

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Enviro Crime and Dog Control Manager

Officer Making the Decision

Head of Regulatory Services

Recommendation

That the Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Control Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood 2016 be varied.

Reason

To vary the existing Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to extend the restriction about dogs on leads in the yellow zone from a seasonal approach (April 1st or Good Friday whichever is sooner) to all year round due to evidence of a significant number of dog attacks during the period when the restriction is not in place.

Authority for Decision

Chapter 8.3 of the Constitution (Section 25(ii) – page 8-27) gives delegated authority for the Head of Regulatory Services in consultation with the Lead Member for Regulatory Services to make revisions and amendments to the Public Space Protection Order (Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood) in response to future requests for additional dog controls at Bradgate Park Estate.

Decision and Date

Background

The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 brought in Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) for the control of a range of ASB issues, including problems relating to dog control.

Bradgate Park and Swithland Woods introduced a PSPO in February 2017 to control dogs on the estate to protect the people using the park and the deer that live in the park.

For ease of understanding for the public and effective enforcement by the Rangers the park was divided into zones where different dog controls are in place. The map can be seen in the background papers showing the zones.

The yellow zone includes the road/path through the whole of Bradgate Park which runs from the Newtown Linford entrance to the Cropston entrance. This is the most heavily used and congested area of the park so effective dog control is essential to protect the people and animals using the park.

The introduction of the PSPO replaced the outdated bye laws. At the time of introduction it was deemed appropriate to adopt a seasonal approach to insist that dogs should be kept on leads in the yellow zone between April 1st of Good Friday (whichever is sooner) and October 31st.

The Trust noticed that there was a significant increase in the number of dog attacks when the restriction was not in place. They have collected data about attacks since 2016 and found that when the restriction was not in place the number of incidents rose significantly. In 2016-2018 there were 4 incidents in the seasonal period and 30 in the period when the restriction was not in place.

The variation to extend the time that dogs should be on a lead will increase the level of control of dogs and should significantly reduce the number of incidents which can be traumatic both for people and animals using the park and the wildlife that lives on the park.

The Head of Regulatory Services has reviewed the consultation responses received following the service of the Notice of Intention, and is satisfied that there are no substantial changes required or major objections so the variation to the PSPO can be undertaken.

The Head of Regulatory Services has also consulted the Lead Member on this variation Order.

Financial Implications

No financial implications

Risk Management

No specific risks have been identified with this report.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: Public Spaces Protection Order
(Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood)
Control of Dogs – Variation 2018
Report to Head of Service and Lead
Member – Variation of PSPO

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

The Public Spaces Protection Order ('PSPO') – (Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood) Control of Dogs – Variation 2018

Charnwood Borough Council ("the Council") in exercise of its power under section 61 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") and of all other enabling powers being satisfied that that the conditions set out in section 61 of the Act have been met hereby varies Part iii of the Order dated 20th February 2017 and the following shall be the varied Order in place from 1st November 2018:

Part i: Dog Fouling

If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Order applies across the entire Estate a person who is in charge of the dog at the time must remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless:

- (a) he 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.

Part ii: Leads by Order

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 member of Trust staff to put and keep a dog on a lead across the entire Estate shall be guilty of an offence unless:

- (a) he 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.

NB: An authorised Trust staff member shall only give a direction under this order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or disturbance to any other person, or to a bird or another animal.

Part iii: Leads required

- (a) a person in charge of a dog on land shown in yellow with a grey hatched path on the Plan shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time he does not keep the dog on a lead between the hours of 9am and 10pm unless:
 - (b) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so: or
 - (c) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

Part iv: Exclusion

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or remain on the Protected Deer Sanctuary areas and Wildlife Protection Zones shown as deer sanctuary on the Plan unless:

- (a) he 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.

1. Exemptions

Parts i, ii and iii in this Order shall not apply to a person (s) who –

- (a) Is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
- (b) Is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or
- (c) Is a member of assistance dogs UK:
www.assistedogs.org.uk/uk/members
- (d) Has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribed charity and upon which he relies for assistance.

For the purpose of this Order –

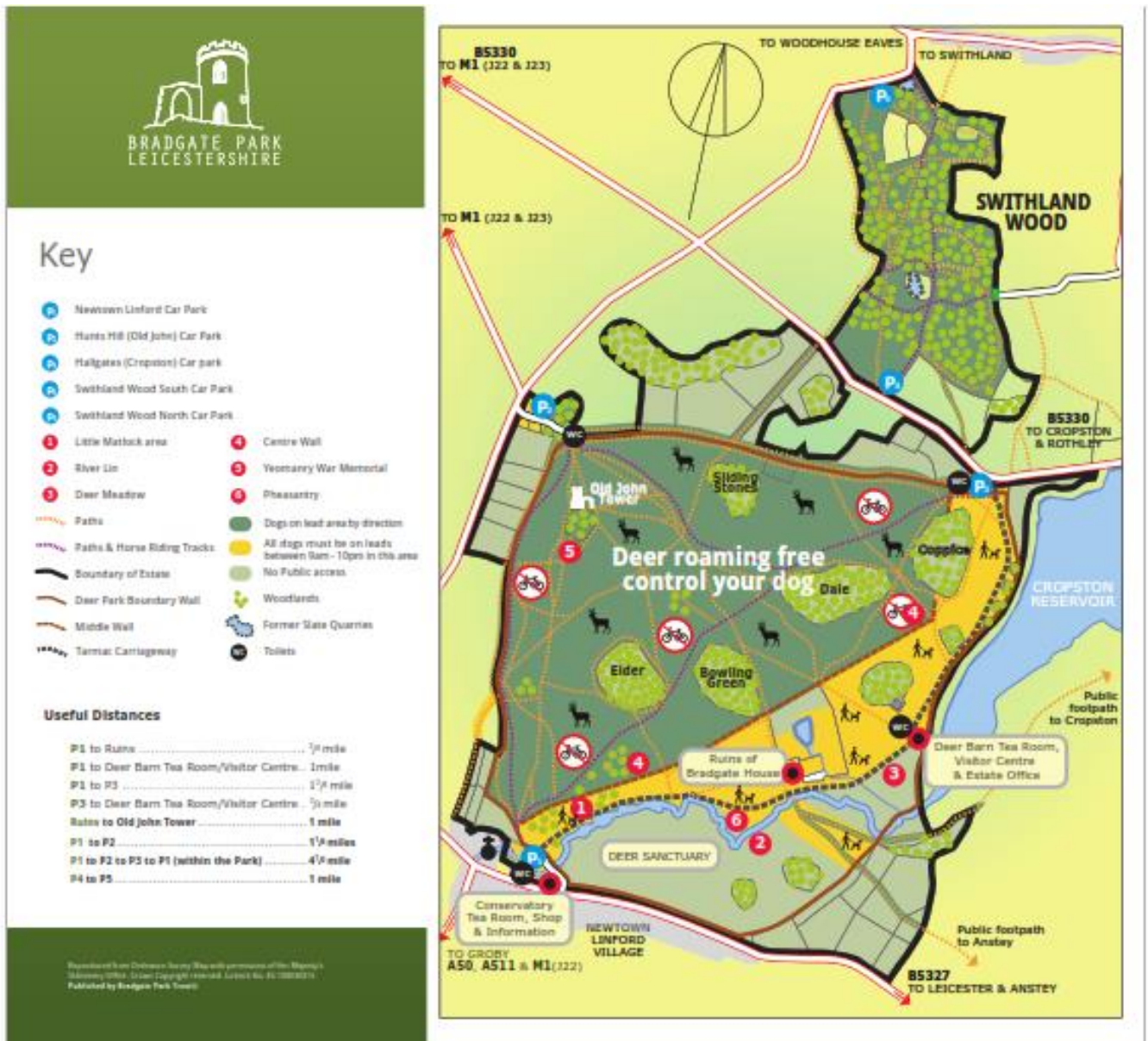
- A person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
- Placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or the disposal of waste, shall be sufficient 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 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 Charnwood Borough Council who is authorised in writing by Charnwood Borough Council for the purposes of giving directions under the Order.
- Each of the following is a “prescribed charity” –
 - Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454)
 - Support Dogs Limited (registered charity 1088281)
 - Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680)

2. Penalty

A person who is guilty of an offence under this Order shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

A person may be offered a fixed penalty notice of £100 by way of discharging liability for the offence. If the fixed penalty notice is paid within 10 days the discounted rate of £50 applies, if paid within 14 days the full amount of £100 is required.

Map of Bradgate Park and Swithland Woods



Map Version 4 – October 2018

Report of Enviro Crime and Dog Control Manager – September 2018

Variation to Public Spaces Protection Orders ('PSPOs') – Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To update the Head of Regulatory Services and the Lead Member for Regulatory Services, Enforcement and Licensing on the proposed variation to the existing Public Spaces Protection Order for Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood for dog control.
- 1.2 To provide a summary of the consultation responses.
- 1.3 To inform Head of Regulatory Services and Lead Member of the likely future stages of implementing the Order.

2.0 Procedural Context

- 2.1 Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood was left to the people of Leicestershire by Mr Charles Bennion, a local industrialist, who purchased Bradgate Park from Mrs Grey and presented it, in trust, to be managed for the benefit of the people of Leicestershire and visitors to the county in 1928.

Since 1928, other land has either been donated to or purchased by the Trust. One important donation was Swithland Wood, which was generously given by the Rotary Club of Leicester in 1931.

Today, the Bradgate Park Estate extends to around 1,300 acres and is managed by a Registered Charity, The Bradgate Park & Swithland Wood Charity, known as the "Bradgate Park Trust". The greater part of the Estate is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The Estate, which welcomes over half a million visitors a year, was designated a Country Park by the Countryside Commission in 1970.

- 2.2 Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood have an existing PSPO which was made and sealed by Charnwood Borough Council in February 2017.
- 2.3 It is proposed that the existing PSPO will include a variation in relation to dogs on leads. Currently the dogs on leads condition is seasonal (April 1st or Good Friday whichever is sooner until 31st October). The Trust would like to extend the dogs on leads condition to all year round.
- 2.4 The Trust has reported that there are continuing issues with dog control which would be alleviated if dogs were to be kept on a lead in the busiest area – the yellow zone which covers the road/path which runs from one side of the estate to the other. The incidents have been recorded since the original order was put in place and are summarised in Appendix A.

2.5 Charnwood Borough Council is the local authority which makes, varies and extends Public Spaces Protection Orders for any land which is mainly within the Charnwood boundary. Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood come under the jurisdiction of Charnwood Borough Council so therefore Charnwood Borough Council can make, vary or extend the Order on their behalf.

3.0 Background

3.1 PSPOs can be varied under section 61 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

3.2 The PSPO can be varied if there is evidence that activities that are having a detrimental effect are on-going or getting worse. The variation can extend an area where the conditions apply or amend the restriction that is in place.

3.3 PSPOs are an order created in relation to areas within the local authority's jurisdiction where activities are taking place that are or likely to be detrimental to the local community's quality of life.

3.4 PSPOs impose conditions or restrictions on people within that area, such as dog control or dog fouling.

3.5 A breach of a PSPO is an offence punishable by a fixed penalty notice and/or prosecution in a magistrate's Court.

3.6 PSPOs provide the local authority with a means by which to control specific activities such as dog control or dog fouling taking place within a specified area and by virtue of which anti-social behaviour has been causing a nuisance or annoyance to those living or visiting the area. The Police, Council Officers and other designated people authorised by the Local Authority have power under the legislation to enforce the PSPOs and tackle such behaviour.

3.7 In order to vary a PSPO, local authorities are required to consult with the public, police and community representatives (as the local authority sees fit). The consultation process as a whole is based on statutory guidance.

3.8 A PSPO can last for up to 3 years. The local authority which made the Order may extend the period for which it has effect if satisfied on reasonable grounds that doing so is necessary to prevent:

- a) Occurrence or reoccurrence after that time of the activities identified in the order.
- b) An increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

Any extension of the PSPO cannot be for a period of more than 3 years (although there is no limit on the number of times that the PSPO can be renewed).

3.9 Where a PSPO is in force, the local authority that made the order may vary it by:

- a) Increasing or reducing the restricted area
- b) Altering or removing a prohibition or requirement included in the order or adding a new one.

3.10 The main proposal for the variation to the PSPO is outlined in Notice of Intention to vary the PSPO in Appendix B. In summary it is intended to extend the seasonal condition for all dogs to be on leads to all year round.

4.0 Enforcement

4.1 The PSPO is in place and is being enforced by the Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood Estate Rangers who are authorised and trained by Charnwood Borough Council. They will also enforce the variation.

4.2 The variation will be published on the Charnwood Borough Council web site, the Bradgate Park website and in paper format around the Estate.

5.0 Consultation

5.1 In order to ensure visitors and key stake holders were made aware of the proposed variation to the PSPO: a consultation exercise ran from 8th May 2018, lasting until 5pm on 8th June 2018. The consultation was also extended for another month following comments that it would benefit from additional questions, this lasted from 8th June 2018 until 5pm on 30th June 2018.

5.2 During the consultation; the Bradgate Park Trust worked hard to ensure awareness of proposal for the variation to the PSPO and to encourage and generate debate around the issue of dog control. Displays and information were available in the tearooms on the Estate and information was displayed at each entrance, on the noticeboards and map boards.

5.3 Notices about the proposal for a variation to the existing PSPO were displayed temporarily around the sites on notice boards and key entrance points.

5.4 The following groups were all contacted for comment during the consultation:

- relevant parish and town councils,
- The Police and Crime Commissioner
- The Local Policing Body
- The Kennel Club

Responses received from these groups were indicative of support.

5.5 An online survey which summaries and analyses responses to the key questions in the initial consultation was hosted via Survey Monkey and

generated 259 responses. A copy of the initial consultation is included in Appendix C. The responses are summarised as:

Q1: To continue on enforcement and insist on people picking up dog faeces

259 responses:

259 agree (100%)

Q2: To continue enforcement of dogs on leads by direction in the green zone

259 responses:

233 agree (90%) 5 neither agree nor disagree (2%) 21 disagree (8%)

Q3: To vary the existing order to insist on dogs being on leads in the yellow zone all year round

260 responses

194 agree (75%) 7 neither agree nor disagree (3%) 59 disagree (22%)

5.12 Detailed comments from the initial consultation are included in Appendix D.

6.0 Other Actions to raise awareness of the proposed PSPO

6.1 Rangers at the Estate have been collating evidence of dog attacks. Serious incidents affecting the deer are logged with the Police for incident number tracking.

6.2 The Trust has a number of map boards for guidance to visitors about expectations of behaviour on the Estate. These were installed to provide visual representation of zones and also pictorial representation of where the Trust requires dogs to be on a lead.

7.0 Formal Consultation Stage - Process for reviewing comments and objections during the Notice period

7.1 The next stage of the consultation is the formal stage known as the "Notice of Intention". This formal stage allows interested parties an opportunity to make comments and/or objections to the proposed variation.

7.2 The Notice was displayed in paper format in areas where the Order will apply, on the Charnwood Borough Council website and on the Bradgate Park website.

7.3 The Notice period is 28 days which started on 15th July 2018. All respondents were asked to write or email with their comments/objections quoting a reference number. Details of the consultation were published on the consultation page of the Charnwood Borough Council website.

7.4 During the notice period all responses received an acknowledgement of receipt. Objections were reviewed and the relevant party was contacted. Comments were also reviewed and any outstanding questions or points were answered. A summary of the responses is shown in Appendix E.

8.0 Recommendations following consultation

8.1 The consultation included questions about existing conditions on the PSPO and a request for opinion and comment on the proposed variation. The variation would need to cover the legal test which is:

- a) Activities are having or are likely to have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
- b) Is persistent and continuing in nature; and
- c) Is unreasonable

8.1.1 The recommendations following the consultation are to:

- 1. Vary the PSPO about a requirement to have dogs on leads in specified area on Schedule 1 *(shown on the Notice of Intention in Appendix C). to be enforced all year round.

9.0 Timetable and future stages

9.1 The timetable for completing the variation to the Public Spaces Protection Notice for Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood is set out in the table below:

Event	Date	Stage
Report reviewed by Head of Service and Lead Member	End of September 2018	To approve the approach to the variation, consultation process and Implementation timetable
Sign off and seal Order	October 2018	Signing of variation to PSPO and publishing on website and in paper format that order is in place.

10.0 APPENDICES

- A) Summary of Incidents 2016-18
- B) Notice of Intention to make an order
- C) Copy of consultation document Bradgate Park press release and Charnwood Borough Council website)
- D) Summary of initial consultation comments
- E) Summary of Notice stage consultation comments

Officer to contact: Nicky Gibson 01509 634576
nicola.gibson@charnwood.gov.uk

This report has been reviewed and the information enclosed has been taken into consideration when making a decision whether to vary the existing PSPO.

Signed  Date 15-10-18

Alan Twells – Head of Regulatory Services

Signed  Date 15.10.18

Councillor Margaret Smidowicz – Lead member for Regulatory Services, Enforcement and Licensing

APPENDIX A

Dog Control Incidents - Bradgate Park from 2016 - 2018

PSPO - seasonal variation not in place 01.11.2016 to 31.03.2017

Date	Incident	Location	Zone	Incident No.
12.03.2017	Deer chase	Lodge Lower	Yellow	1
03.03.2017	Deer chase	Flats Lower	Yellow	2
01.02.2017	Deer chase	Little Matlock, Lower	Yellow	3
31.01.2017	Deer chase	Flats, Little Matlock Lower	Yellow	4
31.01.2017	Deer chase	Ruins Lower	Yellow	5
05.01.2017	Dog on human	Flats Lower	Yellow	6
29.12.2017	Deer chase	Old John - Upper Park	Green	7
16.12.2016	Deer chase	Little Oak Spinney, Upper	Green	8
01.12.2016	Deer chase	Old John - Upper Park	Green	9
20.11.2016	Deer chase	Peasentry, Lower	Yellow	10
19.11.2016	Deer chase	Flats, Lower	Yellow	11
15.11.2016	Dog on human	Newtown Car Park	Yellow	12
13.11.2016	Deer chase	Lower flats	Yellow	13
06.11.2016	Deer chase	Deer Barns, Lower	Yellow	14
04.11.2016	Deer chase	Deer Barns, Lower	Yellow	15

PSPO - seasonal variation in place 01.04.2017 to 31.10.2017

Date	Incident	Location	Zone	Incident No.
08.04.17	deer chase	Lower Park	Yellow	1
31.07.17	deer chase	memorial wood	Yellow	2
02.05.17	deer chase	Upper Park	Green	3
03.05.17	deer chase	Upper Park	Green	4

PSPO - seasonal variation not in place 01.10.2017 to 31.03.2018 *

Date	Incident	Location	Zone	Incident No.
14.11.17	deer chase	Tyburn	Green	1
06.12.17	deer chase	Little Matlock	Yellow	2
21.01.18	deer chase	Deer Meadow to Triangle	Yellow	3
20.01.18	deer chase	Tyburn to Elder Tree	Green	4
20.01.2018	deer chase	East Tyburn to wall	Green	5
04.02.2018	deer chase	Tyburn and Dale	Yellow	6
05.02.2018	deer chase	Old John	Green	7
06.02.2018	deer chase	Elder/flats	Yellow	8

25.02.2018	deer chase	ruins	Yellow	9
14.03.2018	deer chase	ruins	Yellow	10
14.11.2017	deer chase	Little Matlock and Tyburn	Green & Yellow	11
06.12.2017	deer chase	Little Matlock	Green	12
14.02.2018	deer attack	Sliding Stone	Green	13
04.02.2018	dog attack	Old John	Green	14
20.01.2018	deer chase	Deer Meadow and Triangle	Yellow	15

APPENDIX B

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014 CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO VARY A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (‘PSPO’) DOG CONTROL – BRADGATE PARK AND SWITHLAND WOOD

Notice is hereby given that Charnwood Borough Council (‘the Council’) proposes for the purposes of reducing anti-social behaviour in relation to dog control to vary the existing PSPO under Section 61(1b) of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and of all other enabling powers.

The Council would like to seek your views to vary the existing order. This Notice outlines the details of the proposed variation to the PSPO. Any comments and/or objections should be sent in writing or by email to the correspondence address below.

Current condition in PSPO:

Insisting all dogs are kept on leads in areas of the park shown in yellow on the Plan (Seasonal between Good Friday or 1st April (whichever is sooner) and October 31st and between 9am and 10pm.

Proposed variation:

Insisting all dogs are kept on leads in areas of the park shown in yellow on the Plan between 9am and 10pm

In summary: The seasonal restriction will be removed and it will become all year round.

At the closure of the formal consultation period, the Council will review all comments/objections and will make a decision on whether to vary the order or an alternative in part or in full

The PSPO will continue to address anti-social behaviour issues relating to dog control across the estate of Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood.

The majority of dog owners are responsible and display effective dog control but there are some occasions where additional controls are necessary for clarity to ensure all people in controls of dogs are acting responsibly.

This Order applies to the public places described in the Schedule to this Order (“the restricted area”)

SCHEDULE
Plan shown overleaf

Condition	Location
Dogs on leads £100 fixed penalty notice	In areas shown in yellow on the Plan – between 9am and 10pm.

More details about the Public Spaces Protection Order can be found on the Council website at:

<http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/currentconsultations>

Any representation or objection to the variation to the PSPO outlined in this notice must be in writing addressed to:

Public Spaces Protection Orders Consultation (BP2018), C/O Street Management
 Charnwood Borough Council,
 Southfield Road,
 Loughborough,
 Leicestershire
 LE11 2TR

Stating the reference number to which they relate and the grounds for making them before 16th August 2018.

Alternatively email cleaner.greener@charnwood.gov.uk quoting reference BP/2018

Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood - Plan



APPENDIX C

PR Document issued to press and on website – Bradgate Park Trust

8th May 2018

Dogs at Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood

The Bradgate Park Trust has launched a consultation around an extension of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that aims to protect Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood, and ensure all visitors have a pleasurable experience when visiting these two popular sites with dogs.

The Trust is considering a variation to the existing Public Space Protection Order to tackle dog control issues associated with irresponsible dog ownership. This would see an extension of the seasonal 'dogs on a lead zone', with it being formalised to an all year requirement, making the regime clearer for visitors. Although many visitors have complied with our request to keep dogs on leads during the winter, having a different legal basis for the restriction at different times of the year is confusing.

The current PSPO covers:

- Failing to clear up dog faeces by the person in charge of the dog (all of Estate)
- Failing to comply with a request to put a dog on a lead, by an authorised officer on any land to which the Order applies (green zone – 75% of Estate)
- The person in charge allowing their dog to enter land to which the exclusion element applies (deer sanctuary)

Park visitors, residents and groups, which may be affected are being asked for their views on whether or not the PSPO should be varied to extend the requirement to put dogs on a lead in the yellow zone on Bradgate Park all year round. Currently, this is a seasonal restriction (from Good Friday or April 1st whichever is sooner) to October 31st. It is hoped by making the scheme clearer it will avoid confusion.

Peter Tyldesley, Director of the Bradgate Park Trust said, "We recognise that the majority of dog owners are responsible, ensuring that their pet does not cause a nuisance or disturb wildlife, the small number of irresponsible dog owners who do not do so continue to cause problems. We have received excellent feedback from visitors regarding the scheme since it came into effect in 2016, which we, as landowners, have been asking people to follow throughout the winter as a pilot. We have also seen benefits to the deer herd and other wildlife."

Rangers and authorised officers can currently issue on-the-spot fines of £100, to people in charge of dogs who are breaching the agreed prohibitions and will include the proposal that is outlined in this consultation to extend the seasonal requirement in the Lower Park to all-year.

The Trust have seen high rates of compliance when approaching people and it is often first-time visitors, who are unaware of the rules, who inadvertently breach them. To help they have updated the website with clear information on visiting with

dogs. <https://www.bradgatepark.org/advice-for-dog-owners>. The consultation questionnaire can be found on this page and the consultation runs from the 8th May until 8th June. Paper forms are available from the Visitor Centre and Tearooms at the Park or can be requested by post.

For more information, please call the Estate Office on 0116 2362713, or visit www.bradgatepark.org

NOTES TO EDITORS

For more information or interviews please email director@bradgatepark.org

Overview

The Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 came into force in October 2014. The Act made changes to the powers available to local authorities and their partners in tackling antisocial behaviour.

The Act introduced Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) as a new power. PSPOs allow local authorities to restrict a wide range of negative behaviours that have a detrimental effect on people in public spaces.

Why We Are Consulting

We are considering a variation to the existing Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) at Bradgate Park and Swithland Woods, Leicestershire to tackle dog control issues associated with irresponsible dog ownership.

Rangers at the park and authorised officers can currently issue on-the-spot fines of £100, to people in charge of dogs who are breaching the agreed prohibitions and will include the proposed inclusion that is outlined in this consultation.

The current PSPO covers:

- Failing to clear up dog faeces by the person in charge of the dog (all of estate)
- Failing to comply with a request to put a dog on a lead, by an authorised officer on any land to which the Order applies (green zone – 75% of estate)
- The person in charge allowing their dog to enter land to which the exclusion element applies (deer sanctuary)

Park visitors, residents and groups which may be affected are being asked for their views on whether or not the PSPO should be varied to extend the requirement to put dogs on a lead in the yellow zone on Bradgate Park all year round. Currently, this is a seasonal restriction (from Good Friday or April 1st whichever is sooner) to October 31st.

PR document on the Charnwood Borough Council website and consultation pages

Why We Are Consulting

We recognise that the majority of dog owners are responsible and ensure their pet does not cause a nuisance or disturb wildlife. There are a minority of irresponsible dog owners who do not.

Bradgate Park Trust are requesting a variation to the existing Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) at Bradgate Park and Swithland Woods, Leicestershire to tackle dog control issues associated with irresponsible dog ownership.

The variation would make the seasonal controls for dogs on leads in the yellow zone all year round (between 9am and 10pm).

Currently, the control of dogs on leads in yellow zone is between April 1st (or Good Friday – whichever is sooner) to October 31st between 9am and 10pm.

The timings of the restriction will remain the same between 9am and 10pm.

The variation is being requested following a number of deer deaths following chases and dog attacks on the park.

The yellow zone includes a public right of way which is the footpath to Anstey, this public right of way is located within the yellow zone but the restriction is for dogs on leads by direction. This has not changed from the introduction of the original PSPO in February 2017.

Rangers at the park and authorised officers can currently issue on-the-spot fines of £100, to people in charge of dogs who are breaching the agreed prohibitions and will include the proposed inclusion that is outlined in this consultation.

The current PSPO covers:

- Failing to clear up dog faeces by the person in charge of the dog (all of estate)
- Failing to comply with a request to put a dog on a lead, by an authorised officer on any land to which the Order applies (green zone – 75% of estate)
- The person in charge allowing their dog to enter land to which the exclusion element applies (deer sanctuary)
- A requirement for dogs to be put on leads in the yellow zone between April 1st (or Good Friday whichever is sooner) and October 31st between 9am and 10pm.

Park visitors, residents and groups which may be affected are being asked whether they still support two existing measures in the current PSPO:

- **Enforcement of people not clearing away after their dog has fouled which can result in a fixed penalty notice.**

- **Enforcement of dogs on leads by direction in the green zone which may also result in a fixed penalty notice if they refuse or fail to keep the dog on a lead after being directed.**

And also views on an extension to the current condition where dogs must be on a lead in the yellow zone from a seasonal basis to all year round:

- **A variation to extend the requirement to put dogs on a lead in the yellow zone of the map above on Bradgate Park all year round. Currently, this is a seasonal restriction (from Good Friday or April 1st whichever is sooner) to October 31st between 9am and 10pm.**

We are also asking for any other comments, including any details of possible alternative options as well as arguments against the proposals.

What happens after the consultation?

The questionnaire is the first stage in the consultation process to ascertain if there is support for the proposals. The second stage is the Notice of Intention where the intended proposals for any variation to the current Order will be published.

The Notice of Intention will be published for 28 days on the Charnwood Borough Council website, Bradgate Park website and the in paper format across the park.

This is the formal stage to find out detailed viewpoints. All comments will be addressed to the Borough Council and will be reviewed by the Borough Council in order to make a decision on the whether any variations will be implemented.

Visit this page to express your opinion:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R6NBDJT>

Please indicate next to the question to what extent you agree with the proposals (please reference map for zone areas):

Consultation will finish on 30th June 2018 at 5pm

APPENDIX D

Jun 10 2018 03:21 PM	Please stop cyclist riding through the park
Jun 09 2018 10:38 PM	To avoid confusion, dogs should be on lead across the entire park.
Jun 08 2018 07:02 PM	If dogs are not allowed to run free off the lead anywhere in the park (which I think has been suggested) many dog owners will not use the park and revenue will be lost. I would not renew my car parking season ticket. My dog returns when called and I put her on a lead when we see deer and horses.
Jun 08 2018 05:17 PM	I welcome the new powers that insist on dogs being on the lead in the yellow zone and am looking forward to this being extended to the rest of the park.
Jun 08 2018 01:05 PM	As you say the majority of dog owners are responsible but I have witnessed dogs chasing the deer and I think these measures are very necessary.
Jun 07 2018 07:16 PM	I have no problem with owners being asked to control their dogs when they are obviously out of control but PLEASE credit dog owners with common sense and the ability to recognise such situations.
Jun 06 2018 11:16 AM	Q3 providing satisfactory reason is given by ranger.
Jun 04 2018 02:15 PM	Dogs on leads at all times. I witnessed a dog chasing a deer just this last Saturday.
Jun 04 2018 12:32 PM	Dogs MUST be on a lead at all times throughout the year in all areas of Bradgate Park.
Jun 04 2018 11:18 AM	Although many owners feel they are in control of their dogs when off the lead, as a cyclist I would disagree. Very often having had the dog race towards the bike, the owner says "he/she won't harm you, they are just being friendly" as

	though others are meant to know this by telepathy.
Jun 04 2018 10:27 AM	Consider applying dogs-on-lead requirement to whole park. Limiting the number of dogs per person, for example one person cannot possibly control half-a-dozen dogs"
Jun 03 2018 09:30 PM	Clearer signage at entrance to different areas within the park. Maybe a traffic light coding system?
Jun 03 2018 08:45 PM	I will provide an Email with containing my comments, which are extensive
Jun 03 2018 02:14 PM	I would suggest looking at the yellow area; it seems that physically disabled visitors with well-behaved dogs may not be able to have them off lead if using a buggy. Maybe an area around Hallgates to point 4 where the wall starts could be designated for buggy users only to have dogs off lead by arrangement?
Jun 03 2018 08:14 AM	Having seen some totally irresponsible dog owners who have actually stalked the deer with their dogs, I would love to see an "all dogs on leads "at all times throughout the park. For the safety of all the wildlife on the park.
Jun 03 2018 08:12 AM	Please please let's have All dogs on leads, all over the park, all year round!!! This is the deer's home; please let them relax and enjoy it. There are a million places for people to exercise their dogs off lead. Please can we have one safe place in Leicester for us to walk OUR dogs knowing we are not going to be harassed by free roaming dogs, not all dogs are friendly!! Here's hoping!!! Thank you
Jun 03 2018 07:20 AM	The proposals don't go far enough. After seeing yet another out of control dog yesterday, chasing deer in the area where dogs are allowed off the lead, it is clear that dogs need to be on leads everywhere at all times. When challenged, the owner in question argued that 'dogs are allowed of their lead here', and 'it's the first time he's done it', as if these were valid excuses! This just shows the lack of responsibility and intelligence that some dog owners have. I understand that dogs need to be exercised, but the duty of the Bradgate Park Trust is first and foremost to protect its deer. And if that means a blanket ban on dogs off leads, then so be it. And the question about 'should dig owners be responsible for picking up their dogs faeces' shouldn't even have to be asked!
Jun 02 2018 10:14 PM	Nothing to do with our lovely dogs. But Bikes. Between

<p>Jun 02 2018 09:58 PM</p>	<p>certain times only.</p> <p>Although I agree that the ranger/authorised staff need some way to manage the minority that cannot control their dogs. Wild animals that rely on spaces like Bradgate need appropriate protection. However, I think it is very important that this is not abused, and that the staff involved are properly trained in identifying the correct situation to apply it.</p>
<p>Jun 02 2018 08:57 PM</p>	<p>I often see dogs running free in restricted zones. I have seen a dog chase deer recently and the owner did nothing about it. I think it's extremely important that dogs are kept on leads and more should be done to make this clear and there should be tough penalties if the owner fails to comply.</p>
<p>Jun 01 2018 08:03 PM</p>	<p>I'm a responsible dog owner who clears up after her dog. I use the park all year round and do see idiots who have no control over their dogs. If I see deer my dog goes on his lead....end of. Please don't let the small minority ruin it for us. I think it would be a great idea for rangers to be able to tell people to put the dog on a lead even in the green area. I don't care what a I'm walking if there's wildlife my dog is restrained.</p>
<p>Jun 01 2018 08:59 AM</p>	<p>having been attacked twice and bitten once by dogs during 65 years using the park, together with the death of deer is more than sufficient to insist that all dogs be on leads at all times in all areas of the park.</p>
<p>May 31 2018 11:18 PM</p>	<p>Question one would also make more sense as some owners with dogs off leads in the 75% area of the park have no idea when the animal makes a mess. Dog owners have had 90 years free access in the park and we are still discussing their attitudes. time for non-dog owners rights to have some priority. Your decision awaited with interest"</p>
<p>May 31 2018 10:51 PM</p>	<p>The park was left to the people of Leicestershire rather than their dogs. The dog mess is a danger to children and dog owners fail to understand that a dog is only as safe as the animals / people it's not bothered yet. If their dog needs time off the lead, they should facilitate that at home. It's not safe for others to be faced with dogs off leads. Ideally a full ban on dogs would be great. Enforced use of leads and fines for leaving a mess aren't a bad measure now and will be protective.</p>
<p>May 31 2018 08:39 PM</p>	<p>The park is a great asset and I do hope that as much of the park can remain open to free running dogs as possible. I have however witnessed first-hand how irresponsible some</p>

<p>May 31 2018 08:29 PM</p>	<p>dog owners are and how little control they have.</p> <p>Dogs should be on leads at all times no matter where on the park they are</p>
<p>May 31 2018 07:19 PM</p>	<p>I have small children and need to be sure that they can walk in the park without being frightened by loose dogs, however well behaved the dogs may be</p>
<p>May 31 2018 06:18 PM</p>	<p>I am a dog owner, they should be on a lead, at all times</p>
<p>May 31 2018 05:33 PM</p>	<p>Resolve the ambiguous rule on the Yellow zone times. Signs stipulate dogs on lead at all times. Bradgate unofficial rule is after 9am. Short-sighted and dangerous!</p>
<p>May 31 2018 05:22 PM</p>	<p>Why punish the majority for the minority's actions. Far better to focus on the minority and handed them on a case by case basis.</p>
<p>May 31 2018 05:09 PM</p>	<p>Punish the owner not the dogs - ban from the park those whose dogs cause a nuisance. Leave the majority of responsible dog owners alone.</p>
<p>May 31 2018 04:56 PM</p>	<p>Not everyone loves dogs I would enjoy an area of the park much more if I knew I wasn't at risk if a dog bounding up to me and jumping up, whilst the excuse for an owner shouts to tell me how friendly he is!</p>
<p>May 31 2018 04:30 PM</p>	<p>I think restrictions should apply all year round as this simplifies things for staff and visitors alike: no need to check a calendar. I only have one concern, regarding the safety of staff, in that irresponsible dog owners could become abusive or even violent and this needs to be carefully risk-assessed - as I know it will be.</p>
<p>May 31 2018 12:28 PM</p>	<p>I am afraid of dogs and the requirement to be on a lead has made my regular park visits much more pleasant</p>
<p>May 31 2018 12:19 PM</p>	<p>Dogs should be on a lead within Bradgate Park at all times. This removes any confusion on behalf of the person and reduces the risk of a dog chasing.</p>
<p>May 31 2018 11:14 AM</p>	<p>I think dogs should be under control at all times. I think that rangers will have difficulty enforcing fines, prob end up having verbal abuse from people. If a dog is chasing deer etc immediate action should be carried out to try and stem as much anxiety to the deer as possible, even if it means</p>

<p>May 31 2018 11:13 AM</p>	<p>tranquilliser darts if a dog cannot be brought under control.</p> <p>I am a regular visitor to Bradgate and as a dog owner I think dogs should be on a lead in all areas of the park all year round, I think because there are some areas that they are allowed off the lead and some areas where they are not may confuse some people which leads to dogs being off the lead in areas they are not allowed.</p>
<p>May 31 2018 10:58 AM</p>	<p>There are irresponsible dog owners and non-dog owning people who visit Bradgate, but the majority should not be penalised due to the minority. I have grown up in Leicestershire and frequently visited Bradgate Park with my family including our off the lead dog, who never chased deer. Do not spoil this opportunity for the majority. Why don't you get an accredited dog trainer to offer classes in the park to train people how to behave and walk their dogs without a threat to wildlife.</p>
<p>May 30 2018 03:06 PM</p>	<p>I don't feel this is going to change anything but I just would like to add an personal request and that is it would be nice if dogs would be allowed to swim in the river maybe at least in the car park area please?</p>
<p>May 29 2018 02:35 PM</p>	<p>I think dogs should be on a lead at all times anywhere in the park</p>
<p>May 28 2018 03:23 PM</p>	<p>I would just like to make a few points as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Bradgate Park Trust (BPT) should take full responsibility for the confusion over the current dog restrictions. Although the PSPO applied restrictions during the summer months the BPT, for reasons it can only explain, tried to introduce restrictions throughout the entire year. Consequently the signage used was deliberately misleading: - Keep dogs on leads - Dogs are required to be on a lead in designated areas ALL YEAR ROUND - All dogs should be on leads at all times in this area (yellow zone) <p>Furthermore, when asked to clarify the situation, the park rangers often gave conflicting answers, with some aware of the seasonal nature of the restriction and others insistent that dogs should be on leads at all times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Therefore, regardless of the outcome of this consultation, signage should clearly reflect the restrictions that apply to dogs in the various parts of the park i.e.: when

moving out of the yellow zone there should be signs to inform the public that dogs are no longer required to be on leads.

- According to the BPT, dog owners can be asked to leash their dog in all areas of the park. I think that rangers only have this authority if the dog is being, or likely to be, a nuisance to wildlife or other members of the public. This should be made clear on all the signage used when moving out of the yellow zone.

- The director of the BPT recently stated in the local press that there had been no fines issued and that there had only been 3 incidents of deer attacks last winter, down from 30 the previous year. Although 3 attacks is unacceptable, it does suggest that there is little need and certainly not much to be gained by the introduction of further restrictions.

- Despite these small numbers the director of the BPT insists the aim of the proposed restrictions is to protect the deer that live in the park. Can I remind the Trust that the park was given to the people of Leicestershire and not the deer of Leicestershire – please do not lose sight of this

- If dog owners are required to clean up after their dogs (as they should) please ensure there are sufficient bins in ALL areas of the park. Unfortunately human nature is such that people will not carry around dog waste bags indefinitely and will just dump them. This is clearly evidenced by the number of bags discarded on the ground or hanging from branches.

- I can see no justification for including Swithland Woods in these proposals

- The Director of the BPT would like visitors to enjoy their time at Bradgate Park and Swithland Woods but is concerned that a very small number of dog owners can negatively impact their experience.

I'm sure these are their intentions yet I do not understand how an even smaller minority of users are allowed to ride their horses and cycles on arterial routes in both the woods and the park. During the winter months this can make many of the footpaths impassable and will surely deter people, and especially the elderly, from visiting

May 26 2018 12:38
PM

I'm reluctant to bring my dog to Bradgate park now which is a shame as we both love it there. While walking my dog in

	<p>the green zone, some non-dog owners feel the need to tell me she should be on lead - which is not the case. It's annoying to be stopped and lectured at by misinformed people, particularly when the dog is doing nothing wrong. Whatever is decided re dogs on leads, information needs to be clear to everyone.</p> <p>Also, on at least 3 separate occasions when I've walked with my dog, lack of maintenance to the walled wooded areas has meant that she was able to enter these when deer have been grazing. If I can see deer, I'll always put her on lead because she's not 100% trustworthy but I haven't been aware of the gaps in the walls until she's gone through them. In such cases it's not really fair that I could be penalised for her entering an area that seems on approach to be walled off, but is actually accessible by dogs."</p>
<p>May 25 2018 02:17 PM</p>	<p>An increase in the on-the-spot fine from £100 to £250 would be more of a deterrent. Also fines for general littering. It wasn't a dog that deposited a glass drinks bottle in the bracken!!</p>
<p>May 23 2018 07:27 PM</p>	<p>The safety of the deer and wildlife are of paramount importance. There are plenty of parks in the Leicestershire area for people to let their dogs roam free.</p>
<p>May 23 2018 11:41 AM</p>	<p>I have recently witnessed a dog not on a lead chasing deer.</p>
<p>May 23 2018 01:09 AM</p>	<p>I walk in Bradgate Park quite regularly and am often shocked at the behaviour of dogs and their owners. Even when on leads, dogs are allowed so close to the deer and bark loudly and aggressively at them. As a walker, I have also been 'pounced on' by dogs that are off the lead, whose owners think you love their dog as much as they do. There seems to be a lot more dogs using the park nowadays to which I think adds to the stress of the deer.</p>
<p>May 22 2018 08:38 AM</p>	<p>This order isn't now nor has it ever been about protecting the deer , it's all about revenue raising ,and pleasing the occasional visitor that wants to walk in a country park in their Sunday best, I don't dispute that there are a few moronic dog owners that allow there Dogs to chase the wild life ,but they are strictly a minority , the majority are very responsible . Why not just ban the idiots from the park , or operate a licence system for responsible owners ? I walk my 4 dogs in the park every Sunday and have done since my first dog was old enough to be out (9 years ago) and have never had any bad feedback , I can walk all 4 off lead within 10 feet of a herd of deer without fear of them chasing</p>

	<p>(they don't care about the deer) but that doesn't matter to the people making the decisions, I believe this survey to be a waste of time , none of these opinions will be considered because the decision has already been made , that's why the signs in the park have already been altered removing the set dates , this survey is just going through the motions until the legal authorisation has been received . Interesting that the park trust keep drip feeding the press about how the dog ban has reduced the number of deer deaths and miscarries , but people within the parks own staff have openly admitted that the figures show little if any difference !! It's also interesting how the park trustees keep referring to themselves as "land owners" you are not land owners you are nothing more than a team of care takers looking after the maintenance and up keep of our , yes "OUR" park .And as for Mr Tyldesley where does he walk the numerous dogs that he has ? In the grounds of the park when everyone else has left , at a guess !!!</p>
<p>May 21 2018 06:17 PM</p>	<p>"Enforcement the main issue. People get away with non-compliance without being challenged. Also consider an increased fine, particular with regard to owners allowing their dogs to potentially cause injury to animals or people because of their non-compliance."</p>
<p>May 21 2018 11:56 AM</p>	<p>dogs should be kept on a lead at all times in the park for the benefit of the public</p>
<p>May 20 2018 09:25 PM</p>	<p>Bradgate is beautiful and we are lucky to have it. I've walked countless miles with my dogs there over the last 30 years. They are perfectly trained, walk to heel when commanded and they only thing they'll chase is a stick. If the ban on off leash extends to the whole park and all year, you will essentially put the park off limits to me and other responsible dog owners who have supported and championed Bradgate for their whole lives. I would ask that you consider an approach where rangers assess the dog / owners competence and grant 'licenses' for those that have taken the trouble to train their dogs responsibly. I would if necessary pay a fee for that to cover operating costs.</p>
<p>May 20 2018 07:37 PM</p>	<p>The proposal to extend the yellow zone restriction to all year round is a cynical move that was doubtless planned when the original PSPO was introduced. The Trust should provide clear signage currently regarding the seasonal</p>

<p>May 20 2018 07:30 PM</p>	<p>nature of the PSPO. The Trust should have proper regard to the PROW through the park, and not seek to unduly restrict their enjoyment.</p> <p>I strongly believe that all dogs should be on leads in all parts of Bradgate Park throughout the year. Where space allows, they can be on an extendable lead. I'm concerned not just about danger to the deer or other wildlife, but also for people and especially for children and other vulnerable park visitors. Many dog owners seem to think it's ok for their dog to come jumping up at you, always saying they are friendly and won't bite, but it can be frightening for children and you can't tell whether the dog can be trusted. It's also unpleasant to have dirty paws leaving mud on your clothes. Many dogs these days are strong fighting-breed dogs rather than ones that are suitable for pets at home and so we all need to be protected from them so we can be relaxed and enjoy walking in the park.</p>
<p>May 20 2018 05:06 PM</p>	<p>I agree that dog owners may be asked to put dogs on leads if being out of control but think the fine is too much to impose in every instance. Maybe in exceptional circumstances and only if absolutely necessary. Would like to know the stats on how much of a nuisance dogs are to be honest?</p>
<p>May 20 2018 01:44 PM</p>	<p>Out of season dogs should be allowed to be off the lead, and if requested to do so put on the lead on the carriage way area.</p>
<p>May 20 2018 11:19 AM</p>	<p>Dogs should be on short leads at all times in this park. The nature and enjoyment of the majority is being tarnished by irresponsible dog owners continually getting away with letting their dogs run free (scaring deer and children) and / or failing to adequately clean up their dog poo. No responsible dog owner would have an issue with this as no responsible dog owner would trust their dog off lead near deer.</p>
<p>May 20 2018 10:25 AM</p>	<p>My two dogs have been walked off lead their whole lives and there is nothing they enjoy more than roaming Bradgate Park. They are gentle natured, well socialised and trained animals and effectively a large chunk of the park would then be off limits for myself, my family and my dogs all year round, not just in summer. We love the park, visit most weeks and would be very upset by this. Blanket</p>

May 20 2018 10:25 AM	rules like these penalise well behaved dogs and responsible dog owners. Please don't do this. Please keep up the fine work that you do - Rangers.
May 20 2018 09:55 AM	As a dog owner I'm happy at the restrictions. Would be upset if an off lead ban was issued all over the park but I'm happy for there to be restrictions like there are now. It seems to be working well, and for the majority of owners it's a small minority who ruin it.
May 20 2018 09:41 AM	I would like to see all dogs on leads at all times. Although many dogs are very friendly, they can still seem threatening to some small children. And even with the friendly ones, not everyone wants a muddy dog bounding up to them, sometimes jumping up and leaving dirty marks on clothes. All dogs on leads at all times is also easier to understand (some dog owners think rules do not apply to their delightful pooch) and easier to enforce. Everyone understands."
May 20 2018 09:06 AM	And children on bikes!
May 20 2018 08:53 AM	Please keep up the good work at Bradgate Park, including strict enforcement of rules and fines against the small minority of irresponsible dog owners ??
May 20 2018 08:38 AM	In my view dogs should be on leads across the entire park
May 20 2018 08:37 AM	've noticed that there is no way of knowing exactly where the deer may be so erring on the side of caution is vital. Letting a dog off the lead may seem harmless when you do it but there may be deer around the corner our out of sight in a dip in the landscape.
May 20 2018 08:36 AM	Important to realise a lot of people are afraid of dogs and will not visit Bradgate or other areas due to dogs being off their leads
May 20 2018 08:16 AM	The proposals are reasonable, sensible and proportionate. I can't understand why someone would oppose them.

<p>May 09 2018 05:16 PM</p>	<p>Prefer the seasonal on lead ruling that you had previously. Dog OK off lead (under control) in yellow area between Oct - April. MUST be on lead Apr-Oct. Perhaps you could also display rulings in a less cluttered and more prominent manner than a wall of text and map with mass of lines at entrances to avoid confusion. Whilst some people will do what they want, no matter what, (not just dog owners but cyclists, horse riders, and inconsiderate groups) there may also people that simply don't see the signs on busy days because of volume of people going through the entrances or confused by the modern art work that is the park map. Simplify it and make text easier to read quickly. "</p>
<p>May 09 2018 04:04 PM</p>	<p>It depends on the dog. If it is dangerous then rules should be there but if it is docile then there is no point as the rules are just an excuse to impose a stealth tax on dog owners.</p>
<p>May 09 2018 04:01 PM</p>	<p>Slightly biased as I'm a human scared of dogs off lead.</p>
<p>May 09 2018 03:30 PM</p>	<p>If there are a lot of people around or vulnerable wildlife in the vicinity then dogs should be under close control, and if necessary on a lead. There is no question that if a ranger asks for cooperation then it should be given.</p>
<p>May 09 2018 03:28 PM</p>	<p>I think dogs should be on leads in all areas</p>
<p>May 09 2018 02:37 PM</p>	<p>the questions are very yes or no - no scope for an explanation. for example yes pick up dog faeces on the path but no need deep into the bracken. don't use another plastic bag. don't insist a 13 year old lab that can't run has to be on a lead.</p>
<p>May 09 2018 02:30 PM</p>	<p>to many irresponsible dog owners give abuse at present if you try to ask them to keep their animals under tighter control. Easier for everyone if they need to be on a lead at all times</p>
<p>May 09 2018 02:07 PM</p>	<p>I've ticked 'agree' to no. 3 but only if the dog is causing a genuine nuisance, not just on a whim or a 'backdoor' dogs on leads policy</p>
<p>May 09 2018 01:53 PM</p>	<p>Dogs should be on leads in all parks / public places as some scare children even if owners claim not</p>

<p>May 09 2018 01:40 PM</p>	<p>Dogs on leads everywhere at all times</p>
<p>May 09 2018 12:48 PM</p>	<p>Dog walkers are an important part of the visitors to the park, treat them with consideration. Remember there is a balance between deer for venison and profit and people enjoying the park as it was donated for use by the people of Leicester and no conditions were part of that.</p>
<p>May 09 2018 11:41 AM</p>	<p>I am a dog owner who keeps my dog on a lead and under control at all times. My dog is only small and was attacked at Bradgate Park by a loose dog and I am worried to go now, so this would be excellent news for me and my friend to hear that all dogs were on leads. I reported the incident to a Ranger as I was leaving the Park that day.</p>
<p>May 09 2018 09:29 AM</p>	<p>Please emphasize that it's to protect the deer. Obvious from many comments that this is not understood by many!</p>
<p>May 09 2018 09:20 AM</p>	<p>The yellow zone restrictions are discriminate against disabled people, and families with a pram, pushchair etc. I am disabled and use a mobility scooter. I have well trained dogs. I am prevented from allowing my dogs some free exercise as I cannot use the parts of the park where they can be off lead. I used to come to the park twice a week. I have not been since these unfair rules came into force. To me -the purpose of this policy is merely to thin out the number of people using the hard surface road, as it is now overused since the cafe and visitors centre was created. This rule is discriminatory and grossly unfair to less able visitors. There are few places that people like me can use because we need a smooth surface</p>
<p>May 09 2018 08:47 AM</p>	<p>As a responsible dog owner and regular early morning walker in the park I very much hope you maintain the off the lead option for well-behaved dogs before 09.00. Dogs need proper exercise if they are to be well behaved and well adjusted, which they don't get from being on a lead. I completely understand that owners of badly behaved dogs should be accountable but as you acknowledge, the majority of dogs and their owners are sensitive to what is regarded as good or bad behaviour and act accordingly.</p>
<p>May 09 2018 08:28 AM</p>	<p>I consider these proposals are necessary for deer safety and proportionate as well</p>

<p>May 09 2018 12:39 AM</p>	<p>"I think it is important to be welcoming to dog owners (most of whom are responsible). They should be able to use the whole park in the winter months without putting their dog on a lead (as it tends to be wetter in the winter) so that they can use the path/road which has a tarmac surface. Dog owners are the main users of the Deer Barn cafe in the winter months so you should be encouraging them. Many dog owners have season tickets so they should be welcomed."</p>
<p>May 08 2018 11:18 PM</p>	<p>I am a dog owner and strongly agree to keep all dogs on leads at all times. My Jack Russell doesn't get on well with other dogs and constantly have to protect her from other dogs that are loose. An all year round Dogs On Lead policy is better for all concerned, including of course, the wildlife. Thank you.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 11:00 PM</p>	<p>I have seen dogs chasing deer. Please can all dogs be kept on leads because the deer have the right to live there and have babies.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 09:07 PM</p>	<p>We come under the responsible dog owner section and do put our dog on a lead in the green zone if we walk near deer or the odd, other situation. Having said this, our dog is very well behaved and does stay away from deer & comes back when called. We visit very regularly and so does our extended family & we would stop visiting if we had to put her on the lead in all areas of the park, which would be very upsetting as we all love it there & it holds special memories & meaning to us. As long as the request by a ranger is reasonable & they are not on a power trip, we would be more than happy to put our dog on a lead to walk by deer etc at their request.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 09:07 PM</p>	<p>I think all dogs should at all times and in all places in Bradgate Park and Swithland Wood be on a lead as many times I/my grandchildren and friends have been scared by dogs running at us and their owners saying "Oh she/he won't hurt you!" How do they know for certain? Dogs are animals and their owners cannot be 100% sure what they will do next. Thank you.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 08:59 PM</p>	<p>Should ban dogs altogether. People go to see wildlife , but dogs intimidate wildlife and no one hardly sees any animals .</p>

<p>May 08 2018 08:51 PM</p>	<p>I would prefer no dog zone so the wildlife can thrive in these areas I have witnessed dogs chasing wildlife this keeping it away from the area and danger.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 07:52 PM</p>	<p>I personally want dogs on leads all the time in all zones</p>
<p>May 08 2018 07:46 PM</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>May 08 2018 07:31 PM</p>	<p>Put dogs on lead at all times</p>
<p>May 08 2018 07:17 PM</p>	<p>Dogs on leads at all times everywhere - not unofficial inapplicable times - how else can you effectively manage it and collection of faeces etc</p>
<p>May 08 2018 07:09 PM</p>	<p>I agree that dogs should be on a lead in the green area, but only if a ranger deems it necessary. For example my dog is quite elderly and much prefers to walk a few metres ahead of me - off the lead but very much under control, as she doesn't chase anything or go to other dogs/people and has excellent recall - and I don't think we'll behaved dogs who enjoy roaming off the lead should be penalised. We walk in the wonderful Swithland Wood every week, off lead but under control, and she loves it. Perhaps we could keep the yellow area strictly to leads (as this makes sense with how busy it can get) but the green area 'On the lead as per instruction of a ranger' or words to this effect? Thank you for running this consultation.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 06:47 PM</p>	<p>I have been walking my various dogs nearly every week through the park for the past 60 years off the lead and never once in all those years have I ever had any of my dogs chase deer or cause problems with visitors to the park. I think the people in control of the park should pay more attention to the extreme damage the park rangers have been doing to all the footpaths in the last 5 years with their 4 wheel drive vehicles. It is an utter disgrace to see the park being destroyed in this way. It never used to be like this. Are the rangers now the idle to patrol on foot?</p>
<p>May 08 2018 06:31 PM</p>	<p>Fines for people not taking poo bags away or placing in a bin?</p>
<p>May 08 2018 06:19 PM</p>	<p>Parking - Particularly during the week, pitch the parking charge at a price people are prepared to pay, so that they use the car parks and do not park on verges causing</p>

<p>May 08 2018 06:07 PM</p>	<p>obstruction. Current costs are too high - I never visit the county treasure as a result, which is a crying shame. Surely if a dog is under the control of a responsible owner it does not need to be on a lead but I agree that a dog that is not under control does need to be kept on a lead. The whole idea of taking a dog to the park is to allow it the freedom to run around.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 05:28 PM</p>	<p>Stunning place to be, more people would visit if dogs were on leads everywhere and all the time, the Entrust impose it, so why not. Good place to overcome mental issues.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 05:20 PM</p>	<p>I think it is unnecessary to collect dog faeces in the open areas of park away from paths- in order to enforce this you will need loads more bins or the park will be strewn with black bags- the current rules of stick and flick should be adequate unless there is a real danger to the deer from the faeces- otherwise the use of plastic bags etc is a worse option</p>
<p>May 08 2018 05:13 PM</p>	<p>why now for years folks have been taking dogs for a walk in Bradgate park, are you now claiming there are more attacks on deer than before. Stinks of a scheme to make money out of people.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 05:11 PM</p>	<p>All dogs should be on a lead when in any public areas anywhere. The only exception would be in nominated dog parks which are fenced & gated, they can be allowed to run free there. Under all circumstances owners are responsible to picking up faeces & disposing of them correctly. As with children, it's yours's, you are responsible for it.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 05:00 PM</p>	<p>Provide an area in the park for off lead dog exercise with appropriate borders to exclude threatened wildlife</p>
<p>May 08 2018 04:59 PM</p>	<p>We need to protect both the deer stock and beautiful trees many are 100 years old. Thank you for our, as citizens of Leicester, fantastic Bradgate Park... long may we all continue to enjoy it's beauty.</p>
<p>May 08 2018 04:51 PM</p>	<p>"As you say, it is the minority that spoil it for the few. In addition to the serious issue around dogs frightening the deer, causing distress, injury, and miscarriage, I would also like to speak up for the many families, especially those with young children, who use the park. A number of people, especially children are frightened of dogs, and having a loose dog bounding up to them (even if ""they are friendly and wouldn't hurt anyone"") is a distressing and frightening</p>

Jun-18	<p>experience. Even some dogs are frightened by other dogs with well-meaning owners (see www.yellowdoguk.co.uk). I do wish you had the resources the patrol more and fine these people who allow their dogs to foul everywhere and go off lead - sadly that is more likely to happen than everyone taking responsibility for their dogs/children/rubbish."</p>
Jun-18	<p>for more dog bins to be put in the yellow zone. I live in Newtown Linford and for many years enjoy taking my dog letting him off the lead for exercise on the park my dog has never chased a deer, duck or anything else so feel it's wrong that all dogs be penalised because of a few uncontrolled dogs. We put up with the chaos of parking on the roads on Bradgate road because people don't want to pay park charges and I would hate to think I could not take my dog to exercise on the park after all the park is big enough for the dogs to have a part where they can be let of the leads. But more dog bins would be good</p>
Jun-18	<p>RIDICULOUS ABUSE OF POWER , PEOPLE WITHIN THE PARK EMPLOY HAVE SAID THAT THE NUMBER OF DEER DEATHS AND MIS-CARRIES HASN'T CHANGED , REGARDLESS OF THE BAN BEING IN PLACE . SO THE ENTIRE GROUNDING FOR THE BAN IS FALSE AND SHOULD LEAD TO THE BAN BEING ABOLISHED . LEST WE FORGET THAT THE PARK WAS LEFT TO THE PEOPLE OF LEICESTERSHIRE FOR THERE OWN ENJOYMENT , NOT TO A DICTATORSHIP THAT RIDES ROUGHSHOD OVER PUBLIC OPINION . DONT FORGET MR TYDSLEY YOU ARE SIMPLY A CARE TAKER AND NOT THE LORD OF THE MANOR .</p>
Jun-18	<p>I understand that some dog owners are not as responsible as others but how about we start to put some restrictions on humans? My dog had never chased a deer and yet I've seen endless parents letting their kids do it. My dog doesn't drop litter, yet we aren't sanctioning the people that leave rubbish everywhere and dirty nappies wherever they decide to throw them. My dog is kept under control and yet I regularly have to hurl myself out of the way of idiots on bikes. Bradgate Park was left to the people of Leicester, that's all people including those with dogs as much as those with badly behaved kids. Why can't we just insist on better behaviour from everyone, I'm sick of being penalised for having a dog, especially when in the middle of winter or when it's chucking it down we are the people still paying to parking and using</p>

Jun-18	As long as my dog who is well behaved can be off his lead when out of the yellow zone
Jun-18	Dog faeces should ALWAYS be picked up and placed in the bins provided; there is NO excuse. No bad dogs...only bad, irresponsible owners! Dogs should not be allowed off lead if there is any chance whatsoever of them chasing the deer, or being a nuisance to adults and/or children enjoying their day at your lovely Bradgate Park. I have 3 little Tibetan Spaniels and a King Charles Spaniel, but I dislike other people's dogs misbehaving/jumping up and being a total nuisance whilst their owners simply do not care. My dogs are well behaved at all times and even people who say they are not dog lovers....love mine!
Jun-18	Evidence that people are being fined
Jun-18	I think all dogs should have to remain on a lead throughout the whole park for many different reasons and would make it a lot clearer to all visitors with dogs.
Jun-18	"As long as dogs are allowed off lead in the green zone, if they are not causing a nuisance to others or livestock. I don't have a problem. If you were to make it on lead over the whole park, I believe you would see a drop in visitor numbers. "
Jun-18	I can't see why the yellow zone is compulsory but the green zone would not be. Is it because rangers are usually lower in the park and would therefore have more fines? My dog is 12 and dies go off his lead in the lower zone he walks on the path and caused no harm to anyone or anything. He's too old for the hills. But I run in the park every Saturday morning between 6 and 8 am without my dog, this is when the deer are usually really low and there are usually 10/12 dogs off their leads miles from their owners who cannot know where the doors poo to pick it up and it scares the deer I literally see it every week!
Jun-18	When we used to regularly visit through the 70s/80s/90s the deer herd was a lot smaller and they used to keep away from the areas accessed by the public - it was always a treat to try and spot them. Unfortunately the park has now

	<p>become little more than a large commercial venison farm with an artificially large population of deer. I used to be a regular visitor to the park, mainly at off peak times, with my dog but have not been since the partial dog ban was introduced. Further extending the ban will just guarantee I never come back.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>"I walk my dogs several times a week in Swithland Woods. If it were made mandatory to keep them on leads I wouldn't visit the woods and wouldn't renew my car park season ticket. I never visit Bradgate Park because of the restrictions."</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>The only problem is that the people who do not pick up their dog mess or keep them under controlling are likely to have no respect for the law or law enforcement. They are likely in my view to be more aggressive and obstructive and I wonder if they will be bothered about these rules and fines.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Stop using a park left to the people of Leicester to rear deer that is sold as meat, which is to the detriment of those wishing to take their dogs of lead to an area that allows for a stress free walk. Obesity, diabetes of people came dogs. Stop reducing the free enjoyment of the Park.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Are there any timings on the restrictions or will it be all the time? Quite often it's the owners who should be on leads!</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>I am a dog owner</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>I have witnessed dogs chasing the deer and it is very distressing to see. I support any restriction on dogs that the rangers see fit to impose and I would fine their owners heavily if they ignore them. Starting at £500 upwards.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Responsible owners would be fine with this. Those who complain are the ones who are currently breaking the proposed rules.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>"I hope the park continues to be dog friendly. As a dog owner myself I enjoy walking mine regularly at the park but I totally believe that they should be on lead all year round in all areas. It's the usual case of the minority of irresponsible dog owners making it bad for everyone else.</p>

Jun-18	<p>I walk the park a lot, not on the path but over the hills and Old John area. Over the winter months I have witnessed 3 separate occasions where dogs off leads are chasing Deer. Many owners do not keep strict control. I have also been covered in muddy paw prints by dogs (away from their owner) jumping up me.... Although I do not wish to see bins all over the park I think you do need to provide more away from the path and car parks, maybe near to benches? By the walled area nr Old John and the memorial?</p>
Jun-18	<p>With dogs on leads now, walking in the park is much less stressful. I don't like big dogs jumping up. Some people don't control their dogs well. It's a deer's park after all and they should come first.</p>
Jun-18	<p>I would like to see dogs on leads all year round over the whole of the park. Dogs cannot be trusted not to worry the deer's - dog owners cannot guarantee that their dogs won't worry the deer or members of the public - put them on leads or walk them elsewhere.</p>
Jun-18	<p>There could be more dog bins provided in the park</p>
Jun-18	<p>The park is one of Leicestershire's most valuable places to both people & the wildlife. It's an important asset that generates tourism & gives local communities an outdoor space to enjoy. I wholeheartedly agree with the measures proposed to preserve the park's peaceful atmosphere & indigenous wildlife. We need to do what we can to preserve this space for future generations, otherwise we risk losing it & jeopardising a place people come to visit from far & wide.</p>
Jun-18	<p>Dogs to be kept on leads in main walkways</p>
Jun-18	<p>I have a dog and wouldn't dream of letting him off at Bradgate Park due to his breed (he is not aggressive in the slightest but has instinct to chase, so I would never take the risk.. The vast majority of Dog owners are responsible (both with on/off the lead), though I would say no owner can 100% be assured that their Dog will not chase/cause a disturbance. In the summer I tend to see more irresponsible owners (some just plain irresponsible, some negligent). As a dog owner myself, I would not be opposed to this rule being introduced. Dogs/owners can get their required</p>

	<p>exercise whilst on the lead and enjoy the park. These rules are general countryside rules, i.e. if you are on farmland etc. It is the minority, but one thing I have seen is the 'rules' being disregarded for so called 'smaller' dogs and at the end of the day a dog is a dog. I also have come close to being tripped up by someone's dog lead while running, they had an extendable lead (non-visible in the sunlight) and because the dog was small and the owners were not paying attention I had to hurdle the lead (sounds funny but would have been a lot more dangerous for say, a bike, for all parties). Lastly, I would say one thing to consider would be clearer signage detailing main rules prior to entry i.e. before the gate as you walk in. Most people respect the Park so these rules are second nature to us, though I think the people who flock there in the nice weather need to be targeted?</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Dogs should be on a lead in all areas all year round, to protect wildlife and so that others can enjoy the park in safety.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Dogs should be kept on lead along the main carriageway area so that people who have animal allergies or people who are frightened of dogs can still enjoy the park. The park should be inclusive to all not just to dog lovers!</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>As a dog owner I think the restrictions in the yellow area should be enforced all year round.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Would rather you stick to fines for the minority of owners that don't pick up or control their dog/s than enforce for all. Once again the majority will be affected by the minority, but I understand your reasons.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>This seems a very reasonable approach</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Responsible owners already comply and enjoy the freedoms the park offers. Please do not punish them but do punish to the full extent of the law those who are irresponsible.</p>
<p>Jun-18</p>	<p>Strongly enforce these restrictions. Too many people don't realise the rules also apply to them. A few fines a public shaming will help.</p>

Jun-18	All dogs on leads at all times is the only sensible policy. I'm sick of being chased by dogs or having owners having to grab and hold back aggressive dogs when running in the park. If people want to let their dogs run free they can take them somewhere else.
Jun-18	I have a small well behaved dog and due to the new restrictions of dogs walking on a lead I very rarely take my dog for a walk to Bradgate anymore. I feel us responsible dog owners are penalised because of a small minority. In my opinion children and other adults who are irresponsible can cause just as much damage to wildlife as a dog. Children and adults regularly feed the deer and throw litter on the floor. Children chase deer/ ducks and go very fast along the path on scooters and bikes. Should children be on leads?? I can understand there needs to be some restrictions and maybe it should be the size of the animal? But I think it's silly when a very small dog that does not walk more than 2m away from their owner and is well trained needs to be kept on a lead.
Jun-18	All dogs should be on a lead at all times. Not only are the deer and wildlife at risk, my daughter was attacked by 2 dogs a few years back. "But they're completely harmless " was the owners response.
Jun-18	You won't please everyone but no-one wants a dog bounding up to them, deer's or humans.
Jun-18	more notices should be clearly visible.... I have visited Bradgate a few times in the last year and on each occasion there were clearly dogs off lead in the yellow area. it should be a fineable offence and be made clear that this is a fineable offence.
Jun-18	Great work, as a dog owner the park needs to be accessible to all. In my view, Bradgate Park is a deer park before it is anything else and the welfare of the deer must be at the forefront. Dogs off leads are a danger to deer. Also, as a frequent visitor, dogs off leads on the main path (at whatever time of the year) are a hazard to other park users
Jun-18	This is a deer park and in our opinion dogs should be on a lead at all times in ALL areas regardless of the time of year. This is first and foremost a deer park!

Jun-18	DOGS ON LEADS AT ALL TIMES
Jun-18	I would like to see dogs on leads all year please as we do have a dog that is fearful of other dogs and cannot bring her if dogs are loose
Jun-18	Dogs should be on a lead within 100m of ANY deer in any part of the park
Jun-18	Big dogs in the green area can be a danger to visitors in the park. I was nearly knocked over near Hunts Hill car park by a strong dog jumping up and knocking me sideward. The dog was off a lead and the owners 150yards away. If I had been less agile I would have been knocked to the ground. Having complained to the owners they put their dog on the lead. I know you don't insist on dogs o and there are people frightened of dogs on leads in the green area but these incidents do happen
Jun-18	The whole park should have dogs on leads
Jun-18	When walking I find that most responsible dog owners keep their dog under control when required.
Jun-18	There should be a complete ban on dogs, this is the only solution, dogs and wildlife do not go together well. I used to go to Bradgate Park but have no desire to go anymore due to dogs and their irresponsible owners. At the VERY LEAST make sure dogs are on a lead at ALL times it is the only way to prevent misery and suffering to wildlife including the deer and stops intimidation of people.

APPENDIX E

Responses to Notice to Intention

Response 1:

With regards to the proposed variation, to insist that dogs are kept on a lead in the park (yellow zone) all year round...I would like to object.

I have walked my dogs safely, inoffensively and with care through the park for many years. My dog walks within a few metres of my own feet but enjoys the freedom to sniff and walk on the grass whilst I walk along the path. I am not an advocate of the 'stretchy' leads, which are dangerous, not only for the dog/owner but also for anyone walking carelessly nearby.

I was most frustrated with the rules changing within the last few years to enforce a seasonal ban (April to Oct) to ensure dogs on leads, but can understand with the level of visitors from the city that it was a reasonable compromise. These 'summer time visitors' I have witnessed damaging trees, shrubs, leaving litter, feeding wildlife inappropriately and carrying out sociably unacceptable acts...whilst the generally innocent dog owners are being penalised.

However, to enforce this ban over the winter months, is absurd. The visitor levels drop at this time and it is generally the dog walkers that keep coming and putting the money in the car park meters and spending money in the cafe and funding the park.

Keep the summer time 'dogs on lead in yellow zones'. Do not inflict this year round.

Response 2:

If there are one off cases of anti-social behaviour with dog owners, then use the UK laws to deal with such behaviour. Do not penalise the majority for the acts of the minority.

As a resident of Newtown Linford for over 25 years, and dog owner for many years, I am objecting to the revision of the PSPO for the following reasons:

As Bradgate Park attracts more and more visitors it makes life more and more difficult for the residents of the village. The biggest issue is traffic and parking (which I have to say the newly installed yellow lines have improved significantly, but the level of increased traffic and the impact of this traffic is still considerable). The Park management show very little consideration for local people and this proposal is just another example of this.

When the initial restriction on dogs was introduced it was only because the local early morning dog walkers complained that the restriction was limited to after 09.00, the Park management initially gave them no consideration as they wanted the restriction to apply at all times of the day during the restricted period.. With a restriction limited to the summer months we regular dog walkers reluctantly accepted the restriction and have been able to manage our morning walks to be before this

09.00 start. In the evenings during the months of the restriction it is light until later and the weather is generally better than in the unrestricted months, (meaning paths on the dogs off lead area of the park are less muddy, and therefore safer to walk on). Therefore those of us who are more mobile can exercise our dogs in safety in the evening in the unrestricted areas. However, those of us who are less agile (or restricted to wheelchairs) cannot exercise our dogs after 09.00 during the restricted months.

Response 3:

In the winter months (those months you are now planning to extend the restriction to), it is not light in the evenings, the paths are less secure and the areas of the Park off the tarmac path are generally less safe and less accessible. An extension to an all year ban would therefore mean for many local dog walkers the Park would in effect become unusable after 09.00 (either those who are less mobile themselves or anyone who works during the daylight hours in the winter months).

In the 25+ years of living in Newtown Linford and walking my dogs I have never seen a local person's dog causing a significant problem to other people or to wildlife. I can understand why it has become necessary to restrict dogs during busy periods, but a way must be found of retaining access for people to exercise their dogs properly (which cannot be done on a lead for anything but the smallest or oldest dogs) at times when the Park is not busy, at all times of the year. In order for this to be accessible by all it must include access to the tarmac route, particularly from October to March for the reasons given above. You have addressed the morning by starting the restriction at 09.00, but need to solve the evening issue.

Other than in the summer months, and the occasional weekend in the currently restricted period the Park has very low visitor numbers after 18.00. Even in the height of summer most people have left by this time. I can see no reasonable justification for why the dog restrictions need to apply after 18.00 (or at the very latest 19.00 during June/July/August).

If the restriction is to be extended to the winter months, I'm sure an accessible time in the evenings to go with the accessible period before 09.00 at all times of the year would go a long way to satisfy the many local people who currently feel that the Park's management don't care about us at all.

In summary: The extension you propose would not be supported, and would seriously impact on many of the residents of Newtown Linford (and a number of regular dog walkers from outside the village who currently bring their dogs for exercise to the Park in the mornings and evenings when there are little or no 'tourist' visitors). An alternation to the restriction is the ideal opportunity to address the current evening access issue during the restricted time, and extend the restriction during the busy periods of the day outside the current restricted period. We need, as a minimum, access to the tarmac path all year in the mornings before 09.00 and in the evenings, without our dogs having to be on leads, as long as they are under close control.

Response 4:

I would like to express my views on the above proposed changes to the on lead restrictions at Bradgate Park.

I have lived in Anstey backing onto Bradgate park for my entire life and my family have always visited the park all year round and in all weathers with our dogs that are well trained off lead, we are responsible. The changes for the set areas for on lead during the warmer seasons were understood as I have witnessed first-hand the swarm of weekend visitors who most often are disrespectful of the park and caused issues. I believe rather than the on lead restrictions being all year instead be in place as they are however introduce restrictions at set times over weekends during the winter months not currently included end 11 am - 5pm. I believe a stronger presence of rangers and volunteers at weekends is needed and in light of recent publicity of deer being ill following eating visitors left behind rubbish a daily litter pick be introduced at the end of each day.

Response 5:

Just a couple of initial points. Firstly, the notice has been published at various entrances to the park. The description refers to areas shaded yellow on the accompanying map. However this has been produced in black and white. I'm sure I don't need to elaborate this any further. Put simply the notice is defective and needs to be re-advertised so that ordinary people can understand it. If the map cannot be produced in colour then the area should be indicated in hashings or something similar.

So that I can make informed comments can you please provide me with the link to the evidence base for the Order.

I will make further comments in due course.

Response 6:

I would like to make a comment/objection to the above proposed change to the dog control order in Bradgate Park.

Firstly, I would just comment that I suspect this order is what was intended initially as the maps in the park showed 'dogs on leads at all times' in the 'yellow zone' no mention of summer/winter or before/after 9am, even though that was what the originally revised bylaws stated - which has caused some confusion.

I do object to this new amendment, I realise that not everyone likes dogs and, as such, I have gone along with the initial change, dogs on a lead in the yellow zone in the summer time, when it is busy but I do feel that this is a step too far. On an average winter morning, in the teeth of a gale or horizontal rain, there are only dog walkers in the park. The only really busy times are Christmas afternoon and Boxing Day, when hundreds of families come out, along the main carriageway, with kiddies on new bikes, skates, scooters etc, when the rest of us keep well away! In the winter months the 'back' of the park, i.e. behind the wall gets very muddy and slippery,

whilst I have no objection at all to myself or my dog getting pretty filthy it can be dangerous. In my circle of acquaintances two people have slipped and broken bones (one wrist , one ankle) so I do feel we have a right to be able to walk safely. If the dogs are walked on the lead basically we may just as well walk around the block at home which is not so good for either dog or owner!

Finally, I would just add, if push comes to shove and this amendment does go through, although I truly hope not. Can I ask that we are given till 10am - 9am is no problem on a bright summer morning but in the depths of winter getting a walk in by 9am is pretty near impossible and then that the maps in the park are amended to show the hours that dogs are allowed off lead to avoid, what I feel, is a deliberate misunderstanding.

Response 7:

I would like to fully support the above application which calls for all dog owners to have their pets on leads throughout the year at Bradgate Park (at least in the area marked in the plan on the consultation document).

While there are many responsible dog owners, there are many who are not. Personally, as the parent of two young children, they are not keen, and nor am I, of being approached by dogs without leads. Especially not when we've come to enjoy a picnic in the great outdoors. And somewhere as beautiful as Bradgate Park.

Dog ownership (and roaming dogs in public spaces) has never appeared to be higher than it is now.