

## GREENSPACE NORTH WEST EMAIL NETWORK

### SUMMARY OF RESPONSES: Dog Fouling / Litter Bins

#### Questions posted and summarised by Kieron Roberts, Pendle

#### 1. Are there any national guidelines / best practice models regarding the amount and type of litter and dog bins you need to have in parks?

No one knew of any best practice models/national guidelines, with the amount and type of dog and litter bins usually at the Local Authority's discretion. All stated that a common sense approach was generally taken.

#### 2. What are the most commonly used litter bins within parks?

- Chester City Council use 45L Gladiator Waste bins supplied by JRB Enterprise Ltd
- Wigan worked with Gregorie's of Cannock to alter one of their standard products (photos available on request). They consulted with their Grounds Maintenance operatives on what they wanted and arrived at a design that had the capacity for regular emptying, kept the rain from the contents within the bins and are vandal resistant.
- Crewe & Nantwich use a standard bin called a 'Black Admiral' that they obtain from Glasdon's and cost approx £110
- Alan Barber stated that we should avoid using the most commonly used litter bins and instead develop bins to an original design (bespoke bins) - Advised me to talk to ENCAMS at Wigan who run the 'Keep Britain Tidy' campaign for advice on this subject.

#### 3. Is there a basis/ratio for the amount of bins you must have in a certain sized park?

- Chester stated that common sense tells you that a park should have x amount of bins in the right places for people to use them (find out through annual surveys/experience of hot spot areas)
- Wigan had no knowledge of a ratio for distribution again stating that working knowledge of hot spots, etc was the best way when deciding how many and where bins to be placed.
- Crewe & Nantwich were not aware of any local authority that used a ratio to determine the number of bins that a park requires - more a case of providing the right number of bins depending on the park usage.
- Alan Barber recommended I talked to Bradford's Barrie Tinker - Bradford took all their dog bins out thus saved money on collection which they put back in to the Ranger Service. The Rangers were given power to issue fines - had become a very successful policy (a few court cases and fines had reduced the problem considerably!) Alan Barber, 'All dog owners should accept that clearing up after their animal is part of dog ownership - they would have to do this in a street, so why not in a park?'
- Litter bins - he would advocate as few bins as possible as they all have to be emptied (money/resources) and, again, park visitors should be taking their litter home. Finally, he stated, 'please don't put bins next to seats . Who wants to sit next to a bin?' - something I'd never really thought about but invariably when you go out on site, a great deal of litter bins are indeed placed next to benches (especially on play areas)

## Resources

Encams have lots of information on their website about dog control and littering. Their free knowledge bank on dog control can either be ordered from them or accessed from the web at <http://www.encams.org/knowledge/dogs/index1.html>. This has research, policy statements and a number of case studies, many of which are from the North West and with contact details. The contacts list is good and includes commercial companies.

Encams have a number of free knowledge banks on littering of different types. For more information see <http://www.encams.org/advice/main2.asp?pageid=91>

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act contains powers to tackle littering and dog fouling, for more information see:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/legislation/cnea/index.htm>

IDEA have guidance on dog byelaws, best practice and other information. See <http://www.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelid=78463>, they also have information on littering and litter bins

[http://www.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?wax=lh\\_mn\\_0\\_0&pagelid=78495](http://www.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?wax=lh_mn_0_0&pagelid=78495)

The Country Parks Network did a research project on dog fouling and the results are attached. Thanks to Clive Beckett of Bedfordshire County Council and Nicola Mather at CAFE Space for this.

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