

APPENDIX

Assessment of dog bins and signage on the Borough parks and open spaces

In July 2019 officers of the Street Cleansing team undertook an assessment of all the Council's main parks and open spaces to identify:

- The number of advisory signs relating to dog fouling
- The number of bins on the sites that dog owners could use to dispose of dog waste
- An assessment of the level of dog fouling that was present

The dog fouling assessment was based on the following criteria:

Grade A – minimal fouling observed

Grade B – occasional fouling observed but not a major issue

Grade C – fouling observed more regularly and site improvements needed

Grade D – very often a problem with regular complaints and improvements needed

The results from the survey are shown in the table below

A)	<u>Parks and Recreation Grounds</u>	Area (Hectares)	Number of Dog Signs	Number of bins for both dog and general waste	Level of Dog Fouling Assessment
1	Archers Field Recreation Ground, Stapleford	6.9	1	7	B
2	Beeston Fields Recreation Ground, Beeston	3.8	1	6	B
3	Bramcote Hills Park, Ilkeston Road, Bramcote	26.8	1	30	B
4	Broadgate Park, Humber Road, Beeston	1.4	2	12	A
5	Cator Lane Recreation Ground, Chilwell	1.9	0	4	B
6	Central Avenue Recreation Ground, Stapleford	1	1	4	A
7	Chetwynd Road Recreation Ground, Chilwell	1.3	2	3	A
8	Coronation Park, Eastwood	7.4	1	19	B
9	Dovecote Lane Recreation Ground, Beeston	2.2	2	7	B
10	Hall Park Eastwood	11.2	0	7	A

	<u>Parks and Recreation Grounds</u>	Area (Hectares)	Number of Dog Signs	Number of bins for both dog and general waste	Level of Dog Fouling Assessment
11	Hetley Pearson Recreation Ground, Beeston	3	0	7	A
12	Hickings Lane Recreation Ground Stapleford	5.2	0	14	B
13	Ilkeston Road Recreation Ground, Stapleford	3.4	1	7	B
14	Inham Nook Recreation Ground, Chilwell	4.7	2	13	B
15	Jubilee Park, Eastwood	1.8	0	4	B
16	King George's Park, Bramcote	4.4	0	5	A
17	Leyton Crescent Recreation Ground, Beeston	3.4	1	6	A
18	Long Lane Recreation Ground, Attenborough	3	0	3	A
19	Manor Farm Recreation Ground, Toton	14.7	3	13	B
20	Mansfield Road Recreation Ground, Eastwood	2.1	0	7	B
21	Pasture Road Recreation Ground, Stapleford	3.4	1	7	A
22	Queen Elizabeth Park, Stapleford	3.1	2	9	B
23	Weirfields Recreation Ground, Beeston	5.2	2	11	B

B)	<u>Open Spaces</u>	Area (Hectares)	Number of Dog Signs	Number of bins for both dog and general waste	Level of Dog Fouling Assessment
1	Acorn Avenue, Giltbrook	0.2	0	2	A
2	Alexandrina Plantation , Bramcote	3.7	1	5	A
3	Banks Road Open Space, Toton	10.2	0	13	A
4	Brinsley Headstocks, Brinsley	6.1	1	8	A
5	Buckingham Way Open Space, Watnall	1.4	2	5	A
6	Castleton Court Open Space, Nuthall	0.1	1	1	A
7	College Way Open Space, Nuthall	0.8	1	2	A
8	Colliers Wood, Moorgreen	14.2	4	13	A
9	Corbierre Avenue, Watnall	0.6	1	4	A
10	Eastcote Avenue, Bramcote	0.5	1	2	A

B)	<u>Open Spaces</u>	Area (Hectares)	Number of Dog Signs	Number of bins for both dog and general waste	Level of Dog Fouling Assessment
11	Flixton Road Open Space, Kimberley	1.1	0	4	A
12	Hall Om Wong Open Space, Kimberley	3.6	0	7	B
13	Hemlock Stone Open Space, Stapleford	6.9	0	2	A
14	Judson Avenue Open Space, Stapleford	0.3	0	1	A
15	Millfield Road Open Space, Kimberley	0.4	2	3	A
16	Pit Lane Recreation Area, Trowell	7.4	1	5	B
17	Redbridge Drive Open Space, Nuthall	0.5	1	3	A
18	Sandby Court Open Space, Chilwell	0.9	0	2	B
19	Sandy Lane Open Space , Bramcote	8.6	2	4	B
20	Sherman Drive Open Space, Chilwell	2.6	3	10	A
21	Smithurst Road Open Space, Giltbrook	4.8	3	10	A
22	The Spinney Open Space, Watnall	0.7	0	1	A
23	Swiney Way Open Space, Toton	0.2	2	2	A
24	Trowell Park Open Space, Trowell	0.9	4	5	A
25	Watnall Green Open Space, Watnall	1.9	1	3	B
26	The Willows Open Space, Beeston	0.4	2	2	A

The survey has produced some very encouraging information with all sites identified in either the Grade A or B categories in the assessment of dog fouling. Whilst this is a snapshot at a particular time, the members of staff undertaking the survey do visit each site twice a week and have a very good feel for issues and liaise regularly with the public using the sites.

The survey also clearly demonstrates that the areas are well served with regards to bins with the bigger sites having the largest number of bins. The bins are emptied twice weekly and are always well used by dog owners.

The issue that the survey does identify however is the relatively limited number of signs relating to dog fouling. Many of the signs that are present are old and there is no consistent approach with 9 different types of sign, each with slightly different wording and images identified. However, the survey does show that there is no direct correlation between the number of signs and the level of fouling.

In recent years, since the original signs were installed, the Neighbourhood Wardens have had a policy of targeting problem areas with specific educational campaigns and posters advising on issues relating to dog fouling. This combined with their high profile presence on the sites and media campaigns relating to dog fouling has clearly had a positive effect with most dog owners now acting responsibly.

However, members may wish to reconsider the Council's arrangements relating to dog fouling signage and assess if a more consistent approach across all sites with new signs at strategic locations at the entrances to parks and open spaces is necessary.

The cost to supply a new A3 size sign with relevant logos and wording is £43.00

It is estimated that across the 49 sites assessed there will be an average of 4 signs per site required. This equates to approximately 200 new signs in total.

In terms of installation there are 2 options. Where possible signs could be erected on existing posts or on railings at park entrances. Where this is not achievable then new posts would need to be installed.

The cost to install a new sign on an existing post is estimated at £20.00.

The cost to install a new sign on a new post is estimated at £60.00 including the supply of the post.

Assuming a 50:50 split in the different types of installation methods, the total costs are estimated to be:

Supply 200 new A3 signs x £43.00 =	£8,600
Install 100 signs on existing posts/fences x £20.00 =	£2,000
Install 100 signs on new posts x £60.00 =	<u>£6,000</u>
Total =	<u>£16,600 (Option A)</u>

An alternative approach would be to provide signs in only the 16 parks and open spaces where none exist at present. The cost of this option would be:

$$16/49 \times 16,600 = \quad \quad \quad \mathbf{\underline{\underline{£5,420 (Option B)}}$$

If the decision to supply any new signs is taken, it is suggested that the final design is agreed between the Head of Public Protection, and the Communications and Marketing Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Community Safety Committee.