Consultation on Proposed Dog-Related Public Spaces Protection Order

There are a number of existing dog-related Public Spaces Protection Orders (‘PSPOs’) across the Dorset Council area. These were introduced by the former District and Borough Councils which have now become part of the new unitary Dorset Council. Some of these Orders will soon naturally expire and the council is taking the opportunity to consolidate them into one. The intention is that the new Order will provide clarity and consistency across the area for dog owners and non-owners alike about dog controls on public open spaces.

We are required to consult with the public and other stakeholders on the content of new or revised PSPOs. This may see changes to the previous Orders dependent upon the views expressed. Councillors will make the final decision on the controls to be included in the new Order, having regard to the feedback received during the consultation.

The views of residents, visitors and businesses are therefore very important and a period of consultation will run for 12 weeks finishing at 4.30pm on Friday ADD DATE.

To have your say, please complete this short survey, it should take about 15 minutes or less for the 34 questions related to the proposal and a further 6 ‘about you’. Results will be published on the consultation tracker after the closing date.

Information on the current dog-related Public Spaces Protection Orders is available to view at:


Questions follow on the next page.
Questions:

Dog Fouling

1. All the current PSPOs across the Dorset Council area require the clearing up and appropriate disposal of dog fouling, in public spaces. You may wish to note that appropriate disposal includes deposit into a suitable receptacle (litter bin or dog waste bin) or taken home for disposal.

Do you think this should be changed?

- Yes - I think it should change
- No - I think it should remain the same
- Don't know

If yes, what would you prefer this to be changed to?

NB: Land placed at the disposal of the Forestry Commissioners under section 39(1) of the Forestry Act 1967 is excluded from the order.

Maximum lead length:

2. In a number of current Orders and in the proposed PSPO there are a number of occasions when a dog is required to be on a lead, either by direction (question 2) or when in a specific area. A maximum lead length of two metres (six feet, six inches) is suggested to ensure control of a dog and to protect pedestrians, other dogs and cyclists. This is supported by the Kennel Club.

Would you like to see a maximum lead length as part of the 'on lead' requirement?

- Yes - I think the maximum lead length should be restricted to 2m.
- No – I do not think a maximum length should be specified
- Don't know

Dogs on lead ‘by direction’

3. The dogs on lead ‘by direction’ requirement enables authorised officers (e.g. Dog Wardens) to require dogs to be put on a short lead if considered necessary. Such a direction could be made to protect another animal or people nearby, for example.

Would you prefer like to see this requirement?

- Yes - I would prefer that dogs must be put on a lead if directed to do so by an authorised Officer
- No - I would prefer that dogs are not required to be put on a lead if directed to do so by an authorised Officer
- Don't know
Dogs on leads

The existing PSPOs which will be replaced by the new Order contain numerous identified areas where dogs are required to be kept on a lead at all times; these include named roads, parks, gardens and other open spaces, etc.

Should these restrictions continue to be applied across the Dorset Council area?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restriction to be applied</th>
<th>No restriction</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. All roads and pavements within 30mph zones</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Municipal cemeteries &amp; graveyards, where dogs are permitted</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Public/formal gardens where dogs are permitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Council - owned allotments where dogs are permitted</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Council owned car parks</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Within 5m of marked sports pitches</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. The Rodwell Trail, Weymouth</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. West Bay Harbour walk and promenade (as shown on Map in yellow for West Bay)</td>
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<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Marine Parade and Cart Road, and stair/footpath leading from Charmouth Road Car Park to Church Beach and the associated Sea Wall, Lyme Regis (as shown on Map in yellow for Lyme Regis)</td>
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<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Esplanade, Weymouth, when the road is pedestrianised the restricted area will extend across the street (as shown on map in yellow for Weymouth)</td>
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<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. The Parade, and associated roads leading to The Parade and the beach, Swanage (as shown on Map in yellow for Swanage)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Access to Studland Beach from the car park, including the car park and staircases leading on to the beach, Studland (as shown on Map in yellow for Studland)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Shell Beach, Studland (as shown on map in yellow for Shell Beach)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Dog Exclusion Areas
Marked sports pitches and recreation areas:

17. Some of the existing PSPOs currently exclude dogs from public areas clearly marked ‘No dogs’ (or words/symbols to that effect). Public areas suggested are skateboard parks, tennis and basketball courts, bowling and putting greens, other fenced (or otherwise enclosed) play parks, sporting or recreational facilities, athletics tracks, and MARKED sports pitch playing surfaces.

Would you like to see this continued?

○ Yes - I think dogs should be excluded from all of these areas
○ No - I think dogs should be kept on a lead but not exclude
○ No - I think there should be no restrictions
18. Some of the existing PSPOs currently exclude dogs from enclosed children's play areas marked as ‘No dogs’ (or words/symbols to that effect).

Would you like to see this continued?

- Yes - I think dogs should be excluded from all of these areas
- No - I think dogs should be kept on a lead but not excluded
- No - I think dogs should be no restrictions
- Don’t know

**Beaches in the area of Dorset Council**

19. The various Orders currently stipulate different periods of the calendar when restrictions are applied to named beaches along the Dorset coastline, including ‘on-lead’ requirements and prohibition of dogs from defined areas of beach. It is proposed to harmonise the start and end dates when these restrictions will be applied. **Do you agree with this proposal...?**

- I agree
- I disagree
- Don’t know

The proposed beaches are:

- Central Beach, Swanage
- Front Town Beach, Lyme Regis
- Seatown Beach, Chideock
- Studland Beach, Studland
- West Bay – East and West Beaches
- Weymouth (Central) Beach

No other beaches will have exclusions or restrictions placed on them by Dorset Council; however private land owners may wish to apply their own restrictions. Any dog owner using those beaches should abide by any restrictions advertised.

20. The proposal that dogs be excluded from defined areas of beaches should: **Please choose one of the following:**

- Be applied all year
- apply from Good Friday to 31 October
- apply from Good Friday to 30 September
- apply from 1 April to 31 October
- apply from 1 May to 30 September
- be unrestricted
- Don’t know

**Central Beach Swanage (see attached map)**

The existing Order prohibits dogs from Central Beach during specified summer months.

21. Would you like to see this change?
Front Town Beach, Lyme Regis (see attached map)

The existing Order stipulates that dogs are prohibited from Front Town Beach during specified summer months.

22. Would you like to see this continue?

- Yes - I think dogs should continue to be excluded from this area during summer months
- No - I think dogs should be permitted in this area
- Don’t know

23. Would you like to see dogs to be kept on a lead during the remainder of the year (when permitted) in this area of the beach?

- Yes - I think dogs should be kept on a lead
- No - I think dogs should not be required to be kept on a lead
- Don’t know

Seatown Beach, Chideock (see attached map)

The existing Order stipulates dogs are prohibited from Seatown Beach during specified summer months.

24. Would you like to see this change?

- Yes - I think dogs should continue to be excluded from this area during summer months
- No - I think dogs should be permitted in this area
- Don’t know

25. Would you like to see dogs to be kept on a lead during the remainder of the year (when permitted) in this area of the beach?

- Yes - I think dogs should be kept on a lead
- No - I think dogs should not be required to be kept on a lead
- Don’t know

Studland Beach, Studland (see attached map)

The existing Order stipulates dogs are to be on lead on the beach and access points during the summer months.

26. Would you like to see this change?

- Yes - I think dogs should continue to be excluded from this area during summer months
- No - I think dogs should be permitted in this area
- Don’t know

27. Would you like to see dogs to be kept on a lead during the remainder of the year (when permitted) in this area of the beach?

- Yes - I think dogs should be kept on a lead
- No - I think dogs should not be required to be kept on a lead
- Don’t know
28. Would you like to see dogs to be kept on a lead during the remainder of the year (when permitted) in this area of the beach?

- Yes - I think dogs should be kept on a lead
- No - I think dogs should not be required to be kept on a lead
- Don’t know

**West Bay Beaches (East and West - see attached map)**

The existing Order stipulates dogs are prohibited from East and West Beaches during specified summer months.

29. Would you like to see this change?

- Yes - I think dogs should continue to be excluded from this area during summer months
- No - I think dogs should be permitted in this area
- Don’t know

30. Would you like to see dogs to be kept on a lead during the remainder of the year (when permitted) in this area of the beach?

- Yes - I think dogs should be kept on a lead
- No - I think dogs should not be required to be kept on a lead
- Don’t know

31. Should the area where dogs are prohibited be reduced to just East Beach only? NB the cliffs that are west of West Beach are hazardous and are subject to frequent rock falls. This would open up West Beach for unrestricted dog exercise.

- Yes
- No

**Weymouth (Central) Beach (see attached map)**

Weymouth beach has a permanent dog exercise area at the pavilion end where dogs are permitted at any time.

32. Should this arrangement be changed?

- No – the exercise area should remain unchanged
- Yes – the exercise area should be changed – please specify below

How would you change the exercise area? (i.e. enlarge, reduce, do away with, relocate?)

The existing Order stipulates the dogs are excluded from the area between the marked exercise area (pavilion end of the beach) and Greenhill Groyne during summer months.

33. Would you like to see this change?

- Yes - I think dogs should continue to be excluded from this area during summer months
○ No - I think dogs should be permitted in this area
○ Don’t know

34. Would you like to see dogs to be kept on a lead during the remainder of the year (when permitted) in this area of the beach?

○ Yes - I think dogs should be kept on a lead
○ No - I think dogs should not be required to be kept on a lead
○ Don’t know

**General Comments**

If you have any additional comments about these proposals (specifically concerning PSPOs related to dogs) that are not addressed in this survey please comment

If you would like to make a general comment (about the dog warden service) please contact the Environmental Protection Team via this link
About You:

Do you own a dog?
- Yes
- No

Are you answering this survey as...?
- A resident of Dorset
- A visitor to Dorset
- A Councillor within Dorset
- A business operator
- A representative of an organisation (e.g. police)

Please tell us which organisation

So that we can see how different people may be affected by the proposals, we would be grateful if you could complete a few questions about yourself. These questions are optional.

If you are representing an organisation you do not need to answer the following questions.

Are you...?
- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

The Equality Act 2010 describes a person as disabled if they have a longstanding physical or mental condition that has lasted, or is likely to last 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. People with some conditions (cancer, multiple sclerosis and HIV/AIDS for example) are considered to be disabled from the point that they are diagnosed.

Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010?
- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Which age group do you belong to?
- Under 18
- 18 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 or over
- Prefer not to say
Which of the following best describes your ethnic origin?

- White British White Irish
- White Gypsy / Romany or Irish Traveller
- Any other White background (please specify below)
- Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi
- Asian or Asian British - Indian
- Asian or Asian British - Pakistani
- Any other Asian background (please specify below)
- Black or Black British - African
- Black or Black British - Caribbean
- Any other Black background (please specify below)
- Mixed ethnic background - White and Asian
- Mixed ethnic background - White and Black African
- Mixed ethnic background - White and Black Caribbean
- Any other mixed background (please specify below)
- Chinese
- Any other ethnic group (please specify below)
- Prefer not to say

Other Please specify

Thank you for taking time to fill out this survey. Please click 'Submit' below to send us your response.

The results will be used to guide councillors’ decision making for PSPOs relating to dog control across the Council area.

Results will be published on the consultation tracker after the closing date. LINK
Proposed restrictions on dogs at Shell Bay, Studland

Dorset Council

Projection: British National Grid
Date: 30/9/2019
Author: E. Altham
Scale: 1:5,000

The map shows a proposed area where dogs must be on leads. The area is marked in yellow on the map.
Proposed restrictions on dogs at Swanage

Swanage Proposed Dog Order 2019
Weymouth Proposed Dog Order 2019

**Proposed restrictions on dogs at Weymouth**

- **Dog restrictions** (red area)
- **Dogs on leads** (yellow area)

*Source: Dorset Council*