

Responsible Dog Ownership Consultation Summary

We had 85 responses from the consultation questionnaire for the dog ownership strategy.

The averages for the whole range of questions were:

- Don't know 0.5%
 - Strongly agree 69.1%
 - Agree 22.7%
 - Neutral 3.4%
 - Disagree 0.4%
 - Strongly disagree 3.8%
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- Don't know 0.8%
 - Very important 60.4%
 - Important 28.4%
 - Average 8.9%
 - Slightly important 1.3%
 - Not important 0.2%

Individually the highest results were from:

- To educate dog owners in the principles of sustainable and responsible dog ownership **Strongly agree 81.2%**
- To raise awareness of the legal responsibilities associated with dog ownership and breeding. **Strongly agree 76.5%**
- To work with partners to reduce the incidence of dog attacks in the Borough. **Strongly agree 74.1%**
- To clarify and raise awareness of Colchester Borough Council's role and responsibilities with regards to dogs, and those of our key partners including Essex Police and the RSPCA **Agree 38.8%**
- To share intelligence with key partners and wherever possible, work in partnership, pooling resources to promote responsible dog ownership and secure compliance with the law **Agree 29.8%**
- To work with Colchester Borough Homes to increase compliance with Conditions of Tenancy as they relate to dogs. **Agree 25.9%**

The same questions were then rated in order of importance

- To educate dog owners in the principles of sustainable and responsible dog ownership. **Very important 75%**
- To ensure that robust enforcement action is taken where appropriate. **Very important 70.7%**
- To raise awareness of the legal responsibilities associated with dog ownership and breeding. **Very important 69.3%**

- To provide information and advice to dog owners to enable and support compliance with the law. **Important 37.3%**
- To clarify and raise awareness of Colchester Borough Council's role and responsibilities with regards to dogs, and those of our key partners including Essex Police and the RSPCA. **Important 34.7%**
- To share intelligence with key partners and wherever possible, work in partnership, pooling resources to promote responsible dog ownership and secure compliance with the law. **Important 34.7%**
- To reduce the social and environmental impact of stray and abandoned dogs on our communities. **Slightly Important 2.7%**
- To work with partners and communities to ensure that stray dogs are reunited with their owners or re-homed as swiftly as possible. **Slightly Important 2.7%**
- To reduce the incidence of dog fouling by working with partners using education and enforcement. **Slightly Important 2.7%**

The results that showed disagreements were very low. This could indicate they do not necessarily have the dog issues that the questions referred to in their area.

- To work with partners and communities to ensure that stray dogs are reunited with their owners or re-homed as swiftly as possible. **Strongly Disagree 4.8%**
- To educate dog owners in the principles of sustainable and responsible dog ownership. **Strongly Disagree 4.7%**
- To reduce the incidence of dog fouling by working with partners using education and enforcement. **Strongly Disagree 4.7%**
- To provide information and advice to dog owners to enable and support compliance with the law. **Disagree 1.2%**
- To reduce the social and environmental impact of stray and abandoned dogs on our communities. **Disagree 1.2%**
- To work with partners and communities to ensure that stray dogs are reunited with their owners or re-homed as swiftly as possible. **Disagree 1.2%**
- To work with Colchester Borough Homes to increase compliance with Conditions of Tenancy as they relate to dogs. **Disagree 1.2%**
- To provide information and advice to dog owners to enable and support compliance with the law. **Not Important 1.3%**
- To reduce the incidence of dog fouling by working with partners using education and enforcement. **Not Important 1.3%**