

Consultation on Public Space Protection Orders  
Headline Report

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## 1. Summary

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Date range:	26/09/2016 to 4/11/2016	
Type:	Web questionnaire	
Responses:	308	
Audience:	General Public and stakeholders	

## 2. Introduction

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In October 2017, Dog Control Orders will be replaced by Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs). Chesterfield Borough Council has a number of existing Dog Control Orders which we would like to continue to enforce, by including them in the PSPO. In addition, we would like to introduce some new requirements which will help us to deal with dog fouling and problematic dog behaviour.

This report present the findings of a public consultation questionnaire which was open from 26/09/2016 to 4/11/16.

### 3. Questionnaire results

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#### About our existing dog control orders

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Q1. The Council has existing powers which makes it an offence if a person in charge of a dog fails to clean up its faeces.

Do you think we should continue to enforce this?

	Number	%
Yes	306	99.7%
No	1	0.3 %
Don't know	0	0.0%

Q2. At Boythorpe Cemetery, Brimington Cemetery, Spital Cemetery, Staveley Cemetery and within the Crematorium grounds it is a requirement for dogs to be under control and on a lead.

Do you think we should continue to enforce this?

	Number	%
Yes	296	96.1%
No	10	3.2 %
Don't know	2	0.6%

Q3. In relation to Eastwood Park (Hasland) it is an offence to allow dogs in the play area. Dogs must also be kept on leads at all times around the lodge, wildlife garden and tennis courts area, and dogs must be put on a lead in the remainder of the park if asked to do so by an authorised officer.

Do you think we should continue to enforce these requirements?

	Number	%
Yes	273	88.9%
No	23	7.5 %
Don't know	11	3.6%

## About the proposed additional powers

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- Q4. Do you think we should introduce a new offence under the PSPO requiring dog walkers to carry a 'poop bag' or other means for picking up after their dog?

	Number	%
Yes	266	86.4%
No	35	11.4%
Don't know	7	2.3%

- Q5. Do you think we should introduce a new offence under the PSPO prohibiting dogs in children's play areas?

	Number	%
Yes	237	76.9%
No	48	15.6%
Don't know	23	7.5%

If yes, please tell us any specific play areas you think this should apply to and why. 146 people chose to comment. The comments are summarised here:

Typical areas given	Number of comments
All play areas	53
All fenced in areas	10
Holmebrook Valley Park	14
Queens Park	4
Inkerman Park	6
Eastwood Park	9
Poolsbrook Country Park	2
Somersall Park	3
Stand Road Park	4

- Q6. Do you think we should introduce a new offence under the PSPO requiring dogs to be kept on a lead in additional designated areas?

	Number	%
Yes	172	57.5%
No	70	23.4%
Don't know	57	19.1%

If yes, please tell us any specific areas you think this should apply to and why.

97 people gave comments for this question. The comments are summarised here:

Typical areas given	Number of comments
All play areas	45
Areas near wildlife / nature reserves	5
Outdoor sports pitches	4
Holmebrook Valley Park	3
Eastwood Park	2
Poolsbrook Country Park	2
Somersall Park	2
Graveyards and cemeteries	2
Shentall gardens	2
Town centre	2
Stand Road Park	1
Other areas / comments	27

Q7. Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

133 comments were made in response to this question. The comments are summarised here:

Typical areas given	Number of comments
Questioning enforcement / visibility of enforcement	36
In favour of designated dog exercise areas	20
General comments in support of proposals	19
In favour of dogs being kept on leads	8
Practicalities regarding poo bags and bins	7
Safety concerns	5
Concerns about criminalising dogs/owners	2
Regarding signage	2
Other comments	34

## 4. Profile of respondents

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Gender of respondents	
Male	42.5%
Female	54.8%
Transgender	1.0%
Prefer not to say	1.7%

Age of respondents	
Under 16 years	0%
16 to 17 years	0%
18 to 24 years	3.3%
25 to 34 years	6.6%
35 to 44 years	11.9%
45 to 54 years	19.1%
55 to 64 years	31.4%
65 to 74 years	21.8%
75 years and over	3.0%

Disability of respondents	
No	79.3%
Yes	14.3%
Prefer not to say	6.3%

Ethnicity of respondents	
White British	92.3%
Black or Black British	0.3%
Asian or Asian British	0.3%
Mixed ethnic group	0.7%
Other ethnic group	1.0%
Prefer not to say	5.3%