



The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (S.R. 2012 No. 114)

The Fouling of Land by Dogs (Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council) Order 2025

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council makes the following Order-

Commencement

1. This Order comes into operation on **1st January 2026**

Application

2. This Order applies to the land specified in the Schedule

Offence

3. (1) If a dog defecates, at any time on land to which this Order applies and any person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove forthwith the faeces from the land, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless;
 - (a) the person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to the person failing to do so.
- (2) Nothing in this Article applies to a person who;
 - (a) is registered as blind or partially sighted in Northern Ireland in a register maintained by, or on behalf of, a health and social service trust;
 - (b) is registered as blind or partially sighted in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
 - (c) has a disability which affects the persons sight, mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribed charity and upon which the person relies for assistance.
- (3) For the purposes of this Article –
 - (a) a person who habitually has a dog in their possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
 - (b) placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be a sufficient removal from the land; and
 - (c) being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the

vicinity or otherwise) or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces.

- (d) each of the following is a "prescribed charity"-
- (i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);
 - (ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281)
 - (iii) Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680)
 - (iv) Guide Dogs for the blind Association (registered charity number 209617)

Penalty

4. A person guilty of an offence under Article 3 is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

Revocation

5. From and after the date on which this Order comes into operation, the following Orders relating to the Fouling of Land by Dogs shall be and are hereby revoked:-
- (a) The Fouling of Land by Dogs Order made by Antrim Borough Council on 10th day of October 2013
 - (b) The Fouling of Land by Dogs Order made by Newtownabbey Borough Council on 20th day of December 2012

Dated this **9th** day of **December 2025**

The Common Seal of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

Affixed hereto in the presence of:-



Richard Baker

Chief Executive



Leah Kirkpatrick

The Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

SCHEDULE

- 1.** Subject to the exception in paragraph 2 below, this Order applies to all land within the Borough of Antrim and Newtownabbey which is -
 - (i) Open to the air (which includes land that is covered but open to the air on at least one side), and,
 - (ii) To which the public have access (with or without payment)

- 2.** Excepted from the description in paragraph (1) above is land held by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) for the purpose of any of its functions under the Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 (2010 c. 10 (NI))

