

What are dog related problems and who is responsible for them?

Fortunately, most dog owners are responsible in caring for their pets and considerate to their neighbours. It is the irresponsible minority who cause such problems.

FOULING: Irresponsible dog owners allow their dogs to foul in public places without cleaning up.

STRAYS: Irresponsible dog owners allow their dogs to stray causing a danger to people and a hazard to motorists.

NOISE: Irresponsible dog owners let their dogs bark unnecessarily causing annoyance to neighbours.

CONTROL: Irresponsible dog owners do not keep their dogs under proper control when in public places.

What our service offers

The Dog Warden, based in the Environmental Services Department, is in the front line in the fight against irresponsible dog ownership. The aims of the service are:

- To encourage dog owners to clear up after their pets.
- To patrol streets and public places collecting stray dogs and responding to other related problems.

- To educate today's youngsters into tomorrow's responsible dog ownership.
- To provide an information and advisory service for the public on dog related matters.
- Where appropriate and where education and advice do not resolve problems, to take enforcement action.

Who will benefit?

Everyone. Children at play, pedestrians, motorists, dog owners and non-dog owners alike.

What can we do to combat the problems associated with irresponsible dog ownership?

The Dog Warden Service, provided by the Braintree District Council is designed to combat these problems and to promote responsible dog ownership. You may well have seen the Dog Warden patrolling the streets and parks of the District. We also need the support of responsible dog owners to report to the Dog Warden any problems caused by irresponsible dog owners. Such information is treated with the strictest confidence.

Dog owners Code of Conduct

- Clean up after your dog in all public places.
- Ensure your garden is cleared of dog mess daily.
- Ensure that your dog is wearing an identification tag with your name & address inscribed on it. It is a legal requirement for owners to ensure that their dogs wear such tags whenever in a public place.
- Don't allow your dog to stray. Think of danger not only to the dog but to motorists and others.
- Have your dog treated for fleas and worms regularly.
- Ensure that your dog does not cause a nuisance. Don't allow any unnecessary barking to disturb your neighbours.
- Make proper arrangements for the care of your dog when you are away.
- In the countryside, keep your dog under control. Farmers can shoot dogs found worrying livestock.
- When in public places, keep your dog under control. Where appropriate keep your dog on a lead.
- Train your dog. Take your pet to obedience classes. An obedient dog is a credit to its owner.

- Owning a dog is a long-term commitment and one that will include effort as well as pleasure. Ensure that you are prepared for this commitment before you purchase or obtain a dog. Don't give a dog as a present unless you are sure that the receiver is fully prepared for such a commitment.
- Report incidents or problems associated with irresponsible dog ownership to the Dog Warden. If you require advice or further information, please contact the Dog Wardens on (01376) 551414 Ext 2217.

For all dog related problems contact your Dog Wardens

Braintree District Council
Causeway House
Bocking End
Braintree
Essex CM7 9HB
Tel: (01376) 551414 Ext 2217

What you can expect

We undertake to:

- Respond within 3 working days to complaints about dogs.
- Make visits, at appropriate times, in an attempt to substantiate your complaint.
- Keep you informed about progress of the investigation.
- Advise you of the outcome of the investigation and action taken to resolve your complaint.
- Detain stray dogs.



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The Dog Warden Service



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