

Fines ruled out for wheelie bin 'crimes'

LOCAL authorities in Dorset have dismissed the idea of introducing fines for errant wheelie bin owners.

The question of fines came after a man in Southampton was given a £150 fine for leaving his wheelie bin out 24 hours after it had been emptied. Many other residents in

Southampton have received warning letters about the three-figure fine.

Councils have said there are no plans to introduce this system to the Bournemouth area.

Cllr Robert Lawton, cabinet member for environment and transport at Bournemouth council said: "We have not experienced

any significant problem in Bournemouth of people leaving their bins out after they have been collected and emptied.

He said that, if faced with a wheelie bin dispute, the council would "simply ask the resident concerned to put their bin away."

He added that a fine would only be used as an

"absolute last resort".

A Purbeck District Council spokesman, said: "We do ask, and expect people to present and remove their bins on the day and, from time to time, we receive complaints regarding people who don't.

"So far, we have managed to resolve these complaints

without resorting to fines or legal action."

He added that Purbeck District Council had "no plans" to introduce the fines.

Anti-council tax campaigners criticised Southampton City Council, and called the move "heavy handed".

India Fearnley

The NEWS in brief

Water bills

BOURNEMOUTH: Bills in the Bournemouth and West Hampshire Water area will remain stable in the next financial year, figures have confirmed.

Last year watchdog Ofwat decided average bills across England and Wales should remain broadly the same until 2015, despite water companies asking to be allowed to charge 10 per cent more.

Bournemouth and West Hants will charge just 0.4 per cent more for water supplies and sewerage bills will go up by 0.2 per cent in the Southern Water area and down by 0.1 per cent in the Wessex Water region.

Road closures

NORTH DORSET: Several streets in Blandford town centre will close on Sunday April 25 for the annual St George's Day parade from the town's scout groups. East Street, The Market Place, Salisbury Street, The Plocks and Church Lane will be affected.

Alpha course

NORTH DORSET: Blandford Forum Parish Church is starting an Alpha Course in its new parish centre in the Tabernacle area at 7.30pm on March 2. Rev Tim Storey, the rector of Langton Long, will lead the course.

Admission is free.

Roped in

POOLE: Staff from insurance company RIAS will be taking part in an abseil at the Tower Park water tower for Macmillan Cancer Support.

More than 30 employees are taking the plunge on Sunday, March 7, between 11am and 4pm.

Walk this way

PURBECK: A guided walk around Studland village is taking place today.

The walk starts at 10.30am with hot drinks and ends at 12.30pm with a two-course lunch. Tickets are £14, advanced booking essential. Call 01929 450259.

Blood donors

BOSCOMBE: Life-saving blood donor sessions are being held in the Selwyn Hall, St John's Church, Christchurch Road, on Monday at 1pm and 4.30pm.

Students' catwalk show to raise charity cash for Pyjama Appeal

GLORIOUS attire showcasing the last 200 years of fashion will be paraded at a spectacular charity event.

As part of Bournemouth's bicentenary celebrations, Fashion200 is hosting an afternoon of beautiful clothes, luxury afternoon tea and a silent auction in aid of the Julia's House Pyjama Appeal.

It takes place at the Carrington House Hotel at Knyveton Road on Thursday March 11 and is part of the Re:Bourne Arts and Culture festival.

The afternoon will kick off with an optional afternoon tea during which guests can view work produced by local artists and photographers, which can later be bought at a silent auction.

Actors and models will take to the catwalk to show some of the finest outfits from the past 200 years, with short performances and readings to illustrate Bournemouth's colourful past.

By Diana Henderson

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"We are delighted that the students of Fashion 200 have chosen to support our Pyjama Appeal with this fantastic event," said

Di Pestell, community fundraiser for Julia's House.

"It is an original idea, the students have put in a tremendous amount of research and work and I am sure it will prove to be a fun and fascinating afternoon."

The children's hospice has launched a £400,000 appeal, backed

by the Daily Echo, to enable Julia's House to open overnight. Local students from Bournemouth and Poole College and The Arts University College Bournemouth will help with technical backstage matters.

For more information contact Fashion200 on 07960 045841 or visit rebournefestival.co.uk. There are several packages available with tickets ranging from £5 to £18 which can be bought from the box office on 01202 537729 or from the website.



Celebrating 200 years of fashion