



District of **easington**.

Dog Control and Fixed Penalty Report for 2007-2008

Introduction

The Council's strategy for tackling dog fouling and other dog related problems involves:-

- Catching stray dogs and removing them from the streets,
- Issuing spot fines of £80 to anyone caught not cleaning up after their dog,
- Responding to complaints from residents and carrying out targeted patrols and investigations, warning letters are frequently sent to people suspected of regularly fouling,
- Installing signs and litter/poop scoop bins,
- Cleaning up heavily fouled areas that are reported to us,
- A wide range of educational activities such as free dog chipping, poop scoop give aways, promotional schemes with the Dogs Trust which includes free neutering to reduce strays etc.

Stray Dogs

Dogs roaming free are caught and taken to kennels where owners can reclaim them at a cost of £25 plus kennelling charges. 475 stray dogs were collected and taken to kennels from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008. Of the 475 dogs taken to the kennels:

- 154 were reclaimed by their owner
- 118 were rehomed with new owners by the kennels
- 94 were given to rescue centres
- 83 were transferred to stray aid
- 26 were destroyed

The following is a table showing the monthly breakdown of dogs collected:

Month	Number Collected	Month	Number Collected
April 2007	42	October 2007	41
May 2007	37	November 2007	37
June 2007	35	December 2007	29
July 2007	46	January 2008	52
August 2007	39	February 2008	40
September 2007	29	March 2008	48

In order to reduce the number of stray dogs being destroyed, from 1/4/08 all unclaimed stray dogs are transferred to Strayaid who will give them a full health check which includes, neutering, vaccinating, worming and flea treatment before rehoming.

The following table shows the number of strays collected by area along with the number of dogs chipped by area. In addition to this, there were **31** dogs chipped at the event held in March,

Village	Strays Collected	Dogs Chipped
Blackhall	18	9
Castle Eden	0	2
Crimdon	5	0
Dalton le Dale	2	0
Easington	25	14
Grants Houses	1	0
Haswell	5	5
Hawthorn	1	0
Hesleden	4	1
Horden	39	14
Hutton Henry	2	0
Murton	21	16
Peterlee	56	37
Seaham	61	27
Sheraton	1	0
Shotton	13	5
South Hetton	25	6
Station Town	3	1
Thornley	13	2
Trimdon	7	1
Wheatley Hill	10	3
Wingate	15	3
Total	327	146

Fixed Penalty Report

During the period, there were a total of **222** fixed penalties issued, split as follows:

- 95** Dog Fouling
- 109** Litter (19 from vehicles)
- 16** Fly Tipping
- 2** Graffiti

The following table shows the fixed penalties issued by village:

Village	No. Fixed Penalties	Village	No. Fixed Penalties
Blackhall	14	Peterlee	66
Castle Eden	2	Seaham	46
Crimdon	2	Shotton	6
Easington	20	South Hetton	3
Haswell	1	Thornley	4
Hesleden	1	Trimdon	1
Horden	37	Wheatley Hill	6
Murton	11	Wingate	2

All people who fail to pay a spot fine are taken to court.

Educational Campaigns

During the year we gave away one million free poop scoops to encourage residents to clean up after their dog. The Pride in Easington Campaign gave many presentations in local schools to raise awareness regarding dog fouling.

Dog Fouling Clean ups and Complaints to Envirocall

Residents can ask for areas to be cleaned up and report problems relating to stray dogs by contacting Envirocall. In 2007/08 a total of **391** requests for dog fouling to be cleaned up were dealt with within 24 hours.

A total of 1508 complaints relating to fouling and straying were made to Envirocall and were investigated by the Council's wardens.

The table below shows how the number of complaints received by the Council is increasing annually.

	2000 /01	2001 /02	2002 /03	2003 /04	2004 /05	2005 /06	2006 07	2007 /08
Complaints of stray dogs and fouling	845	892	896	797	930	1235	1325	1508

Residents wishing to report problems with dogs or litter should contact Envirocall at the following address:-

Envirocall

District of Easington, Council Offices

Seaside Lane, Easington

Co. Durham. SR8 3TN

Tel: 0191 527 5040

email: environment@easington.gov.uk

www.easington.gov.uk