

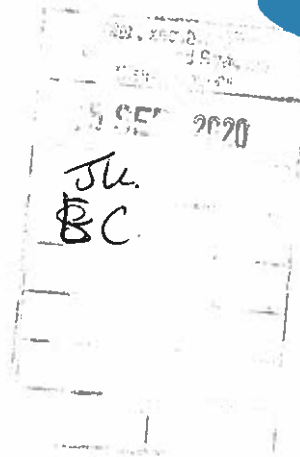
Marie Ward
Chief Executive



Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**
**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

22nd September 2020
Our Ref: NS/182/2020
By email & post

Mr John Kelpie CEO
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road Derry
BT48 7NN



Email: chiefexecutive@derrystrabane.com

Dear Mr Kelpie,

I have been asked to write to you on behalf of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

At the Council's Neighbourhood Services (NS) Committee in August, Elected Members requested for Dog Fouling Legislation to be updated. The main focus is to request the maximum amount payable under a Fixed Penalty Notice in respect of littering and dog fouling offences be increased from the current limit of £80 to £250. The Council also asked that consideration is given to the possibility of devolving powers for setting Fixed Penalty rates to Councils.

As part of this, I was requested to write to the DAERA Minister requesting the above proposals. See Letter attached, for your information.

In addition, I was also asked to write to the other ten Local Councils seeking support on this proposal and request they write to the Minister. I am sure you are experiencing the same problems and complaints caused by dog fouling and littering within your Council area. The proposed increase in fines would help promote the 'polluter pay' principle.

It would be helpful, if you could indicate your Council's support to the above proposals and if your Council intends to write to the DAREA Minister, as requested.

Thank you in anticipation.

Your sincerely,

Roland Moore

Director of Neighbourhood Services

cc Copy of Letter sent to Minister Poots MLA (DAERA)

Oifig an Iúir
Newry Office
O'Hagan House
Monaghan Row
Newry BT35 8DJ

Oifig Dhún Pádraig
Downpatrick Office
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

0330 137 4000 (Council)
council@nmandd.org
www.newrymournedown.org

Ag freastal ar an Dún
agus Ard Mhacha Theas
Serving Down
and South Armagh

Marie Ward
Chief Executive



Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**
**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

19th September 2020
Our Ref: NS/182/2020
By email & post

Edwin Poots MLA
Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Parliament Buildings Room 309
Ballymiscaw
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3XX

Email: Edwin.poots@mla.niassembly.gov.uk

Dear Minister Poots MLA,

I have been asked to write to you on behalf of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

At the Council's Neighbourhood Services (NS) Committee in August, Elected Members requested for Dog Fouling Legislation to be reviewed. This is in relation to the maximum amount payable under a Fixed Penalty Notice in respect of littering and dog fouling offences, where fines should be increased from the current limit of £80 to £250. As part of this review, consideration could also be given to the possibility of devolving powers for setting Fixed Penalty rates to Councils for these offences.

The Council would appreciate if you could give this matter consideration, due to littering and dog fouling being a major issue within our District and Northern Ireland as a whole. Increasing the Fixed Penalty may also assist in achieving a 'polluter pays' principle.

It would be helpful as part of the reply for the Department (DAERA) to indicate likely/proposed timescales for any changes.

Thank you in anticipation.

Your sincerely,

Roland Moore

Director of Neighbourhood Services

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