

## Dog Fouling

It is an offence to allow a dog to foul and not clear it up immediately.

**Bag and bin it, any litter bin will do!**

**Dog wardens have the powers to issue fixed penalty notices of £75** to anyone seen not clearing up after their dog. Failure to do this could lead to prosecution and a fine of up to £1000

Dog wardens respond to the public's reports of fouling problems. They carry out patrols throughout Wiltshire, specifically targeting well used dog walking areas. Dog fouling signs are also placed to encourage and remind the public to pick up after their dogs.

## Education

Wiltshire Council dog wardens believe education is key to ensuring responsible dog ownership.

They organise and attend a number of educational events throughout Wiltshire offering the microchipping of dogs and advice to all dog owners.



## Contact

The dog warden service is available 9am – 5pm. Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays.

**Call 01225 770570**

Email – [lostdogs@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:lostdogs@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Out of the above office hours please report stray or lost dogs on 08450568035.

Dangerous dogs (which have attacked or you fear will attack a person) are dealt with by the Police. If you have worries about an out of control animal please call Wiltshire Police on 101

Mistreatment of animals should be reported to the RSPCA

**You can contact Wiltshire Council in the following ways:**

**Telephone:** 0300 456 0100

**Textphone:** 01225 712500

**Web:** [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)

Information about Wiltshire Council services can be made available on request in other languages including BSL and formats such as large print and audio. Please contact the council by telephone 0300 456 0100, or email [customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk)

# The Dog Warden Service



**The Wiltshire Council dog warden service strives to make the county a safer and cleaner place in relation to dog issues.**

**This leaflet contains information about the service the dog wardens offer, the council's dog laws and what to do if you lose or find a stray dog.**

## The role of the dog warden

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### Wiltshire Council dog wardens:

- collect and care for stray dogs
- promote responsible dog ownership
- enforce dog related laws

## Dog identification

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The law requires that all **dogs in a public place must wear a collar and identification tag**, which gives the name and address of the owner. This helps the finder of a lost dog to return it to the owner.

Microchipping is also recommended. This is a small chip, about the size of a grain of rice that is implanted under the dog's skin. A dog warden or vet can scan the dog to find out the owner's address and details which are held on the chip.

**From 6 April 2016 it will be compulsory that all dogs are microchipped.**

The council's dog wardens are fully trained in microchip implantation, for more details contact the service.



## Stray dogs

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A stray dog is any dog in a public place, with no one obviously in charge of it.

### What happens to stray dogs?

- If a dog is wearing a collar and tag or is microchipped it will be returned to the owner. If the dog has been found straying before, or the owner cannot be contacted the dog will be taken to one of our designated holding kennels
- If the dog has no identification it will be taken to our designated holding kennels where it will be kept for seven days. **If the dog is not claimed it will then be re-homed**

### What to do if you find a loose / stray dog:

- If you find a stray dog call the dog warden service. If safe, you should retain the dog until they arrive. Unfortunately wardens do not normally have the time to look for loose dogs
- If found out of hours please contact our out of hours service (see overleaf). You may be asked to keep the dog until the next working day or take it to one of our holding kennels

If you have lost your dog, please call with a description of the dog and where it was last seen.

### How to get your dog back

If your dog has been taken to one of our kennels it can be collected on payment of statutory fees (see [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/straydogs](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/straydogs)). This may also include veterinary fees if required.

## Dog Control Orders

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In 2012 Wiltshire Council introduced four Dog Control Orders under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (2005).

### The Dog Control Orders in place:

- **Require a person in charge of a dog to clean up after it has defecated** on any area of land within Wiltshire which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled to have access with or without payment
- Make it an **offence for a person in charge of a dog to allow it to enter a children's play area** which is enclosed by a fence, wall or similar structure
- Require the **person in charge of a dog to put it on a lead** of no more than two metres in length **when asked to do so by an authorised officer** of Wiltshire Council
- Requires **dog walkers on Box Recreation Ground to keep their dogs on a lead** at all times

### Penalties

Anyone failing to comply with the Dog Control Orders may be issued a fixed penalty fine of £75 and may lead to prosecution and a fine of up to £1000.

For more detailed information please go to [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)