

Appendix 2 – Consultation on Extension of PSPO for Dog Fouling for three years

Name and address	Yes I support the PSPO extension	No I do not support the PSPO extension	Comments
Helen Ashenden, Councillor for Westcourt and Councillor Derek Ashenden Councillor for Riverview By email	Yes		In complete agreement with the proposed extension to the PSPO - Dog Fouling
Jenny Wallace, Councillor for Pelham By email	Yes		I am very much in favour of extending this please. We still see so many incidences and if this is not extended then the message to dog owners, I think, would be the wrong one.
Tony Rana, Councillor for Whitehill By email	Yes		I'm happy for this to protection order to be extended.
Anne Moorhouse, Councillor for Luddesdown Parish By email	Yes		I am happy for the PSPO for dog fouling to be extended for a further three years.
Sarah Gow, Councillor for Singlewell By email	Yes		Yes I agree.
Amanda Mendzil, Councillor for Higham Parish	Yes		I am happy for the proposed extension of the public space protection order - dog fouling.

By email			
Shane Mochrie-Cox, Councillor for Coldharbour By email	Yes		I am happy with this order being extended and indeed further enforced if possible!
Nicki Jerram, Clerical Assistant, Meopham Parish Council By email	Yes		Meopham Parish Council is in full support of the proposed extension of the PSPO for Dog Fouling for a further 3 years
Tim Harris, Environmental Enforcement Manager, GBC By email	Yes		I am in total support of this extension and will ensure that the Safer Place Officers and any future environmental Enforcement staff enforce the PSPO at every opportunity.
Neil Loudon Chief Inspector Kent Police By email	Yes		Based on the information you have provided, on behalf of the Chief Constable in my role as District Commander for Gravesham I fully support this part of the PSPO also being extended for the requested period. I am fully aware of the negative impact dog fouling has on local communities including the significant health and safety risk it also poses to communities. I am aware that without the PSPO there will be limited accountability for those individuals who allow their dogs to foul and extremely limited opportunities to hold offenders to account, which threatens the possibility of these incidents increasing. The continued use of the PSPO will allow both of our teams to tackle this issue effectively where we can.
Neil Parker Force Liaison & Staff Officer to the Police & Crime Commissioner By email	Yes		I am happy to provide my support to the proposed continuation of this order in the areas of Gravesham having due regard to the fact enforcement of these matters will remain unchanged.
The Kennel Club by email	Yes		As a general principle, we would like to highlight the importance for all PSPOs to be necessary and proportionate responses to problems caused by dogs and irresponsible owners. It is also important that authorities balance the interests of dog

owners with the interests of other access users.

Response to proposed measures:

Dog fouling

The Kennel Club strongly promotes responsible dog ownership and believes that dog owners should always pick up after their dogs wherever they are, including fields and woods in the wider countryside, and especially where farm animals graze to reduce the risk of passing Neospora and Sarcocystosis to cattle and sheep respectively.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ further proactive measures to help responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing Orders in this respect. Proactive measures could include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog faeces can be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events; or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.

Assistance dogs

We welcome the intent to include exemptions for assistance dogs, however we would suggest further consideration of the wording contained within the Order, specifically with reference to “prescribed charity”.

While a proportion of assistance dogs relied upon by disabled people are trained by charities, many are not.

With regard to providing exemptions for those who rely on assistance dogs, we would urge the Council to review the Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance for businesses and service providers –

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/assistance-dogs-a-guide-for-all-businesses.pdf>

A number of well-known assistance dog providers are members of Assistance Dogs UK. This umbrella group, currently has eight member organisations which can be viewed here - <http://www.assistedogs.org.uk/>. However, it is important to note that the membership of

Assistance Dogs UK is not a definitive list of all UK assistance dog organisations, and may change during the currency of the PSPO, it also does not provide for owner trained assistance dogs. We would therefore encourage the Council to allow some flexibility when considering whether a disabled person’s dog is acting as an assistance dog.

			<p>The Council could consider adopting the definitions of assistance dogs as used by Mole Valley District Council which can be found on page 4 of this document - https://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/1/b/83072_-_Completed_PSPO.pdf Or that of Northumberland County Council - “(4) The term “Assistance Dog” shall mean a dog which has been trained to assist a person with a disability. (5) The expression “disability” shall have the meaning prescribed in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 or as may be defined in any subsequent amendment or re-enactment of that legislation”</p> <p>Appropriate signage It is important to note that in relation to PSPOs the “The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014” make it a legal requirement for local authorities to – “cause to be erected on or adjacent to the public place to which the order relates such notice (or notices) as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that place to - (i) the fact that the order has been made, extended or varied (as the case may be); and (ii) the effect of that order being made, extended or varied (as the case may be).” With relation to dog access restrictions such as a “Dogs on Leads Order”, on-site signage should make clear where such restrictions start and finish. This can often be achieved by signs that on one side say, for example, “You are entering [type of area]” and “You are leaving [type of area]” on the reverse of the sign. While all dog walkers should be aware of their requirement to pick up after their dog, signage should be erected for the PSPO to be compliant with the legislation.</p>
<p>Penny Gardner, Campaigns Assistant, Dogs Trust By email</p>			<p>Thank you for making us aware that Gravesham Council is planning to renew a Public Space Protection Order relating to dogs. Please find our comments below, for consideration.</p> <p><u>Dogs Trust’s Comments</u></p> <p>Re; Fouling of Land by Dogs Order:</p> <p>Dogs Trust consider ‘scooping the poop’ to be an integral element of responsible</p>

			<p>dog ownership and would fully support a well-implemented order on fouling. We urge the Council to enforce any such order rigorously. In order to maximise compliance we urge the Council to consider whether an adequate number of disposal points have been provided for responsible owners to use, to consider providing free disposal bags and to ensure that there is sufficient signage in place.</p> <p>The PDSA's 'Paw Report 2018' found that 89% of veterinary professionals believe that the welfare of dogs will suffer if owners are banned from walking their dogs in public spaces such as parks and beaches, or if dogs are required to be kept on leads in these spaces. Their report also states that 78% of owners rely on these types of spaces to walk their dog.</p> <p>I would also like to bring your attention to the similar recommendations stated in the Government's 'Anti-social behaviour powers -Statutory guidance for frontline professionals' document, pages 52/53.</p> <p>We believe that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and that the majority of dogs are well behaved. In recognition of this, we would encourage local authorities to exercise its power to issue Community Protection Notices, targeting irresponsible owners and proactively addressing anti-social behaviours.</p> <p>Dogs Trust works with local authorities across the UK to help promote responsible dog ownership. If you are interested, I can send you a copy of our Services Guide, a document listing the ways in which we may be able to help with promoting responsible dog ownership in your community. Please do not hesitate to contact should you wish to discuss this matter.</p> <p>We would be very grateful if you could inform us of the consultation outcome and subsequent decisions made in relation to the Public Space Protection Order.</p>
Members of the Public (anonymised)			
C By email	Yes		As a dog owner I definitely think the PSPO should be extended. I always pick up after my dog. It annoys me so much when I see dog mess on the streets of Gravesend. If people have dogs they must take responsibility and pick up after them.

N By email	Yes		I think the council should extend the PSPO making dog fouling an offence in this borough, or make it permanent.
D By email	Yes		Please mark me as approving the 3 year extension.
A By email	Yes		Please continue to treat animal fouling as an offence.