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| **CURRENT PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER** | **PROPOSED PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER** |
| **PURPOSE** | **CURRENT PROHIBITION/REQUIREMENT** | **WHEN** | **PROPOSED PROHIBITION** | **REASONS** |
| The aim is to reduce the impact of dog fouling in the borough This also affects the vibrancy and attractiveness of the environment of the City and its surrounding boroughs, reducing the impact will have a positive effect on the population. The vast majority of dog owners act responsibly, keeping their dogs under control and clear up their dog’s faeces. However, the council continues to receive complaints about dog-related negative behaviour and irresponsible dog owners. Enforcement will take place in the form of proactive patrols, which will be intelligence lead. Failure to comply with the dog fouling control order may result in the issue of a £100 penalty and/or prosecution with a maximum fine up to £1,000. | Dog FoulingIf a dog defecates at any time on land to which this order applies, a person who is in charge of the dog at the time must remove the faeces from the land forthwith.This prohibition would be in force across the borough of Doncaster | At all times, unless the dog owner(a) has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so. | If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this order applies, a person who is in charge of the dog at the time must remove the faeces from the land forthwith.This prohibition would be in force across the borough of Doncaster | The Council still continues to receive a large number of complaints with regards to dog fouling in the borough. We have seen a small reduction in service requests to the local authority since the introduction of the PSPO in 2017, however it is felt this is likely due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Dog faeces is a risk to public health and whilst rare contact with dog excrement can cause toxocariasis an infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea asthma and even blindness or seizures. It is felt that there is still a need for a deterrent and therefore, for the current prohibition to remain in place.  |
| The aim of the prohibition is to provide strong ground rules for responsible dog ownership. Being on lead in a cemetery and burial ground ensures that the dog is under control and that graves are not trampled or fouled on. Having a dog on a lead around ponds and lakes supports the wildlife and reduces the risk of disturbance of nests and wild fowl. Dogs on leads around organised events supports the safety of both competitors and spectators from any unnecessary incidents with a dog. Enforcement will take place in the form of proactive patrols, which will be intelligence lead. Failure to comply with the dog fouling control order may result in the issue of a £100 penalty and/or prosecution with a maximum fine up to £1,000. | Leads must be wornA person in charge of a dog on the land below must keep the dog on a leadThis requirement would be in force within the following areas1. All cemeteries and churchyards, including green burial areas;2. All footpaths around lakes and ponds;3. All sports grounds, fields, parks, and pitches, which are maintained by the local authority and are not subject to ‘Dog Exclusion’, but only when in use for organised authorised events. These include galas, fairs, sporting matches, charitable events (e.g. race for life).Clear signage will be erected in these locations | At all times, unless the dog owner(a) has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so. | A person in charge of a dog on the land below must keep the dog on a leadThis requirement would be in force within the following areas1. All cemeteries and churchyards, including green burial areas;2. All footpaths around lakes and ponds;3. All sports grounds, fields, parks, and pitches, which are maintained by the local authority and are not subject to ‘Dog Exclusion’, but only when in use for organised authorised events. These include galas, fairs, sporting matches, charitable events (e.g. race for life).Clear signage will be erected in these locations | Information gathered by the Council and South Yorkshire Police shows that there are still incidents relating to anti-social behaviour relating to out of control dogs. It is felt that by retaining this prohibition in the order will support the reduction of incidents going forward and encourage responsible dog ownership in the designated areas.  |
| The aim of the prohibition is to give officers the power to request that dogs be put on leads where they are not under the appropriate control of their owner, or where they are causing damage or acting aggressively | Leads by OrderA person in charge of a dog on land to which this order applies must comply with a direction given to him by an authorised officer of the Authority to put and keep the dog on a lead.An authorised officer may only give a direction under this order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or to a bird or another animal.This requirement would be in force across the borough of Doncaster. | At all times, unless the dog owner(a) has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.  | A person in charge of a dog on land to which this order applies must comply with a direction given to him by an authorised officer of the Authority to put and keep the dog on a lead.An authorised officer may only give a direction under this order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or to a bird or another animal.This prohibition would be in force across the borough of Doncaster. | Information gathered by the Council and South Yorkshire Police shows that there are still incidents relating to anti-social behaviour relating to out of control dogs. It is felt that by retaining this requirement in the order will continue to provide the Council with a useful tool to address incidents where it is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by a dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance. It is also felt that it would support the prevention and reduction of incidents going forward and encourage responsible dog ownership.  |
| The aim is to protect young children and adults while playing and using play equipment within an enclosed play area. Dog faeces is a risk to public health and whilst rare contact with dog excrement can cause toxocariasis an infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea asthma and even blindness or seizures specifically in children. The prohibition will also help to prevent any aggression or antisocial behaviour towards members of the public using the play area relating to dogs.  | Dog exclusion areasA person in charge of a dog must not take it into, or keep it within a specified or signed areaThis includes fenced/enclosed children’s play area and where there is a sign at its entrance(s) as a “dog exclusion area” (whether the sign uses those particular words or words and/or symbols having like effect) which is designated and marked for children’s play.In addition an existing recreational field already subjected to a dog control order (exclusion) in Branton has also been included within this prohibition – see map Appendix 1Clear signage will be erected in these locations | At all times, unless the dog owner:(a) has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so. | A person in charge of a dog must not take it into, or keep it within a specified or signed areaThis includes fenced/enclosed children’s play area and where there is a sign at its entrance(s) as a “dog exclusion area” (whether the sign uses those particular words or words and/or symbols having like effect) which is designated and marked for children’s play.In addition an existing recreational field already subjected to a dog control order (exclusion) in Branton has also been included within this prohibition – see map Appendix 1Clear signage will be erected in these locations | Information gathered by the Council and South Yorkshire Police shows that there are still incidents relating to anti-social behaviour relating to out of control dogs. It is felt that if this prohibition is not included in the order it is likely to lead to an increase in the number of incidents involving dogs being present in designated areas such as children’s play areas. It is felt that by including this prohibition in the order it will support the reduction of incidents going forward and encourage responsible dog ownership.  |
| The aim of this prohibition is to prevent the accumulation of dog faeces and require a person in charge of a dog to carry the means to pick up after it should it foul.  | Means to pick upA person in charge of a dog on land to which this order applies must have and produce on request the appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.This prohibition would be in force across the borough of Doncaster | At all times, unless the dog owner: (a) has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so. | A person in charge of a dog on land to which this order applies must have and produce on request the appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.This prohibition would be in force across the borough of Doncaster | The Council still continues to receive a large number of complaints with regards to dog fouling in the borough. We have seen a small reduction in service requests to the local authority since the introduction of the PSPO in 2017, however it is felt this is likely due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Dog faeces is a risk to public health and whilst rare contact with dog excrement can cause toxocariasis an infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea asthma and even blindness or seizures. It is felt that there is still a need for a deterrent and an enforcement power relating to this issue and therefore, for the current prohibition to remain in place.  |
| Additional notes and definitions for the purpose of the Order* A person who habitually has a dog in their possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
* Placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be sufficient removal from the land;
* Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces
* “an authorised officer of the Authority” means an employee, partnership agency or contractor of Doncaster Council who is authorised in writing by Doncaster Council for the purposes of giving directions under the Order.
* ‘At all times, unless the dog owner: (a) has reasonable excuse for failing to do so – this will include guide dogs/assistance dogs – would consider incidents on a case by case basis if a disability would make it hard to comply and if it does, accept this as a reasonable excuse.
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