

Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum

Council Building
2 High Street
Perth
Perthshire
PH1 5PH

For Immediate Release

3 March 2008

Spring Advice to Dog Owners

The Perth & Kinross Outdoor Access Forum would like to remind dog owners that during the early spring those exercising their dogs in the countryside need to be particularly careful that their dogs are under close control.

Forum Convenor Nick Cole said, “Sheep are especially vulnerable as lambing time approaches so please keep out of fields with farm animals in them as much as possible. If you need to cross a field dog owners should keep their dog on a short lead or under close control and keep as far away as possible from the animals”.

He continues “once young animals are born the Scottish Outdoor Access Code states that dog owners should not take their dogs into any field that contains lambs, calves or other young animals.”

In more open country, where it is easier to keep well away from any young animals or livestock, dogs should still be kept on a short lead. Cattle can react aggressively when young calves are present so keep as much distance between them and you as possible. If you are chased by cattle when your dog is on a short lead you are advised to let the dog go and take the shortest, safest route away from the cattle.

The Perth & Kinross Outdoor Access Forum was established in 2004 to offer advice to the Council and others in relation to the right of responsible access given to the public by the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code offers guidance on rights and responsibilities and can be viewed on line at www.outdooraccess-scotland.com

Please remember to always bag and bin your dog’s waste. The co-operation of all dog owners is greatly appreciated.

Know the Code before you go

Issued by: Jane Pritchard

Tel: 01738 475332

Fax:

Email: jpritchard@pkc.gov.uk