

## 2. Table of Proposed Changes, Consultation Responses and Recommendations Control of Seashores and Promenades Order

Existing requirement	Consultation Response	Public Comments	Officer Comment	Recommendation
A person who is in control of a dog and allows it to remain off the lead within a dog on lead area unless they have a reasonable excuse and if the owner, occupier or authority having control of the land has consented shall be guilty of an offence	81% of respondents agreed  19% of respondents do not agree	<p>All dogs that are well-trained, safe, and under control should be allowed off-lead, not just those falling into narrowly defined categories. Responsible dog ownership should be the guiding principle, rather than limiting privileges to a select few. Allowing dogs the freedom to exercise and explore off-lead“when it's safe to do so“contributes significantly to their physical and mental well-being. A happy, well-exercised dog is a calmer, safer dog, which benefits both the animal and the wider community</p> <p>No person should be guilty of an offence just for having their dog off-line, the way we re going we will have a community full of restrictions and unhappy angry dogs...</p>	This is a continuation of the existing requirement of the Dog Control PSPO 2023.	It is recommended that the Cabinet agree to keep the current control remains in place

		<p>Fully support these measures but they need an enforcement officer and large visible signage.</p> <p>All dogs should be on leads at all times no exceptions . as a regular beach user in the summer we have come across irresponsible dog owners that let their dog run all over our stuff and urinate on our beach towel and this is not a one off . over the last few years the dog mess has been increased on the beach and people not picking up after their dogs.</p>		
<p>A person who is in control of a dog and if, between 1st May and 30th September, takes the dog onto the seashores within the administrative district of East Devon unless they have a reasonable excuse and if the owner, occupier or authority having control of the land has consented shall be guilty of an offence</p>	<p>69% of respondents agreed 31% of respondents disagreed</p>	<p>This regulation is far too strict. Cornwall have much more sensible times for dogs on beach. July and August dogs acceptable on beach after 6 or 7pm.</p> <p>Fully support these measures but they need an enforcement officer and large visible signage.</p>	<p>This is a continuation of the existing requirement of the Dog Control PSPO 2023.</p>	<p>It is recommended that the Cabinet agree this requirement in respect of all districts beaches other than Exmouth beach.</p>

A person who provides or deposits food for the consumption by seagulls onto the promenades, beaches and/or foreshore within the administrative area of East Devon District Council unless he has reasonable excuse shall be guilty of an offence	<p>92% of respondents agreed</p> <p>8% of respondents disagreed</p>	Seagulls are a know hazard and feeding them must be discouraged	This is a continuation of the existing requirement of the Dog Control PSPO 2023.	It is recommended that the Cabinet agree to keep the current control remains in place
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Proposed change	Consultation Response	Public Comments	Officer Comment	Recommendation
Amendments to the groups of people exempt from being guilty of an offence including people who are registered blind, people with disability affecting mobility etc, people with a dog trained by prescribed charity, people in charge of a police or fire dog, person in charge of a working dog.	<p>83% of respondents agreed</p> <p>17% of respondents disagreed</p>	I can see no logical reason why the blind or otherwise physically disabled should be exempt from keeping dogs on leads in the relevant areas; whilst dogs for the blind and other assistance dogs are almost guaranteed to be on leads or harness anyway whilst accompanying their charge, ANY free-roaming unwatched dog still deposits dog mess which pedestrians then step in, regardless of it's working status. Having all dogs on	A separate Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and forms part of this Cabinet Report.	It is recommended that the Cabinet agree to keep the current control remains in place

		<p>leads offers some level of responsibility of their behaviour/mess by their owner, whether able-bodied or not.</p> <p>A disabled person should not be exempt in dog exclusion areas.</p> <p>A working dog could be misinterpreted as a livestock working dog i.e. collies retrievers springers etc.</p> <p>Generally agree but disagree with the exception for hunting dogs.</p> <p>Under term 2. many people may misuse the term "disability" then use discrimination against those whom are policing the areas</p>		
Exmouth	1.	I totally oppose the idea of allowing dogs on the	The introduction of a timed exclusion for Exmouth beach	

	<p>Keep current seasonal dog exclusions as they are -</p> <p><b>48% of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>52% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p><b>2.</b></p> <p>Require dogs to be excluded from all areas of the beach between 1 May and 30 September</p> <p><b>33% of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>67% of respondents disagreed</b></p>	<p>beach in the summer. If a dog relives itself at 9:30, the beach is still polluted at the 10 am. Dog owners will ignore the bylaw (as they do currently) and the council won't enforce them (as they don't currently).</p> <p><i>People who are scared of dogs should have the option of enjoying areas from which dogs are excluded for at least an equal amount of time as dog lovers have access. Eroding the exclusion first thing in the morning and at the end of the day is a slippery slope to allowing dogs on Exmouth beach for increasing amounts of time.</i></p> <p>There are plenty of places to walk dogs, the Maer, Estuary recreation ground and beach 365 days a year. Dog owners do not consider that not everyone wants a dog charging towards you and jumping up at you, this is especially frightening for young children who may not be any taller than the dog.</p>	<p>will limit the time that dogs are allowed on the beach as a whole and exclude them from the entire beach during the peak usage times and will enable more effective enforcement to be targeted during the exclusion times and will eliminate confusion as to where on the beach dogs are allowed. The timed exclusion are not considered to have a negative impact the Blue Flag status as the time dogs will be accessing the beach has been reduced, enforcement will be more targeted and effective and we are aware of Cornwall Councils beaches with timed dog control not being adversely affected in their Blue Flag applications</p> <p>The proposed restrictions on dog walking at Exmouth beach are intended to manage dogs more effectively during the tourist season and address anti-social behaviour. This could lead to displacement of dog walkers to the Pebblebed Heaths, potentially</p>	<p><i>Officer recommendation: Option 3 (timed access to whole beach in bathing season)</i></p> <p><i>Overview Committee Recommendation: That Cabinet approves three new East Devon Public Spaces Protection Orders for 2026 as attached to the report, with the exception of the PSPO for Exmouth seafront which the Overview Committee recommends should remain as it currently stands and that further consultation should be undertaken, if necessary, with a view to extending and clearly defining the areas where dogs are either permitted or prohibited.</i></p>
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	<p>3.</p> <p>Allow dogs on all areas of Exmouth beach before 10.00 and after 18.00 between 1 May and 30 September</p> <p><b>60% of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>40% of respondents disagreed</b></p>	<p>There is a risk of toxocaritis to young children even if the dog owner clears up the mess.</p> <p>As the have the run of the beach in winter months, I would request no dogs on the beach in summer.</p> <p>My preference would be to allow dogs in all areas between 10 and 18:00 and in some areas all day.</p> <p>The Orcombe end can get very crowded at times of high tide and the proposal for before 10am and after 6pm would allow people to spread out walks and ease congestion for people with nervous dogs.</p> <p>The current dog exclusion areas allow dogs on some of the most popular and most pleasant areas of the</p>	<p>increasing pressure on protected habitats and species.</p> <p>Key factors that help mitigate this risk include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Timed beach access:</b> Dog walking will still be permitted before 10am and after 6pm. Monitoring by Environmental Health suggests these are the peak times for local dog walkers, with minimal use recorded between 10am–6pm (typically the hottest part of the day and when many people are at work).</li> <li>• <b>Devon Loves Dogs:</b> Our free responsible dog walking initiative has been running since 2017 and is very active on the heaths through guided walks, pop-ups, and outreach events.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife Wardens:</b> Regular gazebo “pop-ups” and patrols, especially in summer, provide on-site engagement and education.</li> <li>• <b>Improved infrastructure on the Heaths:</b> Investment in signage, car</li> </ul>	
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	<p>4.</p> <p>Remove all restrictions relating to seasonal dog exclusion areas</p> <p><b>28%of respondents agreed</b></p>	<p>beach. Many owners also ignore the restrictions or pretend not to be aware of them. A blanket ban would remove that excuse. The morning and evening permission has been suggested already but would simply lead to families finding dog mess on the beach in the mornings or cause harassment to those visiting the beach in the evenings.</p> <p>The current seasonal exclusions work well for the 75% of dog walkers who adhere to them. Every year, when I walk the beachfront at least twice daily, there are regular locals who disregard the notices, holiday makers/visitors who pay no attention. I saw nobody enforcing the exclusion areas at all last year.</p> <p>The council should consider removing the seasonal ban for the area</p>	<p>parks, and waymarked routes helps guide visitors to less sensitive areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Public awareness:</b> Promotion of the “Pebblebed Dog Code” and DLD’s “Four Paws Code” supports responsible behaviour.</li> <li>• <b>Ongoing outreach:</b> Social media and newsletters continue to raise awareness about wildlife and responsible dog ownership.</li> </ul> <p>In the longer term, we are working with partners to deliver Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) in and around Exmouth. These will be designed with dog walking in mind and should help reduce pressure on the heaths.</p> <p>The District Ecologist has confirmed that a Habitats Regulation Assessment is not required.</p> <p>No comment received from Exmouth Town Council. Minutes from Full Council meeting 7<sup>th</sup> April indicated that Councillors would</p>	
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	<p><b>72% of respondents disagreed</b></p>	<p>from the new lifeboat station to Orcombe Point. This is needed to provide space for the many residents and holiday makers who acquired dogs during Covid.</p> <p>I would like to see dogs allowed on all areas of Exmouth beach throughout the year. As a compromise a ban in the current area between 11am and 6pm would seem more practical. This would encourage tourists with dogs to areas with shops, cafes etc and potentially boost trade.</p> <p>All dogs should be banned all year</p> <p>Dogs should be banned from the main sections of the beach (&amp; it be enforced). Too many people allow their dogs to roam free without supervision and do not pick up their mess. It is not</p>	<p>comment individually through the consultation process.</p>	
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		<p>acceptable for people to sit on the beach amongst the mess and have children playing in the sand.</p> <p>Restricting them to the Orcombe Point end is not a hardship as it is a large area. Not everyone likes dogs and they are a danger when allowed to run free.</p> <p>A friend of mine was knocked off her feet by a large boisterous dog and the owner could not have cared less.</p>		
Budleigh	<p>1.</p> <p>Keep the current seasonal dog exclusion areas as they are</p> <p><b>54% of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>46% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p>2.</p> <p>Require dogs to be excluded from all areas of the beach between 1 May and 30 September</p> <p><b>40% of respondents agreed</b></p>	<p>Dogs should be allowed on a lead under control but not off leads</p> <p>Just exclude dogs from the current excluded area between 10am and 6pm</p> <p>dogs should be banned all year</p> <p>Allow dogs on all areas of the beach before 10:00 am and after 6:00 pm between May and September.</p>	The majority of respondents agreed that the current PSPO seasonal dog restrictions for Budleigh should remain in place.	It is recommended that the Cabinet agree to keep the current control remains in place

	<p><b>60% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p><b>3.</b> Remove all restrictions relating to seasonal dog exclusion areas</p> <p><b>36%of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>64% of respondents disagreed</b></p>	<p>Allow access between 10:00 and 6:00 pm May to September.</p> <p>Extend the exclusion to include April and October</p> <p>It works fine as it is.</p> <p>Allow dogs on beach all year round and in summer months until 10am</p>		
Sidmouth	<p><b>1.</b> Keep current seasonal dog exclusions as they are</p> <p><b>53% of respndents agreed</b></p> <p><b>47% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p><b>2.</b> Require dogs to be excluded from all areas of the beach between 1 May and 30 September</p>	<p>Make any restriction between 10am and 6pm in the summer as they do in Cornwall. This is good for tourism too.</p> <p>dogs should be banned all year</p> <p>It seems unfair to restrict dogs from all Sidmouth beaches and a restricted access beach such as the one near the lifeboat</p>	The majority of respondents agreed that the current PSPO seasonal dog restrictions for Sidmouth should remain in place	It is recommended that the Cabinet agree to keep the current control remains in place

	<p><b>38% of respondents agreed</b> <b>62% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p>3. Remove all restrictions relating to seasonal dog exclusion areas</p> <p><b>32% of respondents agreed</b> <b>68% of respondents disagreed</b></p>	<p>station or Jacobs Ladder might be suitable.</p> <p>I would much prefer Sidmouth to be dog friendly, the tide comes in and out often and therefore there isn't much room. The dogs need some sand, and aren't given much, whereas people can move to the pebbles. Dogs should be allowed on the sandy far right part of the beach.</p> <p>No dogs at all at any time</p>		
Beer	<p>1. Keep current seasonal dog exclusions as they are</p> <p><b>55% of respondents agreed</b> <b>45% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p>2. Require dogs to be excluded from all areas of the beach</p>	<p><i>There is a real need for the proposed change to all dogs being on leads throughout the season and potentially the year on Beer beach.</i></p> <p><i>There are numerous people who believe that having their dog within their proximity is classed as having it under control however this is far from the case. Also since dogs were allowed off the lead following recent changes, there has been a significant amount more of dog faeces present across the beach presenting a risk to public health.</i></p>	A higher proportion of respondents agreed that the current PSPO seasonal dog restrictions for Beer should remain in place, compared to the proportion of respondents who agreed that dogs should be kept on a lead from a point immediately below the access path at Sea Hill on the beach to the edge of the cliffs in the east between 1 May and 30	It is recommended that the Cabinet agree to keep the current control remains in place

	<p>between 1 May and 30 September</p> <p><b>44% of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>56% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p><b>3.</b></p> <p>Require dogs to be kept on a lead from a point immediately below the access path at Sea Hill on the beach to the edge of the cliffs in the east between 1 May and 30 September (in addition to the seasonal dog exclusion area)</p> <p><b>51.5% of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>48.5% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p><b>4.</b></p> <p>Remove all restrictions relating to seasonal dog exclusion areas</p> <p><b>35% of respondents agreed</b></p> <p><b>65% of respondents disagreed</b></p>	<p>Make the restrictions between 10am and 6pm. Easy for everyone to understand.</p> <p>Exclude dogs in current exclusion areas between 8am and 8pm</p> <p>Dogs should not have to be kept on a lead especially if they aren't allowed on the full beach. Having a designated area of the beach where dogs have to be kept on leads to limit dog interaction with the non-dog people is a more appropriate answer.</p> <p>Dogs should be kept on lead at all the time</p>	<p>September (in addition to the seasonal dog exclusion area).</p> <p>No comments received from Beer Parish Council.</p>	
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Seaton	<p>1. Keep current seasonal dog exclusions as they are <b>56% of respondents agreed</b> <b>44% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p>2. Require dogs to be excluded from all areas of the beach between 1 May and 30 September <b>42% of respondents agreed</b> <b>58% of respondents disagreed</b></p> <p>3. Remove all restrictions relating to seasonal dog exclusion areas <b>33% of respondents agreed</b> <b>67% of respondents disagreed</b></p>	<p>Dogs should be prohibited from the east walk beach seasonally. Dogs should be on leads on all promenades at all times year round</p> <p>Restrict dogs between 10am and 6pm in the summer. Good for tourism too.</p> <p>Too many people have dogs, and too many of those dog owners don't appear to be responsible. As a non dog owner, I'm tired of walking along the beach and/or sea front promenade dodging the faeces not collecting, or stains and smears left after people have collected after their dogs. Dogs should be on leads as a minimum, or banned from the area entirely.</p> <p>Allow dogs before 8am and after 8pm</p>	The majority of respondents agreed that the current PSPO seasonal dog restrictions for Seaton should remain in place	It is recommended that the Cabinet agree to keep the current control remains in place

		<p>Lots of visitors bring their dogs on holiday and they often cannot leave them in hotels/B&amp;Bs etc. They also cannot leave them in hot cars. Retaining the specific area of the beach where dogs can go means other people can use the other part of the beach. Hopefully that keeps everyone happy, especially our canine friends.</p>		
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