

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

Ms Suzanne Wylie CEO
Belfast Council
Belfast City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

Email: wylies@belfastcity.gov.uk

Dear Ms Wylie,

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)

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O'Hagan House
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agus Ard Mhacha Theas
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and South Armagh