

# ITEM 8b

COUNCIL  
19 JANUARY 2011

## STATEMENT FROM CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS

Following incidents and complaints of dog fouling, in May 2010, this Council resolved to ***“call upon the cabinet member to organise a city wide campaign to remind dog owners’ of their responsibilities and provide additional resources to the dog wardens to carry out enforcement in problem areas of the city.”***

Streetpride is responsible for the monitoring of dog fouling complaints and through the new City wide Streetpride Service Standards, has been given a challenging target. In the first three quarters of 2010/11, 88.7% of reported dog fouling has been removed within 1 day.

On parks and open spaces where dog fouling can be a particular problem, the on site Parks Officers and Park Rangers, patrol and promote responsible dog ownership by working closely with the public, the majority of whom act appropriately.

Dog waste bags have been provided by Parks Management, and are being distributed by Park Rangers, and through major parks, libraries, various other Council outlets and veterinary surgeries around the City. Park Rangers put up and maintain signage to deter dog fouling and bins for dog waste are provided on many parks and are emptied on a regular basis by Streetpride.

Parks Management have been working closely with Environmental Health to target problem areas such as Stockbrook Street Park, and a recent enforcement campaign to publicise the extent of the problem has been featured in the local media. Environmental Health officers challenged dog owners and issued a fixed penalty notice to a member of the public for failing to clean up after their pet’

Neighbourhood Boards are able to identify problem areas in their own wards and through the doubling of their Streetpride budget to £20.000, have the means to tackle the issue by arranging their own local campaign as in my own ward of Spondon last year.

Most recently additional monitoring by dog wardens has been put in place across the city following on from the event held at Stockbrook Park, This has resulted in further enforcement action and a further article highlighting the hazards of dog fouling, which appeared in the Derby Evening Telegraph prior to Christmas.

Arrangements are in hand for Environmental Health, trained enforcement officers, to work directly within the Streetpride team, they will help train a variety of staff in enforcement procedures to increase and augment the capacity of Streetpride to carry out effective enforcement throughout the services they deliver.

The Council has and will continue to challenge the attitude of the minority of the dog owning public who fail to take responsibility for their pets and will be better placed to carry out enforcement action where necessary, to protect the public from this anti social and unpleasant health hazard