

Appendix I

Public Spaces Protection Order – Control of Dogs Consultation 2023

Introduction

Every 3 years the Council consults on the Public Spaces Protection Order which is in place to balance the needs of dog owners with other people who also use the parks, open spaces and sports facilities in Plymouth. Most of these restrictions have been in place since 2008, under the old Dog Control Orders. Similar restrictions are in place in most local authorities across the country.

Details of the current PSPO and the dog controls in Plymouth can be found on the Council's website. It also tells you that you will receive a Fixed Penalty Notice of £100 if you do not comply with the Order.

[Dog control | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](#)

The purpose of the PSPO is primarily to prevent dog fouling, but also to ensure dogs are controlled at all times. Therefore, the Council intends to keep most of these restrictions in the new PSPO 2023.

However, we want your views on some changes the Council is proposing which apply to specific areas or facilities used by different people, e.g. dog walkers, families and sports people.

The consultation is open from 28th July 2023 to 28th August 2023.

Part A – Dog controls at specific locations

This is a control measure to protect the health and safety of people using some of our specific facilities in Plymouth, so dogs are currently excluded from them. It is intended to keep the existing controls relating to most of these facilities.

Dogs are currently excluded from Efford Cemetery and Weston Mill Cemetery. However, it is proposed that dogs should be allowed on a lead in these areas. This means that these areas would have the same restriction as the new crematorium at Haye Road.

I. Please select a statement:

	Please tick
Dogs should be excluded from Efford and Weston Mill Cemeteries	
Dogs should be allowed on leads in Efford and Weston Mill Cemeteries	

Part B – Dogs on leads

This is a control measure to assist with tackling dog fouling in specific areas in Plymouth, which are used by dog owners and others who do not own or walk dogs.

Currently, dog owners must keep their dogs on a lead within the marked playing area of a sports pitch. This requirement has been in place in Plymouth since 2008, and helps prevent dog fouling in areas specifically designated for sporting activities.

It is in place to help ensure that these areas are kept safe for the people using them for sport. Keeping dogs on a lead, or excluding them totally, will help to minimise residual dog poo that can be left even after someone has picked up after their dog.

There are no restrictions on the land surrounding the individual pitches or when the sports pitches are not marked up for matches.

The main sports pitches are used for football, rugby and cricket. They are used for formal matches within a league structure and informally by children and adults at other times.

It is essential that these areas are kept clear from dog poo to minimise the risk to health at all times, not just when sports are taking place.

2. Please select a statement:

	Please tick
Dogs should be excluded from a marked sports pitch	
Dogs should be allowed on leads within a marked sports pitch	

Part C – Maximum number of dogs

A person who holds an Animals Activities Licence to care for other people's dogs during the day or overnight is only allowed to walk up to six dogs at a time.

We want your views on whether this should apply to anyone who is in charge of dogs in a public place, whether they hold a Licence or not.

3. Please select a statement:

	Please tick
Someone should be in charge of six dogs or less in a public place	
Someone can be in charge of any number of dogs in a public place	

Part D – Additional questions

4. Are there any other areas in the city that you feel should have restrictions?

Yes/No

Please comment

5. Are there any adverse impacts to the proposals that you wish to highlight?

Yes/No

Please comment

6. Do you own a dog/s?

Yes / No

7. Do you walk dogs in Plymouth?

Yes / No

8. Do you play sports on the pitches where currently dogs must be on a lead?

Yes / No

9. Do you visit Efford and/or Weston Mill Cemeteries regularly?

Yes / No

10. What is your postcode?