

Big Local End of Year Report

Project 1 - Bag it Bin it (Dog Fouling)

Helping to reduce dog Fouling and promoting responsible dog ownership

Press Release October 2017

Dog poo bag dispenser giveaway

Christine Drake and Jack, her border collie, will never be caught short and risk a £100 penalty, thanks to Boston Big Local and Boston Borough Council.

Christine is pictured being handed a free dog poo bag dispenser by Richard Tory, chairman of Boston Big Local (BBL), left, and Cllr Michael Brookes, Boston Borough Council's portfolio holder for waste services.

BBL has made 500 of the handy dispensers, which all come with a full roll of dog poo bags, available for free. The handy dispensers can be reloaded with rolls of bags which can be bought locally, and have a handy clip to attach to dog leads. So pet owners can always be sure of being fully equipped every time they go for "walkies" with their dog.

Pet owners can pick up one of the dispensers for free from the council's main reception in West Street. They will also be handed out to dog walkers by the council's environmental enforcement officers.

This latest initiative to encourage dog walkers to clean up after their pets follows new rules introduced by the council which means those who cannot produce a dog poo bag could face a £100 penalty charge.

Mr Tory said: "There are many obvious reasons why people should clean up after their dogs and this initiative fits one of Boston Big Local's themes of helping make the local environment more attractive. "There's nothing attractive about a pile of dog mess left where people can see it and, worse, step into it."

Cllr Brookes added: "I am grateful for this assistance from Boston Big Local. This is a simple way to be sure anyone walking a dog can be equipped to clean up after their pet. The dispenser means they cannot be caught without a bag and, displayed on their dog's lead, they provide a very public assurance that they have the intention to do the right thing. And then there's the no small matter of not ending up with a £100 bill to pay."

Christine said: "I always make sure I have bags with me when I walk Jack. But these dispensers, attached to your dog's lead, makes sure you never go out and forget to take a bag. You can be sure you always have plenty to hand... and sometimes you need more than one!"

Fines for failing to clean up after a dog, allowing a dog into an enclosed children's play area or refusing to put a dangerous or nuisance dog on a lead have all now been set at £100.

Public consultation showed that 90 per cent were in favour of it being an offence for dog walkers not to carry a bag or the means at all times to clean up after their dog. And 74 per cent agreed the fine should be £100.



Project 2 - Fly Tipping awareness campaign

Ensure people are aware of their "duty of Care" with regard to their rubbish. Install signage in hotspot areas within the town warning of the penalties



The 'Most People' Campaign was launched on 16th October 2017 and ran for 8 weeks. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about the 'duty of care' that applies to households when disposing of their waste and unwanted items. According to Keep Britain Tidy, 47% of people don't know they are responsible by law if a third party they have asked or paid to dispose of their waste, then subsequently fly tip that waste.

A survey was carried out on Facebook, Boston Borough Council Website, Twitter, Local Press with the following results.

Getting rid of household items? Did you know that you could be prosecuted if you hand your rubbish to someone else and they fly-tip it?'

106 people responded to the question with 74% stating 'Yes' and 26% stating 'No'. This was much higher than anticipated. The same question was asked again after the campaign had finished. This time 59 respondents answered the question with 64% stating 'Yes' and 36% stating 'No'.

The Council Tax insert (below) advises on environmental crime, sponsored by Boston Big Local the leaflet covers some of the education and awareness raising projects Big Local have supported over the last 2 years. The focus this year is fly tipping Duty of Care, Dog Fouling and street litter.

LAWS FOR DOG OWNERS

Under the Public Spaces Protection Order you will be liable for a **£100 fine** if you:

- do not clean up after your dog;
- fail to have the means, ie bag, to clean up after your dog;
- fail to put a nuisance or dangerous dog on a lead when requested to do so by an authorised officer;
- allow your dog into an enclosed children's play area.

This applies to any area that the public has access to within the Borough of Boston.

Most people don't fly tip... It's your junk – get rid of it properly

#dontflytip

You could be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to **£400** or liable for prosecution



Boston Big Local

MAN IN A VAN

Residents Leading Change



You paid someone to take your rubbish away and they dumped it in that quiet spot out of town. Nothing to do with you, right? Wrong. Your rubbish, your responsibility. You could end up being prosecuted.

- Always check that the person with a van has a waste carrier's licence, so you can be sure they are properly authorised. You can check here at <http://bit.ly/1YIHCOD>

You are the man in the van
Do you have your waste carrier's licence? Are you properly authorised? If you are carrying waste and are unable to produce your licence it will cost you **£300**.

DROP IT, PICK UP A £75 FINE

Cigarettes are litter too





www.boston.gov.uk/envcrime
01205 314200
waste@boston.gov.uk

Project 3 - Chewing Gum and Street Litter

Reduce the amount of chewing gum and litter on our pathways, pedestrianised areas, market place, parks and car parks



Boston Big Local are supporting this initiative by funding part of one of the Town Centre Maintenance Team. The Operative has been employed since October 2017. Big Local have previously supported this project by funding the Street Vaccum.

Project 4 - Keep the footpath clear.....put your bins away

Ensuring people are aware that they need to put their bins away to keep footpaths accessible and their streets tidy

Our Graphic Department have done all the graphics work and have gone out for quotes for the bin stickers. One officer and one assistant will be inspecting the town centre, stickering the bins and posting letter in 7 different languages through the letter boxes.