

**Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Control**  
**Open 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023**  
**Close midnight, 3 August 2023**

**Overview**

North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) currently has three separate Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) relating to Dog Control covering the former legacy district and borough council areas of East Northamptonshire, Kettering and Wellingborough, each ending in November 2023. There is no PSPO relating to Dog Control in the area of Corby.

A PSPO allows the council to enforce key restrictions including dog exclusion in all fenced children's play areas, county wide controls on dog fouling, dogs on lead orders in places such as cemeteries and the ability to request dogs to be placed on leads when required.

NNC is seeking to review the content of the current PSPOs and incorporate the Corby area into one overall PSPO relating to Dog Control across North Northamptonshire.

Having one aligned PSPO in place for dog control, will bring all existing conditions and controls together in one place, will remove inconsistencies across the areas and make enforcement more straightforward and easier to understand for the public.

**What are the main proposed changes?**

- Remove the requirement that dogs must be kept on a lead no more than 1.5m in length in prescribed areas – currently this is only within the Kettering area.
- Remove the restriction that a person may not take more than 6 dogs onto any land at any time – currently this is only within the Kettering area.
- Elements of the existing orders are replicated to cover the former Corby Borough Council area, including dog exclusion from all enclosed or fenced off children's play areas, dog fouling control and a requirement to have dogs on leads in certain areas such as churches and cemeteries.

A pre-consultation exercise has taken place with the Town and Parish Councils and key partners, and their feedback has been incorporated into the proposed draft PSPO.

**Consultation dates**

The consultation for this PSPO will be made up of two phases. This is the first phase, which started Thursday 22 June and close midnight on Thursday 03 August 2023.

Following analysis of the consultation feedback a recommendations report will be made. This may change some of the contents of the draft PSPO.

A revised draft PSPO will be made, which will go out to consultation later this year. After this second phase of consultation the final proposed PSPO and any amendments will be presented to the council's Executive for formal sign off.

## Related Documents

Please see the following documents for further information, including the alternative options considered:

- [Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Control 8 June 2023 Executive Report](#)
- [Draft Public Spaces Protection Order 2023 – Dog Control](#)
- [Dog Control PSPO FAQs](#)

## Have your say

Please tell us your views on the proposed draft PSPO Dog Control by completing this questionnaire.

Your feedback will be part of a report with many other people's feedback, so you will not be personally identified.

You can also access this online questionnaire free of charge at any North Northamptonshire Council library. Please see the [Library website](#) or telephone 0300 126 3000 to check opening times.

If you have any queries, comments or would like a copy of this questionnaire in another format (including paper, easy read or large print) you can contact us by email, post or telephone. Our contact details are as follows:

Email address: [envprotection@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:envprotection@northnorthants.gov.uk)

Telephone: 0300 126 3000

Postal address:

North Northamptonshire Council  
Environmental Protection  
Swanspool House  
Doddington Road  
Wellingborough  
Northants  
NN8 1BP

The deadline for completing this questionnaire is midnight Thursday, 03 August 2023.

**Thank you for helping us by completing this questionnaire.**

For information about how consultation and engagement responses are managed, please see the [consultation and engagement privacy notice](#).

## SURVEY

### About You

In what capacity are you responding to this questionnaire?

- A resident of North Northamptonshire
- A North Northamptonshire Council Councillor
- A Town or Parish Councillor
- A representative of a Town/Parish Council
- Other (please give details below)

Other:

Please tell us your postcode. By providing us with your postcode, you are consenting for us to use this information to understand where respondents live. If you do not consent to us using this information in this way, please do not provide your postcode.

Are you a dog owner:

- Yes
- No

### PSPO Harmonisation

In order to ensure consistency across North Northamptonshire a new PSPO for dog control is proposed for the authority. The draft proposed order can be found in [Appendix A of the 8 June Executive report](#). The order includes all areas previously covered by dog control PSPOs and makes proposals for inclusion of areas following initial consultation with Town and Parish Councils. The former Corby Borough Council area currently has no PSPO for dog control and the council will review consultation responses to determine areas for inclusion in Schedule 1 (dogs on leads) and Schedule 2 (dog exclusion) of the proposed Order.

Having one aligned PSPO in place for dog control, will bring all existing conditions and controls together in one place, will remove inconsistencies across the areas and make enforcement more straightforward and easier to understand for the public.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that there should be one PSPO for dog control for North Northamptonshire?

- Strongly agree

- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

If you would like to tell us why you answered in this way, you can do so here.

### **Part 1: Dog Fouling**

**Proposals for the North Northamptonshire area are that it is an offence for an owner not to remove dog waste anywhere that the public can access and is open air. The Corby area has been added to the scope.**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with NNC's proposal concerning dog fouling (anywhere that the public have access to and is open to the air, it is an offence for an owner to not remove dog waste)?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

If you would like to tell us why you answered in this way, you can do so here.

If there are any specific areas within North Northamptonshire that you think have had an issue with dog fouling, please confirm where they are and what action you would like us to take.

**Part 2: Dog Exclusion Zones**

**Proposals for the North Northamptonshire area are that dogs are excluded from restricted areas of land as outlined in Schedule 2 of the draft PSPO.**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with NNC’s proposal of restricting the access of dogs to certain areas, such as fenced children’s play areas and certain cemeteries?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don’t know

If you would like to tell us why you answered in this way, you can do so here.

If there are any areas within North Northamptonshire that you think would benefit from having a dog exclusion zone enforced please confirm where they are and what action you would like us to take.

If there are any current exclusion zones in place that you think need reassessing due to a change in circumstance please confirm where they are and any reasons you would like to share

**Part 3: Dogs on Leads**

**Proposals for the North Northamptonshire area are that dogs are required to be on a lead in areas of land as outlined in Schedule 1 of the draft PSPO.**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with NNC's proposal of restricting certain areas of land so that a dog must be walked on a lead at all times?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

If you would like to tell us why you answered in this way, you can do so here.

If there are any areas within North Northamptonshire that you feel would benefit from having dogs on lead requirements in place please confirm where they are and any reasons you would like to share.

If there are any current dogs on lead orders in place that you believe need reassessing due to a change of circumstance please confirm where they are, what the change is and any reasons you would like to share.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with NNC's proposal to remove the requirement from the former Kettering Borough Council PSPO that dogs must be kept on a lead no more than 1.5 metres in length in prescribed areas, as it is not deemed necessary or practical to enforce?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

If you would like to tell us why you answered in this way, you can do so here.

#### **Part 4: Restrictions on the Number of Dogs**

**We are proposing to remove the requirement from the former Kettering Borough Council PSPO that a person in charge of a dog must not take more than 6 dogs onto any land at any time.**

**It is understood the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) is currently reviewing issues around dog walkers and the numbers of dogs that they can safely walk. We feel it would not be appropriate to implement new requirements that may be contradictory to any new proposals and will review the outcome of DEFRA's review.**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with NNC's proposal to remove the requirement from the former Kettering Borough Council PSPO that restricts the number of dogs allowed to be walked by a single person to no more than six?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

If you would like to tell us why you answered in this way, you can do so here.

#### **Part 5: Dogs on Leads by Direction**

**Proposals for the requirement that any person in charge of a dog must comply with a direction given to them by an authorised officer of NNC to put and keep their dog on a lead.**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with NNC's proposal that an authorised officer can direct that a dog be placed upon a lead. This would mean that any authorised officer of the council can require a dog owner to put the dog on a lead. This may be following complaints of issues in the locality or during patrols where a dog(s) is identified as not being under control.

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree

- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

If you would like to tell us why you answered in this way, you can do so here.

If you have any other comments you would like to make that you have not already told us, then please tell us here: