

**Derry City & Strabane District Council** Comhairle **Chathair Dhoire &** Cheantar an tSratha Báin

**Derry Cittie & Stràbane Destrick Cooncil** 

Ref: FOI / 881

09 November 2016

Mr

Email: @gmail.com

# Dear Mr Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request Dog Fouling Complaints and FPNs

I refer to your FOI request as above. Please note that Derry City and Strabane District Council was formed under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 effective 1 April 2015 following a Review of Public Administration and replaces the former councils of Derry City Council and Strabane District Council. Requests made to the legacy councils since 1 April 2015 are being handled by Derry City and Strabane District Council and duplicate requests made to the legacy councils are being treated as one request.

Following the above, unfortunately Council is unable to provide complete records for number of dog fouling complaints.

We can, however, respond as follows:

# How many complaints about dog fouling have been received between 1st Jan 2013 to 31st December 2015, please separate figures by year.

|             | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------|------|------|------|
| Complaints* | 152  | 304  | 307  |

\*Figures relate to legacy Derry City Council only

Strabane Derry C/o Council Offices C/o Council Offices 98 Strand Road 47 Derry Road Derry Strabane BT48 7NN BT82 8DY

info@derrystrabane.con www.derrystrabane.com

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How many Fixed Penalty Notices for dog fouling were issued for the same period, please give yearly figures. Of these Fixed Penalty Notices, how many were actually paid, please give yearly figures.

| 2                    | 2013 | 2014             | 2015 |
|----------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Issued               | 13   | 18               | 7    |
| Paid                 | 13   | 15 (1 cancelled) | 6    |
| Sent for Prosecution | 0    | 2                | 1    |

## Has the council been involved in any schemes to combat dog fouling? If yes, please provide the graphics used (if possible).

- Council promotes responsible dog ownership on an on-going basis through • engagement with community associations and schools as well as being involved in National Poop Scoop Week, Youths Educated in Safety yearly programmes and a number of public meetings. The message is periodically highlighted in local media and local radio interviews, and at Council meetings.
- Council has not produced graphics in relation to dog fouling.
- Council also created a Dog Control Order for Dog Fouling last year.
- Council is currently considering the implementation of further Dog Control Orders in relation to 'dogs on leads'; 'dogs on leads by direction' and 'Dog exclusion'
- Council also works closely with the Dogs Trust in its neutering initiatives (reducing the numbers of stray and unwanted dogs that contribute to fouling problems in areas) as well as participating in their National Poop Scoop Week.
- Council will also be developing a Responsible Dog Ownership Strategy. The legacy Derry City Council circulated Responsible Dog Ownership leaflets to all households in the council area - it is hoped that this will be repeated again in the next financial year.

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie Chief Executive Derry City and Strabane District Council 98 Strand Road Derry **BT48 7NN** Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Derry

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Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow CHESHIRE SK9 5AF Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: <u>casework@ico.org.uk</u>

Yours sincerely

### Head of Health & Community Wellbeing

### Derry Strabane

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