

Consultation

Nottingham City Council's proposed extension to the four Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) as respects dogs across Nottingham City Council's administrative boundary

You may be aware that Nottingham City Council introduced four Public Spaces Protection Orders in respect of dogs across its administrative area in order to address and control various problems associated with dogs in relation to nuisance and annoyance to the public across Nottingham City Council's administrative area. These problems were often caused by irresponsible dog owners allowing their dogs to intimidate citizens in Nottingham. The dogs also posed a danger to citizens and traffic control and damaged to play equipment, street furniture and the wildlife and trees prior to the implementation of the Public Spaces Protection Orders on 26th September 2016. The effect of the Orders, make it an offence to fail to comply with the Orders without reasonable excuse however the Orders were only able to be implemented for a period of three years and they currently expire on 24th September 2022.

The Council wishes to formally consult with all citizens and businesses alike regarding the proposals to extend the Orders that are currently in place for a further 3 years meaning that they will expire on 24th September 2025.

We need to gather as much evidence as possible to demonstrate the need and to support the implementation of the extension to the current Public Spaces Protection Orders. We would be grateful if you could take the time to complete this short questionnaire.

The first Public Spaces Protection Order is:-

1. Nottingham City Council Dogs on Leads by Direction Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 ("PSPO 1");

The effect of PSPO 1 means that it is now an offence for a person in charge of a dog(s) to fail to put the dog(s) on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer on land in the administrative area of the Council that is open to the air and to which the public have access (with or without payment) which is shaded red on the plan available to view as detailed below.

The second Public Spaces Protection Order is:-

2. Nottingham City Council Dogs on Leads Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 ("PSPO 2");

The effect of PSPO 2 means that it is now an offence for a person in charge of a dog(s) to fail to keep the dog(s) on a lead on all land in the administrative area of the Council that is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment) OTHER THAN the land that the PSPO 1 and the PSPO 3 apply to.

The third Public Spaces Protection Order is:-

3. Nottingham City Council Dogs Exclusion Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 (“PSPO 3”);

The effect of PSPO 3 means that it is now an offence for a person in charge of a dog(s) to allow the dog(s) to enter areas that they are excluded from, namely the following areas within the administrative area of the Council that are open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment):

1. Any clearly demarcated children’s play area;
2. Areas designated as being of special scientific interest. Details of these areas can be viewed at <http://info.nottinghamcity.gov.uk>
3. Areas designated as local nature reserves. Details of these areas can be viewed at <http://info.nottinghamcity.gov.uk> and
4. “School land” meaning land that is used for Education as defined by the Education Act 1996, and land that is identified by the Academies Act 2010.

Please include any comments you have in respect of the proposed extension of this Order [Free text box]

The fourth Public Spaces Protection Order is:-

4. Nottingham City Council Fouling of Land by Dogs and Requirement to Produce Device for or Other Suitable Means of Removing Dog Faeces Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 (“PSPO 4”).

The effect of PSPO 4 means that it is now an offence for a person in charge of a dog(s) to:

- i. Fail to remove their dogs faeces forthwith, and to
- ii. Fail to produce a device or other suitable means or removing dog faeces and transporting it to a bin (whether or not the dog has defecated) when asked to do so by an authorised officer.

PSPO 4 applies to land that is open to the air and to which the public have access to (with or without payment) within the administrative area of the Council.

PSPOs 1 – 4 does not apply where a person in control of a dog:-

- a. has a reasonable excuse for failing to comply with the PSPO, or
- b. is acting with the consent of the owner or occupier of the land that the Proposed PSPO applies to, or any other person or authority which has control of the said land, for example dogs working on the said land with the consent of the land owner.

There is also an exemption contained in PSPO 4 (the dog fouling offence) for people with disabilities in respect of trained assistance dogs.

The offences contained in PSPOs 1 – 4 are subject to a maximum fine of level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000). Alternatively the opportunity to pay a fixed penalty notice may be offered in place of prosecution.

The full text of PSPOs 1 - 4 detailed above and a map showing the extent of the land covered by the Dogs on Leads by Direction Order (PSPO 1) is available for public inspection at Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham free of charge during office hours until 17th May 2022 and are also available for viewing on the Council's website: www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Thank you for your time

If there is anything else you would like to say about the subject please e-mail the Anti-Social Behaviour Team at asbteam@nottinghamcity.gov.uk