected daily.
- I agree with the proposal but there are not enough dog bins and although I will carry a bag home, which goes in my bin and this time of year produces maggots other people won't. So without a dog bin people will not pick up their

dog mess.

- 1. There is a lot of woodland, waste land on your map which, outside of public footpaths, should be excluded plus 2. There would be no waste bin, potentially for miles.
- Insufficient bins
- This map seems to imply that if your dog defecates in a bush, under a hedge or other place NOT on a footpath or playing field, park, etc., that you must still remove the faeces and put in a plastic bag. This seems to be in contradiction to the advice given re flicking faeces into bushes, as recommended by Forestry commission and others.

Dacorum is a semi rural area with lots of footpaths through woods, fields & common ground. Dog owners will not carry full dog poo bags for miles until they reach a bin and this will lead to a worse problem with the bags being deposited in the countryside exacerbating the litter problem,

- More poo bins required as not enough currently. Also ensure emptied more regularly as often overflowing with bags and causing a health hazard
- I agree but I thought this was already the case (although pretty unenforceable). The biggest problem is the amount of poo bags thrown around areas of beauty. People pick it up and then when nobody is around they throw the bag. I would rather they left it on the ground than do that. Maybe more poo bins would help but they are not exactly easy on the eye and sometimes have overspill.
- General litter bins should not be used in children's play areas as they don't get emptied and the bins overflow.
- You as a council must provide and empty dog waste bins. I was told one was not being supplied on the new development I live on and for ages this meant people used the litter bin, this then caused problems as people don't think it is suitable to place bagged dog waste in a litter bin. I agree with above but you as the council must provide and empty bins to prevent issues.
- I agree with the proposal with respect to built up areas, parks, open spaces such as Shrubhill Common, the canal towpath, Nicky Line and footpaths near built up areas that are popular with many dog walkers e.g. the footpath from Fields End to Long Chaulden. However, in more rural areas of the borough where dog walkers may be several miles from the nearest dog waste/litter bin and the risk to others is negligible I don't think it is unreasonable for waste to be flicked into the hedgerow/undergrowth. Taking this approach would avoid dog owners having to carry a bag of waste for an unknown and possibly long period of time until they come across a suitable bin.
- yes ONLY if bins are provided. People will not walk home with Poop bag.
- Although I don't own a dog, the stick and flick off paths works well to avoid human contact with dog faeces on National Trust land, including Asridge Estate and Ivinghoe Beacon areas, otherwise bags of faeces are hung on tree branches as there are no bins. The requirement should only apply to parks and children's play areas within Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring built up areas.
- More waste bin for dogs are needed on the boxmoor trust opposite the dental area
- So long as bins emptied regularly....Not always the case.
- The area is too vast. I agree in built-up areas, surfaced pavements/paths and recreational fields/parks but it is ridiculous to expect Dacorum to spend money on Officers and dog/litter bins for countryside woodland, hedgerow and field

public footpaths. If people pick up in these areas they frequently do not take the bag home, as there are no bins, but throw it into the hedge or just leave it and so it never degrades.

Bags should be available in these areas as it is always possible that the dog produces more than expected and you use all the bags you have with you - this can happen to even the most responsible of owners

- Agree with the proposal but on occasion one may forget or run out of poo bags Or the dog may decide to poo more than once so the intention of the dog owner will be to clear up but due to unforseen circumstances may not be equipped to do so. Also if the dog has diarrhea then poo bags are simply inedfective
- Animals of all kinds homo sapiens included have been defecating on mother earth for a very very long time. We're all still here (those not made extinct by a variety of factors, none of which include stepping in crap) and none the worse for the natural cycle of consumption, defecation and re-absorption of waste by the environment. Dog owners should be required to do no more than move their animals' faeces from places where precious humans put their feet and into spots like long grass or beneath hedges or undergrowth, where nature will deal with it. Forcing people to bag it up in plastic containers seems far more harmful to environment and health than letting nature take its course. Have any children actually been blinded by sticking dog faces in their eyes?
- This depends on where you are. I agree, that in in park land where children and ball games, for example are played, but not in areas of woodland where wild animals also defecate.

There is also the huge issue of people clearing up dog faeces but then leaving the palstic bag on the ground or on a tree or fence. We must also address the issue of plastic bags. It is better for the environment if nature's cleaners, (flies, wasps, beetles, etc) clear away faeces than leave plastic bags in the environment.

- I agree with the proposal but there are not enough dog bins and although I will carry a bag home, which goes in my bin and this time of year produces maggots other people won't. So without a dog bin people will not pick up their dog mess.
- This map seems to imply that if your dog defecates in a bush, under a hedge or other place NOT on a footpath or playing field, park, etc., that you must still remove the faeces and put in a plastic bag. This seems to be in contradiction to the advice given re flicking faeces into bushes, as recommended by Forestry commission and others.

Dacorum is a semi rural area with lots of footpaths through woods, fields & common ground. Dog owners will not carry full dog poo bags for miles until they reach a bin and this will lead to a worse problem with the bags being deposited in the countryside exacerbating the litter problem,

- More poo bins required as not enough currently. Also ensure emptied more regularly as often overflowing with bags and causing a health hazard
- Sometimes people make mistakes, like used the last bag or simply forgot to bring 1. My dog rarely poos while on lead or out on walks. I sometimes have to go home to get a bag & my grab stick, then come back and remove it. I don't think people should leave poo but enforcement officers should carry spare bags with them.. Give the absent minded owner the opportunity to rectify the problem

.. Blatant refusal should of course end in a fine but not for forgetting a bag when your dog might not poo anyway. That would be ridiculous.

- I agree but I thought this was already the case (although pretty unenforceable). The biggest problem is the amount of poo bags thrown around areas of beauty. People pick it up and then when nobody is around they throw the bag. I would rather they left it on the ground than do that. Maybe more poo bins would help but they are not exactly easy on the eye and sometimes have overspill.
- You as a council must provide and empty dog waste bins. I was told one was not being supplied on the new development I live on and for ages this meant people used the litter bin, this then caused problems as people don't think it is suitable to place bagged dog waste in a litter bin. I agree with above but you as the council must provide and empty bins to prevent issues.
- I agree with the proposal with respect to built up areas, parks, open spaces such as Shrubhill Common, the canal towpath, Nicky Line and footpaths near built up areas that are popular with many dog walkers e.g. the footpath from Fields End to Long Chaulden. However, in more rural areas of the borough where dog walkers may be several miles from the nearest dog waste/litter bin and the risk to others is negligible I don't think it is unreasonable for waste to be flicked into the hedgerow/undergrowth. Taking this approach would avoid dog owners having to carry a bag of waste for an unknown and possibly long period of time until they come across a suitable bin.
- yes ONLY if bins are provided. People will not walk home with Poop bag.
- Although I don't own a dog, the stick and flick off paths works well to avoid human contact with dog faeces on National Trust land, including Asridge Estate and Ivinghoe Beacon areas, otherwise bags of faeces are hung on tree branches as there are no bins. The requirement should only apply to parks and children's play areas within Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring built up areas.

# Agree

- This is too prescriptive
   I agree in principle with the idea but what about land in private ownership that is
   available to the public?
   Where are all the dog bins?
   Who will police it?
- I absolutely agree with this being a dog owner picking up dog poo is essential. but it is also totally unacceptable that we have have to consistently worry about all rubbish in the parks and food waste that people leave after being in the park. I walk everyday and see more rubbish of all kinds (which children and dogs pick up and can be lethal) in dacorum than dog poo. Any responsible dog owner clears up after their dog. Responsible people pick up their rubbish. How do you deal with the 5% who dont give a S\*\*T about anything that should be the consultation paper not this?????
- The area is too vast. I agree in built-up areas, surfaced pavements/paths and recreational fields/parks but it is ridiculous to expect Dacorum to spend money on Officers and dog/litter bins for countryside woodland, hedgerow and field public footpaths. If people pick up in these areas they frequently do not take the bag home, as there are no bins, but throw it into the hedge or just leave it and so it never degrades.

Bags should be available in these areas as it is always possible that the dog produces more than expected and you use all the bags you have with you - this can happen to even the most responsible of owners

- I agree, but how does it work when the person is an invalid or with an assistant dog. Surely that mess needs to be cleaned up?
- Agree with the proposal but on occasion one may forget or run out of poo bags Or the dog may decide to poo more than once so the intention of the dog owner will be to clear up but due to unforseen circumstances may not be equipped to do so. Also if the dog has diarrhea then poo bags are simply inedfective
- This depends on where you are. I agree, that in in park land where children and ball games, for example are played, but not in areas of woodland where wild animals also defecate.

There is also the huge issue of people clearing up dog faeces but then leaving the palstic bag on the ground or on a tree or fence. We must also address the issue of plastic bags. It is better for the environment if nature's cleaners, (flies, wasps, beetles, etc) clear away faeces than leave plastic bags in the environment.

- I agree with removal of faeces in principle. But point 1 contradicts with recent advice about dog faeces in, say, undergrowth beside a path where the "stick / flick" approach is advised
- I agree with the proposal but there are not enough dog bins and although I will carry a bag home, which goes in my bin and this time of year produces maggots other people won't. So without a dog bin people will not pick up their dog mess.
- I agree when one is on a public footpath, thoroughfare or play area but NOT when one is on uninhabited land eg a wood or a field.
- I do agree with this, it is horrible to leave faeces for others to walk in.

However I am aware that people with many types of disability (including learning disabilities) might not be able to pick up faeces, I think that generally most enforcements should show a little leeway in limited circumstances. Occasionally I have noted young children walking the dog and not picking up, then that would pose a problem but hopefully parents should be helping with this?

- I agree with what is proposed but the question asks something else namely dispose of dog waste within DBC it is not necessary for disposal to be within DBC.
- I do agree in principle but it is not possible to watch a dog constantly. The way
  this is worded is that any faeces seen or unseen MUST be remove. I absolutely
  remove all faeces my dog deposits if I see it. If she's running through the
  woods, must I chase my dog to ensure they don't poo and land me a fine? I
  strongly feel the wording needs more clarity and doesn't unduly penalise honest
  mistakes.
- I agree but I thought this was already the case (although pretty unenforceable). The biggest problem is the amount of poo bags thrown around areas of beauty. People pick it up and then when nobody is around they throw the bag. I would rather they left it on the ground than do that. Maybe more poo bins would help but they are not exactly easy on the eye and sometimes have overspill.
- You as a council must provide and empty dog waste bins. I was told one was not being supplied on the new development I live on and for ages this meant

people used the litter bin, this then caused problems as people don't think it is suitable to place bagged dog waste in a litter bin. I agree with above but you as the council must provide and empty bins to prevent issues.

- I agree with the proposal with respect to built up areas, parks, open spaces such as Shrubhill Common, the canal towpath, Nicky Line and footpaths near built up areas that are popular with many dog walkers e.g. the footpath from Fields End to Long Chaulden. However, in more rural areas of the borough where dog walkers may be several miles from the nearest dog waste/litter bin and the risk to others is negligible I don't think it is unreasonable for waste to be flicked into the hedgerow/undergrowth. Taking this approach would avoid dog owners having to carry a bag of waste for an unknown and possibly long period of time until they come across a suitable bin.
- Whilst the Council agrees with the principle of dog owners picking up dog
  waste, because we live in a rural area we operate two approaches. On more
  urban footpaths and tracks through the village whether paved or unsurfaced we
  expect people to bag it and bin it. On two paths in particular where we were
  having a problem we provide bag dispensers and DBC kindly provided two
  extra bins and empty them as part of their service. We have significantly
  reduced the problem there.
- In farmland and rural pathways we believe that bagging it and holding it is unlikely to be effective and therefore support the 'stick and flick'
- approach so that dog waste is never left where people walk but can be flicked into the base of a hedge. The PC's view is that this policy of bagging on all occasions in all areas will lead to littering of plastic bags unless bins are provided everywhere including rural footpaths.

## Other

- This response is made by Berkhamsted Town Council. The Council wishes to extend the area see extract from Council minutes 20 August 2018 below:
  - (i) It was noted that the consultation closes on 14 September 2018

(ii) It was resolved that the Town Council should support the proposals and in addition propose that the following sites should also be included in the scope of the Order:

The Moor, Canal Fields and, if possible, Sunnyside Old allotment site which has a public right of way running through. The Town Clerk will respond appropriately to the consultation. She would also mention that the fields around Lagley Meadow should be referred to as Lagley Meadow and East Meadow.

- The person should need to know that their dog has deposited faeces
- a constable of the law will only deal with common law and has no power of acts of parliament if consent is not given!

2) as there is no contract between the company trading as DBC and the indervidual with his god given right!

• Make sure you implement new laws with a fine and community service IE clearing up and monitor.

Don't just bring new law in.

- Try putting your effort into repairing our paths and walk ways rather than dreaming up ideas of how to persecute people.
- Responsible dog owners do pick up their dog's faeces. There always has been and always will be irresponsible people. To me this is a waste of tax payers money when councils are so broke.
- This is unenforceable and just designed to create conflict between dog owners and none dog owners
- You have given insufficient information about 'authorised officers' or the fines that they might impose. Markyate Parish Council have chosen to employ a company that does the work of a village warden. This is work, which saves Dacorum money, and for which they used to pay. Are you planning to add further duties on the Parish Council for which they ae not compensated?
- There is no explanation of penalties for non compliance with the Order.

# Rural Areas/Woodlands

 The area is too vast. I agree in built-up areas, surfaced pavements/paths and recreational fields/parks but it is ridiculous to expect Dacorum to spend money on Officers and dog/litter bins for countryside woodland, hedgerow and field public footpaths. If people pick up in these areas they frequently do not take the bag home, as there are no bins, but throw it into the hedge or just leave it and so it never degrades.

Bags should be available in these areas as it is always possible that the dog produces more than expected and you use all the bags you have with you - this can happen to even the most responsible of owners

• This depends on where you are. I agree, that in in park land where children and ball games, for example are played, but not in areas of woodland where wild animals also defecate.

There is also the huge issue of people clearing up dog faeces but then leaving the palstic bag on the ground or on a tree or fence. We must also address the issue of plastic bags. It is better for the environment if nature's cleaners, (flies, wasps, beetles, etc) clear away faeces than leave plastic bags in the environment.

• No, this should not apply where the dogs are in wooded areas, behind bushes etc, ONLY on paths / grasses area.

As ever, you have gone over the top, try again.

- I agree when one is on a public footpath, thoroughfare or play area but NOT when one is on uninhabited land eg a wood or a field.
- 1. There is a lot of woodland, waste land on your map which, outside of public footpaths, should be excluded plus 2. There would be no waste bin, potentially for miles.
- Some dense woodland areas are hard to get to and countryside grassland. Maybe if it was if in dense undergrowth and not visible/accessible or on a pathway. Particularly where there are other livestock who are leaving faeces
- This map seems to imply that if your dog defecates in a bush, under a hedge or other place NOT on a footpath or playing field, park, etc., that you must still remove the faeces and put in a plastic bag. This seems to be in contradiction to

the advice given re flicking faeces into bushes, as recommended by Forestry commission and others.

Dacorum is a semi rural area with lots of footpaths through woods, fields & common ground. Dog owners will not carry full dog poo bags for miles until they reach a bin and this will lead to a worse problem with the bags being deposited in the countryside exacerbating the litter problem,

- In wooded areas off the tracks, other animals faeces is not collected why should dogs
- This sounds outragiously broad in scope. There are many areas with public access (woodland, farmland) with many varieties of animal faeces present where the addition dog faeces does not constitute a significant additional hazard if it is not on a footpath.
- I do agree in principle but it is not possible to watch a dog constantly. The way
  this is worded is that any faeces seen or unseen MUST be remove. I absolutely
  remove all faeces my dog deposits if I see it. If she's running through the
  woods, must I chase my dog to ensure they don't poo and land me a fine? I
  strongly feel the wording needs more clarity and doesn't unduly penalise honest
  mistakes.
- Some areas are wooded and brambled and it is very hard for owners to get into to pick up faeces. I believe the order should cover areas where members of the public would walk only.
- Whilst the Council agrees with the principle of dog owners picking up dog waste, because we live in a rural area we operate two approaches. On more urban footpaths and tracks through the village whether paved or unsurfaced we expect people to bag it and bin it. On two paths in particular where we were having a problem we provide bag dispensers and DBC kindly provided two extra bins and empty them as part of their service. We have significantly reduced the problem there.

# NATIONAL TRUST &/OR BOXMOOR TRUST

- I think dog faeces should be removed by who ever is in charge of the dog and taken away from the area and disposed of at elsewhere, home, not in bins provided by Council. I am a regular walker/runner around the Boxmoor area and dog faeces waste bins are often overflowing and pretty disgusting. I do not think it is necessarily wise to provide these as a facility as they can create more of a problem.
- It should include all land in Dacorum. National Trust do not provide bins, they expect people to take the rubbish home with them. The Council should provide bins for the National trust at entrances to their land, ie the start of the road to the Monument which should be collected daily.
- Although I don't own a dog, the stick and flick off paths works well to avoid human contact with dog faeces on National Trust land, including Asridge Estate and Ivinghoe Beacon areas, otherwise bags of faeces are hung on tree branches as there are no bins. The requirement should only apply to parks and children's play areas within Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring built up areas.
- More waste bin for dogs are needed on the boxmoor trust opposite the dental area

# Apendix C

## Proposed Order Two

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with any request from a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog where they have otherwise failed to do so. The faeces must either be taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin;

**Q2.** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that if any person responsible for a dog fails to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog they can be requested by a Constable or an authorised officer to do so within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2.

## Responses

## Rubbish

I absolutely agree with this being a dog owner picking up dog poo is essential. but it is also totally unacceptable that we have have to consistently worry about all rubbish in the parks and food waste that people leave after being in the park. I walk everyday and see more rubbish of all kinds (which children and dogs pick up and can be lethal) in dacorum than dog poo. Any responsible dog owner clears up after their dog. Responsible people pick up their rubbish. How do you deal with the 5% who dont give a S\*\*T about anything that should be the consultation paper not this?????

## Authorised Officer/Constable

- I agree that they should pick it up if asked to do so and the officer or constable should have bags available just in case the reason is only because they have run out of bags.
- How do you expect an authorised person to be witness to the offence? Your
  proposal is complete nonsense when there are not even any visible penalty notices
  in situ in playing fields plus patrols of community police are almost non-existent. I
  have several times requested visible penalty notices to be placed in playing field
  near my property and am still waiting. Even if I put up stick-on "clear it up" notices
  on fencing it has no effect on people and notices have been removed!
- I have a dog and walk her twice a day. I have never seen a Constable or Authorised Officer so how they would request a person responsible for a dog to pick up their mess I do not know.
- How do you expect an authorised person to be witness to the offence? Your
  proposal is complete nonsense when there are not even any visible penalty
  notices in situ in playing fields plus patrols of community police are almost nonexistent. I have several times requested visible penalty notices to be placed in
  playing field near my property and am still waiting. Even if I put up stick-on
  "clear it up" notices on fencing it has no effect on people and notices have been
  removed!

## Livestock and Woodlands/Rural Areas

• No, this should not apply where the dogs are in wooded areas, behind bushes etc, ONLY on paths / grasses area. As ever, you have gone over the top, try again.

- It would be good if it was also around livestock and farm fields as there is a lot of dog walkers around where I live at Wood farm they let dogs off the leads let them poo everywhere and even when sheep are in the fields they let their dogs off it shod be proposed all dogs on leads at all times around farmland and livestock I'd be happy to put in fines for you as it's all the time I see it .ca you put up signs here for all dogs on leads please ...thanks Andie
- In public paths, pavements, park areas, childrens' play areas, playing fields, undoubtedly yes, but as listed in point 1, there are hundred of acres of land, woodland which is 'off the beat and track' and should not be catergorised as the same
- If National Trust land is to be excluded then this should be standardised. I believe National Trust land should be excluded, as per legislation that allows dogs to defaecate in woodland. However owners should be required to remove faeces from or near paths; eg the "flick" currently required by the NT or take it away

## Agree

- I agree that they should pick it up if asked to do so and the officer or constable should have bags available just in case the reason is only because they have run out of bags.
- This is not a good survey!
   Functionally: half of each question is greyed out making it hard to read the question itself and there appears to be a redundant answer of "No I don't agree" as starting to click inside this box un-ticks that answer!
   More importantly, if one disagrees with the location of where these changes should be applied then EVERY question has to be answered as not agreeing even if, as in this one, I agree that with the proposed action WHERE it should be applied!
- I do agree but provide a bag and the opportunity to do right
- Again I agree but unenforceable unless in a very public place. Also in deep undergrowth does it really need to be picked up?
- Wholeheartedly agree. My husband had a seizure which the doctors thought was the dog/cat infection toxoplasmosis. So he was placed on a 6 week course of tablets. These made him terribly ill, he lost over 3 stone in a month. It turned out that this was not the cause of his seizure. BUT the tablets for Toxoplasmosis make you terribly ill.

# DNA

• Unless clear evidence can be provided through DNA testing that the offending turd is that of the dog in question you have bo right to enforce!

# Enforcement

- How can you enforce this. If someone asks me for evidence of whether I have a poo bag or not is likely to be me with the answer "go away".
- What about privately owned land/fields in the area? Boxmoor Trust, golf clubs for example are these covered and how would be enforced if private land?
- Again I agree but unenforceable unless in a very public place. Also in deep undergrowth does it really need to be picked up?
- Let's face it. It's a good idea but simply will not be enforced.

# Stick or Flick

• I agree that they should pick it up if asked to do so and the officer or constable should have bags available just in case the reason is only because they have run

out of bags.

- •
- How can you enforce this. If someone asks me for evidence of whether I have a poo bag or not is likely to be me with the answer "go away".
- I do agree but provide a bag and the opportunity to do right
- I think it's fair enough to ask people but they will need to have bags on them incase people have run out.
- Stick and flick off paths is sensible in National Trust land such as Ashridge forest and Ivinghoe. This should apply to parks and children's play areas around Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring built up areas only. There are few if any bins on National Trust land and people will tie up their dog faeces in plastic bags and hang them on trees.

## **National Trust**

- If National Trust land is to be excluded then this should be standardised. I believe National Trust land should be excluded, as per legislation that allows dogs to defaecate in woodland. However owners should be required to remove faeces from or near paths; eg the "flick" currently required by the NT or take it away
- Stick and flick off paths is sensible in National Trust land such as Ashridge forest and lvinghoe. This should apply to parks and children's play areas around Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring built up areas only. There are few if any bins on National Trust land and people will tie up their dog faeces in plastic bags and hang them on trees.

## Other

- Shouldn't we be spending this money on more police force rather than yet another made up job, Especially considering the crime rate
- This is now the whole of Dacorum My comments are as question 1
- The person should need to know that their dog has deposited faeces
- Although needs properly managing not just 'upset' residents
- See previous comment
- All dog owners should clean up any mess no matter what or where they are.
- Make sure you implement new laws with a fine and community service IE clearing up and monitor.

Don't just bring new law in.

- Try putting your effort into repairing our paths and walk ways rather than dreaming up ideas of how to persecute people.
- To me this sounds like another way to fine people. As previously said the majority of dog owners are responsible.
- Only on footpaths or in town parks or pavement Rd, walkways
- aee previous response
- There is no mention of consequences if the request is not complied with.
- Proving the officer saw the dog do the mess and the owner not pick it up. Have been accused of not picking up mess my dog didn't do before!
- They should receive an automatic penalty charge instead.

## Appendix D Proposed Order Three

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog. The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.

Q3. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that any person responsible for a dog must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?

## Responses

## Agree

- Should someone pick up a 'stray' or 'missing' dog, it is unfair to expect them to have the wherewithal to pick up after it. In most other cases I would agree that they should have the means to clear up.
- I absolutely agree with this being a dog owner picking up dog poo is essential. but it is also totally unacceptable that we have have to consistently worry about all rubbish in the parks and food waste that people leave after being in the park. I walk everyday and see more rubbish of all kinds (which children and dogs pick up and can be lethal) in dacorum than dog poo. Any responsible dog owner clears up after their dog. Responsible people pick up their rubbish. How do you deal with the 5% who dont give a S\*\*T about anything that should be the consultation paper not this?????
- Agree dog owners should always have the bags with them and they can then make a decision as to whether to bag it or stick and flick.
- I agree to some extent but Dacorum council have some responsibility too. there are not enough dog bins in the areas a lot have been removed. also the few that are around are always full and not emptied for a while which leaves waster hanging outside the bin. Also in some areas bags were provided.
- I do agree but do not agree that sanctions should be given as I always take a poo bag but what happens if one time I forget?
- I agree with question 3
- Same as previous question ie I agree that all dog walkers should go prepared but I disagree with the totality of the area.
- not sure this can work and could lead to disagreements that could get out of hand.
   what authority would the officer or member of the public have to search another>
- I agree again but sometimes my dogs 'go' more than expected. This is rare but does happen. I always feel guilty if they have diarrhoea impossible to pick up!
- Yes strongly agree. Especially in this dry period. Dog excrement is not getting washed away.
- Agree dog owners should always have the bags with them and they can then make a decision as to whether to bag it or stick and flick

#### Bag

• I agree as a dog owner I must clear up after my dog - and I do so and typically carry at least 2 bags. I think some leniency must apply to this 3rd point once I have walked a distance from my home on the extremely rare occasion - not to be too graphic - when my dog has an obviously irritated digestive system.

- In most cases yes I agree but if the dog had escaped your property and you rush to get the dog you don't automatically think to pick a bag so leniency should be applied in certain circumstances. A sensible application should be applied
- Yes I do agree except we can all run out of bags on a walk a bit of appropriate judgement by the officer would be sensible
- I agree to some extent but Dacorum council have some responsibility too. there are not enough dog bins in the areas a lot have been removed. also the few that are around are always full and not emptied for a while which leaves waster hanging outside the bin.

also in some areas bags were provided.

- I do agree but do not agree that sanctions should be given as I always take a poo bag but what happens if one time I forget?
- What if the person has used up all their bags because they know they only need to take a couple of bags out with them?
- All responsible dog walkers try to have enough poo bags with them at all times, but there is the occasion when you run out unexpectedly. I have used leaves or tissues to pick up at those times. Just because you don't have a bag doesn't mean you won't pick up.
- How is the PSPO going to be policed? Are the police and council officers really going to stop anyone walking a dog and ask them to prove they have a bag to collect the dog faeces? What happens if I am returning from walking my dog, he has already done his business and I have used the pooh bag I was carrying at the beginning of the walk and put it in the bin? I am a responsible dog owner and don't like seeing dog faeces on the ground I sometimes pick up other dogs faeses that is left on footpaths. But what difference is the PSPO actually going to make? What powers will it give Police and Council to really make a difference to this issue?
- Although as a responsible dog owner I try and always carry bags to clear up after my dog. There have been occasions when I have been distracted and fail to make sure I have bags in my pocket. Although I agree in principal to this statement it would be useful if there was also a supply of dog poo bags with the bins as in some areas
- It is possible to run out of bags whilst on a walk.
- People do forget things. Perhaps your authorised whoever could carry a few spare bags?
- It is not always possible to have a bag available. Yes you should endevour to have a bag but if this is not possible alternate means to clear up should be allowed. No legal action should be made against those that do not apply
- I think that is a bit over the top in case they have just not realised, and have run out of bags
- In principle I agree but any dog can unexpectedly have multiple 'accidents' if its stomach is working unusually and you can go through two or three bags or more. Even a diligent owner may run out of bags.
- Yes I agree but there should also be some bags near the dog bin for those occasions where not enough bags have been taken out on walk or have dropped out of your pocket on the way
- I agree but it might be helpful if biodegradable pickup bags were available on the sides of dog waste bins as an incentive for owners to be more responsible.
- It is possible to forget or lose the bags the officer could always oblige.
- I have been out before now having changed handbags and not had dog bags on me. I waited five minutes for another dog owner to pass and I asked to use one of their bags. You are making dog owners feel like criminals
- What is appropriate means ? I think this is too subjective you could argue that any item of clothing could be used to pick up faeces. Also some bags might be suitable for

one size of dog but not another. Simply I think you would struggle to prosecute anyone on such a word as "appropriate".

- In theory this a great idea, however people can forget or lose the bags they brought with them, I don't think I would want to see people who have made a genuine mistake be punished. Hopefully a responsible dog owner will wait for another dog owner to come along and ask for a spare bag or come back with a bag.
- There are occasions where my dog has been ill and defeated numerous times whilst out. I will pick up what I can but may occasionally run out. Will ask other walkers for bags but sometimes this isn't feasible. This seemingly gives no discretion
- we have before looked after a friends dog and have taken out 2 bags which were both used. If the dog had fouled again we wouldn't of had another bag so Im not sure if I agree with this.
- Sometimes the poo bags will already have been used or they fall out of pockets and then what would happen?

I feel that that would be very unfair as dog owner can always come back to pick up the poo or ask another owner

- Definition of appropriate means required. I heard of feed back from pilot in North of England where dogowner without poo bag when challenged took off sock to pick up!
- What happens if you have already used a poo bag and run out?
- As an ex dog owner, I used to take my dog out for a walk and she never did a poo whilst out walking, however once she did and I did not have any bags on me. I think there can always be exceptional reasons why someone hasnt got a bag on them, so think this is a bit unfair. I must add that although I was unable to pick up the poo immediately I ran home and went bag and did it 10 minutes later.
- Sometime you can run out of bags due to your dog having a bad stomach or something
- I do not agree as the person may have already used the dog bag they have to pick up after the dog and therefore would not need another one. This rule seems unreasonable due to this
- It's easy to forget to bring a bag when your dog's leaping about like a lunatic all excited to go out. Again have officers carry bags in case someone forgot.
- Unreasonable to hold an owner non compliant if they have used up all their bags earlier in the dog's walk. Also, the proposed penalties are not outlined.
- I think this proposal makes the assumption that the dog WILL poo and the owner will NOT pick it up and dispose of it. Just to add I always take bags out with my dogs.
- Again I don't have the option to agree and comment: I always carry bags with me but there have been occasions that the 2-3 I have with me have run out during the course of cleaning up after my dog. If I was stopped I could then be penalised for not having 'appropriate means to pick up dog faeces'. Please do not penalise responsible dog owners for the bad behaviour of a few.
- It maybe that they have used up the bags they took and the dog will no longer will foul
- However, occasionally your furry friend uses all the bags you have bought with you. Usually a fellow dog walker or a mum with a pram will provide you with a bag if asked. Why not have a supply of sponsored bags available near bins. Lots of boroughs now do this.
- Too difficult to monitor. What is 'an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces'? A small spade? A plastic bag? A dog owner could pick up the poo with a spade and sling it into someone's garden. We need a means of removal not picking up and a definition of what theis means. Then also heavy penalties for people who place their dog poo bag somewhere inappropriate rather than in a bin or taking it home.
- I agree but also as a dog owner I understand people run out. I have handed out many bags to people in the park.

- Only in parks and children's play areas around built up areas, not in the countryside where the stick and flick off public footpaths works well and avoids dog faeces being left in plastic bags hung on trees.
   Most of the walkers in Ashridge and Ivinghoe have dogs - the stick and flick system which is signposted works well.
- I think this may prevent someone picking up just to prove they still have a bag

#### Faeces

- Therer are occasionally times when your dog is not well and produces more faeces and more times than you are prepared for. In these situations it would be wrong to penalise the responsible person.
- In case that the individual has run out of the appropriate means to pick up the faeces while out, the individual should be allowed to obtain the appropriate means to pick up the faeces retrospectively
- How is the PSPO going to be policed? Are the police and council officers really going to stop anyone walking a dog and ask them to prove they have a bag to collect the dog faeces? What happens if I am returning from walking my dog, he has already done his business and I have used the pooh bag I was carrying at the beginning of the walk and put it in the bin? I am a responsible dog owner and don't like seeing dog faeces on the ground I sometimes pick up other dogs faeses that is left on footpaths. But what difference is the PSPO actually going to make? What powers will it give Police and Council to really make a difference to this issue?
- What is appropriate means ? I think this is too subjective you could argue that any item of clothing could be used to pick up faeces. Also some bags might be suitable for one size of dog but not another. Simply I think you would struggle to prosecute anyone on such a word as "appropriate".
- Again I don't have the option to agree and comment: I always carry bags with me but there have been occasions that the 2-3 I have with me have run out during the course of cleaning up after my dog. If I was stopped I could then be penalised for not having 'appropriate means to pick up dog faeces'. Please do not penalise responsible dog owners for the bad behaviour of a few.
- Too difficult to monitor. What is 'an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces'? A small spade? A plastic bag? A dog owner could pick up the poo with a spade and sling it into someone's garden. We need a means of removal not picking up and a definition of what theis means. Then also heavy penalties for people who place their dog poo bag somewhere inappropriate rather than in a bin or taking it home.
- Only in parks and children's play areas around built up areas, not in the countryside where the stick and flick off public footpaths works well and avoids dog faeces being left in plastic bags hung on trees. Most of the walkers in Ashridge and Ivinghoe have dogs the stick and flick system which is signposted works well.

#### Other

- Refer to previous comment
- Can you please define what is appropriate as a hand is a means of clearing!
- Because such a requirement flies in the face of common sense. Will farmers one day be required to remove sheep and cattle dung from public walkways through their lands?
- But how are you going to enforce it
- What is an appropriate means. This needs to be defined.
- Make sure you implement new laws with a fine and community service IE clearing up and monitor.

Don't just bring new law in.

• No, this should not apply where the dogs are in wooded areas, behind bushes etc, ONLY on paths / grasses area.

As ever, you have gone over the top, try again.

- Can you put up signs around the land and farms for all dogs to be kept on leads as all over we have dog poo and they are left to run riot even with sheep in fields
- Try putting your effort into repairing our paths and walk ways rather than dreaming up ideas of how to persecute people.
- I always step on dog's fouls in the streets and parks. It is very disgusting
- I always carry sacks but just occasionally I find I have lost them or used them up. Quite often a fellow dog walker asks to 'borrow' one from me.
- As per above, requirements for NT land should be standardised. But for other areas then yes, owners should have appropriate means for removal. Perhaps allow for occasional errors to be made, when simply forgotten rather than persistent or intentional non compliance.
- This is picking on dog owners. I walk a dog daily and frankly there is not a problem with Dog poo been left and not picked up. This political decision to gain a few votes from the none dog owners is transparent and feeble.
   Who will enforce this, there are no dog wardens or constables in the area.

Who will enforce this, there are no dog wardens or constables in the area. A blatant vote winner.

- But it is possible to forget occasionally we are all human
- umsure how this is enforceable
- This would require a person in charge of a dog to prove he/she had a suitable receptacle with them whether or not the dog was defaecating.
   If the person says yes they have a receptacle will they have to prove it? If so, this is an infringement of personal freedom. What is 'appropriate means'? Difficult or impossible to prove (or define). Would the production of a handkerchief or cigarette packet be adequate?

To take enforcement further than actual canine defaecation without clearing it up is just silly and could lead to contentious attempts to enforce.

• Subjective and open to interpretation so is unenforcable.

# Appendix E Proposed Order Four

A person in charge of a dog on any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead (no more than 2m fixed length) unless:

(a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

Failing to comply with such a direction is an offence.

**Question 4.** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs must be placed on a lead if required by a Constable or an authorised officer within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?

# Responses

# **Extendable Leads**

- Leads should be of reasonable length and there is nothing wrong with an extendable one as the dog can still be under control. The number of dogs under any one person should be addressed as this can be the source of uncontrolled dogs
- We sometimes use an extending lead which are generally accepted as a suitable means of restraining your dog and having them under control.
- An extending lead can be used and fixed at a 2 meter length or less. If a responsible dog owner has an extendable lead and is using it properly why should he have to carry another lead. As long as the lead can be fixed at 2 meters or less then they should be acceptable. If they are unable to fix the lead if requested to do so then they should be liable.
- Yes I agree....But it would mean that it would have to be made known that if you generally use an extending lead you must always have a short fixed lead available as well.
- Extendable leads can be locked in lengths shorter than 2M when required. When used responsibly they allow much better control of a dog than letting it off lead. Responsible owners using extendable leads are much less inclined to let their dog run off lead. A majority of dog walkers that use the same public spaces that I do use extendable leads. Many of these are elderly and an extendable lead allows them freedom to retain better control of their dog as they can't run after it or find the dog faeces further away. This proposal would mean that the use of extendable leads run off lead rather than being kept on a short lead. This could potentially increase dog fouling and nuisance.
- Provided an extendable lead is fixed and not on flexible mode in areas requiring close control this is adequate. We have solely used extendable leads for many years with no issue when under close control fixed at a short length.
- Extendable leads can be made a fixed length if required. Many owners only have this type of lead.
- its stated in the proposal that the dog should be on a short lead in certain circumstances. I would like to know what those circumstances are. What's the difference between a dog off the lead and a dog on an extendable lead. At least when the dog is on an extendable lead there is some control, of lead there is none

- If a dog is on an extendable lead it gives the owner control. The lead can be fixed to a shorter length if the situation requires or has been asked to do so. It is very easy to shorten a lead of any length and I do not think that 2 metres is any safer on a footpath than ,say, 3 metres.
- I know some people always walk their dogs on an extendable lead (I don't as I think they are dangerous) so would this mean that they were always breaking the PSPO?
- I have an extendable lead and use that to keep my dog close at heal or to allow more exercise. What is going to happen if there is a problem and a dog owner does not have a fixed length lead of no more than 2 meters? How are the Police and Council Official going to deal with this? Prescribing the lead type and length is ridiculous any type of lead should be sufficient. An extendable lead that is kept short is a better way to control a dog than a 2 meter fixed length lead. How are Police and Council Officers going to deal with problems with dogs, in my experience the chances of them being anywhere near a dog that is causing a problem is very small. If they turn up at all it is long after any incident has occurred and any problem is over.
- Dictating the type and length of lead is unreasonable. Extendable leads can be locked so that the length is restricted so if a person keeps the length of the lead reasonable, will they be in breach just because it is an extendable lead? A dog on an extendable lead is surely under more control than a dog that is not on a lead at all. This is a ridiculous proposal.
- I see no reason why a dog would not be considered as not under control on an extendable lead especially as these can be shortened to less than two metres and possibly down to one foot.
- If you restrict the length of the lead then responsible owners will have a dog on a short lead rather than an extendable lead which gives the owner control without the dog being out of control but restricts the dogs exercise
- This doesn't apply to me as I prefer short leads, when necessary. However, some people only use retractable leads. A more suitable requirement would be to make sure any extendable leads have a lock function
- I disagree with this because different dogs need different leads, and some dogs respond better on a harness to a collar. What is important is that the lead the dog is on is appropriate for their weight, i,e an Alsatian will need a more robust lead than a Spaniel etc. I don't think it is realistic or necessary for the local council to define this. Most responsible dog owners who have their dogs on leads are probably also responsible enough to have them on the correct ones. However with one exception; anyone walking a dog on an extending lead should not have the lead extended beyond say 15 metres when walking in a busy public place such as a high street.
- We use extending leads up to 8 meters, which are on a spring and allow the dog to be pulled close when required. This should be sufficient.
- I agree that where requested by a Constable or authorised officer, dogs should be placed on a lead. However, i feel that defining a lead as being of fixed length and of not more than 2m is not reasonable and not practical, unless the council can agree to the use of an extendable lead locked at 2m. As the owner of 2 dogs weighing 5kg each, i do not feel it is necessary to carry a lead of fixed length that is less than 2m as even at an extended length, i have enough control over my dogs on an extendable lead, especially as i am able to lock it to a particular length if desired/required. This proposed rule may be more appropriate for larger and stronger dogs, but owners of much smaller dogs who are able to be controlled more easily will be forced to carry at least 2 (in my case, 4) leads at all times of walking dogs, which seems overzealous in the application of these rules.
- extendable leads, if used properly, can be shorter than your requirement. With

extendable leads a dog can be kept under control, but still have room to sniff etc in longer garss where the owner might not want to walk. It boils down to a responsible owner as it does with all other dog issues.

- In a lightly used open space, extendable long leads can provide reasonable control but I agree the officer can specify a short lead if needed. However the owner may not have one with him or her. at that time
- See above, does this mean you have to carry an extender and fixed lead? Dacorum is already a very unfriendly place to have a dog - this could make it worse. Please do not confuse responsible dog owners who know when to keep a dog on a short tether, with those who act irresponsibly!
- Different types of walks require different leads. Some a long extendable, for keeping on lead in the park, others short for better heel control. As long as on a lead, what's the issue..
- for example, I use extendable leads attached by carbena to a walking belt which is perfectly sufficient to restrain my dog and be hands free
- Extendable leads should be allowed.
- I don't really disagree but just want to point out that whomever wrote this part has no clues whatsoever on how extending lead works !
- I think an extending lead that is locked on a short length should be deemed to comply with this rule otherwise many owners would have to carry two leads in case they were compelled to act under this rule.
- Whilst agreeing that extendable leads don't give full control of a dog, the proposal does not seem to make it a requirement to carry a fixed length lead in addition to an extendable lead and therefore be impractical.
- Length fine but not type. There's no difference between a fixed length lead of 2m and an extendable lead locked at 2m.
- I think saying a 2 metre lead is acceptable but I don't think stipulating the type of lead is. An extendable lead can still be secure and held at 2 metres.
- If an extendable lead can be locked at a short length then that should be allowed. If, however, after being asked to hold the dog on a short lead the lead is not kept short while still in the area where the dog was being a nuisance, and the extendable lead is allowed to extend then I would take that to be an offence.
- I have an extending lead for my dog and rain her in if need be. i don't believe dogs need to be on short leads all of the time but yes in areas where there are children or other dogs or shops etc. i do feel that people who have dogs on long lengths of rope need to have proper leads
- Agree flexible extending leads not effective means of control. However length of leads irrelevant if person on the end not able to effectively control dog ie not strong enough/insufficient training of dog and handler.
- An extendable lead can be locked into a short position. At most times when a dog is being walked it would be on an extendable lead and a short lead would not be available.
- I use an extendable lead which enables my dog to sniff about freely but I can control him and shorten the lead if I need to. Also my wife is disabled and walks the dog while on her mobility scooter. Without the extendable lead she could not do so safely.
- Problem dogs should not be on extendable leads whatever the length as the handler will not have proper control and the extending lead itself could cause injury to another person or dog
- I have slight concern on the length of lead as when training a dog it is normal to use a lead that can be locked as a short lead or released into an extending lead or alternatively a longer training lead that can be coiled up and used as a shorter lead. In both these cases the dog is under control and can be kept close to the handler.

• Defining the length of a fixed lead is fine as that is normally commercially available, to say that extending leads are not suitable is a bit harsh as they can be locked anywhere along their total length.

Most people who would take their dogs off lead on a field would not normally use an extending lead. Extending leads apply to pavement walkers in the main.

- My dog could not be excercised off a lead. His extendable one was more than 2 metres. We still had control of him at all time even on a longer lead. I would not have carried a smaller lead with me just in case i was told to not use his lead...
- I agree with the exception of the reference to extendable leads as these can be fixed at less than 2m
- Extending leads can exceed 2m and so long as owner in control full length of lead should be allowed
- If a dog is on an extendable lead it gives the owner control. The lead can be fixed to a shorter length if the situation requires or has been asked to do so. It is very easy to shorten a lead of any length and I do not think that 2 metres is any safer on a footpath than ,say, 3 metres.
- I see no reason why a dog would not be considered as not under control on an extendable lead especially as these can be shortened to less than two metres and possibly down to one foot.
- I disagree with this because different dogs need different leads, and some dogs respond better on a harness to a collar. What is important is that the lead the dog is on is appropriate for their weight, i,e an Alsatian will need a more robust lead than a Spaniel etc. I don't think it is realistic or necessary for the local council to define this. Most responsible dog owners who have their dogs on leads are probably also responsible enough to have them on the correct ones. However with one exception; anyone walking a dog on an extending lead should not have the lead extended beyond say 15 metres when walking in a busy public place such as a high street.

# Lead Length

- A dog on a 3 or 4 metre lead is under control.
- I think saying a 2 metre lead is acceptable but I don't think stipulating the type of lead is. An extendable lead can still be secure and held at 2 metres.
- Two metres can be very restrictive for many dogs. Lenght of lead should be up to owner. I know many dogs who are walked on 10m leads so they can have the freedom to run but never be off lead which could cause the owner and people/dogs around issues.
- My dog could not be excercised off a lead. His extendable one was more than 2 metres. We still had control of him at all time even on a longer lead. I would not have carried a smaller lead with me just in case i was told to not use his lead...
- Of course. Whats the point of a lead which is metres long? That dog is not under proper control.

## Agree

- Yes I agree....But it would mean that it would have to be made known that if you generally use an extending lead you must always have a short fixed lead available as well.
- My son is very affraid of dogs because he was attacked by dogs twice. I agree that every dog should be put on a lead with short length as some of dog owners have very long leads
- I agree that where requested by a Constable or authorised officer, dogs should be placed on a lead. However, i feel that defining a lead as being of fixed length and of

not more than 2m is not reasonable and not practical, unless the council can agree to the use of an extendable lead locked at 2m. As the owner of 2 dogs weighing 5kg each, i do not feel it is necessary to carry a lead of fixed length that is less than 2m as even at an extended length, i have enough control over my dogs on an extendable lead, especially as i am able to lock it to a particular length if desired/required. This proposed rule may be more appropriate for larger and stronger dogs, but owners of much smaller dogs who are able to be controlled more easily will be forced to carry at least 2 (in my case, 4) leads at all times of walking dogs, which seems overzealous in the application of these rules.

- In exceptional circumstances were a dog is out of control or indeed a danger I agree that that animal should indeed be on lead, however if the animal is causing no nuisance or inconvenience to others then I feel that the dictatorial attitude on what type of lead is to be used is yet again an infringement of right of choice
- In a lightly used open space, extendable long leads can provide reasonable control but I agree the officer can specify a short lead if needed. However the owner may not have one with him or her. at that time
- I do agree but cannot make a comment unless I dont!

It would be good if in large parks there could be a fenced off area as a dog park for training and running off lead.

- I don't really disagree but just want to point out that whomever wrote this part has no clues whatsoever on how extending lead works !
- Whilst agreeing that extendable leads don't give full control of a dog, the proposal does not seem to make it a requirement to carry a fixed length lead in addition to an extendable lead and therefore be impractical.
- Agree flexible extending leads not effective means of control. However length of leads irrelevant if person on the end not able to effectively control dog ie not strong enough/insufficient training of dog and handler.
- I agree with the exception of the reference to extendable leads as these can be fixed at less than 2m

## Other

- A lead of any size is sufficient, This is once again unnecessary bureaucracy So you are basically going to punish people for having the wrong lead size There are a lot of elderly people who have dogs who may not be able to afford to purchase a new lead
- I think it is too difficult to be prescriptive .... some dogs require longer leads than others .... some have simple 'slip' leads.
- This is controversial distraction and undermines the whole dog fouling and control policy. It might also face a legal challenge supported with funds from dog supplies manufacturers. I would have to reject the whole policy if this was part of it
- All responsible owners will have in their possession adequate leashes.
- No this should be up to the owner. Are all constables etc going to be supplied with a tape measure. How stupid
- 2m is too short
- If A Person is in a wheelchair then a longer lead maybe required, but if a person is not physically impaired then this rule should be enforced
- I think that most sensible dog owners use leads appropriate for the size and strength of dog I don't think having a required length type of lead would do any good as most people good dog owners know their dog best and what suits them what is appropriate for one dog maybe not be appropriate for another
- Any lead can be reduced to 2m, unless the entire length is less than 2m, which makes the schedule pointless

- |
- Not practical how can you define the type of lead when it may not be readily available to be used?

Think more of a general support would be required e.g. that the dog is put on a short lead and is required to be under control of the person on the other end.

- Who will be determining this ... is it tje authorised officer ... what qualification has this person got to determine this information
- The animal may be recovery from illness that need exercise but also under control
- Majority of people only carry flexible leads. When asked they would put their dog on lead but its not a short lead so should not be committing an offence if they have done what's asked. A flexible lead keeps a dog under control while giving it decent exercise they can be shortened to control the dog more if asked to do so.
- Who decides what is an appropriate length. This whole thing just seems designed to get dogs out of public areas.
- Length of lead is a comfort issue for both the dog and owner.
- Not practicable- many dog owners, myself included, use a variable length lead of more than 2m length, and I have never experienced or heard of any issues with this. Why introduce a rule that is pointless to those it affects???
- Many dog owners use longer retractable leads which can be adjusted to suit appropriate length of lead. Limiting leads to 2m fixed is becoming unreasonable.
- Make sure you implement new laws with a fine and community service IE clearing up and monitor.

Don't just bring new law in.

- An owner should know what type and length of lead is required for their own dog
- Depending on the situation I feel 2m is not necessarily long enough. For example, if someone has a puppy or young dog it is advantageous to have a much longer lead in order to exercise and train the dog. Also, how would this work with flexi leads? They are much longer than 2m
- This needs more clarification. Is the definition of what counts as an appropriate lead to be widely publicised and fairly standard? Leaving it open to on the spot definition could be unfair. Might be easier to define what types/lengths of lead would be acceptable and what would not be
- Defining the length of lead is appropriate. There are many different breeds of dog and many different conditions, ailments or impediments that might befall the breeds. A type of lead that is suitable for an individual dog or breed of dog, might not be suitable for a different dog or breed of dog. Therefore, the type of lead should be at the discretion of the dog owner or person with the dog. However, if an Authorised Officer is of the view a type of lead being used on a specific occasion is inappropriate, the onus to prove the lead's suitability should rest with the dog owner or person with the dog; they will, or should, know why that particular lead is appropriate.
- Try putting your effort into repairing our paths and walk ways rather than dreaming up ideas of how to persecute people.
- i think you should be able to have a long line ,if you are training.
- A lead is a lead. As long as the dog is attached and under control the type of lead is irrelevant
- Too many petty rules and regulations!
- Too much unnecessary legislation, if people are fit to be dog owners they should be able to decide what type of lead is suitable for a particular dog.

- I think it's a bit heavy handed as part of initial measures. Many dogs particularly rescues- learn boundaries and good by using long lines as part of their training. Not sure restricting an individual dog to a short lead in all circumstances is desirable or helpful.
- different dogs can be managed with different length and types of leads. A long lead may be appropriate instead of letting you dog off the lead. Where possible dogs should be allowed off their leads for animal health reasons.
- It's not the lead that's the issue it's having a suitable collar that can't be slipped
- As long as the dog is restrained on a lead it doesn't matter what type
- Dictation on how to treat your animal is inapropriate
- Because sometimes, especially when training or keeping a dog on a lead but wanting them to have some small freedom, a longer training lead is useful and one may only have that lead on one.
- I am 88 years of age, walk with a rollator and use a long lead on the moor to allow my small dog enough exercise. When on a pavement I use a short lead.
- Common sense must prevail as to what is a reasonable lead to be used. Defining the length and particularly the type of lead is unfair to the owner
- I think there should be recommendation first of all and or a deadline for this to change. It may be particularly difficult if an individual is out walking a dog. Also for those that may not be able to afford a new lead at the time might be disadvantaged and effected
- Dogs on retractable leads are still under control it is also unreasonable to try to control people's personal purchases.
- Some dog can not be let off the lead due to past experience so to have the best life they can the have a extra long lead to have the distance to burn energy but still be on a lead for the owner to handle
- It's up to the owner to choose a lead
- This is ambiguous and could cause conflict
- Some dog owners that use te retractable lead don't seem to know how to use them they keep them on a long lead when in fact they should be on a short lead.
- Ridiculous
- Seems a little excessive to go to the depth of lead type and length
- As above .. dogs should be on a short lead along the canal path for health and safety reasons, as well as the ducks being on the grass. Long leads in open parks but under control. If an owner wants to let their dog off of the lead they should go to a dog area which is fenced off for dogs to run around and a person knows this and enters at their own responsibility.
- This is ridiculous.
- Who is to decide what is a good lead length?
   Who will enforce it?
   What next will you want to rule on how to clean a house's windows
- Realistically how will this be policed? I have never seen an officer while on a dog walk
- Many types of lead exist, all do same job. Should not create further costs to owners who have a different preference for a different type of lead
- I think that if a dog is on a lead then that should be sufficient enough, I do not see the need to dictate what type of lead a dog should be on.
- Some larger dogs require a more run room on a longer lead, so long as they are under the eye of the owner don't see why they need a shorter lead
- Some dogs are much bigger than others so wouldn't have as much slack on the leash compared to a miniature dog
- A lead is a lead, a flexi lead can be up to 5m, the key issue is that the dog is under

the control of the person in charge of it. the length of the lead by which they do it with makes no

- This is hard as I have no idea how long my shorter lead is ! Is the officer going to measure it ? And how will you enforce flexi leads?
   I think the aim of this policy should be more explicit : owners should be able to control their dogs using a lead of an appropriate length.
- More info needed
- My dog is fine in a long lead 7meyres it enable me to control her and recall her so I don't see the need
- I think the length would be defined by the dog
- Some dogs ;;should be allowed some freedom on a longer lead if appropriate to the dog and circumstances.
- I don't think this is feasable
- Length maybe but not sure how type of lead will help and may cause issues
- Some dogs require leads that feel or behave as loose leads as the dog can become unhappy. On a lead is useful but specifying length may be difficult.
- As long as the dog is on a secure lead I don't see the need to be so prescriptive
- People just need to have a lead. You can't arbitrarily decide that a particular type / length of lead is not acceptable.
- That would be a difficult thing to define and prescribe. What happens if the person does not have a prescribed lead.
- how will ordinary people know of this?if they only have one lead and use it that should be as far as anyone should go
- Some dogs in training for recall need to be on a long lead
- As a dog owner if I am out with my dog I'll only have my usual lead so being told to use a specific lead isn't helpful. If this refers to future events as in the next time I am out with my dog it needs to be on a specific kind of lead then I guess I would have to comply but I think this needs careful wording.
- some dogs dont take well to long or short leads and certain types of leads
- The length of a lead I think is an issue, I have a long Roma lead for my dog as he cannot go off the lead so needs the long lead to run around, obviously when I need him to be in close control I shorten the lead but I am not going to put him on a different lead that would be rediculous
- You're trying to dictate too much . Short leads around play areas and livestock is a reasonable request but in all crappy fields or woods is a joke
- I think the lead definition will be dog and situation specific. To place specific requirements/definitions as a general will restrict the local authority from dealing with each offence as an individual and therefore prevent effective enforcement for each breach.
- A longer lead can be held at a shorter length to provide closer control when necessary.
- This appears too dictatorial. The lead should be of sufficient length that the owner has full control of the dog to ensure no harm is done to humans or animals
- An owner should be able to use a lead that they feel gives them enough control of their dog if needed.
- Every dog is different and some dogs need longer leads then others. Every dog needs to be able to run and play, defining what type and length may not suit the dog and could hurt there well being. 9/10 it's the owners fault for not picking up poo or for bad behaviour, yet everyone takes it on the dogs.
- Providing a lead can be locked to a suitable length then I consider a running lead adequate.
- I use a lead of varying length. It can be adjusted/fixed from 0.5m to 4m. I am

responsible to adjust it to an appropriate length for the circumstances. It works well. Many responsible dog owners use leads of this type.

- Why are you arbitrarily defining the length of a lead to be 2m why not 3, why not 1... what's the research or science that this is based off of? Seems to me like someone has just set an arbitrary length
- As long as the dog is put onto a lead and it is no longer icausing nuisance or danger this should be sufficient in complying with the request.
- Because it is not needed.
- I feel that a lockable retractable should be classed as suitable. My dog is always on a lead as she has issues with concentration (which she had when we rescued her ) this is a lockable retractable lead .am I expected to carry a second lead of a fixed length???
- As long as the proposal is practical, i think a normal lead is good enough, are we going to see silly rules on length?
- Different dogs walk better on different leads. I have two dogs which I walk on two diffent leads, one shorter and one longer
- I use a 10m longline and have adequate control of my dog.
- I believe that when required to be on leads then there should be a maximum length for a leash. All dogs are different and leashes vary in size and strength.
- I think this is too restrictive. Make it a recommendation but accept alternatives.
- Subjective and unanforcable. Nanny state!
- So long as the dog is on a lead and can be controlled then it should not matter the type or length of the lead. The important part is that the dog can be controlled, if it is the case that the lead is too long for the dog to be controlled satisfactorily then yes it can then be an issue but the requirement should be put on control
- The solution depends on the situation or land to which this type of restriction should apply. I can't think of any reason why there would be specific requirements to restrict both the type and length of the lead.

I understand the length aspect though. However, how would this be enforceable and the logistics in terms of both enforcers and owners having to obtain/know what the right lead for the right job as it were?

I would remove this clause for practicality reasons. Or be more specific as to why a lead of X length or type would be preferable.

- Not flexi leads though as they open a whole new can of problems.
- Very difficult to enforce.
- A lot of us have retractable leads as they make life easier when dogs need a bit of extra room but can't be let off the lead. They are retractable so can be made shorter anyway. This would mean we would have to buy new leads.
- This proposal seems unnecessarily restrictive. Sensible use of an extensible lead is perfectly capable of keeping a dog under control, and most owners are unlikely to carry both types of leads.
- This will not be enforced. You or County or the Police will not resource this.
- Dogs should not be off of leads in shopping centres, town centres, or any public places.
   One such place is the fountains area in Hemel Town Centre, there are invariable 2

Staffordshire Bull Terriers off leads when children are playing in the area. not good.

- Length of lead is fine, type of lead no. We have a working dog and always use rope leads rather than a lead with a collar.
- I disagree with this because different dogs need different leads, and some dogs respond better on a harness to a collar. What is important is that the lead the dog is on is appropriate for their weight, i,e an Alsatian will need a more robust lead

than a Spaniel etc. I don't think it is realistic or necessary for the local council to define this. Most responsible dog owners who have their dogs on leads are probably also responsible enough to have them on the correct ones. However with one exception; anyone walking a dog on an extending lead should not have the lead extended beyond say 15 metres when walking in a busy public place such as a high street.

#### Appendix F Proposed Order Four

A person in charge of a dog on any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead (no more than 2m fixed length) unless:

(a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

**Question 5.** Do you agree or disagree with this proposal to define the length and type of lead to be used when there is a requirement for a dog to be on a lead?

## Responses

## Muzzle

- I agree to the proposal but feel that it needs to be more far reaching. I have lost count of the times I have had dogs vigorously bark and bare their teeth at me, run towards me, jump up me etc and the owners tell me that it's ok because their dog is friendly and will not bite me! My husband enjoys running and has been attacked by dogs off their leads presumably because the dogs thought he was going to attack their owner. I feel dogs should either be kept on a lead, or have a muzzle fitted so they cannot bite anyone or anything. I say this as a dog lover, although I do not currently own a dog.
- Some dogs have good recall and need to be allowed to run free . Make the law to muzzel them offlead instead !

## Agree

- I agree with your proposal but again how are you to get an "authorised" person in situ at the right time?! If you cannot invest in human patrols what about cameras. If you cannot even invest in penalty notices can you afford cameras or salaries for surveillance personnel??
- Don,t agree with schedule 2
- I don't really disagree but just want to point out that whomever wrote this part has no clues whatsoever on how extending lead works !
- I agree but recommend that it is not enough just to put the dog on a lead but that the lead must be held or affixed to something suitable so that the dog remains under the close control of the dog walker
- I agree to the proposal but feel that it needs to be more far reaching. I have lost count
  of the times I have had dogs vigorously bark and bare their teeth at me, run towards
  me, jump up me etc and the owners tell me that it's ok because their dog is friendly
  and will not bite me! My husband enjoys running and has been attacked by dogs off
  their leads presumably because the dogs thought he was going to attack their owner. I
  feel dogs should either be kept on a lead, or have a muzzle fitted so they cannot bite
  anyone or anything. I say this as a dog lover, although I do not currently own a dog.
- I agree with the exception of the reference to extendable leads as these can be fixed at less than 2m. There should also be a requirement that dogs are under close control in public park areas used by children e.g. Gadebridge Park where the play area is not enclosed.
- I agree that dangerous dogs should be on leads. I also don't understand how this will be policed, in my experience most dog owners are responsible and put their dogs on

leads when they misbehave. Who will decide what behaviour is annoying or warrants being on a lead?

Lead

- Again i keep my dog on a lead when there is traffic or places unsuitable ie livestock. How about Darcoum putting in place a 4 dog rule per person when out walking. Which is what most boroughs do and is law i beleive. I offen see in Grove Hill Park (baseball field) Hills Hounds dog walking or runabout up to 23 dogs and maybe 3 or 4 walkers. I know a lot of people dog owners or not not happy with this for the dogs sake. Again How do you deal with the 5% who dont give a S\*\*T about anything that should be the consultation paper not this?????
- any dog off the lead had to be under control. if the dog is not under controld then the owner should be punished. not just an officer who is never around can ask them. anyone with a dog of their own should tell them.
- No. Firstly, who are the 'authorised officers?' What training will they have had? Will the
  recruitment process be robust enough to ensure that objective individuals are
  employed and not just people who don't like dogs. This will almost certainly lead to
  over zealous 'officers' insisting that perfectly well behaved dogs are placed
  unnecessarily on a lead.
- Small dogs can be adequately restrained with an extendable lead, so it depends on the size of the dog
- A dog should be on a lead if can not be trusted to not be on a lead and this should apply to toddlers and children with reins that can not be trusted or controlled by their parents around animals, people in general
- I do not think any dog should be let off a lead in a public place, as once a dog is let off the owner is no longer in control of their
- This means that a dog owner has to carry 2 leads of which one is fixed. Most dog owners that I know use extending leads which can be locked at 2 metres or less. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 has not keep pace with dog lead development and use. Thus by only using an extending lead with a dog you are stating that that person is committing an offence.
- All dogs should be kept on leads unless they're in a dog park. Even friendly dogs can jump up and scratch a child's face. My cat was nearly killed by a Jack Russell off the lead outside my front door.
- My only issue is with use of fixed leads, most responsible dog owners keep there dogs on fixed leads on paths or near public areas. In country environments this should be eased - we have to be able to exercise our dogs. Have no problem with being instructed by a "Authorized Officer" if they can give a valid reason and not just being officious.
- I think it more important to define what reasons there might be for this requirement otherwise you are leaving a subjective decision to someone sometimes maybe not qualified to know if the dog needs to be on a lead or not. Certainly there are numerous public areas where it is perfectly acceptable for a dog to be off the lead as long as it is not causing a real nuisance to others.

It would be better in my opinion to try to define what is or isn't an instance where a dog MUST be on a lead.

- I don't really disagree but just want to point out that whomever wrote this part has no clues whatsoever on how extending lead works !
- I think Dogs should be kept on the lead along the canal path. I am fed up with dog
  owners not having control and it's dangerous with young children walking along the
  canal path and could end up in the canal. I also have 2 dogs and am sick to death of
  my dogs being approached by dogs who have no recall experience even though I
  shout out continuously to get their dogs away. It seems to be a big problem in the
  borough with dog owners and the amount of dog attacks increasing. There should

also be a fine if a dog keeps escaping an owners garden. You only have to look at the Facebook Hemel Community Page to see it's a regular occurrence.

- A dog should have the right to walk off the lead providing it is managed and has a responsible owner with it. Unless there is a danger to the animal, ie glass on floor or poison.
- All dogs all lead in public places and there should be secure areas for dogs to be let off if owners wish
- I think an extending lead that is locked on a short length should be deemed to comply with this rule otherwise many owners would have to carry two leads in case they were compelled to act under this rule.
- I agree but recommend that it is not enough just to put the dog on a lead but that the lead must be held or affixed to something suitable so that the dog remains under the close control of the dog walker
- Dogs should be on leads in public places. This is the only way that the majority of owners can have adequate control of their animals.
- I agree to the proposal but feel that it needs to be more far reaching. I have lost count of the times I have had dogs vigorously bark and bare their teeth at me, run towards me, jump up me etc and the owners tell me that it's ok because their dog is friendly and will not bite me! My husband enjoys running and has been attacked by dogs off their leads presumably because the dogs thought he was going to attack their owner. I feel dogs should either be kept on a lead, or have a muzzle fitted so they cannot bite anyone or anything. I say this as a dog lover, although I do not currently own a dog.
- Dogs should not be off lead
   Need to be dog only area, so people who don't have dogs can walk in peace
- Some dogs have good recall and need to be allowed to run free . Make the law to muzzel them offlead instead !
- There are laws for this. A person should be able to walk their dog in an open space as long as the dog is under control and put on a lead if necessary. The law is already there for this.
- I don't think this will be appropriate to some dogs. I don't understand why some dogs would be subjected to not being able to be let off their leads. I think a reasonable request can be made with discussion, but not for law to change
- Should be on a lead at all times in public areas
- Every dog should be placed on a lead everywhere except at Parks where they are allowed. Walking in the street yes
- We own a dog that walks to heel, will follow our instructions and is road aware. As a result we no longer carry a lead with us as she happily walks alongside when taken for a walk.
- A dog (under local bylaws) should always be 'under control'. This means that the dog must be under the dog owners control, and usually this means on lead. Too many sheep have been killed locally by out of control dogs.
- I agree with the exception of the reference to extendable leads as these can be fixed at less than 2m. There should also be a requirement that dogs are under close control in public park areas used by children e.g. Gadebridge Park where the play area is not enclosed.
- I agree that dangerous dogs should be on leads. I also don't understand how this will be policed, in my experience most dog owners are responsible and put their dogs on leads when they misbehave. Who will decide what behaviour is annoying or warrants being on a lead?

# Extendable

• Small dogs can be adequately restrained with an extendable lead, so it depends on the size of the dog

- This means that a dog owner has to carry 2 leads of which one is fixed. Most dog owners that I know use extending leads which can be locked at 2 metres or less. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 has not keep pace with dog lead development and use. Thus by only using an extending lead with a dog you are stating that that person is committing an offence.
- I don't really disagree but just want to point out that whomever wrote this part has no clues whatsoever on how extending lead works !
- I think an extending lead that is locked on a short length should be deemed to comply with this rule otherwise many owners would have to carry two leads in case they were compelled to act under this rule.
- I agree with the exception of the reference to extendable leads as these can be fixed at less than 2m. There should also be a requirement that dogs are under close control in public park areas used by children e.g. Gadebridge Park where the play area is not enclosed.

## Public

- See comments in question 1 This should not include private land which is available to the public The proposed measures are far too draconian
- I do not think any dog should be let off a lead in a public place, as once a dog is let off the owner is no longer in control of their
- If the direction was from a police Constable that would be suitable. A council official in my opinion will not be suitable. They can brash, rude and often make situation like this worse. A police officer has suitable training to interact with members of public and has a duty of care to limit escalation of a incindent.
- My only issue is with use of fixed leads, most responsible dog owners keep there dogs on fixed leads on paths or near public areas. In country environments this should be eased - we have to be able to exercise our dogs. Have no problem with being instructed by a "Authorized Officer" if they can give a valid reason and not just being officious.
- I think it more important to define what reasons there might be for this requirement otherwise you are leaving a subjective decision to someone sometimes maybe not qualified to know if the dog needs to be on a lead or not. Certainly there are numerous public areas where it is perfectly acceptable for a dog to be off the lead as long as it is not causing a real nuisance to others.

It would be better in my opinion to try to define what is or isn't an instance where a dog MUST be on a lead.

- All dogs all lead in public places and there should be secure areas for dogs to be let off if owners wish
- Dogs should be on leads in public places. This is the only way that the majority of owners can have adequate control of their animals.
- Should be on a lead at all times in public areas
- I agree with the exception of the reference to extendable leads as these can be fixed at less than 2m.

There should also be a requirement that dogs are under close control in public park areas used by children e.g. Gadebridge Park where the play area is not enclosed.

#### Other

- Once again suggest you reduce the crime rates rather than penalising people for ie traffic offences and not having a dog poop bag
- I cant answer this question as its not clear to me what constitutes an 'authorised officer'
- If the person who is giving an unlawful order is a muslim which the animal is seen as

needs to be deatroyed, this could conflict with what is right (Bukhari vol 4. #540)

- Make sure you implement new laws with a fine and community service IE clearing up and monitor.
  - Don't just bring new law in.
- They should be all over dacorum
- As before, the proposed action is reasonable but not the blanket area specified
- Try putting your effort into repairing our paths and walk ways rather than dreaming up ideas of how to persecute people.
- Unless the dog is out of control or being a nuisance I believe that the owner should make this descision and indeed I feel that the proposal infringes the rights of the owner.
- The dog is out for exercise not a gentle stroll
- It would depend on the validity of the reasons behind the request.
- Dogs need to be exercised properly
- This is again a blatant vote winner for politicians, it is unenforceable, bad law is worse than no law!
- see previous comments on 'authorised officer'. Dogs do need exercise and any responsible owner will exercise their dog; this does include letting them run free in appropriate places.
- Am not convinced you will have budgets or resources to enforce this. Volunteer options considered in pilots resulted in inconsistencies in application/ enforcement poor take up.
- It is unreasonable to target a dog that is likely to cause a nuisance rather than one that is causing a nuisance. Also, there is criminal legislation in force in relation to this subject.
- I believe that constables/officials need to be trained as often they are unaware of dog behaviour and requirements. Recently I was chased after by a PCSO to say my dog had fouled. (I always pick it up). I informed them that my dog had not fouled he had cocked his leg and scented a tree. (A small well behaved and trained dog).
- Ridiculous. In open countryside this is just daft.
- As long as this power is only used if there is a threat from the dog. Always a slippery slope but OK.

Appendix F Proposed Order Five

A person in charge of a dog in a public space within the borough of Dacorum Borough Council is prohibited from allowing the dog to enter the "Dog Exclusion Zones" these include fenced children's play areas, adventure playgrounds and splash parks defined in Schedule 1 hereto;

**Question 6:** Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs should be prohibited from all children's play areas?

#### Responses

#### Gadebridge

- I think that if you are with your children in a play area you should be able to take your dog with you as long as the dog is on a lead and that you clean up any deposits. Gadebridge park is now one huge play area that is not fenced you should be able to take your children and dogs out with you at the same time.
- I agree. However a problem is present when certain parks open up with no boundaries. Such as the new climbing area in Gadebridge Park. This area will need to be enclosed.
- I do agree but why on earth is the new park in Gadebridge not enclosed? I like dogs, my children like dogs but lots of kids are scared of them and it's not appropriate. Speaking to dog owners they'd prefer to be able let their dogs run around Gadebridge park without being concerned that they run over to the park equipment and started weeing on it - which is an entirely natural thing for them to do.
- But what about the open play area at gadebridge park
- Gadebridge park is shrinking by the day with so much walking area taken over by skateboard, childrens play area and other activities that once it was a pleasure walking your dog in the park has now become more and more difficult. It is now being catered for "yummy" mummies and teenagers but not for the elderly or dog walkers.

#### Fenced

- I'd like to also mention the new play are in gadebridge Park should be enclosed, I've personally witnessed dogs roaming freely off leads in the equipment on the equipment and children running scared from dogs on an occasion, 2 it's also very hard to keep an eye on small children when it is so busy and all open with access to many parts of the park it doesn't feel safe. Putting up a fence or something would not only stop the dogs but also keep children enclosed so parents with more than 1 child can be a bit more relaxed knowing they can't wander off in any direction.
- I agree but I think that like playgrounds these areas should be fenced off
- Agree with fenced play areas . Splash park areas should be fenced as well as many dogs enjoy playing in water . If there fenced as well it would protect that area as well from dogs and owners would know that by it being fenced it was a no go area for dogs as well . So everyone happy
- I agree with the proposal for dogs not being alliowed in enclosed playgrounds.
   I do not agree to whole areas having a dog ban, e.g. if the dog is under 'effective control', such as on a lead, just because it is used by children or there is an in enclosed children's playground. If the council is so concerned with children's safety then it should fence ALL children's play grounds/areas in the borough. Taking the principle of your proposal into consideration, should the Council also be looking at

banning children from areas which are frequented by owners to walk their dogs? I believe your other proposals 're picking up dog faeces and no dogs in enclosed children.play grounds are sufficient to address the overall objective of the proposals.

- I disagree as the new play area in Gadebridge Park which is not fenced up should also exclude dogs
- I agree in principle but the new play area in Gadebridge Park has no fencing and the area for exercising dogs seems to shrink all the time. Play areas should all be fenced off, it has been done around the splash pool, so why not around the play area.
- As a responsible dog owner I do my best to keep my dog out of children's play areas. My dog is excellent at recall, but I cannot guarantee that my friendly and inquisitive dog won't try to approach people in these areas if they are not fenced off. It is safer and better for all parties if areas where dogs are prohibited are fenced.
- This should include all play areas, fenced and those without e.g the new park at Gadebridge Park
- I do agree with the proposed requirement for dogs to be prohibited from all children's playgrounds AND by extension this should mean that all children's playgrounds should be FENCED. The playground as The Moor, Mill Street, Berkhamsted has been refurbished by DBC but the playground has not been fenced allegedly because of insufficiency of funds and this should be corrected.
- Very disappointed that (a) the proposal does not include UNFENCED/UNENCLOSED DBC play areas such as the Moor in Berkhamsted (also I understand it is the current view amongst many local authorities and play specialists that play areas should NOT be enclosed so DBC may end up removing some enclosures). Also the new play area in Gadebridge Park is unfenced. Also the Splash Park is unfenced (that is separate to the new play area). (b) does not provide for instances when DBC take over responsibility of new play areas installed by housing developers. There is one in the offing in Aspen Park (adjoining Manor Estate, near Featherbed Lane, Apsley). The wording of this provision needs to be redone - perhaps to forbid unleased dogs within (say) 5 metres of play equipment in play areas owned by DBC. We should not be limiting the prohibition to just ENCLOSED play areas.
- If the area is not fenced off and is in a public space I don't think it's fair to force dogs to not be allowed there
- In my local area there are fenced areas where dogs are not permitted. There are never children playing when I take my dog out as they are at school. The fenced area would be perfect to take my dog off lead to play knowing they could not be run over by accidently chasing a toy too far. If a child arrived I would put my dog back on lead and leave. It seems a shame we cannot share these areas.
- Although I do agree with this, it is essential that ALL chldrens play areas are fenced off to keep dogs out there will be times in the day when inforcement is not in place and irresposible owners will allow their dogs to roam freely!
- Only in fenced areas. Dogs should be allowed to run free if properly supervised on green open spaces. This question is poorly worded and misleading on this survey as it 'includes' children's fenced play areas. It also seemingly includes all open spaces other than children's play areas. Dogs must be allowed to run free on all green open spaces if suitably supervised.
- Agree In little Gaddesden the Church Road children's play area is not fully fenced off but the PC agrees with the principle

#### Walk

• I thought that has always been the case but how about the council putting I some fun Zones for dog walkers. fixed agility zones. safe zones for dogs too in the parks. again other councils do this. Dog owners with or with out children pay council tax you should be supplying facilities for this too. Ask people who are dog owners not the ones that are not

- If the dog owner is responsible by having the dog on a lead and it is under control and clears up after a dog i think they should be allowed. Many families have young children that they wish to take into the play area but also like to walk the dog at the same time. There is then a problem of tying the dog up outside and run the risk of having them stollen. I do understand the problem is people with the attitude they will do as they wish wether a sign is up or not and most people are too frightened to approach them so whatever you do ban them from the area or not they will not take any notice.
- I agree to keep the dogs away from the area in Schedule 1 but am considering parents who try dog walk and kid's play outside all one go. Is there any chance to build the area they could leave their dog while they attend their kids to play ?
- Try putting your effort into repairing our paths and walk ways rather than dreaming up ideas of how to persecute people.
- I agree with this as long as similar 'dog only' enclosed areas are also provided. Safe spaces to walk dogs are limited and often dogs cannot be walked off lead due to children running around in open areas. For example, parents often bring their children into the enclosed dog park in Apsley, which is one of the only safe enclosed spaces in the area to walk dogs. An increased number of enclosed dog parks would prevent owners from taking their dogs into children's play areas.
- Provide a dog walking/exercise area in our parks

These pets exercise areas are provided on motorways' rest areas or in parks on the continent. They seem to be popular and reduce other problems linked to dogs in public places.

#### Lead

- Dogs should be on leads in play areas but parents often take their children and dogs to the park together so it could be difficult for a parent and you don't want children or dogs unattended.
- I think that dogs should be kept on leads within these areas but to ban them means that parents and carers who want to walk their dog with their children are unable to do so. Family pets are the pets of the children too not just the adults and children enjoy the benefits of going out with their pets too.
- Not all dogs are out of control and can be trusted with small children... Even on a lead in a child's playground as their are many families that enjoy taking their childern and dog out at the same time and would love to sit in a child's play area with their dog whilst the child plays. This should be basic free rights to do.
- Dogs on short leads should be allowed in play areas
- Provided they are on a lead, and cleaned up after, it should be ok. They are, after all, a family member.
- if a dogis on a lead I see no problem with this
- I think they should be allowed in but on leads I have a dog and I worry about her being taken with all the horrible stories you read. I don't ever leave her tied up without me being there.
- For families who have children and dogs and wish to exercise both together, this makes it difficult. There are too many dog thefts in the borough already so expecting families to tie their dogs up outside a childrens play area is not practical or safe. Perhaps it might be a better idea to insist that dogs allowed in a childrens play area are kept on a lead at all times. Also that anyone seen allowing their dog to foul within the play area without clearing it up should be fined.
- As long as the dog is on a lead all the time it's in the park.
- While I do agree with enclosed dog spaces. If a play area is not fenced off it is difficult

to keep dogs out completely. If you have small children, it is also difficult to supervise them if you cannot have the dog, on a lead, in the playground.

• I think that if children are playing in the play area that dogs should be under control. Some children take their dogs to the park. Some dogs are small and not likely to be a problem and it would restrict dogs from being with their young person owner, some disabled autistic/ epileptic people feel more confident with a dog by their side, however not all dogs that provide this support are registered as assistance dogs due to shortages of available, trained dogs.

I think that it would be wise that dogs are on a lead in a children's play area. However there are play areas where some pathways are through the play area, and as long as there are no children playing (later in the evening), AND owners pick up faeces whilst walking through, I do not see a problem.

- For single parents to be walking their dog and child to the park this has a negative impact. Possibly dogs should be on shortened leads and not left unattended with all faeces cleaned immediately
- If you are banning dogs from children's areas will there be optional safe areas where we can take dogs with out kids being in the way too?!

I can't see any reason why a dog is a problem in a play area especially given your new lead rules. How does a parent take their whole family out if the four legged child is prohibited?

What if your child falls off the swing and you have to run in to the park, I take it you aren't encouraging people to recklessly tie a dog up unattended (especially given the recent spate of dog theft) and that you would allow a parent to enter a park with a dog so as not to leave the child or dog unattended?

- I'm a responsible dog owner that have grandchildren and a dog when I take the grandchildren to the park I would love to take the dog too, who I would keep on a short lead.
- All parks are enclosed and gates should be kept shut not held open with prams as I have seen. Also what if a parent has a dog and a child. Surely as long as the dog is on a short lead within play area then the children can enjoy the play area and the dogs wont get stolen.
- What if I want to take my dog and children to the park at the same time. As long as on a lead and faeces picked up they should be allowed
- This would in some cases unnecessarily prevent responsible dog owners with dog on lead taking their dog and child to a playground.
- Some owners have Children under 5 and dogs, they can't be in both the play area which excludes dogs and keeping an eye on the children who may require help on certain pieces of play equipment. So long as they are kept on a short lead I don't see why they can't be in the play area.
- They should be allowed but always kept on a lead .
- I don't agree because it said dog is on a lead and you are picking up their poop etc then why can't they be in these areas? It's down to the children's parent/career etc to tell the children not to go up to the dogs etc. Or better make friendly children free dog areas.
- Some parents want to tire out pets and children at the same time . Make the rule be lead and muzzle & pick up poo
- I understand children can be frightened of dogs and no one likes dog poo in the children areas, but a lot of families have dogs and children and I don't see why we can not have our well behaved dogs on leads in these areas. I have two children and a dog and when we are out together it's hard for me to supervision my children properly in the park as I have to stand outside with the dog. A lot of dogs are better behaved then the children, people moan about dog poo (which I always pick up) but the mess,

rubbish and even vandalism left by there children is worse!

- Should be on lead in all public areas
- Dogs in children's play areas should be kept on a lead. If I took my children/grandchildren to a park while also walking the dog this would prevent my entry to the park to supervise the children at play. Any considerate dog owner would do this. You would be punishing the majority because of the minority. Also, I do not approve of fenced in play areas. What have the children done to deserve to be imprisoned.
- A mother who takes her young child and the family dog to a play area will need to be inside the area with her child. Is she to leave the dog outside without control or leave her child unattended. Common sense she's she can control both the dog (on a lead) and her child better and safer by being in the area. Obvious this sort of restriction is drafted by officials who have more thoughts of control than common sense
- Dogs are often considered part of the family and kids like to play and be involved with them. They shouldn't be excluded because they aren't human. It should be a requirement that your dog be controlled on a lead at all times and any poop should be picked up. If the owners can't do that, then they should not take their dog in
- Dogs are part of normal society. However, it is the dog owners responsibility to ensure that whilst in the play areas they are kept on a lead. I can see the benefits of having this type of clause but would not want to restrict responsible owners from allowing children the interaction of dogs within the play areas.

### Other

• Yes and no

If a parent has a child and a dog and they are sat in the play area this is fine If it is a person with no children then no

- This could be difficult for a single parent with a well behaved and trained dog to look after their child(ren) in a designated area, as the dog would need to be left behind.
- Make sure you implement new laws with a fine and community service IE clearing up and monitor.

Don't just bring new law in.

- Some parks are not fensed off so it's not that black and white
- I think dogs should be allowed as long as it has a mussel on.
- These areas are not always cordend off from other open spaces where dogs are allowed.

Also there are certain times of the day, I.e. early morning or late evening when there will not be children in these areas, so it should not be an exclusion 24/7.

- Children should learn how to behave around dogs. Again, too many petty, fussy rules.
- But then will this increase dogs being tethered to railings around said play area unattended while an owner is with their children at the play park !
- Only if parents are responsible and keeps their unruly children's in the play area and not let to roam free a park chasing a dog for fun.
   94% of dog owners are responsible but can't say the same about parents with children's !
- Enclose areas for dogs not children.
- If the dog is not causing a problem then they should be allowed there. I see 2 dogs last week in the town centre playing with the water alongside children and they were playing together. Dogs were under control at all times.
- As long as t is still ok to tie a dog near to the park etc
- This makes it difficult for families to take yheir dog and children to the park together
- There too many complaints about dogs locally but the council have not made areas secure for both children and dogs.
- This would prohibit families with both children and dogs from using the play area.

Could there be a requirement to tie the dogs to a specific place inside the area instead?

- I agree with the proposal, but am curious to understand why we are only concerned with the well being of children. Too many dog owners abdicate responsibility for their pets. All dogs should be micro-chipped. All owners should have to attend classes on how to be a responsible pet owner.
- some dogs especially toy older ones love going on the swings themselves
- If the dog is friendly then yes, however if a dog is temperamental then no as it is not worth the risk of injuring anybody, child or not
- Yes I agree that dogs should be prohibited from Children's Play Areas, unless of course, a Blind Dog or similar.
- It may be that the dog owner takes the dog when his children go to play
- However, I have seen many digs in shade ridge park in the hot weather tied up to fencing in boiling heat with shade for far too long This should be addressed by making more shaded areas

# Appendix F

**Question 7.** Are there any other dog related issues that you feel are detrimental to your quality of life in Dacorum that you would like to see included in a PSPO?

#### Responses

### Muzzle

- Consideration of muzzles for certain breeds of dogs and those dogs who have been implicated in previous dog-related incidents in a public place
- If a dog needs to be muzzled when outside the confines of its home, the dog MUST be muzzled and must be muzzled SECURELY. Just placing a loose muzzle on a dog's head is NOT good enough. Everyone needs to know that if they see a muzzled dog then (a) they should treat that dog with caution and (b) they should be able to rely on the muzzle being securely fastened so that the dog CANNOT bite a person or another dog.
- All dogs should be muzzled when in public places. A 'nip' to a young child is painful & causes long term psychological problems
- Some dogs in coronation field need to be muzzled, as there have been a few attacks on other dogs recently, also there are a lot of owners not being responsible, they do not lift their dogs feaces, especially when they take their dogs out earlier when it's dark, at dawn. a few notices does not seem to deter them, more needs to be done, I.e. hidden cameras,
- If an owner believes their dog is nervous or may bite if approached then that dog should always be muzzled. My kids have often been told not to go near someone's dog in case they bite but they are walking around with their dog unmuzzled.
   I live on Wheelers Lane and we have a huge dog fouling problem. Not only on the green outside my house but on the way to Tudor school. It is very dangerous to children as these dogs will probably not have been worked as responsible owners who worm their dogs pick up their poo!
- There are no bins on the side of Woodhall Farm where I live. Boleyn close side. I would suggest to have enclosed areas to exercise dogs as they do in Milan Italy, in every parks. Lots of dogs are aggressive. All dogs should be compulsorily registered and microchipped and forced to wear a muzzle in public. My dog had been bitten several time
- I believe you have covered the topics but I would like to reiterate that dog fouling is happening not only in the parks but also on pavements and verges. I can't walk my dog at our local park because too many owners let their dogs off of their leads and they bother my dog who is a 13yr old lady. Here was a scheme promoted some time ago about nervous dogs having yellow ribbons on their leads as a sign to other owners tonstay clear, I'm wondering if this could be promoted? So many owners shout 'my dogs ok' but my dog isn't and gets scared if others due to being attacked a far few times by dogs off of leads. I think you should look at vicious
- dogs that attack and maybe look into muzzles for such dogs.
- All dogs should be muzzled when off the lead
- Any dog that has been reported to the police or dog warden for aggressive behavior must be muzzled in a public place
- People need to be able to control their dogs, using a lead and a muzzle if needed Too many attacks by uncontrolled off lead dogs
- Out of control dogs wearing a muzzle in pubic places.
- There have been numerous reports of a person in charge of a dog who do not keep their dog under control which are known to be a nuisance to other dogs and people. These dogs are viscous and should not be allowed in a public space unless they are muzzled and kept on a leash. Nothing appears to be done about this so it's all very

well passing regulations if these aren't enforced.

- Any dog that is known to be unpredictable and/or dangerous around people or other dogs should be kept on a lead and muzzled in public areas
- See above comments ref keeping dogs on leads or muzzled; looking after all residents, not just children; micro-chipping dogs; and teaching owners to be more responsible.
- All dogs should be micro chipped and if not the owner (or person in charge of the dog at the time) fined
   Also young children are out with dogs they clearly cannot control so in addition to

Also young children are out with dogs they clearly cannot control so in addition to having a lead they should also be required to carry a muzzle.

- For the dog owner to have suitable insurance...there have been a spate of dogs going for other dogs or people in the past few months. Perhaps dogs that have initiated such attacks need to be muzzled and on a lead after them?
- I have a high energy breed . She needs to run free sometimes . To ban her from being offlead is unfair. I pick my dogs crap up . I muzzle her off the lead and she has good recall because I trained her . If I want to walk round fields and woods with my dog running laps around me then I should be allowed to without the harassment from your staff . Asbo people who don't control their dogs . Give them personally as many orders as you want but to punish the many because of the few is unfair !
- Dogs to be muzzled, which have previously offended in dog attacks/people attacks
- Dogs that are unfriendly should be muzzled. Our own dog has been attacked when walking due to dogs that are not socialised

# Barking/Noise

- Dogs barking for an unreasonable length of time or barking intermittently across an unreasonable length of time when they can be heard in residential areas. This often occurs when the dog is left alone at home and is considerably detrimental to the quality of life of other people in the community. This is true regardless of the decibel level of the barking.
- Dogs that are left to bark for long periods of time. These dogs are in distress and often neglected
- Dogs allowed to run free and repeatedly entering other neighbours gardens. Often fouling there
- Dogs put in the garden, or out all night, barking at unsociable hours eg 5am
  Council property with dogs that cry and bark all day
- Noise nuisance caused by incessant dog barking. This be while dogs are on private property but effecting people in public areas.
- Dogs that are not on leads in public places and are not under control. Any dogs not under control, including people who leave dogs in their gardens to bark when they are not in the property
- We are regularly disturbed by dog barking in South Hill Road, Hemel Hempstead, both during the day and late at night. Effort to remind dog owners that it is antisocial to allow this would be appreciated
- Consistent dog barking at all hours. The council are not interested in helping even though I filled in a diary, and my children are STILL kept awake at night and woken in the morning by this noise nuisance!!

Should have more powers to stop inconsiderate owners letting their pets behave in this way..

- We already know that it is offence for a dog to foul in a public place and not be cleaned up. However there is not enough enforcement of the law now and requests to local clubs and societies to do their part in keeping public places clean fall on deaf ears. Barking is a cause if irritation to many people. Some dogs seem to be turned out into the garden and no attempt seems to be made to control them.
- Animals left alone in cars and home that bark all day
- Continuous barking when left alone and early morning noise, ie; before 7am
- There are people that reside in my village of Aldbury that are breeding dogs to make money.

They have no consideration for the well being of the bitch or the puppies, in addition the constant noise from barking dogs and the mess created is very distressing to the other law abiding residents. I'm sure that they are breaking there tenancy agreements.

- Dogs left at home most of the day and barking should be categorised as anti social behaviour by the owner. Also whenever I or my cats go out in the garden, next door's dog barks. Dogs should not be allowed in bed and breakfast and hotels.
- I feel strongly about dogs constantly barking throughout daylight hours. There are 9 within 50 metres of my house XX Cardy Road which maintain a constant din, one setting off others, which makes it unpleasant to sit in the back garden. Frequently they are left alone for hours on end.

Is there anything which can be done about this?

- Dogs in neighbouring households that bark all day whilst the owner is out at work
- Misbehaved barking dogs in houses and gardens can be a noise nuisance to neighbours, which should be better dealt with to protect people's peace and limit noise exposure
- Incessant barking by dogs left outside, especially evening and night time. It's unpleasant, antisocial and unforgivably selfish of the owners.
- Barking. If dogs are barking persistently indoors or outside in the whole of dacorum then the owner must be made to comply to take steps that stop this.

- Barking all night in their garden
- Dogs should be prohibited from barking at length, to the annoyance of neighbours. If dogs are aggressive even within their own homes, they should be restrained and kept from the front door.
- Barking by neighbours leaving dogs unattended in back gardens whilst work etc. Dogs occasionally biting members of public lead restrictions for a number of months afterwards if identified council to look for repeat offenders
- The nuisance of dogs barking early in the morning or late at night.
- Dogs barking at night. None of this addresses the real cause of some dog fouling which is often old age people who cannot bend down and are not able to clear up after their dog
- Uncontrolled barking and jumping up at people. This is frightening behavior. Dogs left alone day and night in people's gardens. Particularly in manor estate apsley hemel Hempstead. West valley Rd in particular.
- People letting their dogs bark constantly in their gardens causing a noise nuisance to other neighbours
- inability of dog owners to curtail persistent barking suggest some form of nuzzling.
- That even if on private property owners exercise reasonable constraint and pay attention to the behaviour of their dogs. The fact tht they are ,eg, off a lead at Ashridge does not mean they should be allowed to bound over to a family picnic, sniff around your food and lick your children. 'He's just a puppy' is not an excuse. Neighbours can even be intimidated by dogs charging around adjoining gardens and jumping up and barking over fences. Many dog owners also do not seem to understand that children are often fearful of large dogs in close proximity and seem to assume that because they know and trust their dogs everyone else, small children included, should too.
- Dogs that are left during the day to bark continuously which causes a noise nuisance and must be very distressing for the dog concerned
- I would for something to be done about dogs that are left out overnight barking disturbing neighbours.
- Yes, Some dog owners living near us leave their dogs in the house alone for long periods, and the dogs bark continuously, thus causing a noise nuisance for my husband and I.
- Dogs barking incessantly in back gardens or on balconies of flats.
   Provide more poo bins and empty them
   Discourage owners from depositing poo bags in hedges and on low tree branches
- Continuous barking is inconsiderate for neighbours and stressful for the dog itself. Dogs on leads should be compulsory in fields with livestock to prevent dog attacks (on sheep for example)
- Excessive barking even if in owners garden.
- Dogs should be under control in the vicinity of runners and cyclists.
   Dog owners who allow their dogs to bark persistently and create a noise nuisance should be sanctioned.
- I think if a dog constantly barks for any reason, whether it's been left alone or sadly mistreated I think you should have the authority to visit the offending household to access the situation.
- A curfew for dogs being out late in the evening and barking loudly (often past 10pm in a Wigginton, Tring)
- 1. Noise nuisance caused by late night dog barking. 2. Constant dog urination on my front doorstep causing smell and hygiene issue it isn't just faeces that causes problems.

- There needs to be some control over dogs barking for long periods of the day in residential areas. Neighbours of ours allow their dog to stand at an open window on the first floor and bark down into the street for hours at a time.
- Dogs being allowed to bark constantly day and night. It is becoming a real nightmare in places. Inappropriate dogs for the size of property and garden so they are bored witless.
- Dogs in gardens barking.
- Excessive barking/noise issues for neighbours.
- dogs barking all day and night in there gardens
- Need for action against dogs who continually bark at unsocial times. We live in Markyate and night after night our sleep is disturbed by yapping dogs who yap for hours between 3-4 am whose owners take no action to stop them in Becks close.
- Dogs left in gardens constantly barking. Council tenents should be checked that they are allowed dogs in their property. Tenants in flats, Inc those above shops, to be checked and dogs removed especially if constant fouling on communal walkways
- not sure how possible this is but something around dogs being left unattended at home for long periods of time especially when they suffer from separation anxiety and therefore spend hours barking. This is not only a nuisance to those living in the proximity but also is I imagine distressing for the dog.
- Dogs barking in Gardens for hours on end.
- Yes. Noisy dogs. Can anything be done about these? I am lucky enough to live near an open area. One particular dog barks from the minute it is let out, then continuously for the whole of its walk (about a mile), then barks all the way back home again too. Great when I am on night work!
- Nuisance dog barking, especially at unsocial hours.
- Continual barking.
- Persistent dog barking in gardens some people leave their dogs barking outside for hours.
- Dogs should be trained not to keep barking in gardens or houses. We have people around us who do nothing to stop dogs barking so bad that people cannot sit in their gardens at varying times of the day. There should be a restricting order with reference to this!!! People do not want to listen to other peoples dogs while they are out, or in the house watching t.v. and not taking proper care of their dogs!!
- Leaving dogs for such length of time (either attended or unattended) to bark constantly particularly at unsociable hours.
- Noise dogs left unsupervised in gardens etc.
- There is a dog that gets left out in the back garden near us and whines continually until it gets back indoors there needs to be some ruling about this noise pollution and fines for the owners. Also something about leaving dogs in hot cars ought to have official rules and punishments too.
- dogs left in gardens all day and howling incessantly and sometimes at night
- there should be powers to deal with noisy dogs eg fining the owners or removing dog from there property.

### Walkers/Multiple Dogs

- (1) Q1 if faeces placed in a bin, the faeces must be in a bag (2)Q4- no more than 3 dogs are allowed to be off lead I am thinking of dog walkers who have several dogs at any one time (3) Q5: the dog lead must be under the control of a person. (4) Q6: The new DBC playground in Gadebridge Park is unfenced. There are other DBC playgrounds that are not fenced. These must be included in the PSPO. And what about adding new playgrounds that DBC take over from housing developers in the future?
- This survey fails to enable me to make further comments even though I agree with the principles outlined. (1) Q1 if faeces placed in a bin, the faeces must be in a bag (2)Q4- if there are more than say 3 dogs under the control of one person typically dog walkers then the dogs should be on leads for example, no more than 3 dogs are allowed to be off lead (3) Q5: insufficient merely to require a lead the lead could theoretically be tied up to a post. The crucial point is that the dog on the lead is under the control of a person. (4) Q6: not all DBC playgrounds are fenced and indeed the playground industry is advising that fences are removed. The new DBC playground in Gadebridge Park is unfenced. Far better to have in these PSPO that dogs are not allowed within (say) 3 metres of a play area and remove the reference to fenced playgrounds. (5) Q6: provision needs to be made for new DBC playgrounds to be added to the schedule DBC will be taking over playgrounds created by housing developers
- Yes no more than 3dogs walked by one person this to include paid dog walkers
- Too many dog walkers walking large numbers of dogs together. It's intimidating.
- Limitations on Commercial Dog Walkers to 4 per person and applying all the above rules to them in particular. Exclusion zones for dogs such as sports pitches.
- Please consider extending the play areas to the baseball diamond on Grovehill Playing fields used as a dog park by professional dog walkers and the like even though the space is a play area for children and adults alike.
- All dog walkers (business)should be limited to TWO dogs to be walked at one time, this is for safety reasons.

In case a dog fight started and gives the handler a chance to stop it and gain control of the dogs.

- Professional dog walkers who walk multiple dogs. Sometimes into double figures. Usually mostly off the lead. They cannot possibly have them all under control and the number should be limited and enforced.
- To be able to report constant offenders who have no intention of ever clearing up their dog waste. Professional dog walkers who walk 5-6 dogs at a time off their leads totally oblivious of when the dogs in their care defecate or annoy other dog walkers or chase cattle (Bunkers Open Space)!
- I only walk my dog on the street now in Hemel as she can only run free in secure areas (rescued pikey lurcher with strong prey drive) and when I walk her on lead locally in Shrubhill area etc she is accosted by dogs that are off lead. The owners refuse to call them off, confident their dog is friendly. MY DOG DOES NOT KNOW THAT AND DOESN'T ALWAYS WANT HER BOTTOM SNIFFED BY A STRANGE DOG. I take her to Chipperfield at the weekend now where the dogs and owners are less anti social. You will not stop fouling unless you have officers on all green space all day because the owners that let their dogs run free do not chase them around to pick it up. I am pretty sure that the 'professional' dog walkers that I see releasing 6 dogs at a time on Boxmoor do not run all over the moor picking up.
- Dog walkers with 3 or more dogs it can be intimidating to come across 3+ dogs off leads in the charge of just one person.
   Dog/s in next door garden barking at the fence separating us create an unnecessary noise nuisance and can be disconcerting.

Dog faeces in Butts Meadow and the Grand Union canal towpath (Berkhamsted) is a particular 'hazard'.

- Dog walkers should be limited to the number of dogs they exercise at one time, possibly to 4. Number to be determined.
- More dog waste bins provided especially in the area of Swan Mead Nash Mills. One collection point near Apsley Marina and one in Belswains Lane is NOT enough. Clearer signs need to be out up in Bunkers Park Car Park as dog fouling is a huge disgrace on field nearby. Bins are there but people ignore them and leave mess behind. Also there appears a huge issue there with professional dog walkers with so many dogs in their possession they can't be controlled. Three or four dogs is fine but over 8 is a little too much for one person to be in charge of and all off leads!
- Dogs fouling on football pitches is a particular concern. The Saturday and Sunday league managers have to go through the pitch prior to the morning games to clear it of dogs muck. I have first hand experience of this as my children have all played football. This issue may go unnoticed to the Council as it is being dealt with by the community. I think dog owners should be discouraged from allowing their dogs to foul on football pitches and other areas where children play.

I am also concerned with the amount of dogs a dog walkers can walk at one time, it is quite threatening if someone is coming towards you with 4 large dogs on extended leads, or no leads.

 (1) Professional dog walkers - there should be a restriction on the number of dogs walked by one person off lead - say 4 dogs.

(2) re dog faeces - not sure the suggested wording prevents the stuff being hung in a plastic bag on a tree

(3) is dispersing dog faceces into the undergrowth or hedgerow OK? I do not know but understand it is fairly common practice

(4) I assume this Order is to cover Boxmoor Trust land as well, on which there are grazing animals. In those instances, is a shorter lead required and the wording of the order adjusted accordingly?

- Dog walkers in charge of too many dogs at one time . I regularly see two dog walkers with so many dogs that they shut in to the base ball area in Margaret Lloyd fields .they pen them in and then let them off the lead to run .too many to control if a problem occurred and too many to see if they mess in the area and it's s sport area not for dogs!
- I think dog walkers should require a license and should be limited to the number of dogs they are able to walk at any one time. I also think it should be an offence to hang dog poo bags in trees!
- There are a couple of professional dog walkers on Grovehill playing field who have over a dozen dogs using the baseball diamond as a dog park. This fs ce area is used by adults and children alike chasing their ball, diving to the ground, sitting waiting their turn. Who knows where the dog peed or pooed. This space and any similar, are fenced play area as should also be included.
- Pennine Way rugby fields needs an order when there are groups of dog walkers and people walking dogs they should be kept on leads and under control. There are a group of people who walk there dogs over there let all there dogs off at once who run around everywhere and into the Nicky line and have attacked dogs on leads and the owners don't even notice where they are. A woman was bitten and it was reported to the dog warden and the police.
- There are far too many professional dog walkers taking upto 8 dogs each at a time to the NationalTrust land at Ashridge.
   It is not uncommon to see 30 to 40 dogs at a time. I have never seen any of them collect dog faeces.

The earn about £200 a day and cause serious parking problems. Some of the businesses come from Chesham and Bovingdon.

- limit on how many dogs are walked by dog walkers and that they are all registered with DBC.
- The number of dogs being walked at one time and particularly off the lead. There have been numerous issues particularly around felden with dog walkers walking at least 4 dogs at a time. This can be very intimidating to other dogs and the dog walker often does not have control over the dogs and I do not believe it is possible to be able to clear up dog fouling of this number.
- Too many people have too many dogs that they cannot possibly control. They may be dog minders
  - I would suggest a limit of three dogs being managed by anyone at any one time.
- There are an increasing number of dog walking businesses where one person may be walking 4 or more dogs. It is impossible for them to have adequate control on or off leads. There should be a limit to the number of dogs that one person can walk at any one time I.e. 2 dogs
- A limit to the number of dogs a dog walker can take out eg 4
- Too many dogs become a possible pack, which then leads to the possibility of attack. Please try to restrict the number of dogs allowed into a public space.
- Fix penalty fines should be enforable for two or more dogs running free in any public area, it is not possible to keep an eye on two or more dogs at the same time fowling goes unnoticed at times and loose dogs tend to run up to other dogs attacking or causing distress to other owners.

There are no bad dogs just bad owners. Controls and on the spot fines are the only reasonable answer.

Yes I am a dog owner.

- Large numbers of dogs being exercised in public areas, playing fields and parks by dog walking companies.
- I would like to see the number of dogs walked at any one time by paid dog carers restricted to 4.
- Too many dogs being walked by one person at the same time, particularly if they are off the lead. I suggest a maximum number of dogs to be walked by one person and that the council should decide on this number
- It would be beneficial to restrict the amount of dogs to person ratio. It would also be effective that any pspo legislation would enable officers to issue notices/warnings to repeat offenders, rather than just on the spot enforcement.
- No of dogs permitted to be walked at one time.
   Responsibility of young persons walking dogs without the ability to control the dog.
- Grovehill playing fields (Margaret Lloyd fields) a dog walking company called hills hounds uses the kids baseball courts, at midday every week day, to let about 20 dogs loose. They use plastic little fences to block off the area and have been reported many times yet no one does anything. The dogs are running around in the heat with no shelter and no water. Local residents have complained so many times but the council does nothing about it. Please justify why you are turning a blind eye
- the amount of dogs a person can walk at any one time should be restricted to an amount that a person can reasonable control
- Some consideration for how many dogs are walked or supervised by a single person. Encountering a person walking, lets say for example, 5 dogs either on or off the leash can be intimidating for passers by.

## Guidedogs/Disabled

- That people with Guide Dogs are able to access the pavements and that people parking on pavements should be warned and if they do not comply should be fined also that all shops, pubs, restrurants and other public places should be educated to the fact that Guide Dogs and Guide Dog puppies and other working dogs have access to all these places and not physically removed, subjected to verbal abuse or spat at. This can be quite upsetting for the Blind, deaf etc people.
- What facility is there in this PSPO to cover when dog faeces is not solid and cannot be cleared properly.
   Who is responsible for clearing up for someone that is disabled or visually impaired? Can they call someone to clear the mess up. Faeces from their dogs is as filthy and possibly
- infectious as anybody elses.
  Disabled people shouldn't be allowed to not deal with their dogs faeces, if they can't do what a non disabled person does and do not need them as guide dogs then they shouldn't have them at all... A bad back is a poor excuse as is most other "disabilities" for not dealing with faeces... Childern should be educated not to approach any dogs in an aggressive Manor (from the dogs point of view) specially when the dog is on a lead as it leaves them freighted and trapped.
- Excusing disabled people from picking up their dog's faeces is not acceptable. Anyone with a registered assistance dog as part of their training with the dog is expected to pick up after it. We have first hand knowledge. People will use disability as an excuse.

And more officers! Nobody actually patrols!

• What will you do with the dog fouling that is left by those with disabilities. Will it be cleaned up? I don't believe it's fair to have exceptions. Surely there should be someone in the council a disabled person can get in touch with to have it cleaned up? Leaving it defeats the point.

Prevent fouling outside of people's homes/gates to their homes. It's really unfair when we want to go out and have to dodge dog poo. We shouldn't have to keep dog poo bags when we don't even have a dog. I was sent stickers but nothing to put them on. I cannot put stickers on the floor or on grass or bushes. I attempted attaching them to my grated gate but it was removed by the people responsible for leaving the excrement within minutes, 3 times over.

- How come a "disabled" person is allowed to let their dog defecate wherever without penalty? It still stinks, it still transfers to shoes and clothes and it still carries disease
- I understand 'working dogs' will be kept on leads...guide dogs etc but will dogs with disabled owners be kept on a lead in these public places too?
- Disability does not mean that a dog owner should not take responsibility for the behaviour
  of their dog. Trained mobility dogs will not run wild, other dogs owned by disabled persons
  must be trained and controlled by their owner. I cannot believe that Guide dog owners do
  not have adequate means of removing their dogs faeces, assisted by their dog if
  necessary.
- People occasionally walk their dogs off the lead on pavements and quiet lanes (old fishery lane Hemel is a perfect example). I am a Guide Dog user and this is a real problem as these owners do not have proper control of the dogs who come bounding up to my dog when she is working in her harness.

## Littering/Rubbish

- Stop children from littering public playgrounds and parks
   There has been a great increase in this recently especially penny's fields in Markyate
- As a responsible dog owner I already apply all of the points you raise and feel that wardens should be around to enforce the penalties that existing signs state are payable. I do feel targeted though that there are signs everywhere criminalising ALL dog owners but nothing about litter louts and people who throw food out which attracts other animals such as foxes who will mess wherever they want and dog owners get blamed. My dog who is on a lead was poisoned this year by someone putting out contaminated food. luckily our vet was able to save him at great cost. Perhaps the wardens can also look out for the litter louts and be able to fine them as well. The local park and streets are always full of rubbish which is ignored. Perhaps that can be your next survey.
- I would like the council to provide more dog waste bins more waste bins in general to reduce the opportunity for littering.
- There is great danger to dogs and children from the litter that human beings leave behind in public parks, on road sides and in the countryside so should the council consider more rules for them!
- There have recently been cases of dogs being poisoned by discarded food and litter. The amount of litter in parks and roadsides is increasing. It is noticeable how much the litter increases in the summer when non dog walkers use the parks. There is also a rising issue of dog thefts.
- As a dog owner I think people should be responsible for their animals. I think you need to provide more dog bins. The other scourge that needs tackling is litter. I don't see much dog poo on the streets but litter is increasing and can be dangerous to animals, ie broken glass.
- I am a dog owner and agree with all of the questions posed. I have two comments:
   1. Dacorum must provide dog/general litter bins in ALL areas on the map if owners are expected to pick up. There are currently some areas where there are no bins at all in the areas on the map.

2. Control of dogs (using reasonable length leads) should extend to dog to dog control as well as dog to human. I keep a dog on a lead and experience people who do not control their dog around mine and do not see the importance of this. It can create a nuisance and create dog to dog aggression.

### Leads

- As a responsible dog owner I would like to see ALL dog owners carring a leash. Often I have put my dog on a lead passing people who do not appear to have proper control or refuse to clip their animals up.
- i feel that any dog in a public place that is not on a leash no matter how trained they are- is not under any sort of control from dog owner / walker. non compliance should be met with a fine , repeat offenders to have animals terminated , harsh ,but bought on from many attacks from dogs on way to / home from work so much so i have changed my route on way home after a group of belligerent dog owners with lose dogs blatantly allow dogs to foul and have not one of the dogs under control. acting as if the animals they own / care for have a right way over my journey. i was a dog owner , when walking him we always had him on leash and always had poop bags its been called being a responsible pet owner. fines should be imposed on dog owners caught ignoring theirs dogs waste.
- I think people should be in control of their dogs at all times and should not be off a lead in
  parks or near children's play areas at all.. The dog may be super friendly but we don't know
  that and when a dog comes. running over it is very scary especially if a large dog especially
  for young children and for dog walkers. yes I am one.. whose dogs do not like other dogs in
  their space..
- Implementing all the above.regularly see dogs fouling pavements and not on leash on chamesbury lane between George wood rd and lever stock green.
- As a dog owner, all dogs should kept on a lead in parks and recreational areas, as there are groups of dog owners walking together with their dogs unleashed roaming like packs, the owners oblivious to other people's presence concerns and fears.
- Any one should be able to ask another dog owners to restrain their dog if it upsetting their dog (ie if my dog is on a lead I should be able to ask other owners to restrain their dog if it is upsetting mine) Temporary closing footpaths by farmers if a field has livestock pregnant or nursing young. Or insistence of leashed dogs at the very.least
- Any dog that the owner knows can be agrevated by other dogs should keep their dog on a lead. Several incidences recently have resulted in dogs being attacked by dogs that should have be kept on a lead and not allowed off lead at any time.
- Dogs should be kept on leads when being walking on pavements, or any open spaces which aren't fenced off to the roads. My husband has been attacked by dogs whilst out running as absolutely nobody has their dogs on leads around Leverstock Green/North End/Peascroft Road area. There is always dog mess on the ground in the alleyways on the school run, and I've not once seen anyone patrolling. Fines are all well and good, but you need to be able to have the means to police it and enforce the fines. People will continue to do it as know they'll get away with it
- I feel dogs should be kept on leads.my dog who is always on a lead has been attacked on more than one occasion by dogs off lead while their owner looks on and clearly has no control
- Dogs should be kept on the lead in fields where animals are (eg sheep on boxmoor that have been attacked twice already this summer). There are signs about this but I don't know if it is enforced in any way.
- In any public place dogs should always be on leads.
- I believe all dogs should be kept on leads in public areas, some people's definitions of having their dogs under control is way off.
- In my opinion all dogs should be on a lead in public spaces. My daughter is now terrified after being bitten by an out of control dog so that now she will not walk out where there may be dogs that are not under control.
- As a person with a dog phobia as a result of being bitten in the mouth by a dog as a toddler. I

had to have extensive dental surgery throughout my life as a result as my teeth roots were impacted. I would suggest that dogs be on leads in public places except in designated dog exercising areas that I can stay away from. Gigs off leads are terrifying

- Exercising dogs off the lead after dark.
- Allowing children to be in charge of dogs when they are not capable of responsible dog care
  I feel all dogs should be on a lead, as many owners can not control their dogs. My dog was
- attached in woodhall farm 10 years ago and the owner was never brought to justice. Some dogs are nervous and they still require walking like my own.
- yes we own a dog, a greyhound, which for obvious reasons we cannot let off its lead, so we get terrible hastle from uncontrolled dogs off their lead, who the owners do seem intent to let their pets run anywhere, being elderly this causes great concern when we are out, that is why we feel no dog should be let off the lead in public areas. this survey appears to be more concerned about dog poo than the safety of people which is wrong. lets have some thought of the safety of people. the other concern is where are these official people going to be when they are needed? we do not have enough policing going on now, never mind this extra work.
- Dogs should be kept on a lead on public roads.
- All dogs should be on a lead at all times regardless of where they are
- Dogs should be kept on leads at all times near children and roads. Too many dogs are running around off the lead completely out of control and are causing accidents to both children and cars. Too many dogs are going missing and are causing road accidents.
- A number of irresponsible dog owners will walk their dogs off-lead where they have limited control over the dog and are (seemingly) unable to recall their dog appropriately. This should be addressed either by by-law or something similar.
- Dogs should be on leads in all residential areas.
   My front garden is fouled every evening by dogs being taken for walks in the evening/night by irresponsible owners who let them run free.
- ALL dogs should be on leads when out in public at ALL times. The comment. "S/he doesn't bite" is an insult to the person being terrorised by an out of control dog
- I would like to propose a rule of all dog should be kept on a lead in public space, no matter the excuse. As it will be fairer on owners with well behaved dogs, so non-behaved dogs don't have the advantage to cause a nuisance. I have a well behaved dog, and daily come across dogs off lead in public areas, and it makes me weary to go there again as I have had an encounter with a nuisance dog in the past.
- Many dog owners fail to stop their off-lead pets from approaching other people. I'm not a 'dog person', I'm also extremely uncomfortable with being approached by strange dogs and "don't worry! He/she is friendly!" just isn't good enough.
- so called dangerous dogs, i.e pit bulls/rockweillers or any dogs of a dangerous nature should be on a lead and under their owners control at all times./
- the request for a dog to be put on a lead should be from anyone, dog law should be stated on any signage erected for these new rules/orders and reports of dog anti social behaviour should be taken more seriously by DBC, I would be happy to talk further about this topic as NHW Dacorums Dog Watch volunteer coordinator
- Dogs not on leads bounding towards and leaping up on one
- Dogs should be on leads at all times when out in public.
- Dogs should not be free to approach people children or other dogs. They should always be on lead in public places. Many people are prevented from enjoying parks and open spaces because of dogs off lead. People first
- No dogs in ALL public places.
   Dogs on leads on all streets
   No dogs in cafes and restaurants.
- Being a dog owner myself I feel all dogs should be on leads unless at places like Ashridge as owners don't always have the control they think they have.

- Dogs should be restrained with a lead whilst on any public footway, road, or open space.
- dogs not on leads allowed to run into people's gardens and defecate.
- Dogs should be kept on leads when other people or dogs are present until safety has been established.
- Dogs should be kept under control and on the lead at all times when not in an open area, ie on a footpath, owners should also be aware that if a dog has a notice not to be bothered it should not be bothered
- Alley ways and parks where people walk or let their dogs off leads and let them do their toilet then dont pick it up because they think they are not seen.
- Dogs that habitually run and approach people should be on a lead so as to prevent scaring children and also adults that do not get on with dogs

## Gadebridge Park

- I think from April to October dogs should not be allowed in Gadebridge park, where the play area and splash park are situated
- In Gadebridge park, the new swing area with wooden attractions including the sandpit is not fenced in. Highl risk of hidden fouling by dogs....and you can't blame owners. The park had been taken over by our youth to the detriment of the many dogs and their owners. Please keep an area for dogs to run free. Thank you
- I occasionally see dogs in Gadebridge Park who foul the park but their owner is nowhere to be seen either they park their car and let the dog go where he wants (thus avoiding any responsibility) or else they are just turned out from a local home?? It is great to have these Orders but where are the people to enforce them?

I am an OAP and rely on the park and surrounding areas for exercise but enjoyment is taken away by having to constantly look down to check I am not stepping in any dog poo. Most owners are very responsible but the owners who don't care will constantly re-offend if not tackled.

Also I would like to see the law enforced regarding dogs jumping up to people, especially after they have just come out of the river!

I am not a dog hater - I have had dogs all my life till retirement - but still do not want muddy dogs jumping up and ruining my clothes with the potential of knocking me over now I am less agile. (Some) owners seem to think that their (baby) is so cute that anything goes !! I am very relieved that you are tackling this issue. Thank you.

- The new playground at Gadebridge Park should have a fence around it and dogs should not be allowed inside it. I believe it's potentially dangerous for young children if dogs that are also enjoying the park can go into that area because the dogs could scare them, hurt them by mistake (by getting overexcited, for e.g.), cause an accident, soil the ground, etc...
- Dogs at gadebridge Park the park should be fenced there would be no issue
- All of the above must be enforced. Only yesterday there was a small dog in the new splash in park in gadebridge park. I saw a worker there speak to the owner but the dig remained there for some time. It was very clearly not an assistance dog. There must also be fences around the new play park area there.
- Please, make Gadebridge a dog friendly walking park again and not just for babies , toddlers and their mothers.
- The dog warden should be more visible and the contact number should be posted somewhere in parks like Gadebridge.
- I object to current plans for Gadebridge Park- as a regular dog walker I feel we are at the bottom of the pile for consideration- with dogs being considered and treated as nuisancesimo some children (and parents) are equally a nuisance.
   What about the drunks in the park and walled garden????
- Dogs should be on a lead at all times in Gadbridge Park
- No dogs should be allowed in the new play park in Gadebrige park
- Dogs can't read the tiny notices banning them from the new children's play area and splash park!

Dogs are fouling this area already as they love bark and sand and it will be totally spoilt if a fence is not put up to enclose the play area.

No excuses Darorum that one is too expensive as it doesn't have to be !

• What about the children's play equipment in Gadebridge park. There is no fence around that. Maybe the dogs should not be allowed in the park from March to October. There is the other side of the park over the Leighton Buzzards road that the dog walkers could use.or perhaps the dogs should always be on a lead through the summer months. Not all of us like dogs running up to us!

## Bins/Bags

- More poo bins they get so full up very quickly, there is not one on the halsey school wild site and only 2 on the playing field at gadebridge
- More bins for dog waste and emptied more frequently.
- Dog bins are frequently overflowing which encourages irresponsible owners to leave piles of bags on top or at the foot of the bins. In the hot weather this also creates a nasty smell in the area around them.

The council should do more to ensure there is adequate provision for dog owners to dispose of their dog bags safely.

- I am a good sensible and responsible dog owner it frustrates me however when you want people to clear up their dog waste but the bins are most often overflowing not emptied enough I always take mine home if that is the case but this needs to be sorted
- Council need to do their part and ensure Dog bins are emptied and perhaps updated as they do look old and need to be renewed
- Make sure all dog walkers carry poo bags and fine them if they don;t, They need more than one bag.
- No children should be aloud to walk dogs under 18 as a dog can be dangerous more dog wardens or council walking round woodhall farm as there is dog mess everywhere to catch the people who ruin having a dog for the rest of us more bins and dog bins as its a mile walk before u get to the next one
- I am a dog owner and keep my dog on a lead most times for safety reasons. I am fed up with irresponsible owners letting there dogs off the lead with no control running riot causing havock to my dog who is on a lead, and when you tell them to control there dog al you get is abuse.

also responsible owners will pick up there dog mess but there are so many have no intention of picking it up and never will. How will you police this. I have reported people previously for this action and have been told nothing can be done. also the council has some responsibility provide more dog bins and empty them regular. the service at present is appalling.

- The dog bin is out of site in the green space between chaulden lane and Sundew Rd. I think it should be relocated nearer the path so it's in view when you walk through, some people don't seem to know it's there and are leaving the poo bags on trees or the ground. I also think it's worth reconsidering replacing g the bin that use to be at that end of the chaulden playing fields as many people walk that way too.
- Would like more dog bins around the Dacorum, & to be emptied more frequently . Thank you
- More bins will help all issues with disposal of poo bags . No where near enough.
- There are not enough dog bins around
- Dogs fouling pavements in the Gadebridge area, particularly as the days grow shorter and people walk their dogs round the streets rather than the fields. Another complaint is that people pick up the dog poo and then dump the bag wherever they happen to be. It would be useful to have a bin somewhere along the lane that runs from Fennycroft Road to Gadebridge Road and beyond.

There is a lack of poo bins in Gadebridge. At least one has been removed from the Cavendish field and one from The Moor at Boxmoor.

If you want to catch the culprits someone needs to patrol the street after dusk. There always a pile of poo outside St.Peter's Court, Galley Hill (opposite Galley Hill primary School). Well, you did ask for my comments!! I'm a dog owner, and like most people in this town, I'm sick and tired of the mess left behind by lazy dog owners.

 Dog owners do not collect dog faeces from around my home on Sempill road. Dogs urinate against the wall of my house and faeces are left on pavements and grass verges. The smell and risk of treading on this can be quite concerning especially as i have a young child. Police and respective officers need to be aware of this in the wider community with fines for dog owners who do not collect anything their dog leaves behind. The same can be said for chewing gum. As long as there are adequate bins available then there cannot be an excuse.

- Not enough bins on footpaths leading to open spaces
- Poo bins need to be more visible, more of them.
- you do not empty the dog bins weekly it is a health hazard. you have failed dacorum council. get them emptied at least weekly.
- I am shocked that there isn't more dog poo bins in and around gadebridge and warners end. More is definitely needed
- I think there should be more bins for dog feaces to be deposed off
- There aren't enough dog poo bins, or normal bins for that matter
- As a dog owner, I would like to see more dog waste bins in Dacorum
- The bins provided to dispose of the bags are often overflowing and appear not to be being emptied at reasonable intervals. As a dog owner I am ashamed at times at the 'overflow ' of MANY of the bins throughout the Borough... shame on DBC!!!!
- That dog poo bins are collected on a more regular basis
- The dog waste bins should be emptied more often.
- Could the Council ensure the dog waste bins are emptied on a regular basis. This is often not the case and overfilled bins with bags spilling out does not encourage a more reluctant owner to pick up after their dog.
- Would be nice to have dog parks for dogs to go to, also dog poo bins to be emptied frequently as there usually over flowing, I agree with dogs being on a lead or a long training lead that way owners still have control and dogs can also enjoy life
- For their own protection, it should be the law that ALL dogs be put on a lead when their owners are walking along the road or pavement. Why does the DDC keep removing the doggy bins at Gadebridge Park? The council's excuse that you should use the other bins instead is a disgusting health hazard & probably illegal under H&S legislation
- As a dog owner there need to be more dog bins in the borough. Also, there need to be more places where dog bags are dispensed, as is done by Chipperfield Parish Council
- If these proposals are to succeed, particularly areas NEAR children's play areas need to have signs to show specifically what areas dogs are not allowed in so as to avoid confusion for owners. Also, there are nowhere near enough dog bins in the Apsley area, particularly along the canal towpath.
- There are no bins at all within the national trust area, therefore a lot of the problem with fouling would be reduced if these were placed in certain areas i.e. where the car parks are.
- Dog poo bins are always full. Can we get more collections
- Yes I think that there should be more bins for dog waste than there are to make it easier for people to pick it up and there should also be walks FOR people to take dogs to enjoy the parks and countryside instead of just focusing on negative aspects of dog ownership, lots of family's have dogs so if you prohibit dogs too much you actually make it a detriment to family life, most dog owners are responsible.
- More waste bins need to be provided for ease of dog owners. Many have been removed over the last few years.
- Lack of bins of any type on NIckey Line behind Hunters Oak
- There needs to be much better signage across the borough on anti-fouling and the consequences. More dog waste bins. On the spot fines should also be introduced for fouling and failure to clear up. The same again for dogs off a lead.
   Dog fouling in my area is a problem. The council should issue advice to dog owners focussing on responsible behaviour and highlighting the health issues associated with dog fouling.
- Regular emptying of dog poor bins
- Need more dog poo bins and they need to be emptied regularly
- I only answered yes in order to be ABLE to tell you more. I do not want ANY Pointless Space

Protection Orders if they are an exercise in being seen to be doing something.

1. Provide more bins

2. State how this and other PSPOs will be "policed" and at what cost.

3. Provide signage to educate people - and maybe a creative range of stickers to encourage responsible dog ownership.

- Yes. More dog waste bins and empty them more often! Check out the latest facebook posts on hemel community pages to see pictures of overflowing bins. Awful.
- The prompt reinstatement of missing dog waste bins. I have been requesting DBC to replace the missing dog waste bin at Three Close Lane/ Beech Drive, Berkhamsted for over a year (reference no. 527431) but this has not been actioned.
- Dog waste bins to be emptied more
- The common knowledge of exactly which bins dog waste can be placed in needs to be better communicated as everyone has different ideas. Some people think it can only be put in dog waste bins, but I am lead to believe that dog waste can be put in any general waste bin?
   I feel if more people knew the exact rules, people would just leave poo bags hanging in trees or leave dog poo bins over-flowing.
- More dog bins especially at ends and beginnings of footpaths and bridleways.
- Dacorum council will need to ensure bins where dog poo is deposited are emptied frequently.
- poo bags not placed in bins or not enough bins
- I'd like to see more bins provided for dogs faeces. I think it would have a positive impact on more people picking up after their dogs. For example, I mainly walk my dogs at Bunkers Park, but there are only 2 bins at the car park and nothing else until right at the other end. Would be useful to have a couple more at the very least on either side about midway through.
- That it becomes an offense to leave bagged up dog poo not just unbagged which seems to a problem. Also that owners are responsible in keeping their dog away from small children unless the parents have given consent for the dog to approach. Larger dogs can be as tall as some toddlers and being approached by one no matter who much the owner assures it is a friendly dog can be terrifying for small children (I liken it to a dog the size of a horse approaching an adult!) i also believe Dacorum needs to provide more fouling bins near recreational areas. We have a real consistented problem with dog fouling in the walkway and park area surrounding Goldfield school in Tring with children often going into school having stood in dog mess.
- I don't believe that dog fouling is taken seriously enough. More emphasis should be put on punishing dog owners who do not clean up after their dog. How about on the spot fines for people who don't have a poo bag, or more posters in problem areas regarding the fines and responsibility to pick up after your dog. Also, more dog waste bins being provided. As a responsible dog owner myself I don't see why anyone would have a problem with this unless they do not clean up after their own dog.
- There should be more bins to dispose of dog poo, or the ones that are already in place should be emptied regularly as they are often overflowing.
- Please can there be more bins and the council used to provide free bags ...this should encourage more people to clean up also the bins need to be emptied
- The council should supply more dog fecaes disposal bins near and around public areas. Owners are liable to collect their dogs waste but some people then leave the full bags on common and public ground.
- Would be good to have more dog waste bins in the borough
- There is far too much dog fouling throughout Dacorum. Not just on Dacorum land but also on other areas e.g. boxmoor trust land. I think owners should be fined also. It is disgraceful the amount of fouling at Camelot Rugby Club. Also, the bins should be emptied far more regularly.
- More dog waste bins. There are not enough. We live in Gadebridge and use the dip. Dog bins have actually been removed!

- There are no dog waste bins on the Nickey line by Hunters Oak. I end up picking up a great deal of other people's dog mess when I take my dog for a walk there. Could the provision of more bins be included?
- There must be more dog waste bins in place and they must be emptied regularly. I see too many poo bags left on trees close to exits where there should be bins.
- There needs to be more waste bins to encourage owners to put their dog waste in. Also bins are not being emptied or perhaps there should be a larger bin at the place where bins are being continuously used and become full very quickly. There needs more to be done as it appears the problem of dog waste not being picked up has increased
- Dog 'poo' bins to be increased in number, and emptied during the hot months more regularly
- Increased number of dog/litter bins. How regularly are dog litter bins emptied as we often find them overflowing.
- There are insufficient dog waste bins. Two dog waste bins were removed from Rectory Lane and Three Close Lane around 2 years ago and since then there has been a huge increase in bags full of faeces thrown into the overgrown areas of the cemetery.
- As a responsible dog owner I already undertake all of the above both within Decorum and outside but I do feel that there is an opportunity to to increase the number of bins provided or to relocate to new areas as I know that where the areas are not maintained through fallen trees or overgrown vegetation these bins are difficult to access. Also the last time I visited our Gadebridge in Hemel the new area is not fenced and as there no limitations dogs will foul in the area . Are there any plans for cleaning up after foxes and of course cats which are more dangerous than dogs.
- Increased frequency of poo-bin emptying in Boxmoor. Bins x2 (side by side) on tow path near station moor often both overflowing and smelly.
- The main issue for me is the poor management of existing poo bins that are left overflowing for long periods of time meaning dog owners cannot find a bin for their deposits or simply put on ground near overflowing bin. Some years ago Dacorum used to supply poo bags free of charge so perhaps consider reintroducing this to increase awareness take up by irresponsible dog owners. Only one dog warden presently so not the resources to manage proposals.
- Provision of an increased number of dog poo bins will encourage their use. Bins would need to be regularly emptied also. In areas where stick and flick policy is acceptable, such as ashridge and other woodland areas where placement of poo bins would be impossible, notices encouraging stick and flick, rather than use of poo bags will hopefully reduce the number of poo bags thrown into trees (in an attempt to be thrown into undergrowth I assume).
- There are insufficient boxes available to dispose of dog waste
- Dog buns in some areas are not being emptied regularly to stop them over flowing.
- I feel providing bags helps facilitate the removal of faeces.
- Greater availability of "poop" bags.

Previously they were obtainable from post mounted dispensers e.g. along the Grand Union. It is appreciated that this is a cost to the council but would help to sort the problems detailed in the survey.

# Canals

- Uncontrolled dogs on the canal towpath.
- You have mentioned NT land should not Boxmoor Trust Land also be included, walking across the Moorland can be a challenge as dog owners generally believe that they do not need to clear up the mess that theirs dogs leave. The Grand Union Canal towpaths now under the Rivers Trust should also fall into this issue of control.
- There are copious amounts of dog faeces on the canal path in Berkhamsted. In just a small section between the two paths leading into the stag lane housing estate I counted 8 different droppings. This is really unacceptable and a health hazard.
- We can not go for a walk near the canal in Nash Mills because all dogs have no leads and my son starts to cry if we go there and we were attacked by more than one dog and we have to look carefully as so many dog's fouls are on the way. In addition to the fact that there are so many dogs in the parks and play grounds of children.
- Dogs being off the lead and out of control in areas with a lot of public footfall, particularly children, for example canal towpaths, parks with play areas (ie Canal Fields in Berkhamsted).
- On Saturday, a cat was attacked by two dogs on the canal in Berkhamsted. The cat died as a result. The dogs were off the lead and the owner did not have control of them. Cat owners informed and shared dog owners details with them. A similar thing happened to us approx 6 years ago when we lost our cat following two dogs off the lead attacking it. The amount of dog owners that allow their dogs off the lead near a built up area (housing estate) and allow their dogs into the hedgerow along the canal/onto the estate is appalling. Young children and other animals are often out in the estate. I do not think this is safe. I'd really like there to be signs up asking dog owners to keep their dogs on leads in this area.
- I think Dogs should be kept on the lead along the canal path. I am fed up with dog owners not having control and it's dangerous with young children walking along the canal path and could end up in the canal. Ducks also are on the canal bank and cyclists. Dogs running along is a health and safety issue. I also have 2 dogs and am sick to death of my dogs being approached by dogs who have no recall experience even though I shout out continuously to get their dogs away. It seems to be a big problem in the borough with dog owners and the amount of dog attacks increasing. There should also be a fine if a dog keeps escaping an owners garden. You only have to look at the Facebook Hemel Community Page to see it's a regular occurrence.
- If possible some patrolling of the canals if possible, find a lot of dog mess there just off the path throughout the year.
- Are the Aurhorised Officers going to patrol the canal banks?
- As an example.....Nash Mills. Along the canal are flats and some owners of dogs allow their dogs to roam freely along the front of flats, without even considering the collection of the dogs feaces and I suspect that this is relevant to a number of areas within towns but is there anyway to report this behaviour anonymously on the Council Website, in order to ensure this order is followed and the people responsible are accountable.
- Dogs on lead by the canal? As it's v narrow on the path to pass a bouncy dog
- Dogs on the Canal Tow Path in Dacorum should be kept on a lead at all times. Not everybody is comfortable with a dog running up to them and barking or jumping up and if a person is anxious and scared of dogs their anxiety only serves to make a dog worse in those instances.

## Aggression

- I would very much like to see extra powers given to officers or constables to take measures against owners that allow their dogs to attack another dogs. The owners tend to be in denial about how aggressive and frightening this can be for both dog and owner on receipt of the attacks. I have been bitten quite badly 3 times protecting my small dog from attacking dogs and have required hospital attention. The owners have been unsurprised at their dogs attacking behaviour and the police took very little interest in the incidents. I was even told by them that they would be more interested if I had been a child but as I'm an adult, they're not really bothered. Both myself and my dog are really quite frightened when we meet new dogs as I never know how they are going to behave and their owners are also unpredictable.
- Dog owners can't control their dogs and if running through a public area they jump up and can be quite aggressive. It has made me change where I walk or run
- Aggressive dogs not on lead, this can be any size dog, ive had an encounter with a jack russell off lead with an irresponsible owner.
  - Owners should always take responsibility for their dogs.
- Where a dog is aggressive or large the dog should be under control and restrained by owner and not a minor. Recently I had an issue where the owner of a large doberman was being walked by a child with mother close by and the dog attacked my dog as the child could not hold onto the lead.
- One area that needs addressing is dangerous dogs in the Marlowes pedestrianised area. I frequently see pit bulls with studded collars and their owners near them without leads almost as an act of defiance.

This is a form of aggression and it should be stamped on. Comments from these owners is "he is very friendly" is not acceptable, as pit bulls can and have attacked children and adults suddenly and without warning. Liverpool CC has brought in very high fines on dog owners who own dogs without leads in parks as has Peterborough Borough Council. Dacorum BC has not given any indication of the fine or penalties that are going to be imposed on dog owning people. If the fine is too small it does not work. If you fine people a  $\pounds100-200$  it will work.

- Yes in general most dog owners are responsible. However, some residents around the Old Town area let their dogs mess and just leave it and if asked to pick it up become aggressive and rude.
- Yes, if a dog owner knows their dog is aggressive or just nippy in any way they just keep them on a lead. Also if they are walking over three dogs again they should be on leads.
- Dog to dog aggression which is not covered by legislation but makes walking your dog a nightmare.
  - ie the Akita in Old Town area kept on a long rope but still allowed to attack other dogs.
- Owners should be held responsible for the behaviour of their dogs, if the dog is aggressive or out-of-control the owner should be accountable.
- Dogs should be kept on a lead in all public places, by default. In almost every case where a dog is misbehaving there is no police officer anywhere nearby to tell the owner to put the dog back on the lead. And even if there were someone, by the time the dog has misbehaved it is too late to put it back on the lead; the damage is done.

Dogs should be kept on leads at all time in all public places. And there should be more dogfree zones - not just the childrens play areas, but also larger areas of the parks and Boxmoor should be designated dog free, for the benefit of the families who use those spaces, and the animals there.

Literally every single time I have gone into one of Hemel's green spaces I have had a problem with dogs - there is always dog muck to watch out for, and bags of dog muck in trees. Dogs are frequently aggressive or violent, and especially intimidating to children. My children have been injured by dogs who were being "overly friendly" - the owners then either insist that their dog is being well behaved, or start being aggressive themselves when you ask them to control their dog. This complete lack of introspection shows that any public

space protection orders that depends upon dog owners' being responsible is doomed to fail - every single time they show that they cannot be responsible, and so stricter rules are required.

- I would like to see more powers for authorised people to enable members of public to seek support when they encounter anti-social dog behaviours, particularly when this is on going, such as aggressive dogs who are uncontrolled around other dogs
- Older people who have large aggressive dogs, which they cannot control can cause difficulties.
- If a dog is seen as aggressive, the OWNER should be investigated, not the dog being punished for more likely the way it has learned to behave. Not be put away for weeks on end without an owner and probably being mistreated. Like children, you lock parents away for neglect etc, not the child.
- Stricter controls & legal punishment on dog owners who fail to control their animals in public places. I am fed up dealing with dog owners who think it funny when their dog runs up to you in an aggressive fashion. These stupid dog owners fail to see why they should control their animals. I would be legally entitled to kill their animal if I thought it was going to bite or attack me.
- We have a small dog on a lead and find dog owners on council land place our dog at risk by not remaining close to the dog and ignoring their behaviour. These larger dogs jump all over us and are sometimes aggressive towards our tiny dog and the owners make out we have a problem for being concerned about our dog's safety. People with large dogs off leads create problems and these dogs should definitely be controlled.
- If an owner has an out of control dog that attacks another dog it should be an offence I believe at the moment it is not

# Rubbish

- You have more of a problem with rubbish fly tipping uncontrollable children and adults and crime etc but you spend thousands what is already common sence and good practice by 95% of people. Suggestion cctv in parks might help. ????
- Competent middle managers and upward to management much more effectively there is a major major problem with youngsters families throwing rubbish every where in the park ignoring bins or taking it home and you are collecting so much rubbish via thegardeners that is is adversley affecting park management with so many garderners looking for other jobs and totally demotivated by this rank bad management so many of the public think that lack of direction by council is much more of a n issue
- Perhaps public leaving rubbish should be tackled in s similar way so that my dog doesn't become poorly eating food and rubbish left on public areas, especially during hot weather.
- Idiotic people that foul the park on a daily basis leaving crap on the grass, some being dangerous to dog health...

What are you planning to do against this constant pollution of my quality of life and my dog quality of life ?

Idiotic and none caring parents not supervising their children and when they comes next to a dog (and not a dog going to them), it's the dog owner fault that the child tried to grab the dog toy out of the dog mouth !

Great idea to burden responsible dog owners for everybody else stupidity...

How much is this going to cost out of my paid taxes ?!!

## Dog Only Parks/Areas

- A dedicated enclosed "dog park" should be considered. I have seen this before and works well.
- How about a dog park in areas with lots of dogs/existing issues of people using kids parks to exercise their dogs? Dog waste bins at the key extrances/exits/middle of fields would encourage people to pick up
- Rather than attempting to police dog owners, Dacorum would greatly benefit from providing more enclosed dog parks for them to go to. This would keep dogs out of areas where they may be a nuisance to other people or wildlife, as well as giving owners a safe space in which to exercise their dogs.
- I would like there to be a dog park within Dacorum where dog owners can go with their dogs and let them off lead to run and play with other dogs. The area would ideally be a high fenced area accessed by a gate, with no children allowed.
- Dog should hav there own space and untill there in there own space there not aloud off a lead.. dogs are not to be trusted when allowed to run free when there is children around many yimr a dog has come near yhe children and jumped at them at the park and its very scary.. all dogs should be on a lead until its in its own dog space
- Please do not victimise the vast majority of responsible dog owners in the borough. I
  recognise that the council needs to protect residents from irresponsible dog owners and I
  applaud the recognition of the need for dogs to have fair access to public spaces to exercise
  and socialise. I can't help but feel there is a war on dog owners and cant help feeling
  victimised. We are already potentially losing a green space in Woodhall farm to the move of
  the athletics track (cupid green playing fields) which will severely limit my dogs access to
  open spaces. Maybe it would be good to create dog friendly areas where children and other
  hazards to my dog are restricted? 'Child exclusion zone'?
- I think it should be a requirement that all dogs are kept on leads at all times except from when in a designated dog walking area, I.e. a playing field. Too many people let their dogs wander the streets of the lead because they believe them to be friendly, but they don't consider that some people may have a fear of dogs, or that other dogs that are in leads might not be friendly. My dog is always kept on the lead in public places more than once, has been attacked by other dogs who are off the lead. Always the owners come over all surprised and say something like "he's never done that before" which goes to show that no matter how well you think you know your dog or how trustworthy you think it is, it can still be unpredictable, so it's best to keep It on a lead.

It's also nerve wracking as a parent to have big dogs approach your small children when they're not on a lead. If you know you're in an area where people are exercising their dogs, like in a park, then it gives you the choice to avoid it, when they're on the streets or the greens where you live, you don't have the choice and are often taken by surprise.

- It would be nice if there was some enclosures like the kids playground, where dogs could be trained on or off lead without the fear of dog escaping or just a place where they can run free with no danger, perhaps a bench or two for the humans to rest.
- 1. Are reserved dog exercise areas under consideration?

2. Are DBC considering provision of poo bags in parks similar to neighbouring councils?

- Dogs should be on a lead at all times not free to run up to other dogs on lead or children or bikes or joggers. There should be enclosed areas for dogs to exercise not children
- It would be helpful if there were signed areas which would be designated 'off lead dog exercise places. With the codicil Thad dogs must be on a lead in such places I'd they are likely to or are causing a nuisance to other dogs or other people.
- If people aren't going to be responsible owners then take them away. If problems persist, advise cordoning off areas specifically for dog owners to let them roam free, and enforce it to only those areas.

- I think there should be a specific park where dogs can be let off leads but all other public places they should be on leads at all times. Then I could avoid that park with my kids. I'm sick and tired of being on picnics and dogs run up to my children and scare the life out of them. I'm then told by the owner "oh don't worry he's friendly" I don't care I don't want them running up to us. I'd love to have a place I could go with my children that doesn't smell of dogs mess and where we can feel Confident we aren't going to be troubled by any dogs!!
- I would like a designated space for dogs to run around and play with other dogs, without the disapproval of owners with dogs who are always on leads.
   A 'no leads' allowed play area for our furry friends, one where all the 'nervous' dog owners can avoid with ease.
- There is nowhere that is enclosed to let a young dog off the lead in the area. So that they can play and have a good time. There is loads of enclosed parks for kids but not dog
- They need more dog friendly areas to walk on lead etc. The dogs shouldn't have unconsiderate dog owners letting their dogs off lead everywhere running and terrorising dogs who are on leads.
- Should be dog only areas Should not be allowed off lead in any public park should be more enclosed areas for off lead walking, so people know where they can be with other like minded people
- I would like a fully enclosed area to let my dog off lead as would many other dog owners.
- I believe we're getting to the point where ideally every dog should be on a lead and I know some will disagree for good reason! However isn't it time we had designated areas for dogs to run off lead and play? Some area must be allocated for them as dog ownership will only grow and if dealt with correctly now no issue in the future? So all dogs on leads except where a designated park is there for the dogs! The areas need to be allocated first NOT the other way round or you will alienate dog owners and your laws will be ignored by the majority!
- Provide dog-friendly areas where people with dogs can spend time with their dogs off lead (as on many beaches).
- I would like some areas where dogs can run freely in an enclosed safe place.
- As a dog owner it would be nice to have dog only parks. To let owners take their dogs out without the risk of them accidentally knocking over small children who run at them screaming to stroke them. Dogs are magnets to some young children.
- Can we have a dog area in the park? New York have fenced and gated areas and they work great. They keep the dogs seperate from non dog lovers and allow owners of dogs to socialise them in parks too. You ha e to remember dogs are just as important as children to some people.
- Have space for dogs to run around and have fun and not build pointless things the dacorum don't need
- There are not enough open spaces for dog owners to walk their dogs safely and away from traffic..too many drivers think that Chesham Road in Bovingdon is a racetrack.walking my dogs down that road is extremely dangerous as a result and no one wants to hear it
- A dog play park area would be great there are so many dog walkers that go down gadebridge park

How about a safe place to play for our dogs?

• Yes,how about some positive moves for dog owners? I understand the reasons for leashing,carrying poo bags and prohibiting dogs from play areas etc,but how about some dog 'only' areas where dog owners are catered for and encouraged to go to.Fenced off areas for dog owners where dogs can be free of their leads,but safe from children interaction risks etc?Why only negativity towards dogs by the council?The UK is a nation of dog lovers.People seem to get more upset by dog mistreatment than people mistreatment sometimes?Lets have a balanced approach that recognises this nation of dog lovers and not just have a negative approach to dogs By Dacorum Council? I fear without a balanced approach Dacorum Council will receive a negative back lash from these,largely sensible,proposals?

## **Town Centre**

- Stop letting dogs run through the town with no lead and go in the water feature outside Greg's. The owner never picks poo up either. Reported it to staff in Marlowe who said it's not down to them
- Rough sleepers throughout Dacorum, but particularly in town centre, always seems to have a dog dog should be removed if owner is sleeping rough as cruel to dog to have no home
- We are new dog owners but grew up with our daughter teriffied of dogs. So dogs in on leads in all public places that are not open parks should be a thing. As in , town centre, shopping areas etc.
- dogs in town centre must be on a lead as some of the rough sleepers and drinkers dogs run free at times in town
- My family and I have had countless encounters with dogs not under control and off-lead. I
  would like the law on being on a lead to extend to every area (for example, pavements, town
  centre etc) and only permit off-lead activity in areas such as parks, commons and so on with
  signage to indicate this. There is no reason to have a dog off a lead in an area (such as
  roads) where they can't safely run freely anyway, so this would not be a hardship for
  responsible dog owners.

There are various parts of Dacorum known to be places to regularly walk dogs. Unfortunately for our family, who love exploring the countryside, this has made many of these areas of common, public land to be off limits because of a minority of irresponsible dog owners who are unable to control their dogs off a lead. I have been told (in a very unpleasant manner) on several occasions I should not be bringing my children there after their dogs have been unable to be recalled from harrassing us! This is at Ashridge, and Boxmoor Trust land. I would love it if there was signage in these popular dogwalking areas that indicated that dog owners should be considerate of other users of the land, who may be afraid of dogs, and that it is not for their exclusive use.

Most dog owners are considerate in this way, but if there were signs at popular entrances to popular dog-walking locations reminding dog owners that not everybody loves dogs and other members of the public have a right to use the land too, it would make me feel a lot more confident. I believe that a minority of dog owners do genuinely believe that their dogs take priority and it's tough luck if children (or adults) are harassed by them as we apparently have no right to be there.

- Charity workers in the town centre are a nuisance. If they have a stall in the market you can choose to engage with them. The ones with clip boards that harress and make you feel like crap every lunch time should be banned
- Restrictions in town centres as I've seen dangerous dogs off leads there.

## Fines/Enforcement

- All the dogs and their owners should be registered so that appropriate action are taken against the owner for failing to obey the rules.So any CCTV clip captured dog fouling with their owner should to brought to justice with heavy fine.
- the local paper should do more to high light the need for owners to pick up after their dog and to fine people who do not and put their names in the paper. i have also noticed it is mostly men who do not clear up after their dogs.
- How will any of this be enforced? There are people who allow their dogs to fowl on the street can we report this etc
- Stricter fines and patrols of pedestrian areas to ensure fouling in the area is reduced
- As a responsible dog owner myself it angers me how many people walk their dog off the lead when they clearly don't have control of their dog.
   I have also noticed in my area (Leverstock Green) that somebody is picking up and bagging their dogs mess but then simply leaving the bag on the pavement or grass.
   If funding permits, I would love to see some kind of patrol over known dog walking areas and fines issued on the spot.
- Do not agree with the term used throughout 'authorised officer' Far too many Council 'spies' costing the council tax payer Should only be enforced by the police/community police officer
- I would like to know how you plan to 'police' this new plan? Any decent do owners follow these rules already. How will you tell people to pick up mess or put dogs on Leads?
- I am a dog owner, but it infuriates me when I see dogs off of leads walking next to a road, particularly a main road. This should be a fineable offence if the owner refuses to put the dog on a lead. Also dogs should not be allowed to have their heads hanging out of cars windows. The reg no should be taken and owner fined.
- just dog mess everywhere and no enforcement ..when was last person fined heavily??? name and shame...
- Dog owners should not let their dogs out at night unaccompanied. I live in a cul de sac and often find dog faeces on my lawn and flower beds in he morning. I appreciate this is difficult to police, but maybe heavy fines for those who do let their dogs out and foul (if identified and proven) would be a deterrent.

Dog leads that allow dogs to roam whilst still 'under control' should be kept at it's shortest length (maybe one metre) when on footpaths. I have seen numerous people who let their dogs leads out which, in effect, means the dog can run across the width of a road.

- To make all owners have their dogs on leads in streets. I see so many dogs off leads walking round streets. You also should have more signs up about dog fowling fines as I see people in the park opposite me always leaving their dog mess on grass.
- I believe all dogs should be on a short lead in public. My grandson has a severe allergy to animal fur and on two occasions has ended in hospital because a 'friendly' unknown dog jumped up to say hello!

Areas in parks away from children play areas are fine for letting dogs run on an extended lead.

- Enforcement of fines for dog fouling-the lack of this means people don't bother to pick it up
- There should be fines for people depositing bagged dog waste in inappropriate ways ,ie hanging bags from trees or leaving them on street corners, under bushes etc.
- I feel as a dog owner who walks for 2hours per day.... I frequently see dog faeces that are left all over pavements and playing fields... I find this disgusting... I think if there were higher fines and patrolling randomly of popular dog walking areas this would help solve some of the problem ...( the higher fines could pay the salary of wardens so more fines more patrols...)
- Public pathways alleyways and more sings to to indicate any disregard to any proposal of

dog fouling will be fined.

- Dog fouling is already an offence but is not policed. How many people have been fined for fouling this year? Last year? Any Year?
- We should have a hotline to report fouling so that it's removed promptly.
- Fines for dog owners who do not pick up dog poop
- Heavier fines for dog fouling, and removal of dogs for repeat offenders. The streets here in Markyate are disgusting. It is the same offenders in the same areas each time. Dog wardens should spend some time and try and catch as many offenders as possible.
- Insufficient visible penalty notices as described above. More requirement for dog warden visibility in all areas of Dacorum. Advice leaflets should be supplied to new dog owners perhaps issued by the Council to all vets in Dacorum. There are so many more people "rescuing" dogs these days and they do not seem to know how to train or cope with the animal they have.
- There needs to be much more done to dog owners who do not pick up their dogs faeces on pavements in general. There are so many lazy disgusting dog owners who dont even carry poo bags let alone pick up after their dog.
- More publicly displayed notices regarding the bylaws that can be obvious to those who are flouting them.

Concerned members of the public can then indicate those notices if necessary to avoid confrontations over dog fouling.

- Certain green spaces like those oppositeXX Kingfisher Drive become in effect dog fouling grounds, even if some owners clear up the mess. The council should provide more visible notices warning against this - for example the current warning sign is quite high (to avoid people walking into it) and parallel to walking directions (again apparently to avoid people walking into it) so in the end few people walking their dogs would see it! Consideration should be given to larger signs implanted into the green space to provide anti-fouling warnings.
- the only way dog owners will pick up their dogs mess is if they visually see parks being monitored. I have to drive to a different park daily to walk my dogs because my local field is covered in faeces. I am also fed up picking other people's dog mess from the front of my house.
- The play area on Barnacres Road Bennett's End is often visited by dogs and owners do not pick up the mess their dogs leave. I took my grandson to the play area we could not stay there as it was covered in dog feases. My 5year old grandson was very dissapointed. He said people are naughty Nanny as there is signs to say that dogs are not allowed in here, we don't have dogs in our play area in Sandy.
- Allowing one's dog to foul sports pitches should be an offence in a similar manner to those proposed for public open spaces
- There are areas eg memorial gardens in Tring where dogs are required to be on a lead. This often ignored by dog walkers. There should be some form of supervision, maybe traffic wardens should patrol randomly and it should be some form of offence. At present there appears to be no form of check.
- These proposals primarily target dog walkers during daylight hours when wardens/authorised officers are hopefully patrolling. However around the Chaulden area (Long Chaulden), there are a lot of irresponsible late night dog walkers that let their dogs foul driveways, pathways, property boundaries, etc. What can be done to tackle that problem? Late night patrols? A hotline to report walkers who don't clear up their dog's mess? Also, who will clear up the dog mess that has been left?
- Much clearer, bigger and more frequent signage everywhere that not clearing dog faeces is an offence. I have often seen owners and dog walkers talking or look away and 'not see' their dogs have fouled. It should also be made clear that if bins or dog bins are full then the owner/dog walker must take the poo bag home. It shouldn't be dangled from a tree in the bag or piled up on the ground near the bin. (Fly tipping again?). Finally a significant number of authorised agents to enforce the regulations made so the public have a heightened

awareness of the H&S issue involved and the dog owners responsibility to others.

• How are you going to enforce the rules, especially for persons who continuously flout them? How often are dog litter bins emptied? They are not properly maintained at present. All very well making a nice set of rules but if you do not enforce them they are a waste of time and effort.

#### Cats

- This order should include cats and prohibit their owners from allowing them to roam the streets and other people's gardens and depositing faeces there. Cat faeces is known to be more of a health hazard than dog faeces.
- If dog owners are going to be subject to crap-bagging rules, would it be too much to insist the same applies to people in charge of cats? Of course it would.
- Cats are a problem to dogs make them misbehave which in turn can make the dogs a problem to the public I suggest that cat when not in the owner properly should also be on a lead and there fouling cleared up by the owner. Cats mess also carry diseases and are a nuisance to the public with their constant Killing of songbirds and mammals they are not wild animals as lazy owners claim they are domesticated the same as dogs and should be treated the same.
- Yes I agree that owners should pick up their dogs mess, but also feel strongly when you say about what you can catch from dogs mess, can you please be aware that a cats mess is a lot more dangerous that a dogs, I would like to see more done about cat owners not picking up there mess !!! I am sure if you had s survey on this matter you will be astounded at the results.

#### **National Trust**

• The National Trust insists that dogs are kept on leads from November to end February every year during the deer cull. This is ridiculous. I walk my dogs on NT land all the time and have frequently been close (during normal daylight hours) to where deer hunters are operating. This is plainly dangerous.

#### Other

- Not a dog problem . But what about human defecation? We have a problem with people deficatin in yew tree wood. We know its people as dogs don't use toilet paper !! This has been going on for a while now and is disgusting they don't even try to hide it in the bushes just leave it by a path with the toilet paper so you know it's not a dog !
- Although I agree with all statements, as a dog owner I do often feel vistimised by the general public, those with children can be especially nasty thinking they have more right to the open space than others so I do think how this is portrayed to the general public is very important, after all humans leave behind far more waste than dogs so it isn't the dogs that are the problem it is the owners.
- A big problem is that as soon as people with dogs get out of a designated parking area or similar and onto a long distance footpath (The Ridgeway for instance) they seem to forget about all the common-sense reasons for removing dog-mess and just leave it where it is. It is very sad that too many dog-owners do not embrace the spirit of the law (don't leave mess for other people) but simply obey the letter of the law (leaving mess here could get you fined).
- The needs of all council tax payers and voters in the borough should be considered. There needs to be a balance and a reasonableness to the policies that the council make on behalf of it's constituents. I pay council tax and vote, do not have kids but do own a dog. I keep my dog on a lead whenever there are kids around and pick up my dog's faeces from public paths/walkways, etc. Will the Council next be imposing access restrictions on parents who let their kids scream around and be unruly without any regards for others? Yeah, I didnt think so!
- I have no problem with cleaning up dog mess or keeping dogs out of children,s play areas. Most dog owners just want a quiet life and enjoy their time with their dogs, who are not demons as some of the general public make out. Have been threatened by mothers when walking with a small dog (at heal on a lead) because the dog frightens their child (not sure how as dog was totally ignoring them)!.
- Why are the children's play area enclosed? This is not good for those with Autism or other mental health issues as this causes anxiety. Since when have we abdicated parents/carers responsibility. Is this so they can keep looking down instead of up?
- Those people who discard food and food related packaging cause problems for dog owners.
- While the proposals are good for dogs, nothing is in place to prevent cats from pooing in gardens. This is an issue for several of my neighbours and myself.
- Any person found guilty of deliberately leaving poisoned food in a public place should be charged with attempted murder.
- Try putting your effort into repairing our paths and walk ways rather than dreaming up ideas of how to persecute people.
- I think there is much more detriment from anti social behaviour from humans in public areas. I think drinking alcohol in the parks should be banned.
- Dogs outside of schools tied to fences unsupervised
- We need a more effective dog warden with more powers. I reported an incident that happened to me and my elderly (now deceased) gentle dog on 1 December 2017 and to this date it has not been followed up satisfactorily. I had to chase and chase and eventually I sent one final message saying that I had given up trying to get any resolution to this matter. I knew the owner of the dog that attacked mine, reported his address and gave a detailed account of the three occasions that his dog (always off lead) had attacked mine (always on lead). Despite full details the owner got away scott free.
- I am the owner of two dogs they do not walk the streets in our Close unless they are on a lead and they do not foul the pavements. The residents at No. XX Cromer Close seem to think that it okay to let their dog out very late at night (12pm onwards) off lead to wander and foul the pavements and other peoples gardens. I have spoken politely to them about this

issue and so have the other residents but they continue to let this happen. Without photographic evidence there is not much that we can do about it so they continue to do it.

- This type of regulation is too much 'nanny state'. The vast majority of dog owners don't need this type of regulation it's natural to pick up it's poo and put it on a lead if it's a possible threat to anyone.
- Other than owners being responsible for their animals actions I do not have an issue with dogs.
- The sheep killings on the Box Moor Trust need to be addressed, and the people responsible should be prosecuted, it's unacceptable.
- Dogs should be allowed in more places such as shops so that they do not have to be tied outside! There should be greater penalties for cruelty to animals
- I would like to see more family areas which allow dogs in, along with restaurants and cafes.
- I hope football pitches etc are covered by your proposals. I welcome all your proposals
- Dogs shouldnt be allowed outside school (primary) premises due to dog fouling and intimidation of young children.
- Would be nice to see dogs treated like part of the community instead of as a problem to be dealt with. Perhaps non dog owners could be educated on this
- All dogs should be subjected to an annual MOT with relevant rules for none compliance.
- Dogs should not be allowed to roam out of owner's sight.
- Owners should be held responsible and if a member of the public feels that the owner is not responsible there should be a way of reporting them.
- I have seen many times that the dogs are freely allowed in the walking path where you can only find the owner miles away. We are unable to do a relax walk with our kids as we need to battle with these dogs to protect our children.

I love dogs and I had couple but still dogs are dogs! They are animals; we so called human should act little responsibly to protect everyone's interest.

Dogs should not be allowed freely in Public Park, walking path or anywhere in that matter where children and Vulnerable adults are exposed.

The children freedom is more important than dogs. If someone interested in dogs freedom than they should not jail those dogs at their home for their own companionship!

- I would like to see more dog wardens patrolling and to randomly check that dogs are microchipped...and I as a dog owner myself wouldn't mind being approached to have my dogs scanned.
- Many dog owners have little understanding of dog behaviour or their responsibilities as dog owners. It would be good if dog owners had to sit a basic test (of guidelines around dog ownership and understanding dog behaviour) before being allowed to inflict their out of control dogs on the general public.
- Control of dogs so that they are kept away from people who don't like them.
- Dogs who defecate near schools
- A dog is roaming around the neighborhood by himself must wear tag with contact mobile number and adress and mussle, so that it will not damage garden, pond, plants of other people's property. The dog owner must pay for the damage.
- Please dont tar responsible dog owners.

Responsible dog owners would also like to see all dog owners pick up their dogs poo and ensure all dogs aren't a nuisance. Often non compliance of the above is reported by fellow dog owners. This survey implies that all dog owners are failing in their responsibilities as a dog owner

- Throwing dog faeces onto private property should not be allowed.
- Dog mess being left without being cleared up is really bad in Markyate. If more officers could patrol Markyate that would reduce the amount of crime and dog mess on our streets. We as

a community feel forgotten in relation to patrols and safety in Markyate. Please do your best to address this. Thank you.

- A lot of people walk there dogs around the streets near me, there is a school close by and there seems to be a lot of dog mess not cleaned up on the paths around the school and the near by streets, even though there is a small field near by. I really hoping this will help tackle the problem.
- People with dogs should be aware if a dog foul on a path or green in front your house, to clean it up
- Would like to see more signs in markyate telling people to pick up their dog mess, I picked up a third of a carrier bag of dog mess up out of the overgrown grass along a verge next to a footpath off of Cavendish road when we first moved their earlier this year
- Dog owners allowing their pets to foul on our driveway. Fortunately at the moment this only happens occasionally, but we did have a spell that lasted several months during which a dog was being allowed to foul the end of our driveway every day. We were never able to witness this happening. We live right opposite a JMI School and there was a danger that young children could step in the mess before going into school. For ourselves, we had to face the revolting task of removing dog mess every day.
- Some owners let their dogs pee in my front garden and ruined my plants. It is really the matter of common sense but I wonder if we should make designate area for dog peeing?
- Constantly have dog mess on the grass verge between the road and our house on St Agnells Lane. Makes it very difficult to avoid when trying to bring a toddler in who could easily step in it.
- Dog mess is a big problem in Wigginton. There seem to be people who walk their dogs early and feel above picking it up. On my walk to school, The Bit up towards school, the alleyway outside school. Utterly disgusting and selfish. And not a single sign in the village to say pick it up. PLEASE do something to help this.
- There have been many complaints to the Council about an owner who lets her dogs foul in this area. It is outside a school and a grassed area and in a residential road. The Council admit they are aware of it but do not seem to be doing anything about it. If they are not willing to resolve this one problem then what is the use of this Dacorum wide survey about careless and thoughtless owners not clearing up.
- Mine main issue is the amount of dog feces being left around the village I live in (Markyate) and the lack of dog wardens. How can these things be enforced otherwise? It's so frustrating because certain people do not care and will not pick up as they know there is no consequence.
- A facility to report irresponsible dog owners
- Dog grooming in public spaces should be punished All dogs should be registered with the council so fouling can be enforced
- it would be nice if ALL dog owners picked up their dog mess and not leave it on pavements and walk ways but they don't you should be able to report it if you see someone who does not bother to clean up after their dog
- I have many times seen dog owners allowing their dogs to urinate on others properties. On many occassions i have had dogs urinate on my boundary walls where my children usually sit and i have also seen them urinate on peoples flowers. This shouldn't happen. I know you can not stop the dog from urinating but dog owners should be able to prevent their dogs from urinating on other peoples property.
- I live in the Nash Mills area and my 5 year old daughter goes to Nash mills school. On our walk every morning to school (without fail) we come across at least 3 separate lots of dog faeces. It's every single morning we have to dodge it and it's simply foul. I have a dog myself and believe it is my responsibility to clear up after him and so should everyone else who has a dog.
- I live on an alleyway in Northchurch and we have constantly having to clear up the dog mess even though there are signs. I have contacted Northchurch council and Dacorum and they

just say there is nothing they can do unless I can catch them in the act. People just don't care anymore.

 I am a dog owner living in the Woodhall Farm area & am constantly aware of irresponsible dog owners who never "pick up" after their dogs, most often it seems to be LARGE dogs. I have complained in the past to Collette Wyatt-Lowe but as there is only one Warden covering a huge area can't see how anything will ever improve the situation. These are usually dogs off their leads so guess the usual excuse would be they're not seen. I would approach them to ask them to "pick up" but generally speaking I think the reaction would be hostile.

I also find dogs off leads in general are a nuisance & have, in the past more than once had to rescue mine from aggressive loose animals, in fact several other dog walkers have had this issue, one having to take their pet to a Vet due to being bitten by one.

To finalise, it is not the dogs at fault, it is the irresponsible owners who should have a dog if they can't look after it properly.

• The attitude of this survey. You are asking biased questions, expecting people to have issues.

Your questions are leading voters to agree with your already created decision The issue that you feel you have found is not there. How about the council do something about graphiti, or the mountains of litter the council are not collecting, or about the footballers that defecate behind the trees in Cupid Green football pitches because the teams will not pay for the council to open the toilet block or the council will not open the toilet block during the day

- Dogs outside of schools! At my children's school dog walkers seem to pick peek drop off/pick up times to walk their dogs as children are going in/out of school. The dog fouling outside Tudor primary is disgusting and owners do not seem to care if children step in their mess. I would like to see consideration of children and dog walking directly outside of schools communicated to dog owners and walkers.
- All ares that dogs are not welcomed in should be fenced off
- The need to fence off chilrens play areas
- I think that like playgrounds there should be fences around splash parks
- That dogs are excluded from some areas so that people can run/walk/picnic/enjoy the outdoors without risk of being hassled or attacked by dogs or stepping in poo.
- Why are dogs excluded from play areas. If kept on a lead and under control there should be no reason for this. When walking the dog with the children they might want to play, is it unreasonable to watch over them with a properly. Controlled dog?
- all childrens playgrounds /adventure playgronds /splash parks should be fenced off to exclude dogs from the areas
- Even responsible dog owners are being gradually and increasingly subject to difficult behaviour from non dog owners. Please do not exclude dog owners from so many areas that they start to be seen as an anti social part of society! We are already being pushed out of NT land by cyclists riding off road and on footpaths!

#### **Incorrect Disposal**

- Some people pick up the dog poop with a poop bag and leave it on the ground or on a tree branch, this is not acceptable behaviour. The bags biodegrade and the poop falls out.
- placing bagged dog poo is NOT clearing it up if the bag is then disposed of in any other place than a specifi8c waste bin. there are too many bags of poo slung into canal locks, hedges, hung on trees or simply left on the ground
- There should be more boxes for dog excrement to be put into and they should be emptied more often. Then possibly there would not be bags hanging from trees and littered around the full boxes.
- People picking up there dogs excitement in a bag and then dumping the bag or hanging it from a tree.
- I am especially concerned at the number of bags containing dog faeces which litter the countryside often in quite remote locations. A programme to change this behaviour (and possibly biodegradable bags) is required through greater publicity.
- That it shall be a punishable offence to leave a bag or container containing dog faeces hanging from a tree or bush or otherwise in a public place, other than in bin for general litter or provided for the disposal dog faeces.
- The problem with dog poo isn't so much that people don't pick it up in the first place, but more that sometimes it's then left behind in the bag where it can't wash away in the rain. Unfortunately I don't had a solution to this problem. It's especially bad at the alley at the bottom of Apsley Station hill where a dog poo bin has been removed.

•

Yes, dog fouling on footpaths and woodland is terrible, we live near Tring Park and Wigginton and there are bags of dog foecal matter hanging on trees, a nationwide problem I know, as well as dog owners who frequent the parks and woods and allow their dogs to foul and not clear it up. It is a huge problem, it is impossible to walk in some areas without it being in the middle of paths or around paths.

Also, the green spaces around children's playgrounds, not just fenced areas are an issue, as children also play in these. I believe there should be designated dog walking fields in parks and for dogs to stay away from green spaces other than this in public parks (woodland I know is a different matter). This is important because people just do not respect keeping places free of dog mess.

- We live next to a public footpath which is littered with used doggy bags. People take the time to pick up the mess but then through the filled bag in a hedge or wherever, this should also be highlighted as an unlawful action.
- People walking dogs on Ashridge use plastic bags to pick up after their dog, and then leave them hanging on fences or trees. Ashridge is the one place where dogs can poo without the need to pick up. This should be made clear although I know it is the National Trust who run it
- The bagged dog poo that is left hanging from trees or by the side of a footpath is awful. Even in fields or woods this is unacceptable. The meat diet of dogs makes this very different from the waste left by animals in their own environment.
- Dog poo bags being thrown on ground, in trees etc. This is worse than leaving dog poo on ground due to the nonbiodegradable plastic. Also there are not enough dog wardens to enforce this
- People seem to think that putting the dog faeces in a bag & then leaving the bag wherever

they want is acceptable. In my opinion this is nearly as bad as leaving the faeces untouched, the bag will only act to preserve the faeces, cause litter & is no protection if someone treads on the bag

People need to be educated that this also isn't acceptable & is an offence

- Why do dog owners put dog waste in bags then hang them from bushes ?
- that in the countryside on footpaths it be an offence to collect dog droppings in plastic bags and leave them behind or hang them on bushes etc.
- The practice of hanging filled dog faeces bags in bushes is stupid, ignorant and disgusting. Any one caught doing this should be prosecuted.
- Dogs should be kept on leads when being walked along a public footpath. The same principle of clearing up dog mess should apply to all public footpaths. Bags used by dog owners to remove dog mess should NOT be left in/hanging on hedges along public footpaths.

Dogs owners should be held accountable for their dogs.

• I'm just fed up with seeing dog mess just about everywhere, even to the extent of seeing discarded bags that have been thrown in hedgerows that have then been opened by inquisitive wild animals.

Also, some people seem to have little control over their dogs, even when on a lead!

- The steps being proposed should also make it absolutely clear that placing dog faeces in a 'poo bag' is not sufficient in itself; the 'poo bag' and it's contents must be removed. (There are far too many dog owners who go to the trouble of using a 'poo bag' and then inexplicably leave bag & contents either on the ground or hanging from low branches or in the undergrowth.)
- It is quite irritating when some dog owners collect their animals droppings but then abandon the 'poo' bag, sometimes in quite a prominent place. I hope that this would count as not picking up the 'poo'
- Anyone caught throwing poo bags filled with dog faeces should be treated in the same way as if they had not picked the faeces up.
- Making it an offence to bag waste and deliberately not remove the bag from the site.
- Making it an offence to bag waste and deliberately not remove the bag from the site.
- The enforcement of the law that all dogs should wear a collar and tag.
   Police should also have access to microchip scanners and check the microchip of any dogs not complying with requirements.
- the only way dog owners will pick up their dogs mess is if they visually see parks being monitored. I have to drive to a different park daily to walk my dogs because my local field is covered in faeces.

I am also fed up picking other people's dog mess from the front of my house.

- Dog fouling code to be clearly advertised in areas popular with dog walkers since we feel that many people do not know what is expected behaviour eg putting dog faeces in a bag but leaving the bag on the ground or hanging on a tree !!
- MORE DOG POO BINS SHOULD BE IN PLACE. MANY DOG OWNERS JUST THROW THEIR POOP BAGS ON TO THE PATHWAYS. IN PARTICULAR THE WALKKWAY AT THE SIDE OF ELIZABEHT HOUSE, CHAPEL STREET, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD. THIS AREA IS POPULAR WITH DOG WALKERS WHO DUMP THEIR POOP BAGS ON IT. AS ROAD SWEEPERS SEEM TO BE A THING OF THE PAST THEY JUST REMAIN THERE. YES -WHERE ARE THE ROAD SWEEPERS OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD?????
- More provision for disposal of dog waste should be made particularity in areas where there are numerous dog walkers.

In the past I remember seeing sponsorship on the dog bins - this seems a sensible approach. Maybe local vets, dog food suppliers, pet insurance companies etc. There are many instances where I have to carry dog waste for many miles (on public footpaths) where there are no bins provided.

By the amount of discarded bags in trees and hedgerows I see it is apparent many others don't do the same. Of course your proposal for enforcing bag carrying won't address this issue just because the waste is in a bag it doesn't mean someone will dispose of it correctly. It would also be a good idea to publish a map of all suitable dog bin locations so that people are aware of where the bins are.

• It should be clarified that the "taken away" option for dog faeces does not allow the bags to be left in any public place. I speak as a DBC Street Champion who frequently finds bags of faeces hung on bushes by footpaths etc.

I would like it to be a requirement that any dog owner whose dog has been a nuisance or a perceived threat to a person in a public place be required to give to that person the address on the dog's identity tag.

#### Breeders

- I feel that a law should be in place that "Breeders" should have pups chipped. If a puppy is bought without a chip, then it should be treated the same as receiving stolen property. In this way it will be clear to the local authorities of people overbreeding their pets for profit and help to stop puppy farms. If a vet feels that a pet is being breed for profit then it will be on them to inform the relevant authorities including the Tax department.
- Council should control the private breeding of dogs in residential areas

#### Hygiene

- Dogs allowed in public houses ie The Boat Pub. Dogs are allowed to roam the eating areas and on occasion I have seen a large dog being applauded for standing up and resting its paws on the bar. While can appreciate this is amusing to some there are matters of hygiene involved here. There seems to be a misconception among dog owners that all members of the general public are happy to be up close and personal with their pets. I personally dont want to eat in the proximity of a dog, or share my personal space with one in my leisure hours.
- i would like to see that owners are less selfish and control their animals behaviour ie letting them approach dogs that they know will cause lots of barking and fighting which frightens chidren and older people. There is also the issue of animals in cafes etc dogs being allowed to lick cups and plates sit on seats and wander unchecked around tables not everyone likes your dog.
- Can we please stop dogs from going into Cafes!!!! it seems custom and practice these days to take dogs everywhere and I for one do not want to see them in cafes apart from the fact they can do their business everywhere I have seen dogs licking windows jumping up at tables etc. where children of the following customer then play and have no idea that a dog has been there... Most un hygienic. I know they are allowed if the café owners have said so but it really is not correct. I have no children but do fear for those that do. I am fed up of going into cafes to listen to dogs barking etc.
- Dogs should not be allowed in picnic and park area because they are licking those foods especially in the children hands. This is not hygienic.

#### **Communal Areas**

• I live in River Park with communal gardens. We have dog fouling issues from time to time. Also there are issues in the surrounding roads. There was dog mess on the pavement in Kingsland Road yesterday. What is going to be done about that. Does "public spaces' include those things?

Thank you for putting work into this very annoying issue which detracts from quality of life in our borough. It is very important.

- Dogs should be kept on a lead in communal areas and the pet owner should clean up the dog's mess as in any public areas.
- Dogs in my communal area are never on leads and this causes problems as they jump up and can cause problems
- Communal grass areas in Castle Mead, Boxmoor are often utilised by Dog owners (some resident in Castle Mead). They allow their Dogs to relieve themselves on these verges and rarely pick up the faeces.
- dog walkers should not let their dogs deposit directly outside the home or yard. common areas directly outside flats are favorites for dog walkers to let their dogs do their business. This happens regularly.
- I have been writing about dog realated issues near the flat I live which appears to me like it was ignored. My flat is XXX London road Apsley. I hope you solve this problem of dog

faeces, one neighbour picks it( if she does that is) but piles the plastic with contents just outside the flat entrance, instead of depositing it at the provided bins. Besides looks like there are others taking advantage of the mess, which I must say was not there when I started living here over 10 yrs ago. The place used to be clean, I could lie outside on the grass, now its terrible/disgusting. Please can you address this issue once and for all. How I look forward to the old beauty of what attracted me to this area? Please help us!! Thank you in advance

#### Buses

• No dogs on buses except guide dogs

#### Cyclists

- Dogs should also be on a lead on public paths, especially where there are cycle paths
- Cyclists in the park and on pavements, often going the wrong way in a one way Street like the Old High Street, are a danger to dogs and small children.
- Today, health and wellbeing is very important to reduce Stress and Health issues to avoid future costs to our NHS health system.

Many open areas, parks, are used by Runners/Walkers and Dogs Running about is often a deterrent to Run/Walk in the public places . Would be great to have Dog free zones OR ensure Dogs are always on a leash near Running paths/etc. they can be a real nuisance to runners/walkers trying to get healthy.

- Yes, Dog owners should be charged if their dog chases a jogger or cyclist. They often know it will happen but just look the other way.
- When exercising a dog on a lead ,perhaps there should be a recommendation that a cyclist approaching from behind on a single path,should give notice of approach so that the dog & their handler is aware of their presence before being within 2metres of them At the moment a dog is at fault if it retaliates when startled &protecting the handler.The cyclist may not hear the dog & handler as inevitably they are wearing headphones resulting in a very unsatisfactory situation to both parties

#### **Dog Licence**

- You should bring back dog licences.
- Encorouge responsible ownership by actually enforcing a Decorum Dog Licence of 500 pounds per year.

#### Livestock/Wildlife

- Owners should be made to strictly keep dogs on leads at all times when in fields with livestock.
- All dog owners should keep their animals under control especially when walking around nature reserves and to give respect to other wild creatures that are allowed to roam freely.
- Around farmland and farms and livestock all dogs must be kept on leads we have put up signs but they got ripped down .Dogs run riot especially with the dog walkers they poo everywhere it's never picked up and when harvest in flow it gets mixed in with crops not healthy and could be detrimental to all so please help us especially at Wood farm hp2 6jj

Also Include in PSPO

- Can you include the Town Council's public open space & play area at Chapel Meadow, Tring in the areas affected by the PSPO, please.
- With reference to the areas covered by the PSPO please note that in Wigginton the Recreation Ground is in Vicarage Road (ref Schedule 1) and there is also a Sports Field and Children's Play Area in Chesham Road which should be included
- The controls should also apply to the playground on Boxmoor Trust land on Blackbirds Moor
- The Town Council agrees with all the proposals but would like to see the areas extended: See extract from Council minutes 20 August 2018 below:
  (i) It was noted that the consultation closes on 14 September 2018
  (ii) It was resolved that the Town Council should support the proposals and in addition propose that the following sites should also be included in the scope of the Order: The Moor, Canal Fields and, if possible, Sunnyside Old allotment site which has a public right of way running through. The Town Clerk will respond appropriately to the consultation. She would also mention that the fields around Lagley Meadow should be referred to as Lagley Meadow and East Meadow.
- Why is the Wigginton sports field and enclosed children's play area, off Chesham Road near the Greyhound, apparently not specifically listed?

   I would like to see a stipulation that dogs may only be in the care of an appropriate person when in a public place. From time to time I see larger dogs accompanied only by relatively young children who are clearly not able to effectively control them.
- In little Gaddesden the Church Road children's play area is not fully fenced off but the PC agrees with the principle.



# **THE KENNEL CLUB** *Making a difference for dogs*

#### Kennel Club Response to Dacorum Borough Council Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation

Submitted on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018 by: The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB, tel: 020 7518 1020, email: <u>kcdog@thekennelclub.org.uk</u>

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare and training, whose main objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners. As part of its External Affairs activities the Kennel Club runs a dog owners group KC Dog which was established to monitor and keep dog owners up to date about dog related issues, including Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) being introduced across the country.

As a general principle we would like to highlight the importance for all PSPOs to be necessary and proportionate responses to problems caused by dogs and irresponsible owners. It is also important that authorities balance the interests of dog owners with the interests of other access users.

#### Dog fouling

The Kennel Club strongly promotes responsible dog ownership, and believes that dog owners should always pick up after their dogs wherever they are, including fields and woods in the wider countryside, and especially where farm animals graze to reduce the risk of passing Neospora and Sarcocystosis to cattle and sheep respectively.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ further proactive measures to help promote responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing Orders in this respect.

These proactive measures can include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog poo can be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events; or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.

#### Dog fouling - requirement to be in possession of means to pick up

Whilst the Kennel Club supports proactive efforts on behalf of local authorities to encourage responsible dog ownership and to ensure that those who are not picking up after their dogs are brought to book, this has to be fair and proportionate and we would not like to see responsible dog owners penalised unfairly.

The Kennel Club has concerns over proposals to introduce an offence of not having the means to pick up. Responsible owners will usually have dog waste bags or other means to clear up after their pets but we do have some concerns, for example, if dog owners are approached at

the end of a walk and have already used the bags that they have taken out for their own dog, or given a spare bag to someone who has run out, a behaviour that is encouraged by Green Dog Walker schemes.

Furthermore, it is perfectly plausible that these proposals in certain circumstances would perversely incentivise dog walkers not to pick up after their dog. Should a dog walker on witnessing their dog fouling realise they are down to their final poo bag (or other receptacles), they will be forced into a decision of whether to use the bag and risk being caught without means to pick up, or risk not picking up in order to retain a means to pick up should they be stopped later on their walk. It is perfectly reasonable to assume that a proportion of dog walkers would choose the second option if they thought this was the least likely route to being caught. Especially if the penalty for not picking up was the same as not having means to pick up. Local authorities may wish to consider introducing a clause which provides an exemption for dog walkers who have run out of bags but can prove that they were in possession of and made use of bags (or other suitable receptacles) during their walk.

If such a measure is introduced it is essential that an effective communication campaign is launched in the local area to ensure that people are aware of the plans and have an excess supply of dog waste bags with them, so that it is the right people who are getting caught. Additionally, appropriate signage should be erected to inform those who are not familiar with the local rules are not unfairly caught out.

We are also concerned how easily local authorities could enforce this law when trying to define whether or not dog owners have 'a means' of picking up after the dogs, without risking the expense of legal challenge. In the absence of poo bags owners trying to flout the law could theoretically point to any number of items on their person that they intend to use, so we think that the most effective spot checks you can carry out are those that catch offenders in the act of not picking up, rather than second guessing behaviours on the basis of what they are or are not carrying with them.

Alternatively, to avoid a fine an irresponsible owner could simply tie one bag to his or her dog's lead or collar but never actually use it.

Cornwall council considered introducing a means to pick up order but subsequently decided against it as they deemed it to be disproportionate and concluded that the requirement would be 'toothless', as it would be highly unlikely to be enforceable in a magistrates court. Please see the attached Cornwall Council report for more details.

If the Council proceeds to introduce such a measure it is essential it provides greater clarity to dog walkers on how to comply with the Order.

#### Dogs on lead by direction

The Kennel Club strongly welcomes 'dogs on lead by direction' orders, as these allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst allowing the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control.

We would recommend that the authorised officer enforcing the order is familiar with dog behaviour in order to determine whether restraint is necessary. There is a danger that, through no fault of its own, a dog could be a 'nuisance' or 'annoyance' to another person who simply does not like dogs.

We would also recommend local authorities make use of the other more flexible and targeted measures at their disposal such as Acceptable Behavioural Contracts and Community Protection Notices. Kennel Club Good Citizen Training Clubs and our accredited trainers can also help those people whose dogs run out of control due to them not having the ability to train a reliable recall.

#### Assistance dogs

We welcome the intent to include exemptions for assistance dogs from dog fouling and dog exclusion Orders, however we would suggest alternative phrasing as outlined below.

When introducing a dog control PSPO local authorities should consider the potential negative impacts on vulnerable groups and their requirements under the Equality Act 2010. The most obvious potential adverse impact is upon those who rely on assistance dogs and registered blind people, who may either be unable to comply with conditions contained within the Order, or the effect of the Order would be to exclude them from accessing public spaces. Appropriate exemptions from dog fouling and dog exclusion Orders should be included in PSPOs, for registered blind people and those who rely on assistance dogs.

Assistance Dogs UK currently have eight member organisations which can be viewed here http://www.assistancedogs.org.uk/. However, the membership of Assistance Dogs UK is not a definitive list of all UK assistance dog organisations, and may change during the currency of the PSPO, it also does not provide for owner trained assistance dogs. We would therefore encourage the Council to allow some flexibility when considering whether a disabled person's dog is acting as an assistance dog.

We would encourage the Council adopts the definitions of assistance dogs as used by Mole Valley District Council which can be found on page 4 of this document https://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/1/b/83072\_- Completed\_PSPO.pdf

#### Appropriate signage

It is important to note that in relation to PSPOs the "The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014" make it a legal requirement for local authorities to –

"cause to be erected on or adjacent to the public place to which the order relates such notice (or notices) as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that place to -

- (i) the fact that the order has been made, extended or varied (as the case may be); and
- (ii) the effect of that order being made, extended or varied (as the case may be)."

With relation to dog access restrictions such as a "Dogs Exclusion Order", on-site signage should make clear where such restrictions start and finish. This can often be achieved by signs that on one side say, for example, "You are entering [type of area]" and "You are leaving [type of area]" on the reverse of the sign.

While all dog walkers should be aware of their requirement to pick up after their dog, signage should be erected for the PSPO to be compliant with the legislation.

With specific regard to the proposed means to pick up measure this type of law will be unfamiliar to dog walkers and prominent signage explaining the exact requirements expected of dog walkers, not all of whom will be local residents, should be erected in any area where the measure is to be enforced.

# Proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection Order for Dacorum Borough Council

In October 2014 the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 introduced new powers relevant to tackling Anti-Social Behaviour. Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) can be used to regulate activities in particular public places that have a detrimental effect on the local community.

Dacorum Borough Council is consulting on a proposed Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that covers the behaviour of dogs and their owners.

Accompanying this survey is a Frequently Asked Questions leaflet which will help explain what a PSPO is and how it can help address antisocial behaviour in our Public Spaces.

We'd like to hear your views, so please complete this questionnaire by 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018

For the purposes of this proposed Order:-

(a) A person who has a dog in his/her possession shall be taken to be a person in charge of a dog;

(b) Placing faeces in a waste receptacle provided for this purpose shall be a sufficient removal from the land;

(c) Being unaware of the defecation or deposit of faeces (whether by not being in the vicinity at the time or otherwise or not having a suitable receptacle) shall not be a reasonable excuse for failure to comply with this Order.

### Section A: Dog Fouling

### Issue 1- Dog Fouling across the whole Borough of Dacorum

All dog owners know the importance of carrying sufficient means to clear up any foul. We monitor areas where we have received complaints and engage with local dog walkers to talk about the issues not picking up causes. However, dog fouling complaints remain high across many parts of the Borough. As well as being very unpleasant there is also a risk to humans of Toxocariasis. This is an infection caused by roundworm parasites. Humans can catch it from handling soil or sand contaminated with infected animal faeces. This usually affects young children because they are more likely to come into contact with contaminated soil when they play and put their hands in their mouths.

To help alleviate this problem we propose the following orders:

#### Proposed Order One

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (excluding National Trust land shown in schedule 3) must forthwith clear up and remove any faeces deposited by the dog and either take away the faeces or place the faeces in a general litter or dog waste bin;

#### Proposed Order Two

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with any request from a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog where they have otherwise failed to do so. The faeces must either be taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin;

### Proposed Order Three

A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog. The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.

Note: Order one, two and three do not apply to any person who is disabled by virtue of visual impairment or any other disability which affects manual dexterity, physical coordination or the ability to bend down or lift/carry everyday objects. This would make it difficult or impossible to comply with the requirement in respect of any dog which is trained by a registered charity on which he/she relies for assistance.

Q1. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that faeces deposited by a dog must be removed and either taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 3 (Please note this excludes National Trust land).

|--|

s I agree

No I don't agree

\_\_\_\_ Don't know

If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below

Page 124

Q2. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that if any person responsible for a dog fails to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog they can be requested by a Constable or an authorised officer to do so within the areas
shown on the map in Schedule 2.
Yes I agree No I don't agree Don't know
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below
Q3. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that any person responsible for a dog must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?
Yes I agree No I don't agree Don't know
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below

## Section B: Dogs on Leads

# Issue 2 – Dogs to be placed on leads if requested by an authorised officer – to apply across the whole Borough of Dacorum

The council recognises that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and keep their dogs under control while they are out. However, if they are not properly supervised and kept under control, dogs that are allowed off a lead in public areas can cause nuisance or even injury to members of the public or other animals and may cause road traffic accidents.

We believe that, for animal welfare reasons, it is advantageous for dog owners to be able to exercise their dogs off lead in open spaces. We do, however, recognise that on certain occasions or in certain circumstances, the option should exist for authorised officers to require a dog to be put on a lead. Dogs that are considered to be not under proper control will become subject to this part of the Order.

The proposal is therefore that all public land in the borough or land to which the public has access will be subject to a Public Space Protection Order, which would require the person in control of a dog to put the dog on a lead if requested to do so by an authorised officer. Authorised officers will carry appropriate identification.

This means we can deal with any behaviour by a dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance without introducing overly restrictive measures on all dogs and dog owners at all times.

#### **Proposed Order Four**

A person in charge of a dog on any public place within the Borough of Dacorum must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead (no more than 2m fixed length) unless:

(a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

### Failing to comply with such a direction is an offence.

Note: An authorised officer may only give a direction under this Order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person. If a person puts a dog on a lead but fails to keep hold of the lead or affix it to something suitable so that the dog remains under his close control they will commit an offence.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 requires a short lead to be used in certain circumstances. A short lead is defined as less than 2m and of fixed length. The proposal is that when there is a requirement in the Order for a dog to be on a lead, a lead shall be defined as being of fixed length and of not more than 2m. We believe that the use of extendable leads in excess of 2m does not represent effective control in relation to proposals made above.

Q4. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs must be placed on a lead if required by a Constable or an authorised officer within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below
Q5. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal to define the length and type of lead to be used when there is a requirement for a dog to be on a lead?
Yes I agree No I don't agree Don't know
If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below

### Section C: Dog Exclusions

### Issue 3 – Exclusion of dogs from Children's play areas

We recognise the role of outdoor play for health and wellbeing and that we make public spaces as child-friendly as possible. We are proposing that dogs are excluded from any enclosed children's play area that contain children's play equipment such as slides, swings, climbing frames, water fountains and similar apparatus (Please note that there will be some exemptions to the exclusions, e.g. registered assistance dogs).

### **Proposed Order Five**

A person in charge of a dog in a public space within the borough of Dacorum Borough Council is prohibited from allowing the dog to enter the "Dog Exclusion Zones" these include fenced children's play areas, adventure playgrounds and splash parks defined in Schedule 1 hereto;

Note: This prohibition does not apply to any person who is disabled in respect of any dog which is trained by a registered charity on which he/she relies for assistance.

Q6. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs should be prohibited from all children's play areas?

Yes I agree	l don't agree	Don't know	
If you do not agree, please	tell us why in the boy	< below	

**Q7. Are we missing anything?** Are there any other dog related issues that you feel are detrimental to your quality of life in Dacorum that you would like to see included in a PSPO?

Suggestions:

Reasons

#### Your Relationship to Dacorum

Please identify your relationship to Dacorum. Please cross all that apply.

- □ Local resident who lives within the Dacorum Borough Council Boundary.
- □ Local resident who lives outside the Dacorum Borough Council Boundary.
- □ Person who works within the Dacorum Borough Council Boundary.
- □ Local Business owner/manager.
- $\hfill\square$  Land owner within the proposed area.
- □ Visitor to Dacorum.
- □ Local Councillor (Town or County).
- □ Parish Council
- □ Representative of a local community or voluntary group.
- □ Employed by the Council, Police or any other agency with an interest.
- Other (please state) .....

# Public Space Protection Order Consultation –Dacorum Borough Council Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)?

A: PSPOs were introduced in October 2014 by the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and are designed to allow a Council to deal with a particular nuisance or problem behaviour in a particular area (a public space) that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone. The order will specify those behaviours or conditions that are designed to ensure the law abiding majority can use and enjoy the public space, safe from anti-social behaviour.

#### Q: Why do we need a dog related PSPO in Dacorum?

A: It has been identified by Dacorum Borough Council and partners and that there are a number of dog related issues that are having a persistent negative impact with people who live, work or visit Dacorum. These issues have been identified via complaints made to the Council from the public, businesses and other interested parties.

### Q: How is the PSPO going to be enforced?

A: Enforcement of the PSPO will be undertaken in the main by the authorised officers of Dacorum Borough Council with assistance from the police where required. The PSPO is not intended to target any particular person – it will apply to all persons whose behaviour or dogs behaviour is considered unacceptable

### Q: What happens if I breach the PSPO?

A: Where a person breaches the PSPO, an authorised officer will have a number of options open to them and will exercise discretion in how they handle any situation. Depending on the nature of the breach the authorised officer can issue a verbal warning and require an immediate cessation of the behaviour causing the breach of the PSPO. Authorised Officers could issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) either at the time or at a later date or to report that individual for consideration of legal proceedings.

In any case where an individual fails to pay a FPN issued by an authorised officer for a PSPO breach within the specified timescale, Dacorum Borough Council will review the evidence obtained and where appropriate commence legal proceedings for the original breach.

Q: When is the consultation taking place and how do I get involved? A: The consultation will close 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018 you can respond by completing the survey questions and by submitting any other information you consider is pertinent.

The survey is available on our website <u>www.dacorum.gov.uk/consultation</u> and you can respond by completing the on-line survey, or by sending in your survey response via email to <u>dogpspo@dacorum.gov.uk</u> or by posting it to the Public Space Protection Order consultation, Environmental & Community Protection, The Forum, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1DN

Q: What will happen to the information I provide as part of the consultation A: The data collected will be analysed to help determine whether the correct conditions are being included in the PSPO. The data will not be shared outside this consultation but will be made available for Cabinet reports. Names or other personal data will not be published unless permission is specifically given by the consultee.

Q: How will the decision be made whether or not to implement the PSPO? A: The survey responses will be analysed with the results and any proposed amendments reported back to local councillors at the next suitable Cabinet meeting of Dacorum Borough Council. A decision on whether or not to implement the PSPO will then be made.

# AREA AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED PSPO

# Schedule 1- Dog Exclusion Zones

# Children's Play Parks

# Hemel Hempstead

Name	Area	Directions
High Street Green	Adeyfield	By Briery Way
Reith Fields	Adeyfield	Off Longlands
Durrants Hill	Apsley	Field by canal
Barnacres	Barnacres Road	Bennetts End
Swan Mead	<b>Belswains Lane</b>	Kingfisher Drive
Apsley Lock	Belswains Lane	Open space leading to footbridge, end of Stephenson Wharf
Wharf Road	Boxmoor Common	Boxmoor
Chaulden Lane Playing Field	Chaulden Lane	Chaulden
Gadebridge Park (King George V)	Gadebridge Park	By Queensway Carpark
Wood View (Gadebridge Park West)	Gadebridge	West side of Gadebridge Park off Gadebridge Lane
Margaret Lloyd Park	Grovehill	Aycliffe Drive opposite Henry Wells Square
Grovehill Playing Field*	Grovehill	Washington Avenue
Randalls Park	Highfield	Allandale
Jocketts	Chaulden	Jocketts Road
Malmes Croft	Leverstock Green	Green by Northend shops
Barley Croft	Leverstock Green	Off Woolmer Drive
Westwick Field	Leverstock Green Playing Field	Behind Leverstock Green Village Centre
Coronation Fields	Leys Road	Behind Bennetts End Community Centre
Lockers Park	Lockers Park	By car park on Hanger Close, off Lockers Park Lane
Keens Field	Queensway (B487)	Entrance to field by Nickey Line bridge
Jarman Park	St Albans Hill	By Dacorum Athletics Track
Water Gardens	Town Centre	Within Water Gardens
Marlowes	Town Centre	Main section adjacent to WH Smith, with

Name	Area	Directions
		continued play areas throughout the town
		centre
Warners End Valley (Upper)	Warners End	Galley Hill
Northridge Park	Warners End	Northridge Way, rear of Warners End shops
Warners End Valley	Warners End	Along footpath from Butts End to Spring
(Lower)		Lane
Woodhall Farm Oper Space	Woodhall Farm	Open space, rear of community centre

# Berkhamsted and Tring

Name	Area	Directions		
Velvet Lawn	BerkhamstedPlaying field top of Swing Gate Lane			
Butts Meadow	BerkhamstedKings Road			
Lagley Meadow	Berkhamstee	dField next to sports centre on Shrubland Road		
Normandy	Parkhamatad Pridaowatar Daad			
Drive	BerkhamstedBridgewater Road			
George Street	Berkhamstee	dGeorge Street		
Mortimer Hill	Tring	Field next to Tring School		
Sutton Close	Tring	Off Wingrave Road		
Miswell Lane	Tring	Access through gate by 86 Miswell Lane, or from Goldfield Road		

# Kings Langley and Villages

Name	Area	Directions
Rucklers Lane	Kings Langley	Behind 115-133 Rucklers Lane
The Nap	Kings Langley	Green beyond community centre
Beechfield	Kings Langley	Entrance from garage site at side of No.1
Church Lane	Bovingdon	Rear of school field, opposite St Lawrence's Church
Hyde Lane	Bovingdon	Old Dean
Boundary Cottages	Bovingdon	Chipperfield Road
Markyate	Cavendish Road	By access road to village hall
Tower Hill	Chipperfield	Access along lane by The Boot

Name	Area	Directions
Croft Meadow	Chipperfield	End of road by woods
Great Gaddesden	Church Meadow	/Off Pipers Hill
Flaunden	Flaunden	By village hall
Gaddesden Row	Gaddesden Row	Field side of 14 Gaddesden Row

# Town and parish council play areas

Name	Area
Little Gaddesden	Church Road
Long Marston	Tring Road, behind village hall
Markyate	Pickford Road, footpath beside no 21
Nash Mills	Bunkers Lane, by junction with Belswains Lane
Northchurch Rec	High Street, exerts ground
Gd	High Street, sports ground
Pond Close	Tring, by Red Cross Hall
Potten End	Plough Lane
Wigginton	Vicarage Road
Wilstone	Tring Road, by village hall
Any new children'	s parks built during the duration of the PSPO will also become dog

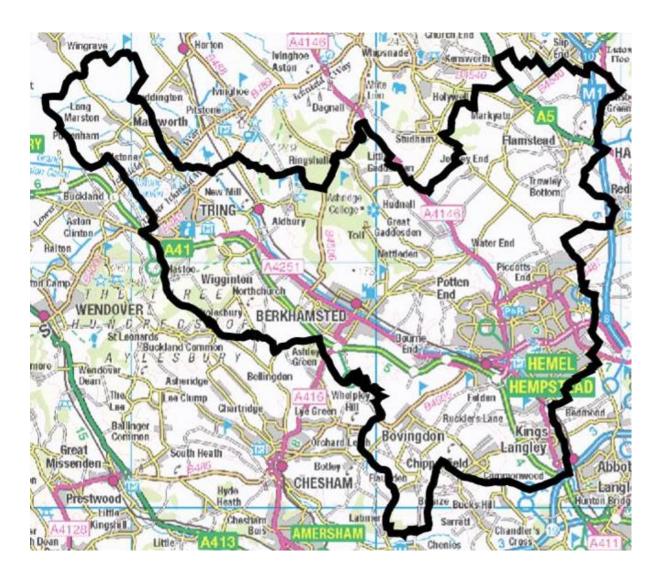
exclusion zones

# Adventure playgrounds

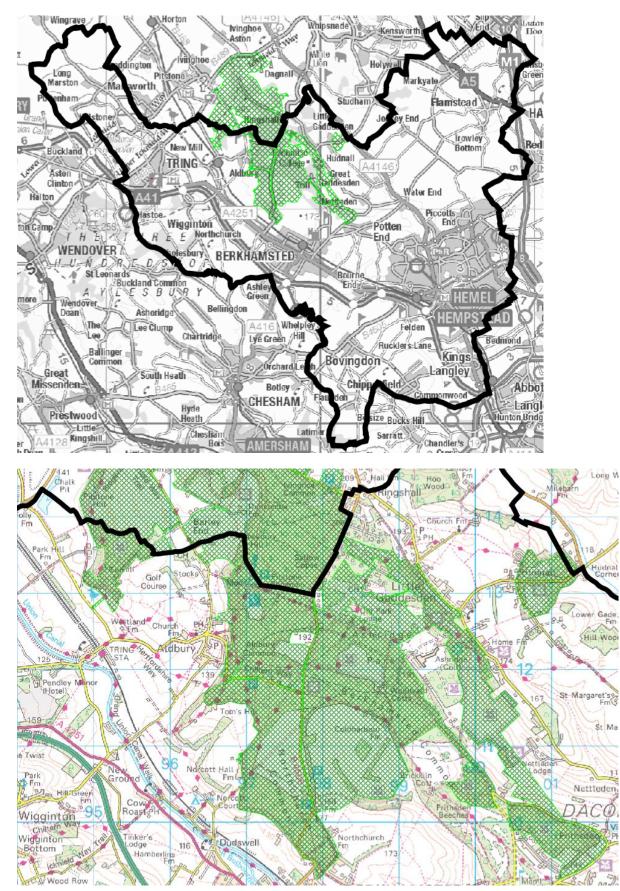
- Adeyfield Adventure Playground, Turners Hill, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP2 4LD
- Grovehill and Woodhall Farm Adventure Playground, Redbourn Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP2 7BA
- Chaulden Adventure Playground, Long Chaulden, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 2HX
- Bennetts End Adventure Playground, Rant Meadow, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP3 8EQ

### **Splash Parks**

• Gadebridge Park



Schedule 2: Map corresponding to proposed Order 2, 3 & 4 – Whole Borough



Schedule 3: Map corresponding to proposed Order 1 – Whole Borough excluding National Trust land (National Trust land is shaded)

Nothing in these Orders shall apply to a person who-

- a) Is registered as a blind person on a register complied under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
- b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or
- c) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by any current or future members of Assistance Dogs UK or any other charity registered in the UK with a purpose of training assistance dogs and upon which he relies for assistance
- d) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities and in the reasonable opinion of the Council that person relies upon the assistance of the dog in connection with their disability.

# Notes of Key Decisions/Action Points

Meeting: Cabinet

Date: 24 April 2018

Agenda Item	Decision	<u>Contact Portfolio</u> <u>Holder/ Officer</u>
24 April 2018 CA/040/18 Item 1	Minutes of the meetings held on 27 March 2018 were agreed by Members present and signed by the Chair.	
Minutes		
24 April 2018 CA/041/18 Item 2	There were no apologies for absence	
Apologies for Absence		
24 April 2018 CA/042/18 Item 3	There were no declarations of interest.	
Declarations of Interest		
24 April 2018 CA/043/18 Item 4	There was no public participation.	
Public participation		
24 April 2018 CA/044/18 Item 5	There were no referrals to Cabinet.	
Referrals to Cabinet		
24 April 2018 CA/045/18 Item 6	The Forward Plan was noted and agreed.	
Cabinet Forward Plan		
24 April 2018 CA/046/18 Item 7	To approve the following policies and management plan documents, as provided as appendices to the Cabinet Report;	Janice Marshall, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability and
Health & Safety Policies	Appendix 1: Working at Height Policy	Sustainability and Regulatory Services

	Appendix 2: Appendix 3: Appendix 4, 4a and 5: Appendix 6: Appendix 7	The Noise at Work Policy Whole Body Vibration The Electricity at Work Policy and Portable Appliance Testing Policy Bonfire Policy Corporate Asbestos Management Plan and	Responsible Officer: David Austin, Assistant Director Neighbourhood DeliveryAuthor: Emma Walker- Group Manager,
	& 8: Appendix 9: Appendix 10: Appendix 11:	Housing Asbestos Management Plans Legionella Management System Lone Working Policy Hazardous Substances Policy	Environmental and Community Protection
24 April 2018 CA/047/18 Item 8 Public Space Protection Orders – Hemel Hempstead Town Centre	<ul> <li>introduce a accordance Appendix A</li> <li>(a) Not to S urinate a coloured (b) Not to c blue on</li> <li>2. To delegate Environmer in consultati (Neighbourf made pursu or amend th</li> <li>3. To set £75 a notice.</li> <li>4. To note the Designated that they will force for a p and shall the</li> <li>5. To commen proposal to for the whole</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>ace a statutory consultation on a proposal to Public Spaces Protection Order in with the draft order and plan annexed at , to include the following prohibitions:</li> <li><i>cpit (including discharge of chewing gum),</i> for defecate in a public place within the area d blue on order plan 1 ycle or skateboard within the area coloured order plan 2.</li> <li>a authority to the Portfolio Holder for neal, Sustainability and Regulatory Services ion with the Assistant Director nood Delivery) to consider representations hant to the statutory consultation and confirm the PSPO as appropriate.</li> <li>as the sum payable for a fixed penalty</li> <li>contents of the report in respect of Public Places Orders (section 2) and note II transfer to PSPOs and shall remain in beriod of three years from 20 October 2017 en be the subject of review.</li> <li>ace a non-statutory consultation on a introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order e of the Borough in relation to dog fouling owners failing to pick up dog faeces from</li> </ul>	Janice Marshall, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability and Regulatory Services Author/ Responsible Officers: Mark Brookes, Solicitor to the Council David Austin, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Delivery)

	public areas) and other activities in relation to dogs which have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of the public'	
24 April 2018 CA/048/18 Item 9 Hemel Hempstead	1. To commence a procurement process for a maximum 5 year contract (3 years initial term with option to extend for a further 2 years at one year intervals subject to performance).	Cllr Graham Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration
Town Centre Market Contract	2. To delegate authority to agree the terms of the Contract to the Assistant Director (Planning, Development and Regeneration) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder,	Author/ Responsible Officers:
	Planning and Regeneration.	James Doe, Assistant Director of Planning, Development and Regeneration
		Author: Chris Taylor, Group Manager of Strategic Planning and Regeneration
24 April 2018 CA/049/18 Item 10	RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND: That Council formally 'makes' the Grovehill Future	Graham Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration
Formalisation of Grovehill Neighbourhood Plan	Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Local Plan following a YES vote at the Referendum held on 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018.	Responsible Officers: James Doe, Assistant Director of Planning, Development and Regeneration
		Author: Chris Taylor, Group Manager of Strategic Planning and Regeneration
24 April 2018 CA/050/18 Item 11	<ol> <li>Approval given for DBC to mutually agree to terminate the existing Dual Use Agreement and enter into a new Agreement, reflecting the updated conditions and requirements as set out in the report to Cabinet.</li> </ol>	Councillor Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Resident and Corporate
Tring Sport Centre	<ol> <li>Final sign off of the Agreement is delegated to the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Holder for Residents and Corporate Services in consultation with the Section 151</li> </ol>	Services Author/ Responsible Officers: Robert Smyth,

	Officer and the Monitoring Officer.	Assistant Director (Performance, People & Innovation)
24 April 2018 CA/051/18 Item 12 Investment in Athletics Track	<ol> <li>Cabinet approved the undertaking of consultation with local residents and key stakeholders on the potential for a new athletics track and pavilion at Cupid Green Playing Fields, Grovehill</li> <li>Cabinet approved the undertaking of necessary due diligence to confirm that Cupid Green Playing Fields, Grovehill is a suitable site for a new athletics track and pavilion</li> <li>That officers bring a further report back to Cabinet with a final recommendation for the location of the new athletics track following all required due diligence and consultation with residents and stakeholders.</li> </ol>	Councillor Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Resident and Corporate Services Author/ Responsible Officers: Robert Smyth, Assistant Director Performance, People & Innovation

The meeting ended at 8.05 pm.



Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Economic Development Update – Enterprise & Investment (E&I)
Contact:	Cllr.Graham Sutton - Portfolio Holder for Planning & Regeneration
	Author/Responsible Officers;
	Chris Taylor – Group Manager, Strategic Planning & Regeneration
	Lesley Crisp – Assistant Team Leader, E&I Team, Strategic Planning & Regeneration
	Shalini Jayasinghe – Team Leader, Infrastructure & Economy, Strategic Planning & Regeneration
Purpose of report:	<ol> <li>To update members about the work carried to support and develop the Economic Wellbeing of the Borough over the past year (April 2017-March 2018)</li> </ol>
	2. To update members on future work planned as per the E&I Action Plan (Appendix A)
Recommendations	To scrutinise report and work plans as per E&I Action Plan (Appendix A)
Corporate objectives:	The project supports the Corporate Vision and in particular the priority of 'Building strong and vibrant communities and ensuring economic growth and prosperity'.
Implications:	Financial – None arising for this report – work is carried out from established budgets
	<u>Value for Money -</u> The E&I service employs six and a half posts. Three and a half are externally funded through ERDF and the MBC, leaving three funded by DBC.

	In addition, during 2017/18, we have continued to charge for many of the services we provide to businesses in order to reduce our cost to the Council and support a sustainable model. DBC were also able to secure funding to support our businesses under 3 years via the ERDF funding programme and also received full business sponsorship to run Dacorum's Den 2017.
Community Impact Assessment	Completed and stored on H drive. <u>Cabinet - Community</u> Impact Assessment E and I team.doc
Health And Safety Implications	None in this report
Consultees:	MBC Operating Board (20 September 2017) HHBA Steering Board (14 September 2017)
Background papers:	E&I Annual Review 2017/2018 to be circulated at the meeting.
Historical background (please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).	The report provides an Annual update on work carried out by the Council's Enterprise and Investment service to assist in the ongoing economic development of the Borough.
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	ED = Economic Development E&I = Enterprise and Investment HEDOG= Hertfordshire Economic Development Officers Group LEP = Local Enterprise Partnership MBC = Maylands Business Centre HCCI = Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce HBBA = Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors BID = Business Improvement District

### 1. Background

- 1.1 2017/18 was a landmark year for Dacorum, which celebrated Hemel Hempstead's 70th anniversary as a New Town and reported a huge £350 million of investment across the area.
- 1.2 The E&I Team is now working to deliver the aims of the current E&I Action Plan 2017-2020 (attached in Annex A) The plan is designed to have a positive impact on the economy and ensure businesses can grow to their full potential to provide a balanced economy for the growing population. Targets and measures have been put in place to monitor the work and its impact.
- 1.3 Focus areas include tourism, skills, retail, start-up and commercial businesses. The Enterprise & Investment team offers support to a wide range of sectors regardless of size or sector. This ensures that Dacorum can offer a mix of employment to its residents, particularly at a time when more people and businesses are relocating out of London due to high premises costs.
- 1.4 The team continues to work closely with start-up businesses and is continuing to deliver the Hertfordshire Start-Up programme, funded by ERDF, to ensure higher

survival rates post 12 months of starting. Dacorum has a strong 5-year business survival rate of 46.4%, and continues to outperform county and national patterns.

- 1.5 Over the past year, the number of new businesses to the area has grown by 3.75% (Nomis 2017) to a total of 7880 with the largest growth coming from the micro business level (4.04%). In order to provide sufficient mixed employment for Dacorum's residents in the future, job growth in the Borough is of great importance. Dacorum's employment rate of 83.7% compares favourably to the Hertfordshire average of 83% and the national average of 78.4%. Equivalent period unemployment rates for Dacorum were 3.3%, against the Herts average of 3.0% and the national average of 4.3%. These figures demonstrate that the local economy remains strong and resilient.
- 1.6 The E&I team produces an annual report measuring achievements against key targets, and detailing some of the non-measurable work we carry out. (To be circulated at the meeting and attached as Annex C).

#### 2. Maylands Land Development

- **2.1** DBC Land– work is continuing to decide how to market just under sixteen acres of land in the Maylands Gateway. The Enterprise Zone are leading with property on this.
- **2.2** The Hertfordshire Enviro-Tech Enterprise Zone (EZ) is a major economic development project being led by a partnership between Hertfordshire LEP, Hertfordshire County Council, Dacorum Borough Council, and St Albans City and District Council, along with sector leads the Building Research Establishment (BRE) and Rothamsted Research, and the University of Hertfordshire. It covers seven employment sites, five of which are connected with the existing Maylands business area, and two at the BRE and Rothamsted campuses. It is expected to create around 8,000 new jobs over the next 25 years, and aims to attract new environmental technology businesses and jobs to the area, particularly focusing on sustainable construction and agri-tech.

A targeted strategy for attracting future occupiers is developing well, with market launch planned for early March 2019.

The project team is exploring ways to accelerate delivery of critical road infrastructure improvements, including a Multi Modal Transport Interchange and update to the area wide travel plan.

Sustainability and innovation through collaboration are being encouraged and support will be required from partners to define and implement an effective skills strategy.

The EZ aspires to offer outstanding digital connectivity and not just superfast broadband, though private sector investment.

**2.3** Work commenced on Prologis Park in December 2017 offering 585,000 sq ft of industrial and distribution space across 35 acres.

The council will also continue to work with Hertfordshire County Council, the other Hertfordshire local authorities, Hertfordshire Highways and the LEP to facilitate infrastructure improvements which will in turn allow future development

to follow. Examples of this work include the Maylands Growth Corridor and the Growth and Transport plan for this area.

- **2.4** Maylands Urban Realm Improvements (MURI) Phase 1 of the Maylands Urban Realm Improvements is now complete. Implementation of further phases of improvements as per the Maylands Improvement Specification will come forward on securing sufficient developer contributions as development comes forward in the area.
- 2.5 The Council's Kylna Court development is nearing completion. We are due to open its Move On Business Centre in January 2018. Situated on the corner of Maylands Avenue and Wood Lane End, Kylna Court will provide seventy-two affordable housing residential units and a Business Centre on its ground floor which will be a satellite of the Maylands Business Centre. Providing eight flexible 'move-on' serviced offices ranging from 300-700sq ft. for growing businesses, it comprises a mix of individual offices and allows tenants of the MBC and other businesses room to grow. It will be managed alongside the MBC with part-time provision for a receptionist.

#### 3. Inward Investment

#### **3.1 The Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors** (HHBA)

The Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors continued to grow over the past 12 months, with 12 new businesses joining and a retention rate of over 95%. This brings the total number of members to 71. During 2017/18, the HHBA hosted six events, providing an excellent opportunity for the Business Ambassadors to hear about and help shape the future direction of business in Dacorum.

The HHBA also ran an Investment Showcase at the House of Commons in July 2017 with the aim of demonstrating why Hemel Hempstead is the prime location for investment and 'a place where you can do business'. Directors and senior managers of 150 national and local businesses attended this special event, including institutional investors, relocating companies, house builders, hotel groups and retailers, developers and architects and key members of the press.

2018 is shaping up to be a pivotal year in the development of the group, with their move to becoming a stand-alone, limited company. This is now going ahead and from 1 April 2018 they became Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors Ltd. The new board will drive the ambitions of the group and guide your investment.

#### 3.2 Key Investments in 2017/2018

- **3.2.1** Vanarama opened their £5M headquarters on Maylands Business Park employing circa 180 people.
- **3.2.2** Tring Park School for the Performing Arts commenced a £12M redevelopment including a 450 seater theatre.

#### 3.2.3 Westside

I. £10 million was invested into the refurbishment of Westside Business Park in Aspley and several multi-national business occupiers have now moved in. Epson has committed its future to Westside Four by renewing their lease on 54,000 sq. ft. and taking an additional 10,860 sq. ft. on the first floor of Westside Three. This has led to the creation of an additional 400 jobs into the Borough.

- II. Grass Roots Group, a leading provider of employee and customer engagement solutions has chosen the 44,899 sq. ft. Westside One as its new UK headquarters. It is relocating from five offices in London and Hertfordshire in early 2018, on a 12 year lease.
- III. DAI have also moved to Westside creating a further 72 jobs.
- IV. Samsung-owned car and home audio maker Harman International Industries has taken 25,799 sq. ft. on the ground and first floors of Westside Two on a 10 year lease.
- **3.2.4** Hermes signed a lease agreement for the 80,000 square foot distribution centre at the end of December 2017 and a group of representatives from Hermes and Prologis recently attended a ground breaking ceremony on site. Construction is to complete in October 2018, with Hermes taking occupancy. Looking to expand its regional hub network across the South of England, carpet manufacturer Cormar Carpets has also agreed a lease with Prologis for a 120,000 sq ft space for a distribution centre in Hemel Hempstead. They have taken a lease for a period of ten years.
- **3.2.5** Maylands Point, a 36,000 sq. ft. warehouse with office space has been let to Selco, the builders merchants. A further 22,400 sq. ft. has been let to Elliot Baxter the UK's leading independent paper supplier. Both are for a period of 10 years.
- **3.2.6** The same developer as Maylands Point is carrying out a similar development called Spring Park on the former Campus site on Maylands Avenue, to the front of the recent Gyron data centre development. This project will offer 6 warehousing and industrial units with an ancillary Trade Counter, each of between 4,520-11,135 sq ft leasehold.
- **3.2.7** The Maylands Building (the former Dixons building) has been redeveloped into office space by ESO Capital who have invested over £10 million into the development.

#### 4. Retail and Tourism

#### 4.1 Retail

Dacorum has an estimated 14,000 jobs in the retail sector and the team works hard to ensure there is sufficient support for the businesses to ensure retail has a sustainable future. This is a difficult group to work with because of the transient nature of the sector.

**4.2** Town centre events to encourage local residents into the area, including the Water Gardens Launch, Halloween, and the Christmas Light Switch-On. All have attracted many residents and visitors into the Town Centre

**4.3** Businesses voted in favour of establishing a Business Improvement District (BID) in Hemel Town Centre. Around £1m of levy investment will be put into the town centre over the next few years.

Maylands Gateway Retail Park Phase 1 is now under way with completion due in Spring 2019. The Park is located on the former Lucas Aerospace site at the junction with Breakspear Way. Aviva Investors, working in partnership with Trilogy Developments and represented by Savills, has completed deals with three well-known brands; Aldi, Costa Coffee and McDonald's. Lease periods are 20, 25 and 15 yrs respectively. The trio become the first of 12 occupiers at the new 134,584 sq ft scheme, for which detailed planning consent has recently been secured. All these facilities will add to the offer of the town and develop vibrancy at maylands, including a new night time economy increasing both security and the economy of the area.

- **4.4** The 62,500 sg ft Jarman Retail Park adjacent to Tesco and Leisure World is currently being marketed and planning conditions are being finalised. Five large retail warehouses will be built there and work is expected to start in the near future.
- **4.5** Planning has also been granted for a 76-room hotel and restaurant on the ex Schroff site, subject to conditions. The agent is currently working with planning to discharge these conditions.
- **4.6** Visit Herts continue to run the tourism contract for the borough. After a difficult first year, it was felt that the contract did not deliver what had been agreed, with the SLA not fully achieved. After several meetings and a change of staff, the contract is now being closely monitored this year to determine value for money.

#### 5. Care and Retention

**5.1** The E&I team continues to concentrate on supporting our current business base to help them thrive and grow through a mixture of initiatives. The team tailors its business support to nurture growth and help to remove barriers that hinder businesses' development. Business support, advice and guidance are an integrated part of the team's service provision.

In excess of 500 face to face business support meetings took place in the last financial year to help businesses make the most of commercial opportunities in the area. This supports their continued growth and ongoing business advice helps build loyalty to the area. This, in turn, provides jobs and employment to the local residents. A recent example of this is the support for a small creative paper art business through business advice, upskilling, Dacorum's Den and networking. They are on target to double their profit and are looking to employ more staff.

**5.2** Networking is essential for reaching new customers and is extremely important to the small business community. The 'Dacorum Business Matters Linked In group' continues to grow with six hundred and thirty members to date and facilitates the development of local connections and sharing of business news. Many of these businesses have also received support from the E&I team. It runs quarterly networking events with member speakers at each event on targeted business issues. On average, forty businesses attend each event with speakers on topics

such as recruitment, networking better, social media, personal impact and Google marketing.

- **5.3** In early 2018, the team conducted a business survey aimed at ensuring that the support provision meets with current business needs. One hundred and eighteen businesses fed in and from the results of this survey relevant bite sized courses were developed and are hosted at the MBC.
- 5.4 The team continue to run day and half-day courses on issues highlighted by our businesses as barriers to growth. These are set at affordable rates and self-sustain, requiring no financial support from DBC. (Annex B). Income generated from these workshops has been £29,725 over the past year, generating a profit of £4,255.
- **5.5** Dacorum Business Week A second week of networking and informative seminars designed to help the local business population of Dacorum was held in June 2017. Events, including networking, seminars and business surgeries, took place in Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring. The events were aimed at all sectors and size businesses and topics included visual merchandising and Shop Talk for the retail sector, social media, data protection, apprenticeships and the apprenticeship levy, marketing and Brexit.
- **5.6** The Logistics Forum was established in April 2017 to look at issues affecting the major logistics companies in the area. These include congestion and lorry parking with the group meeting at Amazon. They have worked together to rearrange their individual shift patterns to try and help accommodate each other and relieve congestion caused by staff entering and leaving the area. In November 2017 Palmer and Harvey ceased trading and the E&I team worked with the company the Logistics Forum with a result that other members of the Forum were also able to offer 51 jobs to staff being made redundant.
- **5.8** The Dacorum's Den initiative continues to grow from strength to strength, providing grants to small and start-up businesses who pitch their ideas to a panel made up of Mike Penning MP and local business sponsors. Between 2012-2017, £60,000 has been given to local businesses who have created 54 additional jobs as a direct result of their subsequent growth. For example, The Den 2016 was again fully funded by the Dacorum Business community putting in a total of £12,000

#### 6. Working with Others

- **6.1** The team also works closely with the LEP and other Economic Development Offices through 1-2-1 meetings sharing best practice and HEDOG in order to ensure that our initiatives are aligned with those in the County.
- **6.2** The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding in partnership with WENTA and STANTA came into being in June 2016 and will run until December 2018. This programme is designed to provide a consistent support offer for businesses trading less than three years in Hertfordshire through business advice and mentoring, free training and the potential for start-up and growth grants. The target of this programme is to create new businesses in the area (trading over twelve months). To date, 68 start-up businesses have signed onto the programme and 64 new jobs have been created in the area as a direct result. This is 60% above the number required by the programme of 40.

Enterprise & Investment Team Action Plan

2017-20

#### **Contents:**

- 1. Foreword
- 2. Economic Profile of Dacorum Summary of the research to underpin the plan highlighting the key strengths and opportunities for growth as well as looking at the key challenges ahead.
- 3. Focus and action areas
  - A. Strategic Economic Development
  - B. Promoting continued Growth in Dacorum
  - C. Enterprise and innovation
  - D. Skills for the future
  - E. Inward Investment
  - F. Communications

#### Foreword:

With the pressure for housing growth coming to Dacorum, we face many challenges over the next few years in maintaining a balanced local economy.

With increased residents comes the need to support growth in local employment, to ensure we can maintain Dacorum as a great place for people to live, work and enjoy.

There are many different areas of the council which have influence on local business and its success, the main ones are reflected in the diagram below, and all of these areas are focussed on working together to support our local business community and deliver the best services they can.

Dacorum is committed to developing a strong local economy supported by good transport links, good commercial spaces and access to a skilled work force.



This plan details the work to be carried out by the Dacorum Enterprise and investment team to deliver Economic Development through business care and retention and the promotion of inward investment.

#### **Dacorum in Context**

#### **Location and Transport**

The borough of Dacorum, home to main settlement Hemel Hempstead, is situated within Hertfordshire and is part of the wider Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) of South West Hertfordshire.

The area is well connected to London, the rest of the country and internationally. The west coast mainline means London Euston is only half an hour away, making it easy to commute and with junctions on the M1 and M25 location is one of our main economic strengths.

Getting to the Midlands and North of England is as

simple as going South which is appealing in terms



of accessing customers and other suppliers. Dacorum also benefits from having London Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton and Stansted airports all within easy reach ensuring that it can act as a globally connected centre. The connectivity with the capital makes it effectively a part of the 'London experience' which is hugely attractive to investors and businesses as the borough expands.

Dacorum is within the Hertfordshire LEP M1/M25 Growth Area where Hemel Hempstead is identified as one of the largest towns with growth potential.

#### **Population and Skills**

Home to 151,400 people, with over 120,000 of these living in one of the three main settlements in the borough, Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring; Dacorum is the largest of the 10 boroughs by population which make up Hertfordshire.

In Dacorum, 41% of residents are qualified to NVQ 4 or above which whilst slightly lower than the Hertfordshire average at 42%, this is significantly higher than the East of England and National averages.

This means Dacorum can supply a highly skilled workforce to Employers, adding to our attraction as a location for business.

#### **Economic Activity**

The economic activity rate in Dacorum is, at 84.2%, higher than the Hertfordshire, East of England and national averages. Dacorum is characterised by a highly skilled resident population with very low levels of unemployment. Our economic strengths mean we provide employment opportunities beyond our boundaries, with the area being a large net importer of labour.

#### **Employment and earnings**

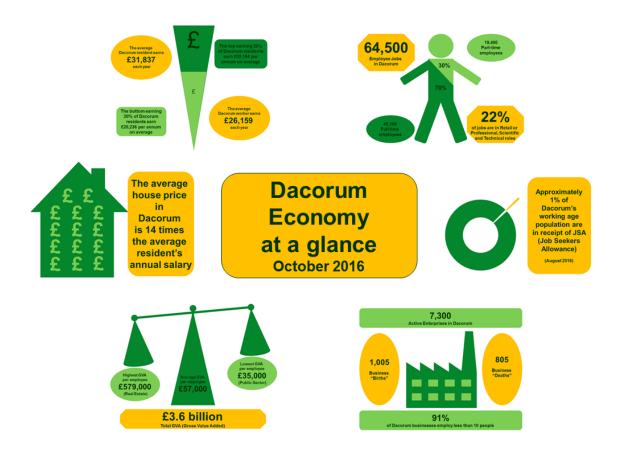
Dacorum records 64500 employee jobs (2015) which have increased by 13% in the last 5 years. This growth rate is slightly higher than the Hertfordshire average which stands at 12%.

The recent Economy study for SW Hertfordshire FEMA indicates strong levels of jobs growth is predicated for Dacorum up to 2031, however the area's ability to accommodate this may be constrained by a shortage of available and developable land and limited labour supply.

Conversely Dacorum has a very low JSA claimant count (May 2016) of 1.1% in line with Hertfordshire as a whole indicating that local labour supply will be difficult to maintain with high jobs growth unless there is a significant growth in population.

Whilst resident's earnings in the borough are high at an average of £602 per week, earning per workplace are 17% lower. This figure jumps to 25% lower for female full time workers.

This difference between resident and workplace earnings indicate that Dacorum residents are commuting out of the borough for higher paid employment.



#### **Business demography**

Dacorum has a healthy business base. With 7600 enterprises based here (2016 data). Dacorum is home to the Maylands Business Park in Hemel Hempstead, one of the largest business parks in the East of England.

The make up of our business base is predominantly micro and small businesses (98%) however we do have a slightly higher proportion of larger businesses (100 employees +) than to the Hertfordshire and Eastern regional averages.

Businesses such as Britvic, Northgate, Henkel, Sopra Steria and UTC Aerospace have all chosen to base their HQ's here. The area supports a broad range of industry types with particular strengths in Information and Communication, Professional Scientific and Technical sectors and Business administration and support services compared to neighbouring authorities, the East of England and nationally. The area does have a strong mix of businesses with no sector overly dominant leading to a strong diverse business base.

Dacorum excels in supporting business start ups with impressive business survival rates, higher than of Hertfordshire's average. This is the case for all situations when looking at 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 year survival rates.

	Births	1-year per cent	2-year per cent	3-year per cent	4-year per cent	5-year per cent
Hertfordshire County	5745	92.5	76.1	61.8	50.7	44
Dacorum	745	94	81.2	65.8	53.7	47
Broxbourne	385	90.9	72.7	59.7	46.8	40.3
East Hertfordshire	820	92.1	77.4	61.6	50.6	43.3
Hertsmere	675	91.9	74.8	58.5	47.4	41.5
North Hertfordshire	610	92.6	74.6	62.3	50.8	45.1
St Albans	805	92.5	77.6	65.8	55.9	48.4
Stevenage	285	91.2	70.2	52.6	40.4	35.1
Three Rivers	445	92.1	73	59.6	50.6	43.8
Watford	470	93.6	75.5	61.7	51.1	45.7
Welwyn Hatfield	505	93.1	76.2	62.4	51.5	41.6

#### Retail in Dacorum

Retail is a major employment sector for all districts in Hertfordshire and Dacorum is no different with an estimate of 14, 000\* job relating to retail in the borough. Town centres have seen many challenges over the last few years with the increase of online shopping and out of town retail parks and we are all aware of the changing face of the High Street. It is important that we support our retail sector to ensure that it has a sustainable future.

In the Grimsey report into High Streets 2013, they state

"What is required is a business approach to set out the vision, the objectives and plans to develop each area as a unique vibrant community hub with an economic blueprint."

In Hemel Hempstead, Dacorum have recently invested £30 million regenerating the Town Centre. During 2017 Dacorum Borough Council will work alongside Capital and Regional (a major town centre property owner) together with the retailers and town centre businesses to develop a Business Improvement District for Hemel Hempstead which will allow for a sustainable town centre action plan post 2017.

\*NOMIS Employee Jobs figure for Dacorum in classification G : Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles.

#### Tourism in Dacorum

The visitor economy is now worth £106bn a year to England, employing in excess of two million people and accounting for nearly 10% of the entire UK workforce.

Dacorum's visitor economy is worth £230m+ annually and supports almost 4,000 jobs. Since January 2013 Dacorum has had a dedicated tourism officer focusing on offering support to our visitor economy businesses. This has led to an active local tourism partnership who have benefited from support, advice and networking, resulting in an increase in the value of tourism in Dacorum of £30 million between 2012 and 2015.

To build on this work and widen the exposure of local partners to a more county, regional and national stage from April 2017, Dacorum Borough Council have sub contracted the delivery of the tourism service to Visit Herts, the county wide destination management service chosen by Hertfordshire County Council and LEP.

#### **Employment space**

With low levels of brownfield land and much of the borough being within the Greenbelt, there are severe limitations for future opportunities for employment growth in Dacorum. Coupled with large losses of office stock through permitted development, particularly in Hemel Hempstead town centre, the borough is currently constrained in terms of growth. Making the best use of what brownfield land we currently have as well as looking at increasing the density and quality of developments within the borough will be essential. During 2017 an employment Land Availability study is being carried out to assess current land supply and recommend courses of action in order to be able to meet the expected jobs growth from the SW Herts Economy study.

#### **Dacorum Business Survey 2016**

A business survey was carried out in the spring of 2016 to inform the development of this plan and ensure that the views of local businesses were fully accounted for.

The survey had over 200 local businesses respond, split across Dacorum, broadly representing the spread of businesses across the borough. The highest percentage of respondents was from businesses with less than 10 employees with 56.3% of respondents falling into this category. The remaining respondents were split across the different size bands.

The findings from the survey along with the information provided from our economic profile have been incorporated into this plan's focus areas.

#### Focus and Action areas.

#### A. Strategic Economic Development

Dacorum Borough Council has an essential part to play in planning and facilitating the ongoing development of Dacorum borough. Pressures for both housing and employment growth need to be understood and managed carefully in order to maintain a high quality environment for people to live and work.

Through the recent South West Herts Strategic Housing Assessment and the South West Herts Economy study, high growth figures are emerging for both homes and jobs.

The council needs to do what it can to facilitate this growth in a planned manner, using both the services and assets we hold to leverage new private investment. This needs to be planned and managed to ensure investment comes in the best way possible to deliver high quality homes and jobs to meet the local population's needs.

Recent changes in government legislation around Permitted Development (PD) rights have given land owners greater flexibility over the types of changes of use that are seen as permitted which adds to the increasing pressures on employment land supply. With employment B class planning uses no longer needing planning permissions to be converted to residential uses PD will continue to add increased pressure to the employment land supply in housing areas such as Dacorum where there is a large incentive for developers to pursue residential options.

Dacorum is not alone in facing this problem. Considered in the Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) of South West Hertfordshire (consisting of Dacorum, Watford, Hertsmere, Three Rivers and St Albans), we will work closely with the other authorities within the FEMA and wider Hertfordshire area to jointly address our challenges and to seek a comprehensive and joined up solution.

Action	Target date	Impact	Lead officer
To deliver the Employment Land Availability Assessment for Dacorum	June 2017	Dacorum has sufficient land available to 2036 for planned employment growth. Part 1 completed	Lesley Crisp Chris Taylor
Build relationships with other district councils in our FEMA so seek commonality	Ongoing	Dacorum identifies and addresses cross FEMA barriers to growth for our businesses	Chris Taylor Lesley Crisp
Attend regular meetings with Hertfordshire LEP, HEDOG, the European officers group and Herts Vibrant Towns meetings	Ongoing	Shared best practice allows Dacorum's business community to benefit from local and regional knowledge.	Lesley Crisp (HEDOG - Pennie Rayner) (Vibrant Towns – Sue Pilgrim)
Work alongside CMS and Capital and Regional to develop HH BID	Vote in November 2018	Business Improvement District implemented focussing on increasing footfall and the economy in Hemel Hempstead Town Centre.	Chris Taylor Pennie Rayner (Complete)

#### Actions

#### B. Challenges of Growth in Dacorum

The two greatest challenges for growth in Dacorum are suitable land availability and supporting infrastructure. These are not things we can address alone or immediately. Being part of the LEP's priority M25/M1 growth area gives further weight to our needs and has already resulted in the proposed Enterprise Zone (to be incorporated April 2017) covering parts of Dacorum and St Albans.

As a council we will continue to work with our strategic partners in Hertfordshire County Council, other Hertfordshire local authorities, Hertfordshire Highways and the Hertfordshire LEP to facilitate infrastructure improvements which will allow development to follow, unlocking Dacorum's potential.

#### Actions

Action	Target date	Impact	Lead Officer
To establish an Enterprise Zone status for the Gateway land in Maylands in partnership with Herts LEP and SADC	Completed	Business rates retention scheme established via the EZ to contribute to funding for Maylands road improvements	Chris Taylor/ Lesley Crisp
To work with SADC and Herts LEP to attract inward investment to the EZ	2017-2020	1000 New jobs created for local residents	Chris Taylor/ Lesley Crisp
Deliver 5 new light industrial incubation units at the Maylands Business Centre	Completed	Increased stock of incubation space. Supporting 5 new businesses every 3 years.	Chris Taylor/Lesley Crisp
Deliver move-on office space at the Heart of Maylands In partnership with Dacorum's Strategic Housing team	2019	Provide 3000 sqft of move on office space to support 40 jobs	Chris Taylor/ Lesley Crisp

#### C. Enterprise and Innovation

Councils can play a vital role in growing their local economies by promoting enterprise and developing business skills. Dacorum has a strong track record of support for its business community and this base will be built upon working alongside county wide support agencies as well as delivering local services.

Dacorum's Enterprise & Investment team are focussed on ensuring a fit for purpose care and retention package which is tailored to foster growth and assist in the removal of barriers for businesses to flourish.

In March 2016 we carried out a survey to assess what our business community felt about the area, the support available, the potential for growth and any barriers they foresee in order to help us form this Enterprise and Investment plan. We received over 200 responses from a representative mix of business from micro businesses right through to our largest employers.

#### Enterprise Support

Maylands Business Centre is owned and operated by DBC and provides a unique offer for start-up and growing businesses to take on their first commercial premises, with affordable rents and on-site support for a maximum of 3 years. The centre comprises a mixture of small offices and light industrial units. The model has been very successful in terms of business growth and job creation since it opened in 2011, and it has been running at full capacity since

June 2012. An extension is now underway to add a further 5 light industrial units to the centre in summer 2017. DBC are also looking at providing further move-on office space in the Heart of Maylands by the end of 2018.

All businesses and potential start-ups within the area have access to a Business Advisor for one to one support and advice free of charge. A small grants scheme, Dacorum's Den, is also operated annually, supported by the private sector, to give small businesses an opportunity to obtain grant funding to progress new products or services which will enable their businesses to grow.

DBC also pursue opportunities for external funding for enhanced business support services and have been successful recently with an ERDF programme for start-up support which will run from 2016 – 2019.

#### General Business Support / Care and Retention

Business Support incorporates numerous services aimed at growing and developing businesses to create a strong sustainable economy and more local jobs.

The Enterprise and Investment team facilitate a number of business partnerships (including the Town Centre Partnership and the Tourism Partnership) allowing business direct 2-way communication with the council as well as a one stop shop for direction to other relevant local business support services.

Networking , which is key to many businesses in terms of generating new relationships and leads, is also facilitated with opportunities organised by DBC such as the Linked in Group, Business Partnership meetings, Connect Dacorum and the Small Business Forum.

#### Better Business for All

'Better Business for All' is Hertfordshire regulators' response to reducing the burdens on business and aims to support growth by building stronger relationships between businesses, local regulators and other interested parties. The partnership, which has been endorsed by all of the county's local authority leaders, was formed in 2013 and includes representatives from both public and private sector.

DBC will work in accordance with the Herts LEP to ensure the collaboration is maintained and that Dacorum will be perfectly placed for business. Working this way will support a positive business environment helping businesses thorough the myriad of regulations, thus stimulating business growth.

#### Town Centre Events and promotion

The Team will continue to support and assist with events to be held in HHTC, as well as organising 2 annual DBC run events. These events will increase footfall into the shopping area and increase the profile and reputation for Hemel Hempstead as a great family place to visit.

Filming:

With 95 days of filming over during 2015/2016 bringing an estimated £5.8 million into the local economy, we will continue publicise our filming areas in order to raise awareness for the Borough and bring revenue into the area.

#### Actions

Action	Target date	Impact	Lead Officer
Maintain business contact through attending local networking, business meetings, online conversations and other business events	Ongoing	Increased contacts list for communications and increased take up of services. Target 300+ business interactions per annum. 100	Lesley Crisp Pennie Rayner Mary Jeffery
Look at new services to add to current business support offer	March 2019	new contacts per annum To reach more businesses and enable further growth	All
Hold an annual business event showcasing our support services (Dacorum Business Heroes)	Annual	Increased awareness of the support available to business. Target 200 businesses involved in the event.	Lesley Crisp Pennie Rayner Mary Jeffery
Deliver the ERDF start-up programme	2017-2018	To provide a county wide standard support programme for new and start-up businesses to increase survival rates. 40 jobs created	Lesley Crisp Mary Jeffery Liz Dand
Produce a social media and marketing strategy to publicise the ED offer to reach a wider audience inc home workers.	Sept 2018	Informed business community, increased service take up.	Mary Jeffery
Deliver an annual Dacorum's Den grant programme	Annually (2017 completed)	Funding supports business growth and creates jobs - supporting up to 10 businesses per year with funding and supporting all applicants.	Pennie Rayner
Create, deliver and analyse a business survey	December 2017	To shape work of ED team moving forward and ensure it remains relevant to the business needs	Pennie Rayner
Manage the MBC to maintain 95% occupancy	Ongoing	To maintain services at MBC	Lesley Crisp
Implement a logistics forum for Maylands Business Park	Launched April 2017	Local logistics companies working together to solve local road traffic issues. 10 large businesses supported.	Chris Taylor/Lesley Crisp
Develop and grow the logistics forum for Maylands Business Park	March 2018	Members grown to 15. Short and medium term solutions found	Chris Taylor/Lesley Crisp
Manage the Tourism contract with Visit Herts	2017-2020	Increase in the value and volume of tourism in Dacorum by £25 million	(Lesley Crisp) Pennie Rayner

Work in partnership with BID and other stakeholders to promote a vibrant Town Centre.	Ongoing	Enhanced image of HHTC with increased footfall and reduce vacancy rates. Specific outcomes as per strategy.	Sue Pilgrim
HH Market post February 2019	February 2019	To agree requirements for a market in HH town centre going forwards and tender as appropriate.	Chris Taylor Pennie Rayner
Manage current HH market contract	August 2017	Agree a one year extension to current market contract	Pennie Rayner (complete)
Work alongside Creative England to promote Dacorum as a film friendly location	Ongoing	Year on year increase in filming days (latest data to the end of March 2016 – 95)	Sue Pilgrim
HH Performance Monitoring & Evaluation. Look at funding	Ongoing	Review the performance of HHTC through car parking, footfall information and vacancy rates.	Sue Pilgrim (on hold pending Marlowes work)
Ensure ongoing operation of White Screen and look for long term solution	Ongoing	To maintain service through the big screen	Sue Pilgrim (complete)
Produce bi-monthly e- newsletters for Dacorum's businesses	Ongoing	Informed business community (reaching C2500 email addresses)	Sue Pilgrim
Deliver Halloween and Christmas events and other ad hoc events as required	Annually	10,000+ residents attend, increased footfall to old town and HH town centre	Sue Pilgrim

#### D. Skills for the Future

The Hertfordshire LEP skills strategy looks at skills shortages across the county and seeks to ensure this does not become a limiting factor to business growth. Dacorum Borough Council work with the LEP to deliver this in the local area.

Skills are an essential and key driver in local economic growth. Therefore ensuring that our residents have the correct skills to meet local business needs, and that through our schools and colleges we can create a pipeline of future talent, is paramount to the areas future success.

Current goals are:

- $\circ$   $\;$  Develop our Future Workforce to meet the skills need for the local area.
- Maintain low employment rates in Dacorum
- Skills support for SMEs through subsidised workshops that meet the local need (data from skills survey 2017)

#### Actions

Action	Target date	Impact	Lead Officer
--------	----------------	--------	--------------

Work with West Herts College to ensure Dacorum's businesses are informed on national skills incentives	Ongoing	50+ businesses per annum educated about apprenticeships.	Sue Pilgrim Lesley Crisp
Analyse workshops evaluation sheets from past 12 mths to determine next year's schedules.	October 2018	To ensure ongoing workshops remain relevant to the business community	Mary Jeffery
Ensure West Herts College and Skillmakers work effectively in our area	Ongoing	To provide relevant courses and information for the local business community	Mary Jeffery
Deliver local relevant and affordable training	Monthly	24 workshops per annum delivered to up skill Dacorum's workforce	Pennie Rayner Lesley Crisp
Meet termly with Dacorum Secondary School careers advisors and Youth Connexions.	3 times per annum	Linking schools with the local business community to raise awareness of business requirements from future workforce	Cindy Withey

#### E. Inward investment

Dacorum's ability to attract good employers and ensure they remain within the borough, providing long-term appropriately skilled employment for local people, will affect sustainability in the local economy.

In order to do this, the right business support and accommodation needs to be available. Dacorum has historically been successful in securing a number of major employers from across a range of business sectors, and in nurturing and growing a strong SME base. However recent evidence has suggested there has been a decline in the quantity of commercial and industrial space in Dacorum, a trend which is replicated throughout Hertfordshire. This could affect the town's ability to compete to attract good employers in the future, despite its locational strengths.

Once businesses are located in the borough, the right environment needs to be created to promote and support growth, in order that they remain in Dacorum and provide long-term employment.

The council needs to focus more on attracting high tech businesses to the area, to balance out the recent influx of logistics jobs. This process will be helped by the creation of the "Envirotech" Enterprise Zone encompassing the Maylands Gateway, and the work being undertaken by the Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors and the Enterprise & Investment team to attract inward investment into the area.

#### Ambassadors:

Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors is an innovative new scheme that will see direct investment in the local economy from local businesses and stake holders in order to build and strengthen the reputation of the area as the prime choice for business.

The HHBA scheme recognises that our businesses lead the way in shaping the future of Hemel Hempstead's on-going success.

By creating a group of economic champions for Hemel Hempstead, the scheme brings together the knowledge, networks and influence of businesses, organisations and individuals

as a powerful force to influence the place shaping of Hemel Hempstead, in order to compete, attract investment, business and visitors to create a more successful economy for the benefit of everyone.

By getting Hemel Hempstead thought about and talked about, we will ensure we are 'on the map' for all the right reasons.

#### Actions:

Action	Target date	Impact	Lead Officer
Attend regular Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors meetings and events	Ongoing	Ensure the HHBAs work dovetails to that of the E&I team, to maximise output.	Chris Taylor
Continue to develop the Ambassador scheme to fully viable financially	Viable by 2018	Board engaged and driving the organisation Organisation is financially viable and sustainable	Chris Taylor Gary Stringer
Increase membership by 2 new members per month with an emphasis on larger businesses	24 per year	Ensure the viability of the Ambassadors business plan	Gary Stringer
Work with HHBA scheme to measure value of investment into Dacorum	Total figure produced annually with evidence	£150million + per annum	Gary Stringer
Deliver at least six bi monthly events and maintain attendance	6 events 50 attendees	Ensure the Ambassadors are providing relevant and engaging meetings that business wants to attend	Gary Stringer
Maintain database of business contacts to continue to sell membership to high profile business in Dacorum	Contact Database prepared and maintained	Keep records of target members and contacts or approaches made and to signpost areas of business that would be an asset to the organisation	Gary Stringer
Maintain membership of the scheme to 90% (reducing drop out as much as possible ) and carry out customer analysis to ensure organisation delivers what members require	Customer survey December 2017 – Jan 18	Ensure high retention to the scheme and keep the business plan relevant to members and current issues	Gary Stringer

#### F. <u>Communications</u>

In order to help the maximum number of companies and to support local supply chains it is vital that we reach as many businesses as possible. One of the key objectives of the E&I team is to improve our engagement with our businesses. Good quality engagement will increase people's understanding of the services the team provides, so that those who need our services can access them. It will also improve customer satisfaction with the council, by ensuring that services meet the needs of businesses to help shape the decisions that affect them.

Recent years have seen big changes in the way that DBC communicates. Social Media, our website and blogging have all come into common use and it is important that the team and the council maintain a communications service that is relevant to audiences across the borough.

We must continue to investigate new potential opportunities that these developments provide and where appropriate make use of them. **Actions** 

Action	Target date	Impact	Lead Officer
Social media campaign to communicate with home workers	March 2019	30 new micro business contacts	Mary Jeffery Pennie Rayner
Business visits	Ongoing	300 businesses interactions per annum across sectors 60 in depth business support meetings	Lesley Crisp Pennie Rayner Mary Jeffery
Produce bi-monthly e- newsletters for Dacorum's businesses	Ongoing	Minimum of 6 newsletters per annum to C2500 email addresses	Sue Pilgrim (Content from Mary Jeffery and Pennie Rayner)
Maintain informative web pages regarding our services	Ongoing	Correct information reaches our audience. 100 +enquiries through the business@ email address	Sue Pilgrim (DBC) All (MBC)

#### Glossary of Terms;

BID	Business Improvement District
CMS	Central management Solutions – Consultancy company supporting
	the establishment of a BID in Hemel Hempstead
DBC	Dacorum Borough Council
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
EZ	Enterprise Zone
FEMA	Functional Economic Market Area
HEDOG	Hertfordshire Economic Development Officers Group
HH	Hemel Hempstead
HHBA	Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors
JSA	Job Seekers Allowance
LEP	Local Enterprise Partnership
MIPIM	Property trade Show
SADC	St Albans District Council

#### Annex B – Skills Workshops April 2017-March 2018

Over the course of the year, 57 short courses were run at Maylands Business Centre to upskill businesses in the area.

These were held on a wide variety of subjects, including topical issues such as preparing for the introduction of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations).

The income generated from this programme was £29,725, with a profit of £4,255.

Course subjects were as follows:

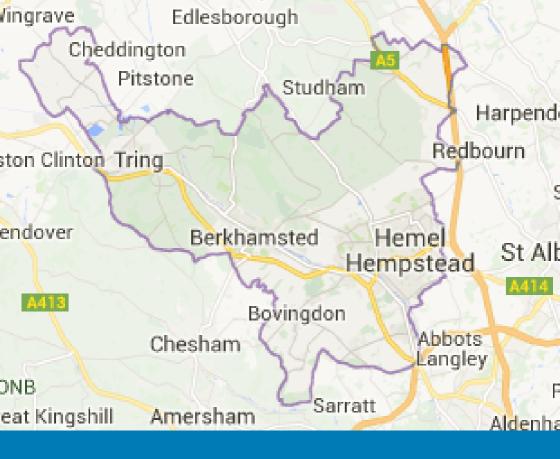
**Dealing with Challenging Customers** Motivating the Team Starting your Own Business **Excel Intermediate Excel Advanced** An Introduction to Excel Formulae Analysing Data using Excel Pivot Tables **Developing Management Skills** Marketing on a Shoestring **Researching your Target Market** Social Media for Business Generating Leads from Linked In Writing for the Web Sales training **Time Management Assertiveness Skills Presentation Skills** Tendering to the Public Sector Coaching and Developing your Staff **Customer Service Skills** Motivating the Team Confident and Assertive Communication **Simple Strategies for Stress** Finance for Non-Financial Managers - Basic Finance for Non-Financial Managers - Intermediate Preparing for GDPR



# Enterprise & Investment Annual Review 2017/18



Page 165



Dacorum Borough Council believes local businesses play a vital role in making our borough grow and prosper through their successful enterprise, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Our **Enterprise & Investment team** is committed to ensuring businesses of all sizes in Dacorum have access to relevant and high-quality support and assistance in order to make doing business in the borough as easy as possible. This, in turn, ensures businesses can grow to provide a balanced economy for our growing population.

Support services include free, personalised business advice, skills training workshops, networking, access to grant funding, our business incubation centre for growing young businesses and support for filming and tourism.

## Page 166

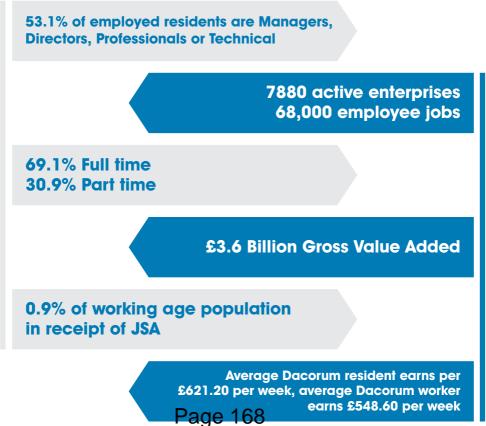


# Local Economic Performance

- Dacorum continues to outperform county and national 5-year new business survival rates at 46.4%, a pattern also repeated over years 1 to 4.
- Over the year the number of enterprises grew by 3.75% to 7880. Growth was strongest at the micro business level (4.04%), which also represent the largest proportion of enterprises in the area (91.4%).
- Dacorum's employment rate of 83.7% of the working population decreased by 2.4% on the previous year but still compares favourably to the Hertfordshire average of 82% and national average of 78.4%.
- A wide range of industries and sectors are represented in the area, with the two highest sectors by employee numbers being wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles followed by professional, managerial and technical advice.
- The Herts Enviro-Tech Enterprise Zone was awarded in April 2017 and in December 2017 work commenced on Prologis Park offering 585,000 sq ft of industrial and distribution space across 35 acres. The multi-site zone incorporates Maylands Business Park and potential economic development land to the west and aims to develop the existing enviro-tech sector and attract more businesses to the area thanks to its excellent national and international transport links.

# Labour market is diverse and multi-skilled

- 39.5% of working age people are qualified to NVQ4 and above, a slight decline from the previous annual figure of 41%. This is still higher than the national average of 38.6%, but lower than the Hertfordshire average of 42.8%.
- The self-employment rate in Dacorum increased by 0.5% in 2017 to 12.7% and at a slightly higher rate than both the Hertfordshire (12.1%) and national (10.6%) figures.



# Supporting our Businesses in 2017

Our support for small businesses in the borough helps them to establish, grow and succeed, contributing positively to the economy through job creation and income growth.

- The Enterprise and Investment team continued to support start-up and young businesses through the ERDF funded Hertfordshire Start Up Programme, with 66 new start-ups and businesses under 3 years old signing up to the programme this year.
- 64 new jobs were created as a direct result of ERDF support, 60% above the 40 originally anticipated.
- A total of 278 businesses were visited for the first time and 240 revisited.
- A programme of 57 workshops were run for 480 attendees helping businesses to upskill cost effectively.



# **Businesses Working Together**

The home-grown Dacorum's Den continues to be popular with the small business community, giving them a chance to win £1000 in grant funding, gain valuable experience in pitching their business and receive great mentoring support. The initiative is sponsored by a number of more established local businesses and is well regarded by sponsors & applicants alike.

 $\pounds$ 60k has been awarded to winners since the scheme's inception, creating 54 jobs in total.



The second Dacorum Business Week took place aimed at helping local small/medium sized businesses to network, develop knowledge and encourage economic growth.

A busy schedule of one to one business surgeries, networking & business seminars covering topics such as GDPR, advertising, tax, visual merchandising, apprenticeships and social media were arranged.

Councillor Graham Sutton, Portolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration stated "Our high quality and diverse schedule offered a thriving hub of networking opportunities for local businesses to connect, share skills and inspire each other throughout this enterprising initiative.

During the week we were able to demonstrate that businesses are flourishing in our borough and that together with our partners, we are working hard to encourage business success through the delivery of accessible and practical support and advice".

## Page 170

# Care & Retention Delivered for Dacorum Businesses

- Over 500 1:1 business support meetings took place with a diverse range of businesses to enable them to make the most of business opportunities in the borough and assist with their ongoing development.
- The Dacorum Business Matters LinkedIn Group continues to grow with 630 members to date. This online group facilitates the development of local connections and sharing of business news. It is supplemented by four face to face breakfast networking meetings annually that are well attended and received.
- The Logistics Forum was established in April 2017 to look at issues affecting the major logistics companies in the area, such as congestion on Maylands Park and lorry parking. The group meet at Amazon & have worked together to rearrange their individual shift patterns to accommodate each other and relieve congestion from staff entering and leaving the area. They were also able to offer 51 jobs to staff being made redundant by a fellow member of the group in November 2017.
- Workshops go from strength to strength and included topical issues such as GDPR and Cybercrime ensuring local businesses are always kept up to date.



## **Town Centre Promotion**

Two successful annual events aimed at attracting local residents in to Hemel Hempstead town centres were held again this year.

Halloween Party in the Old Town High Street, followed by a spectacular firework display in Gadebridge Park. It was very well attended with a peak of c 10,000 people.

**Christmas Live@Hemel Hempstead** Entertainment throughout the town centre in conjunction with Marlowes Shopping Centre & Riverside, culminating in fireworks, attracted c 5,000 visitors.

The team also played a major role in the organisation of a Garden Party to celebrate the opening of the newly refurbished Water Gardens, attracting c2,000 and boosting town centre footfall.

Income from promotional pitches in the town centre was over  $\pounds10k.$ 

#### Hemel Hempstead Business Improvement District Up and Running

Businesses voted in favour of establishing this and a new town centre manager was appointed. Around  $\pounds$ 1m of levy investment will be put in to the town centre in the next few years.

# Business Incubation Space Extending

Building commenced on the £10.5M affordable housing and office development to be known as Kylna Court and is expected to be completed in late 2018. This will provide flexible move on office space for growing businesses with a mixture of individual offices and shared meeting rooms, creating additional capacity to Maylands Business Centre.

At Maylands Business Centre, the 5 additional light industrial units were completed and immediately occupied. Both office and light industrial units continue to be 100% occupied and with an average waiting list of 21 prospective new tenants remain extremely popular.

A total of 17 virtual and 15 mail handling tenants use the services provided by the site.





# Inward investment Successes

- Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors has continued to grow to a record total of 71 members with a full and active programme of partcipation.
- 2017 was a landmark year for Dacorum, celebrating Hemel Hempstead's 70th anniversary as a new town and reporting a huge £350 million of investment across the area.
- In July, HHBA hosted an event "Hemel Hempstead Your Platinum Investment" at the House of Commons to promote the town as a prime location to invest and do business.
- Three international occupiers have been confirmed for the remodelled and refurbished Westside, Apsley office building.
- Other new businesses to the area include Cormar Carpets, Selco and Eliot Baxter.
- Vanarama committed to a £5M HQ on Maylands employing 180 people.
- Work commenced on the first phase of Prologis Park an  $\pounds$ 80M, 35 acre logistics and warehousing site at Maylands, with the potential to attract 750 jobs to the town.
- Tring Park School for the Performing Arts commenced a £12M redevelopment including a new 450 seater theatre
- The total number of businesses in the Borough increased again year on year by 9.96% 174880 (NOMIS 2017)



## **Enjoying Dacorum - The visitor economy**

The team worked alongside Visit Herts and with local businesses allied to the tourist industry to promote and strengthen the Dacorum area as a great place to visit.

Official figures on the value of tourism to the Borough are updated biennially and therefore have not changed on those reported last year. The visitor economy remains important to the Borough and accounts for 6% of employment.



2,807,000 Day trips annually to Dacorum

## 71 Filming days including;

Endeavour | Silent Witness | Dancing on Ice Humans Justice League | My Cousin Rachel Page 175



#### Enterprise & Investment Team

Dacorum Borough Council | Maylands Business Centre Redbourn Road | Hemel Hempstead | HP2 7ES

#### www.dacorum.gov.uk

#### 01442 531002

### Page 176





### AGENDA ITEM:

#### SUMMARY

Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny
Date of meeting:	20 November 2018
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 Update
Contact:	Cllr Graham Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration
	James Doe, Assistant Director (Planning, Development & Regeneration)
	Shalini Jayasinghe, Team Leader (Infrastructure & Economy)
	Emma Cooper, Strategic Planning and Regeneration Officer (Infrastructure & Economy)
Purpose of report:	The report seeks to update members on the collection and governance of CIL and S106 receipts for the period April 2017 – March 2018.
Recommendations	That the report is noted.
Corporate Objectives:	Affordable Housing
	Affordable Housing continues to be secured through use of planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and is not considered to be infrastructure under the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) and hence not subject to the pooling restrictions.
	Building Community Capacity
	A proportion of CIL funds received is allocated to parish and town Councils and neighbourhoods in non-parished areas. In particular, local communities should feel empowered to carry

	out improvements within their neighbourhood by the
	distribution of a proportion of this CIL funding to them under Regulation 59 of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended).
	Spending of other CIL revenues are not restricted by geography they can be targeted in areas where there are deficiencies and/or where needs are most acute and in particular on projects with a strategic impact.
	Similarly, S106 funds are sought to mitigate the impact of specific development on the area and will provide infrastructure that builds community capacity.
	Delivering an Efficient and Modern Council
	The funds secured from CIL and S106 will enable the provision of modern facilities for the enjoyment of those living and working in the Borough.
	Ensuring Economic Growth and Prosperity
	The development of the key employment area at Maylands and the Enterprise Zone is a corporate priority to which CIL funding may be allocated. It is anticipated, as per Cabinet Decision November 2016 that significant CIL funds will be committed to the development of supporting transport and other infrastructure to enable this area to thrive thereby increasing the prosperity of the area.
	Despite the majority of commercial developments not being liable to CIL payments in accordance with Dacorum Borough Council's CIL Charging Schedule developed through rigorous viability studies in accordance with CIL Regulations, public realm improvement works in Maylands are secured under S106 from those developments within the commercial areas to the east of Hemel Hempstead.
	A Safe, Clean and Enjoyable Environment
	CIL and S106 receipts may be allocated to the improvement of infrastructure which supports a safe, clean and enjoyable environment. Significant funds have been allocated from the S106 contributions towards the improvement of public open spaces and in support of the Council's programme of playground improvements.
Implications:	Financial
	The Council is on target to deliver a cost neutral CIL service from 2018/19. The costs of the long term delivery of CIL services will be funded from the allocation of administrative costs applied under Regulations 61 of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) This allows the Charging Authority to use up to 5% of the total receipts to cover administrative expenses including staff, training, software and subscriptions. The ability

	of the Council to maintain a cost neutral CIL service is dependent on increasing housing delivery and legislation.
	Further CIL and Section 106 financial information is provided within the report.
	Value for Money
	The Council is responsible for allocating CIL expenditure and thus has a responsibility to ensure that funding is used both appropriately and effectively in the delivery of infrastructure. Requests for CIL funding will be expected to demonstrate that the infrastructure project offers value for money with such matters being considered through the submission and scoring of projects. Infrastructure projects will be subject to procurement processes.
	The Infrastructure Delivery Plan takes an overview of infrastructure needs and provides prioritisation of infrastructure projects enabling us to maximise the benefits of CIL funding and other sources of infrastructure funds.
	<u>Staff</u>
	The Council employs one full time officer and one part-time officer to deal with the daily administration, governance and management of CIL, S106 and related infrastructure provision. These officers are responsible for the administration of CIL, monitoring of S106 financial obligations, the progression of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, the evolution of the CIL Charging Schedule, supporting policies and strategies together with the wider infrastructure planning function of the Council.
	Other Council staff will be involved in individual projects relating to the spending of CIL funds as the need arises. Where possible such matters have been incorporated into existing work practices (for example: Resident Services are expected to work closely with Ward Councillors and community groups over the use of the Neighbourhood Proportion of CIL)
	Land
	The Council has an adopted Payment in Kind policy which allows for land to be transferred to the Council upon which they can deliver infrastructure necessary to support growth. No CIL payments have been received to date via this mechanism.
Risk Implications	Income through CIL is limited and therefore cannot fund in its entirety the delivery of all infrastructure requirements. However, it has the potential to be used to match fund and/or to leverage additional funding for strategic projects. Cabinet 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2016 adopted the decision to allocate funds to the following priorities:

<ul> <li>Infrastructure for East Hemel Hempstead – 50%</li> <li>Transport Infrastructure – 40%</li> <li>Other projects – 7%</li> <li>Contingency – 3%</li> </ul>
This mitigates the risk of the limited funds being used up for projects that will not have a strategic impact in key priorities areas.
Dacorum Borough Council is currently in the process of preparing a new Local Plan for the area. The emerging Local Plan process including the Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP) will identify strategic sites, infrastructure requirements and infrastructure priorities. The emerging Local Plan will be key to identifying and prioritising the infrastructure requirements for Dacorum, particularly given the unprecedented high levels of growth that are likely. Therefore, it is crucial that the allocation of CIL funding aligns with the infrastructure requirements of the emerging Local Plan. DBC will also look at the need to review the CIL charging schedule in line with the emerging Local Plan.
Governance processes are in place in relation to CIL expenditure and the Council will, where possible, oversee the delivery of infrastructure projects to ensure that they are delivered on budget and in accordance with the timescales agreed by the Infrastructure Advisory Group. The Council may withhold CIL funds in the case of slippage in the delivery of infrastructure projects or require schemes to be funded in advance of CIL payments.
CIL was subject to an internal audit in March 2018 with two recommendations put forward;
<ul> <li>The Council should ensure that monitoring is undertaken against key performance indicators which have been put in place</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The Council should ensure that all overdue developers' payments are pursued in a timely manner</li> </ul>
Whilst measures have recently been put in to place to address these at the time of the audit, the team now continue to implement measures robustly.
Similarly, Dacorum Borough Council continues to seek S106 funding where appropriate and lawful for infrastructure. However, due to the pooling restrictions in place for the collection of S106 funding and limitations caused by the Regulation 123 list, a list of those projects or types of infrastructure that the Charging Authority intends to fund, or may fund, through the Community Infrastructure Levy. the scope of collecting S106 funding is limited and carries significant risks to the ability of Councils to deliver required

	infrastructure. Government is currently proposing to lift the pooling restrictions as announced in the Autumn Budget Statement and once these restrictions are removed, S106 agreements will be crucial to the delivery of infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of larger site developments.		
Community Impact Assessment	should be open, fair and equitable for all applicants. The application process has been designed to be inclusive and both the application form and guidance notes will be available via the website.		
Health And Safety Implications	None arising from this report		
Consultees:	The governance arrangements for CIL have been discussed in detail with members of the Infrastructure Advisory Group (IAG) and other key Council staff at both Hertfordshire County Council and Dacorum Borough Council including:		
	<ul> <li>Mark Brookes, Solicitor to the Council</li> <li>Mark Gaynor, Director for Planning and Housing</li> <li>James Doe, Assistant Director for Planning, Development and Regeneration</li> <li>Chris Taylor – Group Manager, Strategic Planning and Regeneration</li> <li>Nathalie Bateman – Team Leader, Strategic Planning</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Nathale Bateman – Team Leader, Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Strategic Sites)</li> <li>Shalini Jayasinghe – Team Leader, Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Infrastructure &amp; Economy)</li> <li>Sarah McLaughlin – Principal Infrastructure Officer, Development Services, Herts County Council</li> </ul>		
	The Infrastructure Advisory Group includes the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration and representatives of the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).		
Background papers:	<ul> <li>Officer Decision Sheet titled "Timetable for CIL submissions 2018" dated 16 May 2018 (Appendix 1)</li> <li>Cabinet Report titled "Community Infrastructure Levy Governance Update" – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017</li> <li>Cabinet Report titled "Governance Arrangements of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016</li> <li>Cabinet Report titled "Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Adoption of Charging Schedule and associated documents" – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015</li> <li>Cabinet Report titled "Governance Arrangements for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – 25<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>November 2014</li> <li>CIL charging schedule, Regulation 123 list and policies, 2015</li> </ul>		
	These documents may be viewed at <u>www.dacorum.gov.uk</u>		

Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	CIL - Community Infrastructure Levy DBC – Dacorum Borough Council HCC – Hertfordshire County Council IAG – Infrastructure Advisory Group IBP – Infrastructure Business Plan IDP – Infrastructure Delivery Plan POS – Planning Officer Society S106 – Section 106 Agreement SPEOSC – Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

#### Background

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report seeks to update members on the collection of financial contributions from developers towards infrastructure and how such contributions are being managed by the Strategic Planning and Regeneration team.
- 1.2 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is the primary mechanism for collecting financial contributions from new developments to help fund the provision of infrastructure required to support housing and commercial growth in the Borough.
- 1.3 The Council started charging CIL on all new developments receiving planning permission from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015. The extent of applicable charges by use and geography is set out within the Council's adopted Charging Schedule (www.dacorum.gov.uk/cil).
- 1.4 The charge is calculated in accordance with Regulation 40 of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended). Relief from the charge is available for affordable housing units, self-build homes, domestic annexes, house extensions and those developments carried out by charitable organisations.
- 1.5 In addition to CIL, the Council continues to secure affordable housing, site specific infrastructure items and undertakings which are not financial in nature (for example restrictions on use or management plans) and on occasion, some financial contributions (where not listed or listed as an exception in the Regulation 123 list through the use of legal agreements under Section 106 (S106) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).
- 1.6 The Council is restricted in its pooling of financial contributions under S106 by Regulations 122 and 123 of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) The Council has adopted a list of projects, 'The Regulation 123 List" for which it will not enter into a S106 agreement.

#### 2.0 Legislative Changes

2.1 The Government consulted on proposed changes to legislation as a result of the report 'A new Approach to Development' put forward by the CIL review team. The consultation included but was not limited to;

- The lifting of S106 pooling restrictions for Local Authorities who meet certain criteria;
- Replacement of the Regulation 123 list with an Infrastructure Funding Statement;
- The introduction of a two-month grace period for developers to submit a commencement notice;
- Streamlining the process for local authorities to set and revise CIL charging schedules by aligning the requirements for evidence on infrastructure need and viability with the evidence required for local plan making;
- Replacing the current statutory formal consultation requirements with a requirement to publish a statement on how an authority sought an appropriate level of engagement.
- 2.2 A formal response to the consultation on changes to CIL and the approach to securing developer contributions was submitted by the Council. The outcome was announced by MHCLG recently following the Autumn Budget statement:

"The reforms to developer contributions build on improvements made to viability assessment earlier this year through the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and accompanying guidance. They ensure that developers know what contributions they are expected to make, that local communities are clear about the infrastructure and affordable housing they will get, and that local authorities can hold them to account. The reforms include:

- Introducing a new tariff (Strategic Infrastructure Tariff) that will allow combined authorities to collect funds from developers towards strategic infrastructure that benefits multiple areas.
- Removing restrictions on how planning obligations can be used, so that local authorities have greater flexibility to secure the funds they need to deliver infrastructure. These pooling restrictions will be lifted across all areas.
- Measures to make Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) rates more responsive to changes in the value of development. We will consult on indexation proposals.
- Increasing transparency, by requiring authorities to publish more details on what has been collected and spent, so that local communities can see the value of developer contributions secured.
- Increasing certainty for developers on the contributions that they are required to make, by clarifying regulations.
- Legislation will be required to implement the changes set out in the consultation document. The ministry is planning to consult on draft regulations later this year.

### 3.0 CIL Collection

3.1 A summary of CIL income and expenditure from the adoption of CIL by DBC to the end of March 2018 is set out in Table 2 below. Members should note that these figures differ from those held for accounting purposes, as they do not include sums for which a Demand Notice has been raised and for which there is currently an outstanding debt or instalment. This shows that from the total CIL monies received, the Borough Council effectively holds £1,275,168.19 towards the provision of new infrastructure once its administration costs and neighbourhood CIL – paid to town and parish councils and neighbourhood plan areas (Regulation 59 payments) have been made.

		Financial Year		
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Total
	Income			
CIL Receipts	£65,119.38	£498,673.39	£1,020,632.72	£1,584,425.49
	Expenditure			
Administration (5%)	£3,255.97	£24,933.67	£51,031.64	£79,221.27
Neighbourhood CIL (15%)	£9,767.91	£72,087.78	£148,180.32	£230,036.01
Balance	£52,095.50	£401,651.94	£821,420.76	£1,275,168.19

#### Table 2 – Summary of CIL Income and Expenditure

- 3.2 The CIL regulations allow for a number of situations where relief can be applied for. In 2017/18 a total of £2,716,514.61 of relief was granted. This is broken down as follows;
  - Annexe Relief £11,822.83
  - Extensions Relief £299,760.24
  - Self-build Relief £1,388,774.07
  - Social Housing Relief £1,016,157.47
- 3.3 In addition surcharges can be added where there are failures to follow due process and £17,376.65 of surcharges were added to liabilities in 2017/18.
- 3.4 These receipts, whilst providing a useful source of infrastructure funding, still falls significantly short of that required to fund the infrastructure requirement (as set out in Dacorum's Infrastructure Funding Gap assessment). CIL was never intended to fully plug the infrastructure funding gap (calculated at £60.8m for the CIL examination in 2014, so this figure will rise as future growth requirements set out in the Local Plan review become clear) but a contribution of 10%-20% towards the shortfall in infrastructure funding from CIL receipts is anticipated.

#### 4.0 CIL Expenditure

#### Core CIL Funds

4.1 The Council has not currently spent any of its core CIL funds directly on the provision of infrastructure and there is currently no intension to do so before April 2019 due to the reasons outlined in The Officer Decision Sheet titled "Timetable for CIL submissions 2018" dated 16 May 2018 (Appendix 1).

#### Administration

- 4.2 The Council sets aside 5% of its CIL income to cover the administrative costs associated with the charging of CIL as is permissible under the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended)
- 4.3 The main costs associated with CIL are those covering staffing, and related service expenses (such as software).

#### Neighbourhood Proportion

4.4 In accordance with Regulation 59 of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) the Borough Council is required to pass on 15% (25% in areas that have a valid Neighbourhood Plan) of its CIL funds to the Town and Parish Councils (and Neighbourhood area in unparished areas) for use by the local community. The sums that have already been transferred are identified in Table 2 above and are broken down in more detail in Appendix 2. The Council did not report any CIL expenditure by Town and Parish Councils for 2016/17 and is not aware of expenditure by Town and Parish Councils covering the last financial year. Such information should be reported by the end of the calendar year (see Regulation 62 statement at www.dacorum.gov.uk/cil) either directly by the Town/Parish Council or via the Charging Authorities website.

#### 5.0 Changes to the CIL Submission Programme

- 5.1 The emerging Local Plan will be key to identifying and prioritising the infrastructure requirements for Dacorum, particularly given the unprecedented high levels of growth that are likely. In addition, the Southwest Herts authorities (Dacorum, Watford, Three Rivers, St Albans and Hertsmere) are working towards a Strategic Joint Plan for the area.
- 5.2 Both the new Local Plan and the Strategic Joint Plan will identify key infrastructure requirements for the area. Therefore, it is prudent to defer allocation of CIL funds until these key documents have been drafted and up to date infrastructure requirements identified.
- 5.3 An Officer Decision to approve the revised timetable for CIL submissions and defer the spending of CIL monies for a further year was agreed in May 2018 (Appendix 1).
- 5.4 With confirmed changes to CIL yet to be announced it is unclear what form annual reports will take, it is anticipated that an Infrastructure Funding Statement will be introduced in which the Council will report on all developer contributions received over the previous financial year.

- 5.5 It is expected that the Council will need to state their priorities for which developer contributions will be allocated to within this Infrastructure Funding Statement.
- 5.6 It has been previously noted that an Infrastructure Business Plan (IBP) will be prepared to identify priorities and allocation of developer contributions including CIL. Whilst the preparation of an IBP has been started it has been put on hold whilst we await government decision on the Infrastructure Funding Statement as depending on the requirements, this could possibly replace the function of an IBP.

### 6.0 Section 106

6.1 The Council continues to receive a relatively high level of income from S106 agreements as set out in Table 3 below

Financial Year	Sums received by DBC	
2017/18	£251,316	
2016/17	£1,158,264	
2015/16	£1,641,138	
2014/15	£628,487	
2013/14	£444,840	

# Table 3 – Summary of Annual Section 106 Income

- 6.2 The decline in the number of S106 agreements being entered into reflects the gradual restriction on the use of S106 following the introduction of the CIL Regulations 2010 and annual amendments thereto, the Ministerial Statement from November 2014 and introduction of CIL on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015. The CIL regime has not completely replaced S106 and the hybrid approach is likely to continue. However, if the pooling restriction on S106 obligations is lifted as proposed, the number of S106 agreements could potentially increase once more.
  - 6.3 The S106 Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March extend to £3,184,712 which is broken down by responsible officer/theme in Table 4 below.

# Table 4 – Section 106 Balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

Responsible Officer	Purposes	Amount
David Barrett	Affordable Housing	£1,587,046
(Group Manager,		
Strategic Housing)		
Chris Taylor	Cycle Contributions and	£479,056
(Group Manager,	Regeneration Works	
Strategic Planning and		
Regeneration)		
Craig Thorpe	Open Space and	£27,872
(Group Manager,	Environment	
Environmental		
Services)		
Matt Rawdon	Playing Pitches,	£839,886
(Group Manager,	Playgrounds and	

People and	Community Development	
Performance)		
Richard Rice	Allotments, Open Space	£250,852
(Group Manager,	and Playing Pitches	
Commercial Assets and		
Property)		
Total		£3,184,712

6.4 The following expenditure has occurred or is included in the capital programme.

### Table 5 – Section 106 Expenditure

	Capital Exper	nditure	
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Amount	£247,640	£971,500	£1,845,500

- 6.5 The majority of capital allocation within the year has been on the provision of Affordable Housing (£586,000) and play facilities within the Borough as part of the wider Playground Improvement Scheme (£204,739). S106 funding has also been released during the year for works within Maylands as part of the Maylands Urban Realm Improvements (MURI) and works at Heath Park with over £1,500,000 being allocated towards affordable housing projects in the borough for the following year.
- 6.6 A summary of the current S106 balances can be found in Appendix 3.

#### 7.0 S106 Constraints

- 7.1 Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) are a mechanism which make a development proposal acceptable in planning terms, that would not otherwise be acceptable. They are focussed on site specific mitigation of the impact of development.
- 7.2 The Regulation 123 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 states under section 3b A planning obligation ("obligation A") may not constitute a reason for granting planning permission to the extent that five or more separate planning obligations that –
- (i) relate to planning permissions granted for development within the area of the charging authority; and
- (ii) Which provide for the funding or provision of that project, or type of infrastructure,

have been entered into before the date obligation A was entered into.

- 7.3 This places a restriction on the Council's ability to fund a single project or type of infrastructure from obligations collected from more than five S106 agreements. This restriction does not apply to Affordable Housing contributions.
- 7.4 S106 should be sought to mitigate site specific impacts on infrastructure and may have restrictive covenants within the agreement.

### 8.0 Changes to the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)

- 8.1 The Council has an IDP, which provides a technical assessment of the infrastructure required to support the existing and proposed levels of housing and employment growth within the Borough up to 2031. This assessment is based on growth identified within the Core Strategy and incorporates the strategies and key infrastructure priorities of external infrastructure providers.
- 8.2 A number of projects within the IDP are of a long term nature. Because of their reliance on external funding sources, some may be delayed and may be unlikely to materialise within the lifetime of the Core Strategy.
- 8.3 A new settlement based version of this document focusing on the needs of Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring in particular – was published in July 2017. This illustrates the infrastructure requirements for each place, those in the process of being delivered and those funded by CIL or other Council funds. It also includes a prioritised schedule of all infrastructure requirements per settlement.
- 8.4 A new IDP will be prepared to support the new Local Plan and work on this document is expected to commence at the end of 2018.. The new IDP will set out the infrastructure needs to support growth identified in the new Local Plan. This IDP will also review the funding requirements for delivering the infrastructure including the use of developer contributions.

#### 9.0 CIL Policies

- 9.1 The Council has a number of supporting policies sitting behind its CIL Charging Schedule and covering such matters as Discretionary Charitable Relief, Exceptional Circumstances, Instalments and Payments in Kind (Land). These policies were introduced at the discretion of the Council with a view to facilitating the viability of schemes coming forward through the planning process and to assist in the timely delivery of infrastructure.
- 9.2 The Council has also set out its intentions regards to funding infrastructure through the publication of a Regulation 123 list.
- 9.3 The Governance structure for CIL sets out that these policies will be formally reviewed by the IAG, but the following should also be noted.

#### Exceptional Circumstances

9.4 The Council has not had any requests to use its Exceptional Circumstances policy and to date has not experienced any significant claims for a reduction in affordable housing below the policy requirements set out in CS19 – Affordable Housing. This would indicate that despite a significant rise in indexation the charges within the Charging Schedule are having a negligible impact overall on scheme viability.

#### Instalments

9.5 The Council has an instalment policy in place. This instalment policy supports the receipt of CIL payments.

#### Payments in Kind (Land)

9.6 There has been an offer of land in lieu of CIL payment, which to date, has not been finalised.

#### Regulation 123

9.7 Another anticipated outcome of the CIL review is the abolition of the Regulation 123 list, anticipated to be replaced with an Infrastructure Funding Statement in which infrastructure funding priorities will be listed.

#### 10.0 Next Steps

- 10.1 As outlined above, the receipts, prioritisation and allocation of developer contribution both CIL and S106 will be reviewed in line with the emerging new Local Plan to ensure that it supports the delivery of the required infrastructure.
- 10.2 A review of the CIL Charging schedule may be undertaken alongside the progression of the new Local Plan utilising the same evidence and studies where possible.
- 10.3 Officers will continue to monitor the success of CIL and the associated policies with the IAG and report on CIL through the Authority Monitoring Report.
- 10.4 Following recent success in CIL training undertaken for both Members and officers, we will continue to identify and run, where appropriate, training sessions on developer contributions.
- 10.5 With the progression of the emerging Local Plan and ahead of the anticipated growth for Dacorum we are working with Group Managers to identify current needs and where possible allocate S106 funds towards projects.

Page 189

**Name of decision maker:** Assistant Director of Planning, Development & Regeneration

Service Area: Strategic Planning & Regeneration

Title of Decision: Timetable for CIL submissions 2018

# Decision made and reasons:

# Decision:

To approve the revised timetable for CIL submissions 2018/19 which will defer the spending of CIL monies for a further year.

# Reason:

On 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017 an update on the Community Infrastructure Levy governance was reported to Cabinet. At this meeting Cabinet (minute CA/68/17) delegated authority to the Assistant Director for Planning, Development and Regeneration to adjust the timetable for CIL submissions on an annual basis in consultation with the Portfolio holder as the need may arise. The report recommended:-

- 1) Officers defer requesting project submissions for the use of CIL funding until April 2018
- 2) Officers request expressions of interest for the use of CIL funds from July 2017
- 3) The amendments to the CIL submission timetable as set out in Table 2 of the report to Cabinet are agreed
- 4) Authority is delegated to the Assistant Director (Planning, Development and Regeneration) to adjust the timetable for CIL submissions on an annual basis in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration as the need may arise.

At that meeting the amended CIL submission timetable and programme for adoption of IBP was stated as follows

July 2017	Invite initial expressions of interest for the use of	
	CIL	
September 2017	Consideration of the IBP by the IAG	
October 2017	IAG agree IBP for submission to Overview and	
	Scrutiny and Cabinet	
November 2017-	IBP considered by Overview and Scrutiny and	
January 2018	Cabinet	
November 2017-	Formal expressions of interest for the use of CIL	
February 2018	funds requested.	
February 2018	IBP approved by Council	
April 2018	Invite CIL project submissions	
May 2018	Deadline for the receipt of CIL project submissions	
-	(6 weeks)	

Since July 2017 the following initial expressions of interest have been received

# HCC education

- One form entry primary schools expansion to deliver primary education places in the south east of Hemel Hempstead. The project is required for delivery by 2019/20. Estimated cost £4.1 m, CIL funding request to be confirmed.
- Provision of a new 8 form entry secondary school to support development coming forward within and surrounding Hemel Hempstead. Location anticipated to be within SADC development site and s106 contributions to be also sought. Estimated cost £40.3 m, CIL funding request to be confirmed.

# Health NHS Herts Valleys CCG

- Consolidation of 3 practices into single building and refit Gossoms End Community Hospital. Delivery by March 2019, estimated costs and CIL funding request £1,500,000.
- Two storey extension and refurbishment of existing premises, Markyate Surgery. Estimated costs and CIL funding request £700,000 delivery by March 2019.
- Improvements to Parkwood Drive Surgery, or delivery of alternative accommodation. Estimated costs and CIL funding request £600,000, delivery by March 2019.

Hospice of St Francis

 Conversion of two shared into four single rooms, replacement of water pipes, improvements to other areas of the building including Spring Centre to create more space for rehabilitation and therapy activities. Estimated cost £787,000, CIL funding request £10,000, delivery by December 2019.

A revised timetable for the preparation of the IBP and CIL submissions has now been developed, the changes are as a the result of the following:-

- From adopting CIL, up to end of February 2018, we have received total receipts of £1,510,377. 5% of the receipts fund administration costs whilst 15% (25% if the neighbourhood has a Neighbourhood Plan) is the allocated neighbourhood proportion. This leaves 80% of receipts as Core Funds (£1,216,290) which would be available for bids a substantially small fund compared to the cost of infrastructure requirements as evident from the expressions of interest received above.
- CIL was never intended to fund all infrastructure but only to support the delivery of infrastructure. One of the key advantages of CIL is that receipts can be accumulated to deliver strategic infrastructure needs and is not restricted to an area unlike S106 contributions. This, combined with the limited funds likely to be received through CIL makes it vital that CIL is spent on high priority, strategic projects that will have a high impact on the community.
- It is therefore crucial that Dacorum Borough Council identifies key development areas, strategic infrastructure requirements, key strategic priorities and funding mechanisms for the delivery of this infrastructure that will enable growth. CIL receipts should support the delivery of these key strategic priorities.
- The emerging Local Plan process including the Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP) will identify strategic sites, infrastructure requirements and

# OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

infrastructure priorities. The latest IDP is available at http://www.dacorum.gov.uk/docs/default-source/regeneration/dacoruminfrastructure-delivery-plan.pdf?sfvrsn=4

but will be updated in due course in line with the emerging Local Plan.

- The emerging Local Plan will be key to identifying and prioritising the infrastructure requirements for Dacorum, particularly given the unprecedented high levels of growth that are likely. Dacorum consulted on Issues and Options at the end of last year. However it has been difficult to progress to the next stage due to the uncertainty of the new NPPF's content particularly in terms of the locally assessed housing need methodology.
- In addition, the Southwest Herts authorities (Dacorum, Watford, Three Rivers, St Albans and Hertsmere) are working towards a strategic joint plan for the area.
- Both the new Local Plan and the Strategic Joint Plan will identify key infrastructure requirements for the area.
- Therefore, it is crucial that the development of the Infrastructure Business Plan which identifies priority spending for CIL and s106 in the borough for strategic infrastructure projects, should align with the emerging Local Plan process.
- In addition, the IBP should include key information from HCC's South West Herts Growth and Transport plan. Initially, consultation on this had been expected in autumn 2017. HCC has now deferred the consultation until 2018 with adoption expected late 2018.
- DBC will also be considering a CIL Review in parallel with the emerging Local Plan process, which will review the charging rates and development uses that will attract a CIL charge.

In addition:

- We will write to all those who have submitted an expression of interest to date informing them of the revised timetable and the content of this Officer Decision Sheet.
- Spending of any CIL monies will be deferred in accordance with the revised timetable until key strategic priorities are determined. As outlined in the timetable below, we hope to have a pre-IBP paper by January 2019 that will identify key priorities based on work on the Local Plan to date. Whilst a full IBP will not be in place until the new Local Plan is complete it is expected that this paper will provide Members and other interested parties a steer on the priorities for CIL spending.
- Any spending of CIL monies will need to be agreed by the Infrastructure Advisory Group (IAG) which is part of Dacorum's Governance and the Decision Making body for the spending of CIL monies.
- We will arrange an IAG meeting in May/June to set out the framework for identifying key strategic priorities. Based on preliminary work to date, the key strategic priorities for the use of CIL are likely to be based around strategic transport infrastructure that will promote a shift toward more sustainable modes of transport including improvements to public transport.
- We will work with town and parish councils and local ward councillors to raise awareness on the availability of and access the CIL neighbourhood proportion to encourage the use of this money for smaller neighbourhood projects.

• Based on all of the factors outlined above, the following revised time table is proposed.

Proposal for new timetable

September 2018	Commence work on the IBP. However a timeline for the completion of the IBP will not be possible until a timeline for the emerging Local Plan is confirmed.
November 2018 - February 2019	Expressions of interest for the use of CIL funds requested. An expression of interest will not constitute receipt or an application for funds but an expression of interest only. The expressions of interest will help determine and demonstrate the level of funding gap and given the limited size of CIL contributions help to seek alternative funding sources where required and/or possible and where CIL is not the appropriate source of funding. Where appropriate we will also signpost to alternative sources of funding including the neighbourhood proportions.
January 2019	Prepare pre-IBP paper identifying key strategic priorities for known strategic areas coming forward that will feed in to the emerging IBP which will be prepared in line with the emerging Local Plan.
April 2019	Review potential to submit CIL bids. The outcome of this review will be determined by the identification of priorities by this date and may need to be deferred until the IBP is completed in line with the new Local Plan.

# Reports considered:

27<sup>th</sup> June 2017 Cabinet

**Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:** Assistant Director – Planning, Development & Regeneration Portfolio Holder - Planning, Development & Regeneration

# Monitoring Officer Comments:

No comments to add to the report.

# S151 Officer Comments:

The recommendation to defer allocation of CIL funds collected until;

- Post the creation of a pre-IBP, and
- A greater awareness of the Local plan

Would seem a logical and prudent approach.

The completion of the Infrastructure Business plan and Local Plan in 2019 will provide a strategy for utilising existing and future CIL receipts, to maximise the effectiveness of these funds in enabling large scale infrastructure improvements.

# Implications:

# Value for Money:

CIL is one of DBC's primary mechanisms for collecting developer contributions to support the delivery of strategic infrastructure for the community. Income through CIL is limited and CIL was never intended to fund all infrastructure but only to support the delivery of infrastructure. One of the key advantages of CIL is that receipts can be accumulated to deliver strategic infrastructure needs and is not restricted to an area.

As the funds received through CIL are likely to be limited it is vital that CIL is spent on high priority, strategic projects that will have a high impact on the community and care needs to be taken to ensure that that spend is well planned to align with vital infrastructure needs.

Hence, in order to deliver value for money, we propose differing the allocation of CIL core funds until these infrastructure projects are identified through the emerging Local Plan process and until sufficient CIL receipts have been collected to be able to support high impact infrastructure projects.

# Financial:

From adopting CIL, up to end of February 2018, we have received total receipts of  $\pounds$ 1,510,377. 5% of the receipts fund administration costs whilst 15% is allocated neighbourhood proportion. This leaves 80% of receipts as Core Funds ( $\pounds$ 1,216,290) which would be available for bids – a substantially small fund compared to the cost of infrastructure requirements as evident from the expressions of interest received above. Hence we are recommending differing spending of CIL receipts until the key high priority infrastructure projects are identified through the emerging local plan process and until we received a higher value of CIL receipts.

# Risk:

CIL is one of DBC's primary mechanisms for collecting developer contributions to support the delivery of strategic infrastructure for the community. If CIL receipts are spent without consideration for the high priority infrastructure requirements emerging through the new Local Plan process there is a high risk that we will be unable to deliver the key strategic infrastructure required to support development.

The de Officer Signature:

Date: 16 May 2018

### Neighbourhood CIL Amounts 2017/2018

Zone	Neighbourhood CIL Collected
No Zone	0.00
Berkhamsted Town Council	39,351.12
Bovingdon	6,569.78
Chipperfield	6,580.31
Flamstead	0.00
Flaunden	0.00
Great Gaddesden	0.00
Kings Langley	6,994.80
Little Gaddesden	0.00
Markyate	0.00
Nash Mills	0.00
Nettleden with Potten End	0.00
Northchurch	5,533.02
Tring Rural	8,825.82
Tring Town Council	23,016.32
Wigginton	2,687.75
Woodhall Farm	983.25
Adeyfield East	11,967.37
Adeyfield West	3,665.73
Apsley and Corner Hall	614.20
Bennetts End	1,705.22
Boxmoor	12,041.59
Chaulden and Warners End	1,010.68
Gadebridge	0.00
Grovehill	0.00
Hemel Hempstead Town	2,099.11
Highfield	2,617.91
Leverstock Green	1,916.34
Bourne End	10,000.00
Felden	0.00

# S106 Balances by Obligation and Location up to 05 November 2018

AREA	OBLIGATION	AMOUNT (£)
Hemel Hempstead	Affordable Housing	443,002
	Open Space	211,918
	Regeneration	178,813
	Play	129,163
	Sport	104,937
	Environment	20,148
	Specific (other)	27,600
	Cycle	20,928
	Allotment	14,198
	Traffic	8,544
	Trees	6,423
	Parking	404
Berkhamsted	Sport	33,164
	Cycle	27,579
	Open Space	5,151
	Play	88,923
Tring	Play	80,060
	Affordable Housing	64,920
	Communal Development	30,175
	Environment	14,677
	Sport	12,863
	Open Space	3,422
	Cycle	1,666
Kings Langley	Play	4,991
	Open Space	319
Markyate	Play	195,126
	Open Space	2,064
	Environment	1,324
	Sport	935
Chipperfield	Play	1,749
••	, Open Space	27