Press Release

17 November 2026

Dog control order renewed in Fenland

Legislation underlining the expectation of responsible management of dogs in Fenland public spaces was renewed this week.

On Monday (Nov 16), Fenland's District Council's Cabinet renewed the district's Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order for another three years. The order makes it an offence to fail to comply with a set of requirements designed to ensure responsible owners and other members of the public can all enjoy open spaces. The requirements are to:

- clean up after dogs, removing dog poo immediately in all streets and open spaces across the district
- keep dogs on a lead in specified areas, such as open spaces with children's play areas and closed cemeteries
- put dogs on a lead when directed to by an authorised officer
- not to take dogs into specified exclusion areas, such as children's gated play areas and open cemeteries.

Breaching those requirements can result in a fixed penalty notice of £100 or prosecution.

Dog fouling and nuisance dog issues remain one of the key environmental crimes reported to the council each year, a report to Cabinet said. In 2024/25 there were more than 260 issues relating to dog fouling and dog behaviour reported to the Council. From 1 April to 31 September this year (2026) there was 113. Many of these reported issues relate to areas with high footfall and within our parks and green spaces.

Cllr Steve Tierney said: "The Order is vital to not only allow enforcement, but also to set a general standard of expectations. We know most of our dog owners are responsible. The order is a useful reminder to those who aren't that the Council and community are invested in maintaining these basic standards to ensure everyone – pet owners and those without dogs – can enjoy our open spaces."

Public consultation on continuing the order was carried out for four weeks from 11 September, which had 141 responses. A vast majority were in favour of all the requirements in the order – more than 90% in most cases.

Ends