

Neighbourhood Area: South

**Communities & Neighbourhood
Manager:** Debra Harris

Walkabout area: City Road

Walkabout date: 25 February 2015

Resident feedback

In February, council officers visited the area around Lakenham Primary School, City Road to discuss concerns about dog fouling.

Whether you were spoken to or not, we think it is important to give you some feedback about the conversations we had and the issues that were raised, as well as what can be done to try and resolve them – please find a summary below.

Residents have been telling us of ongoing concerns of dog fouling in Hall Road, City Road and some of the streets between the two - such as Hospital Lane, Lindley Street, etc. Our intention with this walkabout was to talk with dog owners and other residents about their concerns and raise awareness of what both the council and residents can do to help resolve the issue.

We spoke to 37 people about their concerns including several dog owners.

Whilst speaking with the dog owners we discussed the health issues associated with dog mess and offered some free bags to clear up after their dog. We also raised awareness that it was illegal to let your dog foul in a public area without clearing it up, and this could result in an £80 fine if they are caught doing it. We left a leaflet about dog fouling and the law together with contact details of the council and asked residents to report to us on 0344 980 3333 or at www.norwich.gov.uk any instances of dog fouling that is not cleared up that they see. We will clear this away within 24 hours of receiving a report. It will also help us identify any patterns and help to catch the irresponsible dog owner(s).

The majority of dog owners shared concerns about the problem and said they would report it in. This view was also shared by many residents who do not own a dog.

We discussed with these residents other actions we were taking to combat the issue. These included painting 'bag it, bin it' stencils (pictured) to encourage dog owners to clear away after their dog, and



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putting up signs informing people that dog fouling is illegal and punishable by an £80 fine (pictured).

We have also been spraying dog fouling's in the area with a pink chalk spray which has highlighted to both our contractor who clears the mess away and the public where the mess is. Many residents told us they were happy about these positive actions and pleased to see such a focussed effort being made by the council to resolve the issue.

They added that they would help with these efforts by letting the council know when and where they see any dogs mess and if they witness anyone not clearing up after their dog.

You also gave us further information about the problem, saying that quite often owners bring their dogs from elsewhere, letting them foul in the area. We asked residents to let us know when this was happening so that we could make sure we had a good chance of witnessing this and taking appropriate action against them.



We also gave the children and parents at the school window stickers to put up stating their support for the campaign.

Please contact us if you would like one.

We hope you found this report interesting. To see the programme of when and where we will be for the next three months visit www.norwich.gov.uk and go the Walkabouts page of the A to Z. All residents are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you there.

If you would like more information or have any queries, please contact:
South Neighbourhood team by email: community@norwich.gov.uk or call 0344 980 3333