



DOG WALKING SAFETY PROCEDURE

Physical protection advice to volunteers

To minimise the risk of infection or injury to yourself or others, please follow the procedure detailed below:-

- ◆ Please do not put yourself at risk. If you are in any of the high-risk groups for catching the virus, for example, if you are immunosuppressed or have an underlying chest condition, please do not volunteer
- ◆ If you are showing any potential symptoms that might be coronavirus, please strictly self-isolate and avoid contact with others. Please pass on your task to someone else in your Street group
- ◆ Please wear sturdy but washable gloves. If you do not have anything suitable, disposable rubber gloves are available, on request, from George Devine, tel:- c. 292824. After use, rubber gloves should be double-wrapped and disposed of in your black bin. These should be binned 72 hours, or longer, before a collection, to avoid putting the bin men at risk. On removing your gloves, later, wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds or with an alcohol hand wash
- ◆ If the dog's owner does not know you, agree a password between you, for example, a fairy tale character. Also, please show your COFD identity card. They can check this by telephoning George Devine and can also confirm that you have had the relevant DBS checks for good character, if they so wish
- ◆ Dogs known to be prone to bite should wear a muzzle
- ◆ Please maintain a distance of 2 metres from the dog's owner, avoiding any hand to hand contact. This may be achieved, for example, by collecting the dog in a porch area or by the owner tying the dog's lead to something outside of their house, whilst the volunteer stands back. The volunteer can then collect the dog whilst the owner stands back. Please also maintain a similar social distance when you are out walking with the dog
- ◆ Please always respect your client's privacy and please always maintain the level of your own privacy that you, personally, are happy with
- ◆ Touching doorbells/door knockers, letterboxes may be unavoidable. Please try to avoid touching other parts of front doors, particularly doorknobs or handles.
- ◆ Please wear a scarf over your nose and mouth as a reminder not to touch your face. Paper face masks are available from George Devine on request. These are really only effective for a similar purpose and do not provide much of a barrier to Covid-19. Wash your face and scarf on your return home
- ◆ Please wear appropriate sturdy footwear
- ◆ Our village streets and roads are full of trip hazards from uneven paving, potholes, mud and leaves. Do please take care
- ◆ Always keep the dog on a lead
- ◆ Agree a route for the walk between you

- ◆ Poop should be disposed of in the usual way and placed in the poop bins provided. The poop bags should be provided by the dog's owner
- ◆ If the dog bites you or others, please take the appropriate medical action. This must be reported to your Street lead coordinator and recorded on the Street's register
- ◆ Try to avoid getting the dog's snot or saliva on you. There is a known case of a dog having had the coronavirus
- ◆ Always wear gloves when stroking or petting the dog, playing with a ball, stick or similar object
- ◆ If you are concerned about the dog's health, in any way, report it to the dog's owner and between you, agree the appropriate action
- ◆ Keep your dog walk to a maximum of 30 minutes
- ◆ Do not walk more than two dogs at one time and be sure that they get along before venturing out
- ◆ Please discuss, in confidence, with George Devine, if you have any underlying medical condition(s). He will decide if it is safe for you to participate
- ◆ If you are in doubt about any issue, please refer to George Devine and he will clarify any issues he can or refer you to someone who can advise you.