

### Survey for Dog PSPO Questions

In 2017 the two Spelthorne Dog Control Orders were automatically converted into a single Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) under s59 Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014. These orders allow conditions to be implemented relating to the control of dogs in public. Currently the Spelthorne Borough Council PSPO has six conditions which are: the exclusion of dogs from specific areas such as children's play areas, ball courts, tennis courts and multi games areas, within parks, recreation grounds and open spaces, the offence of not picking up after your dog (dog fouling), the requirement that a dog owner must carry suitable means for collecting any dog faeces, a restriction on number of dogs that a professional dog walker can control at any given time, the requirement that dogs must be placed on leads in any public area if required to do so by an authorised officer, Police Officer or PCSO, and finally that dogs are required to be on leads at all times in areas including Council car parks, cemeteries and Leisure Centre car parks. The PSPO has been in place since the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2021, and is being reviewed as required by the above legislation after three years.

#### **Data Protection and Confidentiality**

We comply with all legislation governing the protection of personal information, including the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Any personal information you supply will remain strictly confidential and anonymous and will be held and used in line with the Data Protection Act 2018. We will only use your personal information for the purpose for which it has been given. The information you provide through this survey will be kept secure and analysed by Spelthorne Borough Council.

1. Do you own a dog/s?

Yes, No

2. Are you a professional dog walker?

Yes, No

3. What is your postcode? (This is to help us understand the distribution of respondents geographically and if views differ)

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**Section 1 - Dog Exclusion Areas**

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that dogs should be excluded from:

Ball Courts- Strongly agree, fairly agree, Neither agree nor disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know, Not able to comment/don't visit the area.

Childrens play areas- Strongly agree, fairly agree, Neither agree nor disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know, Not able to comment/don't visit the area.

Multi-games areas - Strongly agree, fairly agree, Neither agree nor disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know, Not able to comment/don't visit the area.

Tennis Courts- Strongly agree, fairly agree, Neither agree nor disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know, Not able to comment/don't visit the area.

Open spaces – Strongly agree, fairly agree, Neither agree nor disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know, Not able to comment/don't visit the area.

Do you have any other comments on the current dog exclusion areas?

**Section 2- Professional Dog Walkers**

The Council are proposing a restriction on the number of dogs that can be walked by a person at any given time to a maximum of four dogs. They are looking at this as there has been a number of complaints regarding aggressive dogs, lack of control and dog straying without the owner's control.

2. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed restriction on the number of dogs walked by a person at any given time?

-Strongly agree, Fairly agree, Neither agree or disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know.

Any additional comments on the requirement for professional dog walkers to walk no more than four dogs at any one time-

### **Section 3- Dog Fouling**

3. In the past 12 months have you been affected by dog fouling in Spelthorne?

-Yes

-No

-Don't know

-Prefer not to say

4. Do you consider uncollected dog waste to be a problem in the Spelthorne area?

-Yes

-No

-Don't know

-Prefer not to say

5. If yes, how frequently do you see uncollected dog waste?

-Never

-Rarely

-Occasionally

-Frequently

-Always

### **Section 4- Carrying suitable means**

6. Do you agree or disagree with the requirement of the proposed order that a person in charge of a dog must clear up after their dog immediately and carry with them the means to clear up after their dog?

-Yes

-No

-Don't know.

Any additional comments on requirement for people in charge of a dog to clear up after the dog immediately-

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## **Section 5- Dogs on Leads**

7. We recognise that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and keep their dogs under control while they are out. However if they are not properly supervised and kept under control they can cause nuisance or injury to members of the public or other animals and may even cause road traffic accidents. We believe that for welfare reasons, dog owners should be able to exercise their dogs off the lead in open spaces. We also believe for the reasons mentioned above that it may be necessary to require that a dog owner puts his/her dog if requested to do so by an authorised officer which includes a Local Authority Enforcement Officer, a Police Officer or a Police Community Support Officer. There are also a number of areas where dogs must be on leads at all times such as in Council car parks, Cemeteries and Leisure Centre car parks.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed requirement that dogs must be placed on a lead if requested by an authorised officer?

-Strongly agree, Fairly agree, Neither agree or disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know.

Any additional comments on requirement for people in charge of a dog to put a dog on lead if required to do so by an authorised officer-

To what extent do you agree or disagree that dogs should always be on a lead in Council Maintained car parks, cemeteries and Council Leisure Centre car parks.

-Strongly agree, Fairly agree, Neither agree or disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know.

Any additional comments on requirement for people in charge of a dog to keep a dog on lead in the above locations-

### **Section 6- Exceptions to the orders**

Currently, dog control restrictions do not apply to all people and the Council wants to ensure that any restrictions placed on dog owners and handlers are reasonable and take into account particular groups of where it is not possible to comply.

The order does not apply to a person in control of a working assistance dog which has been trained to assist a person who has a disability or any emergency services, Armed Forces or other agencies in charge of an assistance dog.

7. To what extent do you agree with this exception?

-Strongly agree, Fairly agree, Neither agree nor disagree, Fairly disagree, Strongly disagree, Don't know.

8. Do you consider yourself to have a longstanding illness, disability or infirmity? *(The definition of a disability in the Equality Act 2010 is a "physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities")*

-Yes, No, Prefer not to say.

What age bracket do you fall into?

-18-24

-25-34

-35-44

-45-54

-55-64

-65+

-Prefer not to say

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed Dog Control Public Space Protection Order?

Thank you for your time in completing this questionnaire.