

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER CONTROL OF DOGS

The council is proposing to make a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to tackle dog fouling and other dog related issues. The majority of dog owners are responsible, clean up after their dogs and keep them under control. However, a small minority of dog owners create significant problems for their community by not cleaning up their dog's faeces or by keeping them under control. The PSPO can impose certain restrictions to help correct this irresponsible behaviour.

A previous PSPO was imposed in October 2017 which placed restrictions on the consumption of alcohol in Bridgend town centre, Caerau and Maesteg, Pencoed and Porthcawl. This PSPO was created in areas where Gating Orders and Designated Public Place Orders (DPPOs) had previously existed and these migrated to PSPOs under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 came into force on the 14 October 2014. Under s.75 the Act made provision for DPPOs; Gating Orders and Dog Control Orders (where in existence) to remain valid for 3 years from the 14 October 2014 at which point, on the 14 October 2017, they were converted under the Act to PSPOs.

It is proposed that the council will introduce a further PSPO, potentially introducing prohibitions and requirements in relation to the control of dogs including: -

Proposal one: Dog Fouling – applicable to all public places in Bridgend county borough;

Proposal two: Removing faeces - a requirement that the person in charge of the dog must have bags or other suitable means of removing the faeces with them;

Proposal three: Dogs on leads by direction - applicable to all public places in Bridgend county borough;

The council, in making a PSPO, may specify the amount of fixed penalty fine payable in respect of any breach at no more than £100.

The definition of public space includes any place to which the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission. It does not include land that is privately owned. If you are unsure who the landowner is, you can contact the Land Registry.

An exemption may be included within the Order for people with a disability. The Order should also not apply to the normal activities of working dogs, such as those used by the emergency services.

To tackle the issue of dog fouling the council is introducing dog bag dispensing units in popular dog walking areas across the borough.

Are you a dog owner or dog walker?

- Yes
- No

How many dogs do you walk?

- One
- Two
- Three
- Other (please specify)

What is your age group?

- 16-25
- 26-45
- 46-60
- 60+

Where do you currently walk your dog?

- On a highway
- On a footway or street
- On a highway verge
- On open green space
- On sports playing fields
- Other (please specify)

How do you currently dispose of your dog waste?

- In a street bin
- Leave it where you're dog toileted
- Take it home and dispose of it with your household waste
- In a dog poo composting bin
- Stick and flick the poo off the path or street into undergrowth
- Other (please specify)

Do you consider yourself to be disabled? Please select one option only.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Do you agree with proposal one: To introduce the prohibition on dog fouling under the PSPO. If a dog defecates on land to which a relevant PSPO applies, and the person in charge of the dog fails to remove the faeces from the land, then they will be in breach of the PSPO which is a criminal offence. The fixed penalty fine payable in this instance will be £100.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Any comments

Do you agree with proposal two: To introduce into the PSPO a condition that if a person in charge of a dog does not have appropriate bags or other suitable means of picking up and removing the faeces for proper disposal with them, this is a breach of the PSPO which is a criminal offence. The fixed penalty fine payable in this instance is proposed to be £100.

Note, proper disposal means either in a council street litter bin; or with the householders general household waste; or in a suitable compost vessel.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Any comments

Do you agree with proposal three: To introduce into the PSPO a condition that a person in charge of a dog who fails to comply with a reasonable direction given to them by an authorised officer of the council to put and keep the dog on a lead for such period/or in such circumstances as directed by the officer. Failing to comply with the direction is a breach of the PSPO which is a criminal offence. The fixed penalty fine payable in this instance is proposed to be £100.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Any comments

Do you have any other comments in relation to these proposals?

Equalities monitoring

In order to help us ensure that we are providing services fairly to everyone who needs them, we would be grateful if you could answer a few more questions about yourself.

The information you supply will be kept confidentially and will only be used for the purposes of equalities monitoring.

Completion of these questions is not required as part of the questionnaire. You do not have to answer any of the questions if you do not wish to do so.

Alternatively, you can choose to answer some and not others by selecting the 'prefer not to say' options.

Q14 Please select your age category. Please select one option only.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Under 18 | <input type="radio"/> 35 - 44 | <input type="radio"/> 65 - 74 |
| <input type="radio"/> 18 - 24 | <input type="radio"/> 45 - 54 | <input type="radio"/> 75+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 25 - 34 | <input type="radio"/> 55 - 64 | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |

Q15 Do you consider yourself to be disabled? Please select one option only.

- Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

Please type in the box below

Q16 How would you describe your nationality? Please select one option only.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Welsh | <input type="radio"/> British |
| <input type="radio"/> English | <input type="radio"/> Other (please type in the box below) |
| <input type="radio"/> Scottish | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> Northern Irish | |

Q17 What is your ethnic group? Please select one option only.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> White | <input type="radio"/> Black / African / Caribbean / black British |
| <input type="radio"/> Mixed / multiple ethnic groups | <input type="radio"/> Other ethnic group (please type in the box below) |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |

Q18 **What is your religion or belief?** Please select one option only.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> No religion | <input type="radio"/> Muslim |
| <input type="radio"/> Christian | <input type="radio"/> Sikh |
| <input type="radio"/> Buddhist | <input type="radio"/> Other (please type in the box below) |
| <input type="radio"/> Hindu | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> Jewish | |

Q19 **What is your gender?** Please select one option only.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Male | <input type="radio"/> Transgender |
| <input type="radio"/> Female | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |

Q20 **Are you pregnant?** Please select one option only.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|

Q21 **Have you given birth within the past 26 weeks?** Please select one option only.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|

Q22 **What is your sexual orientation?** Please select one option only.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Heterosexual / straight | <input type="radio"/> Bisexual |
| <input type="radio"/> Gay man | <input type="radio"/> Other |
| <input type="radio"/> Gay woman / lesbian | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |

Q23 **What is your marital status?** Please select one option only.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Single | <input type="radio"/> Divorced |
| <input type="radio"/> Partnered | <input type="radio"/> Widowed |
| <input type="radio"/> Married | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> Civil partnered | |

Q24 **Are you able to...**

Please select one option per row.

	Not at all	A little	Fairly well	Fluently	Prefer not to say
speak Welsh?	<input type="radio"/>				
read Welsh?	<input type="radio"/>				
write Welsh?	<input type="radio"/>				

Thank you