

Notice of a public meeting of

Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods

To: Councillor Carr (Executive Member)

Date: Monday, 23 May 2016

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: The Thornton Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G039)

AGENDA

Notice to Members – Post Decision Calling In:

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democratic Services by **4:00 pm on Wednesday 25 May 2015**.

*With the exception of matters that have been the subject of a previous call in, require Full Council approval or are urgent which are not subject to the call-in provisions. Any called in items will be considered by the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Policy and Scrutiny Committee.

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services by at **5.00 pm on Thursday 19 May**.

1. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member is asked to declare:

- any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests
- any prejudicial interests or
- any disclosable pecuniary interests

which they might have in respect of business on this agenda.

- 2. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 8)
To approve and sign the minutes of the decision sessions held on 21 March and 4 April 2016.

- 3. Public Participation**
At this point in the meeting, members of the public who have registered their wish to speak at the meeting can do so. The deadline for registering is at **5.00 pm on Friday 20 May 2016.**

Members of the public may register to speak on an item on the agenda or an issue within the Executive Member's remit;

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The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at:

https://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/6453/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_council_meetingspdf

- 4. Target Rent Policy** (Pages 9 - 12)
This report proposes to change the current policy and to increase the rent payable on a property to target rent when it becomes void and sets out the impact of the change.

- 5. Holgate Dock - Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation Outcome** (Pages 13 - 48)

The purpose of this report is to consider the responses from the recent consultation process and determine whether to introduce a PSPO for the area of land known as Holgate Dock.

- 6. Urgent Business**
Any other business which the Executive Member considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officers:

Catherine Clarke and Louise Cook (job share)

Telephone No- 01904 551031

Email- catherine.clarke@york.gov.uk/louise.cook@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officers responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 (01904) 551550

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods
Date	21 March 2016
Present	Councillor Carr

32. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests he may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

33. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session of the Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods held on 15 February 2016 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

34. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

35. Results of the Annual Tenant Satisfaction Survey

The Executive Member considered a report that highlighted the outcomes of the annual 2015/16 Tenant Satisfaction Survey.

Officers gave an update and confirmed that the survey had taken place between October and December 2015 and was primarily carried out by post but contact by email and text was also used. The survey contained several new questions to ensure the results were compatible to feed into Housemark benchmarking and the results showed that 11% of tenants answered the survey.

In answer to the Executive Members questions officers confirmed that visitor numbers to West Offices and email contact to officers had increased but phone calls received had declined.

Officers discussed the analysis and stated that the results were statistically significant to within +/-2.48%. The Executive Member noted that:

- the vast majority of areas within the Your Property theme had increased with a notable increase within the overall quality of the home, overall repairs, maintenance service and with gas servicing arrangements.
- tenant's satisfaction with neighbourhood and estate services had mainly increased, however, satisfaction with the neighbourhood as a place to live had decreased.
- tenants cited dog fouling as the highest problem followed by car parking, condition of the roads/pavements and rubbish or litter issues.
- satisfaction with the service delivery had mixed results and included decreases in the ability of staff to deal with a query at first point of contact, ability of staff to deal with a query efficiently and effectively and the ease of making a complaint.

In response to the results officers confirmed:

- they would be considering frontline services to effectively deliver a more proactive approach with customers.
- Building Services would continue to improve their service, including implementing a text messaging notification service for residents.
- amendments to the tenancy agreement made it a requirement that tenants requested permission to keep a pet and tenants would also be issued with a best practice guidance on keeping a pet

The Executive Member thanked officers and welcomed even more positive results in the 2016/17 survey.

Resolved:

- (i) That the results of the 2015/16 Tenant Satisfaction Survey be considered and the officer comments regarding future actions be noted.
- (ii) That a Tenant Satisfaction Survey for 2016/17 be run.

Reason: To ensure that the Council has up to date information regarding customer satisfaction, enabling landlord and building services to target resources and improvements to those services prioritised by customers.

36. Amendments to the Private Sector Assistance Policy - the Introduction of an Energy Repayment Loan

The Executive Member considered a report that informed him of the new regional product that had been developed by the Regional Homes and Loans Service aimed at alleviating fuel poverty within the city.

Officers gave an update and confirmed that since 2007 York council and 21 other local councils used the Regional Homes and Loans Service based with Sheffield City Council to deliver a range of loan products, in particular the loan called Home Appreciation Loan. It was now proposed to recycle funds from redeemed Home Appreciation Loans and other loan products to help tackle Excess Cold and Fuel Poverty across the Yorkshire and Humber Region.

The Executive Member noted that these new affordable Energy Repayment Loans (ERL) would be available from 1 April 2016, subject to delegating the function to Sheffield and had been developed to complement and supplement other energy efficiency funds. The ERL was designed to be a loan of last resort, where other forms of finance were not viable.

In answer to the Executive Members questions officers confirmed that each loan was based on regular affordable monthly repayments, managed by the Homes and Loans service and repayments would normally be by means of direct

debit but should the house be put up for sale or the loan owner had died, it would be repaid once the property had been sold.

Officers confirmed that in order for the Council to carry out this function it would need to delegate its powers to Sheffield City Council to award the grant in the same way as the Home Appreciation Loan.

Resolved:

- (i) That the development of the loan product to tackle fuel poverty be noted.
- (ii) That Option 1, to amend the Private Sector Assistance Policy and introduce a new Energy Repayment Loan product, be agreed.

Reason: The new evidence base from the Building Research Establishment found that, although fuel poverty levels in the City were generally below the national and regional average, there were certain Wards which were found to be higher.

Cllr Carr, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 3.00 pm and finished at 3.18 pm].

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods
Date	4 April 2016
Present	Councillor Carr

37. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests he may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

38. Public Participation

It was reported that there were no registrations to speak under the Councils Public Participation Scheme.

39. Request to consult about the introduction of a Public Space Protection Order at West Bank Park and Acomb Green.

The Executive Member considered a report that asked him to agree to a public consultation on the potential implementation of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) to tackle the problems caused by youths in West Bank Park and Acomb Green.

Officers gave an update and confirmed that:

- West Bank Park was managed by the council and during the course of 2015 there were 34 Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents that North Yorkshire Police (NYP) were called to of which 27 were classified as youth related.
- NYP were called to 49 incidents at Acomb Green, 44 were related to ASB and a further 5 criminal incidents were also reported.
- Both locations received a higher number of incidents reported in the summer months but there were ongoing problems in both areas throughout the year from groups of young people.

The Executive Member noted the issues highlighted in both areas and in answer to his questions officers confirmed that:

- There were no statutory requirements on the length of a consultation process and although a 6 week process had been previously used, 4 weeks would allow officers to actively address the issues.
- The consultation process would be advertised on the council's website and at the two locations.
- It was not practical for officers to write to all users of the parks but representation from the public could be made via the councils website and by phone, email or letter.
- The results would be brought back to a future Executive Member for Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods Decision Session.
- The 4 week process would start mid April 2016.

The Executive Member thanked officers and welcomed the results at a future meeting.

Resolved: That Option 1 be agreed:

- That a 4 week consultation process be undertaken with local residents and interested stakeholders to determine whether to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for West Bank Park and Acomb Green.

Reason: To ensure that the council actively addresses the issue of anti-social behaviour in our communities.

40. Mortgage Rescue Scheme - Mortgage Breathing Space

The Executive Member considered a report that asked him to agree to an extension of the Breathing Space Mortgage Rescue Scheme to home owners aged 55+ who were not being repossessed as a result of a recent and significant change in circumstances, but who were in danger of losing their owned home because their mortgage term was coming to an end and they had not repaid all of the capitol borrowing and did not have the means to do so.

Officers gave an update and confirmed that the 'Mortgage Breathing Space' scheme was developed regionally and there was no financial liability to City of York Council since Wakefield Borough Council administered the loans on behalf of other local authorities.

The Executive Member noted the officers update and agreed this was an excellent initiative.

Resolved: That option 1 be agreed.

Reason: To extend the Breathing Space Mortgage Rescue Scheme to home owners aged over 55 to continue interest only mortgage repayments to prevent the loss of their home.

Councillor Carr, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 3.06 pm and finished at 3.15 pm].

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Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods**23 May 2016**

Report of the Assistant Director, Housing and Community Safety.

Target Rent Policy**Summary**

1. This report proposes to change the current policy and to increase the rent on a property when it becomes void and sets out the impact of the change. Existing tenancies will not be affected by this change.

Recommendations

2. The Executive Member is asked to consider:

Option 1 – To increase the rent payable to Target Rent on a property when it becomes void.

Reason: To maximise the council's income

Background

3. In 2002 a national rent convergence policy was introduced under which, over a ten year period, rents in social housing (local authority and housing association owned stock) were to be brought into alignment.
4. A rent formula was established with actual rents moving towards a target rent based on a national formula which took account of values of properties and local earnings relative to national earnings. A 'bedroom weighting' factor was also applied to try and ensure the resulting rents better reflected the perceived value of the properties being occupied. These formula rents were increased each year by the Retail Prices Index (RPI) + 0.5%.
5. In 2012 a revised target convergence date of 2015-16 for local was introduced, subject to a maximum annual rent rise for an individual tenant of RPI + 0.5% + £2 per week.
6. As part of the 2013 Comprehensive Spending Review it was announced that "from 2015-16 social rents will rise by Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 1 per cent each year for 10 years."

7. As part of the 2015 Summer Budget the Chancellor announced that rents in social housing would be reduced by 1% a year for four years resulting in a real term reduction of 12% in rental income over that previously anticipated.
8. The impact of this change means a reduction in planned income to the HRA income of £12.8m over the four year period and a reduction in income of £240m over the life-time of HRA 30 year business plan.
9. As part of the changes introduced the government have given social housing landlords the freedom to increase the rent on empty homes to target rent rather than phase them.

Consultation

10. The proposal has been discussed with the federation of resident and tenants association. There were no objections to the proposal.

Options

- a) Option 1- To increase the rent payable to Target Rent on a property when it becomes void.
- b) Option 2 - To maintain the current arrangements.

Analysis

Option 1

11. Many of the council properties have not reached target rent yet. An analysis of current position is set out in the table below.

Number of properties	Distance from target rent
187	At target
4,169	Less than £1 per week
2,647	£1 - £1.49 per week
625	£1.50 - £1.99 per week
107	More than £2 per week

12. The average distance to target rent is £1.05 per week with more than 90% of properties less than £1.50 per week below target levels. The average number of unique re-lets^{1 1} are 358 properties per year. So it

¹ 1,793 properties were re-let over the 5 year period giving an average of 359 properties per year.

will take approximately 20 years for all properties to reach target rental income increasing by approximately £20,000 each year.

Option 2

13. Rents will not be increased to target rents and the council will not be maximise on its rental income

Council Plan

14. This change in policy will contribute putting a focus on front line services. It will achieve this by ensuring the authority maximises its income and protects the vulnerable.

15. **Implications**

- **Financial** – Over the 20 year period that it will take to raise all the properties to target rent this policy change will achieve an additional income of £4.2m. This estimate doesn't take account of the impact of inflation.
- **Human Resources (HR)** - none
- **Equalities** – A community impact assessment has been completed and the effect is neutral
- **Legal** – the changes have been advised and agreed with legal services
- **Crime and Disorder** – none
- **Information Technology (IT)** - none
- **Property** - none
- **Other** – none

16 **Risk Management**

There is no risk in implementing this policy. It will ensure that the council maximises its rental income and contribute towards the council achieving the priorities set out in the housing revenue account business plan.

Contact Details

Author:

Tom Brittain
Head of Housing Services
01904 551262

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Steve Waddington
Report of the Assistant, Housing and
Community Safety.
01904 554016

**Report
Approved**



Date 24 March
2016

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Financial:
Isabel Jones
Principal Accountant
01904 551799

Wards Affected: *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

All *tick*

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

None

Annexes

None

Abbreviations

CPI Consumer Price Index
HRA Housing Revenue Account
RPI Retail Prices Index



Executive Member for Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods

23 May 2016

Report of Assistant Director – Housing & Community Safety

Holgate Dock - Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation Outcome

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to consider the responses from the recent consultation process and determine whether to introduce a PSPO for the area of land known as Holgate Dock (see Annex1). The decision to undertake consultation regarding a potential PSPO was in response to complaints received from St Pauls School and residents highlighting issues with dog fouling within Holgate Dock.

Recommendations

2. The Executive Member is asked to approve:
 - a) **Option 1** – The introduction of a PSPO within Holgate Dock to ban dogs from the area. Setting the amount of any Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) at £100, which would be reduced to £75 if paid within the first 14 days.

Reason: to ensure that the council actively addresses the issue of anti-social behaviour in our communities

Background

3. The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 came into force on the 20th October 2014 and changed the powers available to local authorities and the police to deal with anti-social behaviour in our communities.

4. The Act introduces a new power, a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), which is granted by the Local Authority, but can be enforced by either the Local Authority or the Police.
5. The PSPO serves to protect a public space from persistent or continuing anti-social activity by individuals or groups that is having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. Such an order lasts for a period of up to 3 years, with provision for extensions for up to 3 years at a time. The process starts by way of consultation, and after this time, a decision can be taken by a Local Authority to grant a PSPO. This new power replaces the previous gating orders, designated public place orders (relating to restrictions on alcohol consumption) and dog control orders.
6. If any new prohibition is not adhered to, then the local authority or police have the ability to take formal enforcement action. This action can take one of two forms, to prosecute for the breach, or to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN). The Act allows for Local Authorities to set a local level for FPNs to a maximum of £100.
7. The Council have received 10 complaints from several individuals and groups, including local residents/parents of children at St Pauls School, the School, the School PTA. The local ward councillor has also received complaints. The complaints highlighted different issues which can be summarised as follows (the number of times that the issue was mentioned by the different complainants are recorded in the brackets):-
 - Dog fouling left by irresponsible dog owners (10)
 - Use of the field by dog owners between 9:00 and 17:00 hrs on school days (6)
 - Dogs off the lead bounding and knocking over small children and causing intimidation (6)
 - Trip hazards created from dogs digging (1)

Options

8. **Option 1** – Authorise the introduction of the PSPO to ban dogs from Holgate Dock at all times
9. **Option 2** – Authorise the introduction of the PSPO to ban dogs from Holgate Dock only during term times
10. **Option 3** – Authorise the introduction of the PSPO to ensure that all dog fouling is picked up.

Analysis

11. **Option 1** - To introduce a PSPO in the area that would ban dogs, if this was breached it could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice of £100 being given to the perpetrator.
12. As well as undertaking public consultation to try to ascertain the extent of the problem on the field, staff attended on various different days over the last few weeks and recorded the number of deposits on the field. This is detailed in the table below;

Date	Number of deposits on the field
21 st March	2
22 nd March	2 (from the previous day)
5 th April	0
6 th April	0
11 th April	3 (new, plus evidence of diarrhoea)
15 th April	2 (from the previous day, plus evidence of diarrhoea)
21 st April	1 (new)

13. To try to resolve the problem, the school have previously written to parents and raised the issue in school, and the Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers have also carried out patrols in the area, but have not been able to catch anybody fouling. The school do not have access to another field to use for PE and sports. They do carry out a visual inspection before the start of lessons, but they still report that there are incidents of pupils standing in dog faeces.
14. There is a public health risk, as younger children like those who attend St Pauls are at greater risk of contacting Toxocariasis (because they are more likely to put things in their mouths) which can cause permanent loss of vision in victims.
15. The nearest alternative dog walking area is at Upper St Pauls Terrace, which is a small open space which has a dog ban within the children's play area. There is a stretch of grass behind The Fox Public House, Holgate Road, which is only a short walk away. Hob Moor is also within a half mile radius (see annex 1).
16. **Option 2** - Banning dogs during term time would reduce incidents of dog fouling on the site. There are issues though as highlighted by several of the respondents that because the incubation period for the eggs is several weeks, this would still increase the risk for children using the area.

17. Introducing this option would also be problematic to enforce as term dates vary, which would mean that some people would not be aware of term dates. Signs would need to be erected, which would need to be updated regularly to advise people of term dates to minimise this issue.
18. **Option 3** - This would just update the current position, by replacing the by-law with a PSPO. The PSPO will be easier to enforce than the existing by-law.
19. However it is difficult for officers to catch offenders, and despite numerous visits to the site there have been no notices served up to the present time.
20. Some of the comments received from people, suggest the introduction of a dog DNA register similar to one that is being piloted in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (LBBD). This scheme is a voluntary scheme at present, although the council are looking at amending their tenancy agreement to make council tenants register. The company managing the process have agreed to waive the £30 registration fee for the first 1,000 dogs as well.
21. One of the issues that will need to be addressed in evaluating whether the scheme will be successful is how you can ensure that owners who do not pick up after their dog would register for the scheme. LBBD have confirmed that they currently have 300 dogs registered, and that there has been a 50% reduction in dog fouling within the three pilot areas though.

Consultation

22. As part of the process the Council has sought views from local residents to determine whether they support the PSPO. People were asked to complete a short survey which was placed on the council's website, links to this were placed on the entrance to the area, and for residents who do not have access electronically, a phone number was provided, so that paper copies could be sent out.
23. The council received 182 responses to the survey.
24. To the question, would you support the introduction of a PSPO in Holgate Dock?
 - 57% said that they would;
 - 42% would not.

25. In terms of what people wanted the PSPO to cover:

- 56% supported an outright ban for dogs;
- 6% a ban on dogs during term time;
- 7.5% a ban on dogs between 9.00am and 5.00pm;
- 2.3% supported keeping dogs on leads at all times; and
- 29% favoured the current position that prohibits dog fouling.

26. In addition to the questions, a lot of comments were received, and both the questions and comments are included as annex 2.

27. The Council has also received feedback from the Kennel Club, who said that;

- ‘The Kennel Club strongly promotes responsible dog ownership and believes that dog owners should pick up after their dogs wherever they are.’
- ‘The Kennel Club does not normally oppose orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds or enclosed recreational activities such as tennis courts or skate parks, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers.’
- A copy of the response is attached in full as annex 3.

28. North Yorkshire Police and the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner have been consulted on these proposals. North Yorkshire Police has commented “North Yorkshire Police support the proposal by City of York Council to implement a PSPO in the location of Holgate Dock. Environmental ASB can impact significantly on communities ability to enjoy open spaces therefore it is important that we use the tools and powers available to us to protect those spaces from being abused.” The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner have advised that they were unable to comment on this report at the time of writing because of Purdah.

Council Plan

29. The introduction of a PSPO in Holgate Dock strongly supports the priority within the Council Plan of ‘A focus on Frontline Services.’ To ensure that residents are protected from harm, with a low risk of crime.

- Residents are encouraged and supported to live healthily (aim)
- Residents are protected from harm, with a low risk of crime (aim)

Implications

30. The implications arising directly from this report are:

- **Financial** – There is a cost in terms of signage, but this can be contained within existing budgets.
- **Human Resources (HR)** – There are no HR implications.
- **Equalities** – The decision to enforce the PSPO powers will be the individual officer's decision and the equalities impact will be considered by these officers on a case by case basis.
- **Legal** – The Council's Legal Services Department have given advice and training to officers in relation to the Act and in relation to the new PSPO powers, and have assisted in the drafting of all of the paperwork required to deal with these powers.
- **Crime and Disorder** – The introduction of the PSPO will help reduce antisocial behaviour in the area.
- **Information Technology (IT)** – There are no IT implications.
- **Property** – There are no property implications.
- **Other** – There are no other implications.

31. Risk Management – There is clearly potential public health risks to the users of Holgate Dock if the problem of dog fouling is not addressed. The consultation responses clearly show there are differing views from within the community and dependant upon which option is chosen, the council will need to have a clear communication plan setting the reasons for the decision to minimise the potential for reputational impact on the council.

Contact Details

Author:

Paul Morrison

Community Safety Manager

01904 555095

Chief Officer:

Steve Waddington

Assistant Director of Housing & Community Safety

**Report
Approved**



Date 27 April 2016

Wards Affected:

All

Guildhall

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

Report to Decision Session – Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods - 15 February 2016 titled “Determination of whether to consult on the possible introduction of a Public Space Protection Order at Holgate Dock”.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Map showing Holgate Dock and alternative dog walking areas

Annex 2 – Responses received from the public

Annex 3 - Responses received from the Kennel Club

Abbreviations

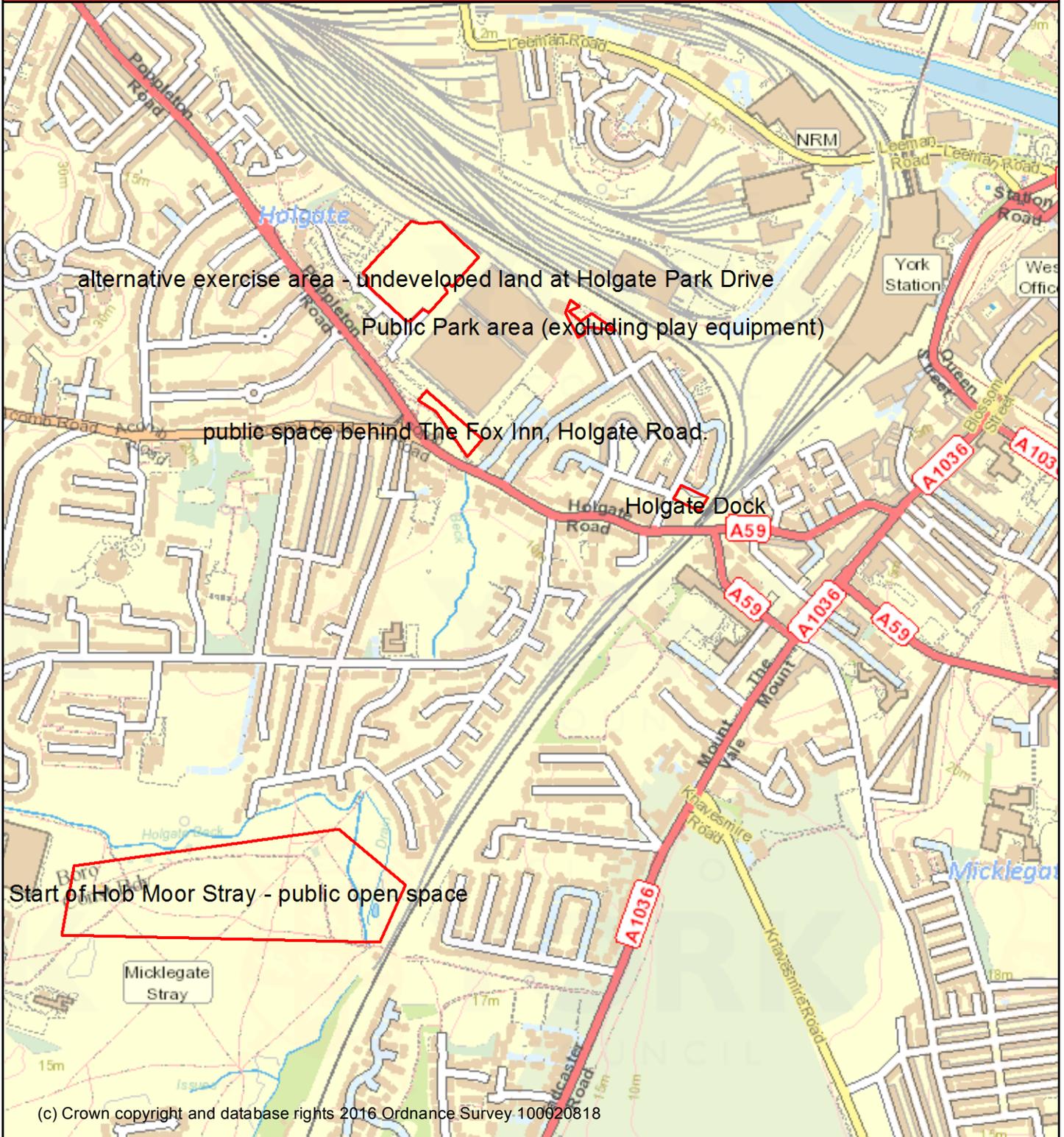
FMN Fixed Penalty Notice

LBD London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

PSPO Public Space Protection Order

PTA Parent Teacher Association

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Alternative Exercising Areas, Holgate, York

Map Notes: PSPO - Holgate Dock

Date: 02/02/2016

Author: Jackie Armitage

Scale: 1:10,000



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City of York Council

Holgate Dock PSPO

Consultation Results

Information:

The total number of responses to the Holgate Dock PSPO Consultation was 182

The questionnaire was opened on 01/03/2016 and closed on the 01/04/2016

Holgate Dock PSPO

Location

Where are you from?		
WARD	Response Percent	Response Count
Holgate	49%	89
Micklegate	4%	8
Acomb	4%	7
Westfield	4%	7
Huntington and New Earswick	2%	4
Dringhouses and Woodthorpe	2%	3
Guildhall	1%	2
Heworth	1%	2
Heworth Without	1%	2
Clifton	1%	1
Haxby and Wigginton	1%	1
Hull Road	1%	1
Osbalwick and Derwent	1%	1
Outside York	1%	2
Prefer not to say	19%	34
Incomplete	9%	16
Grand Total		180

Your Gender:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Prefer not to say	5.9%	10
Male	24.9%	42
Female	69.2%	117

answered question **169**

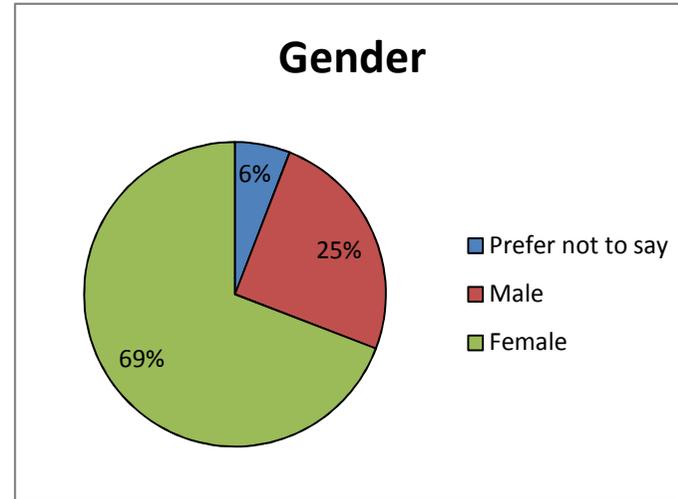
skipped question **13**

Do you identify yourself as Trans?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Prefer not to say	8.9%	14
Yes	0.6%	1
No	90.5%	143

answered question **158**

skipped question **24**



Your Age:

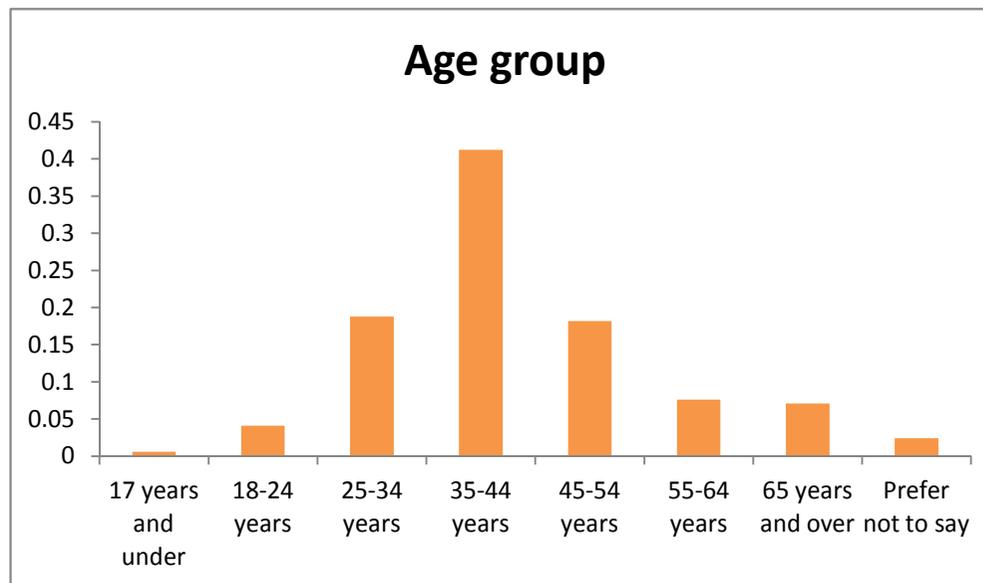
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
17 years and under	0.6%	1
18-24 years	4.1%	7
25-34 years	18.8%	32
35-44 years	41.2%	70
45-54 years	18.2%	31
55-64 years	7.6%	13
65 years and over	7.1%	12
Prefer not to say	2.4%	4

answered question

170

skipped question

12



Ethnic Origin:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
British (White)	84.0%	142
Prefer not to say	10.1%	17
Irish (White)	2.4%	4
Any other White background	0.6%	1
Chinese (Asian)	0.6%	1
Any other Asian background	0.6%	1
White and Black Caribbean (Mixed)	0.6%	1
White and Asian (Mixed)	0.6%	1
Any other Mixed background	0.6%	1
If you selected any other background please specify below:		3

answered question

169

skipped question

13

If you selected any other background please specify below:

White and Mauritian

My children are mixed race

Sri Lankan

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Prefer not to say	5.9%	10
Yes	4.1%	7
No	89.9%	152

answered question **169**

skipped question **13**

If you ticked "Yes" tick as many boxes as apply:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Physical impairment	25.0%	2
Sensory impairment	0.0%	0
Mental health condition	50.0%	4
Learning disability	12.5%	1
condition	62.5%	5

answered question **8**

What is your relationship status?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Married	56.0%	94
Partner	17.9%	30
Prefer not to say	11.3%	19
Single	7.7%	13
Divorced	4.8%	8
Widowed	1.2%	2
Separated	0.6%	1
Civil Partnership	0.6%	1
Other	0.0%	0

answered question **168**

skipped question **14**

What is your sexual orientation?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Prefer not to say	20.2%	34
Bisexual	1.8%	3
Gay man	0.6%	1
Gay woman/lesbian	0.6%	1
Heterosexual/straight	76.2%	128
Other	0.6%	1

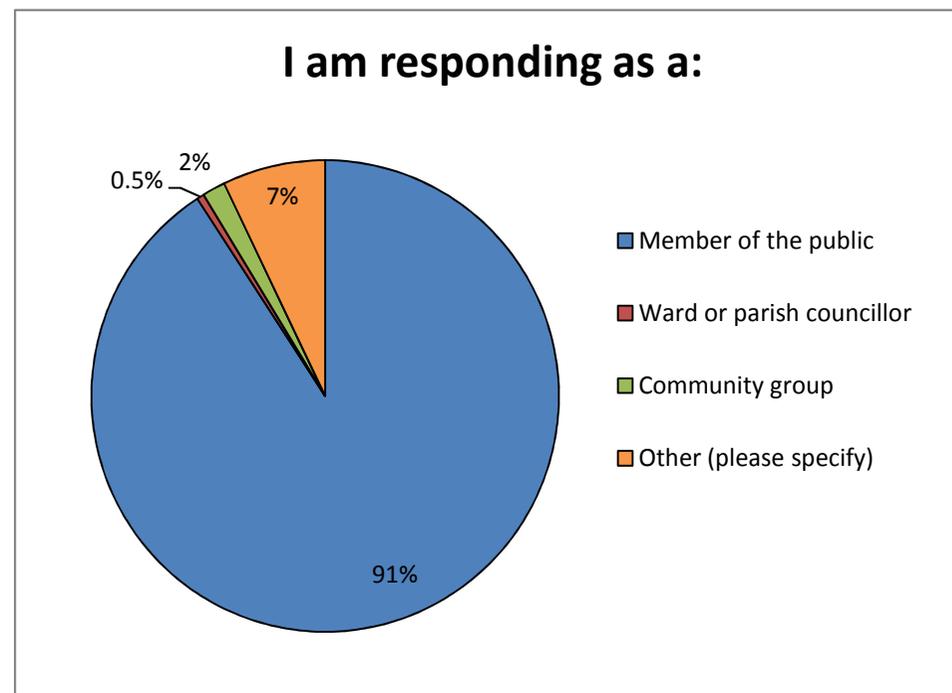
answered question 168

skipped question 14

Question 1 - I am responding as:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Member of the public	90.7%	165
Ward or parish councillor	0.5%	1
Community group	1.6%	3
Other (please specify)	7.1%	13

Other (please specify)
Visitor
As a parent governor with a child at St Pauls and member of public
Member of St Paul's Church
Grandparent of a St Paul's School pupil
Grandmother of child at St Pauls Primary School
St Paul's School Governor
Grandmother of children at St. Paul's school.
a parent of a st pauls pupil
Parent of children who were at St Paul's School and now at secondary school
Grand aunt of children who play in the public space
Parent of St Paul school pupil
A resident of Holgate
Parent from St. Paul's school.



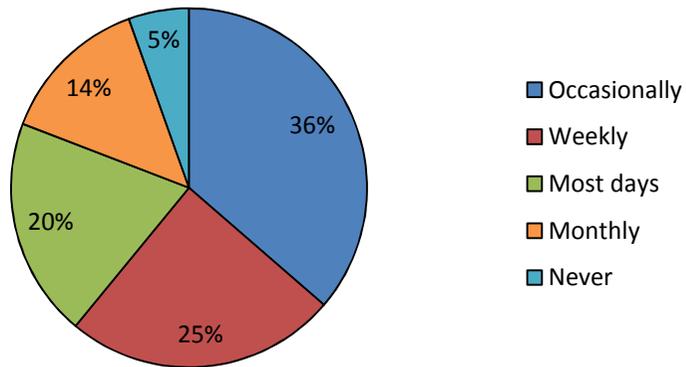
Question 3 - How often do you visit Holgate Dock

Answer Options	Response	
	Response Percent	Response Count
Occasionally	36.3%	66
Weekly	24.7%	45
Most days	19.8%	36
Monthly	13.7%	25
Never	5.5%	10

answered question 182

skipped question 0

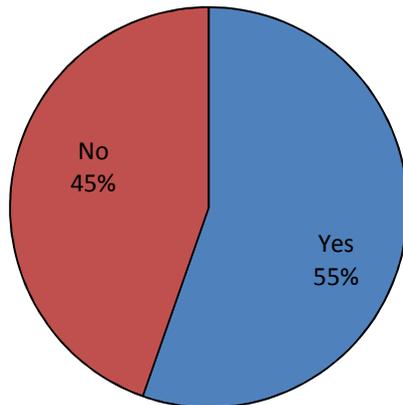
How often do you visit Holgate Dock?



Question 4 - Have you seen dog faeces as Holgate Dock in the last 12 months?

Response		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	55.4%	92
No	44.6%	74
<i>answered question</i>		166
<i>skipped question</i>		16

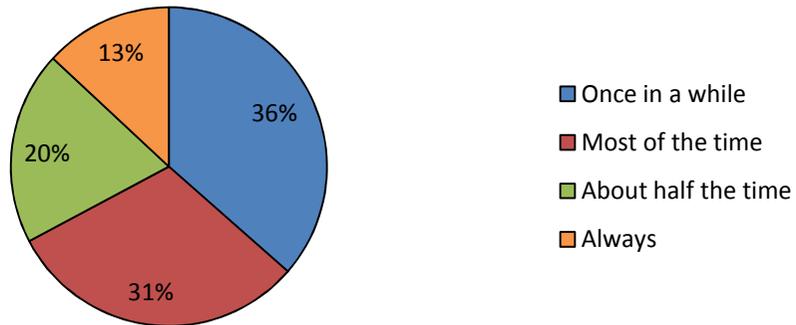
Have you seen dog faeces at Holgate Dock in the past 12 months?



Question 5 - How often have you seen dog faeces at Holgate Dock?

Responses		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Once in a while	36.4%	39
Most of the time	30.8%	33
About half the time	19.6%	21
Always	13.1%	14
<i>answered question</i>		107
<i>skipped question</i>		75

How often do you see dog faeces at Holgate Dock?

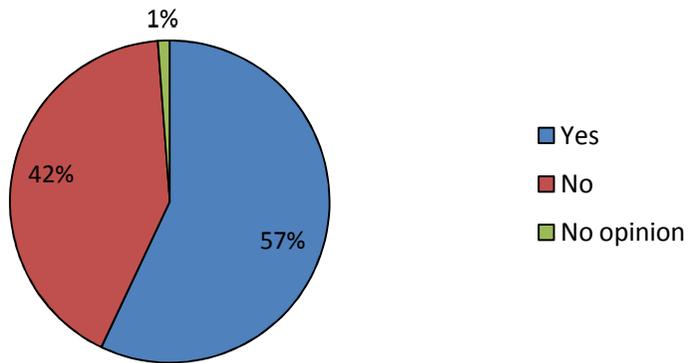


Holgate Dock PSPO

Question 6 - Would you support the introduction of a PSPO at Holgate Dock?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	57.1%	97
No	41.8%	71
No opinion	1.2%	2
Please explain your answer		41
<i>answered question</i>		170
<i>skipped question</i>		12

Would you support the introduction of a PSPO at Holgate Dock?



Question 6 - Comments

	Response	Please explain your answer
1	No	We use the dock sometimes to walk our dog. If we see other dog faeces we clean this up, as we do not want to lose this space for dog owners and always endeavour to clean up after our own. We also pick up litter on the dock (drinks cans, sweet wrappers, crisp packets) as we believe in looking after the place for the whole community.
2	No	Ridiculous that the council would even invoke this and waste money by even suggesting this is a problem
3	No	Do not let an irresponsible minority ruin a public space for the majority of law abiding people. Dogs need space to exercise and this is an ideal area.
4	No	The amount of dog walkers/owners in York need to have a free space for their dogs to play in. A lot of the houses in York have small gardens, that are not enough for a dogs life.
5	No	I take my two kids and our Labrador on this land most weekends to kick a ball around and exercise. Not once have my kids complained about stepping / sliding in dog muck (they're boys, always dirtying their knees) and our Labrador loves having somewhere he can run around with them. It would be a massive shame if we didn't have this area any more, it's round the corner from us so we don't have far to walk when they're muddy. We have also joined the group that meets once a month there, which is lovely for our Lab to have new doggy friends to run around with. It would be upsetting for that to have to end because of supposed dog muck (I repeat, we have never seen any)
6	No	On the occasions I visit, the amount of dog fouling is minimal. In the main, dog walkers here seem to act responsibly and clear up any fouling
7	No	Unfair on the responsible users
8	No	It will have a negative impact on the general welfare of dogs within the community as owners that live nearby may not be able to travel further to exercise their dog, especially the elderly and disabled.
9	No	It isn't such a problem to warrant one
10	No	There is not the issue that it is made out to be. There is a serious litter issue there. Introduction of bins and dog buns would solve the issue.
11	No	I do not believe it is a real issue.
12	No	Gross infringement on civil liberties
13	No	Totally unfounded spurious complaints created by malicious individuals. There are no greater problems in this area than in any public space including streets and other parks. Responsible dog owners, also council tax payers, should not be penalised like this
14	No	This enclosed relatively dry grass space away from busy roads is a valuable resource where dogs and people can play and exercise in relative safety. Responsible dog owners will go elsewhere if dogs are banned but the minority that don't pick up after their dogs are unlikely to be deterred since meaningful enforcement is unlikely. It won't solve the perceived problem while penalising responsible citizens. No fouling reminder signs would be appropriate as was the recent addition of the bin.

15	No	The restriction of dogs using this area when the school is not would severely affect the positive community spirit of the local area and could affect the takings of the volunteer arms. Many people rely on this space, and we, as RESPONSIBLE dog owners, frequently use this land to allow our dog a run around. We have NEVER seen anyone allowing their dog to foul in this area, or allowed our dog to.
16	No	I think York is becoming very anti dog & this is just a start of anti dog folk getting their own way on people being able to exercise their dogs safely.
17	No	There is no dog fouling problem on here, I take my dog there and my kids. It's a great field that loads of locals use and dogs are well behaved. Some of the local hotels allow dogs and they have been known in the past to not pick up dog poo and us local dog owners have told them off and picked it up. It would be a real Shame to ban all dogs as many of us parents have kids and dogs and the field is safe for them all to play as it's fenced off. There is a dog poo problem on the streets but not on here. It's a bit harsh to ban all dogs when us owners who live close to the field look after it
18	No	I take my dog on the land at least twice a day for the past 2 years. I also visit the land with my friends who have children to have picnics in the summer and I also attend local family fairs etc (with my dog) in the summer. I have never experienced any issues with dog faeces on the land, the only issue that is apparent is litter left by local youths including smashed glass bottles. There are a number of us RESPONSIBLE dog owners who use the land every day and we always ensure that any dog faeces is put in the bin (proof of this is obvious as the bin is always full and is emptied regularly). I visit lots of public open space and I can honestly say this is one of the most well maintained, respected and clean areas in York. If there was an issue with dog fouling then I for one would not use the land as I would not want to be associated with the irresponsible dog owners of the community and I certainly would not feel as strongly as I do about this proposed ban. What evidence is there to suggest a sudden rise in dog fouling after all the years this land has been open for all the public to use? I would definitely welcome legal restrictions imposed on the land and if there are any offenders albeit dog fouling or litter then they should be prosecuted. To place a total ban on public space is not exactly promoting community spirit. The proposed ban has already caused upset within the local community and dog owners are now feeling like social outcasts. A lot of us dog owners have been verbally abused whilst using the land and are made to feel intimidated. I have personally spoken to parents of children who attend the local school and it would appear that there is not an issue with dog fouling, the actual issue here is with one dog owner and their large dog (Doberman). It would also appear that one of the teachers has had the misfortune of being verbally abused by this one owner and a parent who takes his children on the land to play football has also had an altercation with this dog owner, I may also add that this parent has stated there has never been any dog faeces on the land otherwise he would not use it so frequently with his children. If this whole situation is due to this one dog owner then why has this issue not been reported to the Police or the Council? If it has been reported then why has the situation not been dealt with? Proposing a total ban on all dogs due to this one situation would certainly be very unfair. I visited the land every day for the month of February at least twice a day at different times and the only items I had to remove were a crisp packet, 2 Lucozade bottles and a lighter. At no point during that period did I see any dog excrement. The land is unfortunately very muddy at the moment due to the wet weather, this is not due to dogs using the land. The school have the privilege of using the land between certain times on weekdays and this has never caused any problems at all, its a privilege for all of us to have the land and therefore everyone respects this arrangement. Perhaps if actual legal restrictions were imposed to ensure that the school has priority between these times it would be a step forward and then if any

		<p>should then be dealt with accordingly. This land is public land for everyone to use (including dog owners) and we should be working together as a community with the full support of the Council to ensure that this remains so. Isolating and discriminating against a group in the community (dog owners) based on nothing more than hysteria caused by parents jumping on the bandwagon of a very evident dog fouling issue on the streets rather than on this land is very unfair to say the least and also very counter productive. From information I have obtained from a number of people I have spoken to about this issue it would appear that the group who are supporting the full ban are in fact of the opinion that they have "already won the battle" for the ban and once this ban is in place they will then use it as a platform and template to then support further dog bans on other public open space in York. This is very sad to hear and I would urge the Council to please reconsider a total ban on dogs. York is a very dog friendly City, the local pubs, cafe's and hotels around Holgate are also dog friendly, unfortunately if this ban goes ahead then it certainly does not reflect the dog friendly image York has to the community as well as tourists to the area. There are no local dog parks where it is safe to let our dogs off lead in an enclosed environment and Holgate Dock is envied by other areas of the City due to it being a safe, clean, well maintained and child/family friendly..I urge you to reconsider this proposed ban, instead move to put in place restrictions on dogs using the area between 9am and 5pm. The majority of us local dog owners are professional people and use the land outside of these times so this would be a very positive way forward and one that we would welcome.</p>
19	No	Holgate Dock is a public space with a priority for the school to use it for activities. Unless the area was securely fenced and the gate locked it could not be policed properly ensure adherence to the terms of a PSPO. Is it permissible to take this action and lock the public out?
20	No	This is supposed to be a public open space and not just for St Pauls School
21	No	I have two old dogs, one of which is almost completely blind, so gets quite scared when other dogs approach him so I struggle taking him to big open areas as dogs can come out of nowhere. Holgate Dock is ideal as it can control who he meets and ensure that other dogs don't sneak up on him. I have never seen faeces on the field - one of the reasons I walk them on there because I know I won't step in it, unlike at the racecourse. I would be very sad if dogs were banned from this area, it's an invaluable space for my dogs.
22	No	This is a nice area for us to take the dogs around where you know the community respect the land and do not leave any dog poo.
23	No	There are too few safe areas for dogs to exercise freely in York.

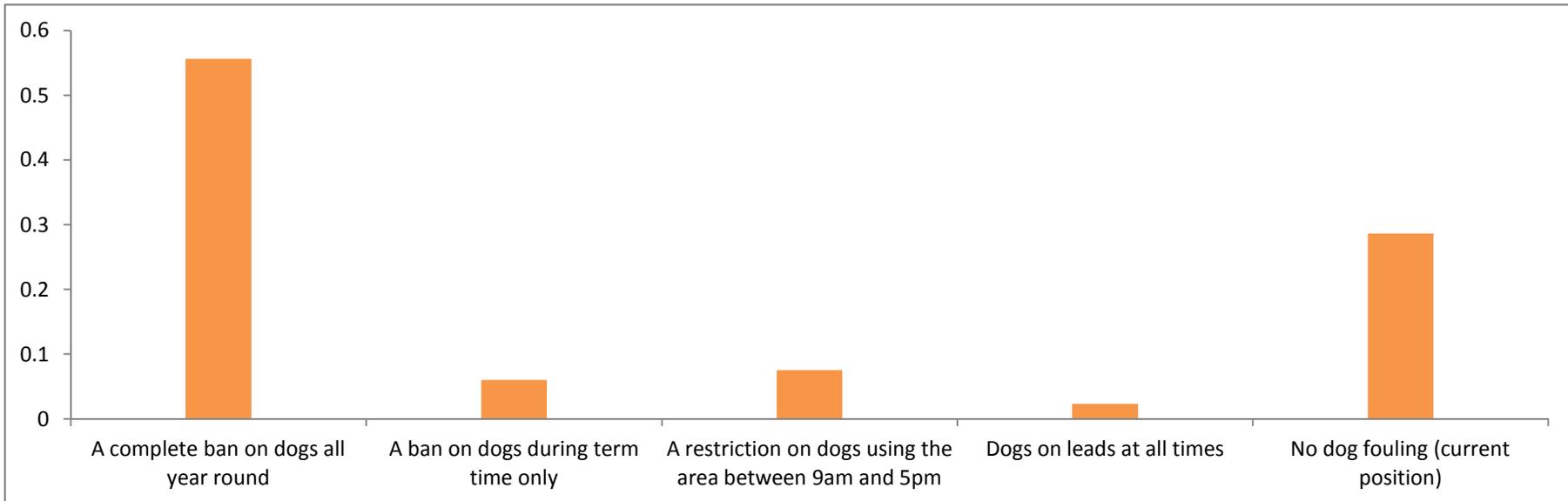
24	No	The resident dog owners need Holgate Dock as an open, and above all SAFE area to let their dogs off the lead due to the fencing; something that is few and far between in York. I myself am a dog owner, and due to her difficulty in hearing I would not let my dog off in a completely open area, such as the Knavesmire. Holgate Dock gives my dog the opportunity to run around in a large area, whilst being safely confined. On the first Sunday of every month there is a group of dog owners that I am part of that meet and let their dogs off together - this is invaluable socialising that all dogs need to ensure they are well behaved within the community, and above all the dogs love it. Again this is something that my dog, as well as others, would not have the opportunity to do, should the ban come into effect, as there a very few, if any, open areas that are completely fenced and safe that dogs can be let off the lead in. Introducing the PSPO to ensure all dogs must be kept on the lead also does not give our dogs what they need; we can walk our dogs on the lead throughout York, however we cannot give them running exercise on the lead. I find it very disturbing that this PSPO could be brought into effect due to complaints from certain individuals over dog faeces on Holgate Dock; all of the resident dog owners are 100% set on keeping the area clean for the rest of the community, and it is those residents that are being punished for the accused actions of individuals. There is also no evidence that the faeces apparently seen on Holgate Dock was from a dog; there are many resident cats to be seen in Holgate, as well as city foxes, that could be excreting on Holgate Dock. There is already a law in place that owners that do not pick up after their dogs will be fined, however if this is not going to be policed then the few irresponsible dog owners will not stop. I propose policing the law that is already in place before bringing in a new law; again if the original law is not policed then how can you expect preventing dogs being on the field, if that is what is decided? We resident dog owners would welcome CCTV with open arms - it would help us prove the point that it is not the residents that are abusing this open space, and ensure that our dogs are not being penalised. We are also happily abiding the rule that is in place (that the school has priority of the field 9am-5pm Monday to Friday) as the majority of dog owning residents are walking their dogs before and after work. As we are part of a small community in Holgate, we have to work together and ensure that no-one is losing out. Banning dogs entirely from Holgate Dock, or ensuring they have to be on a lead at all times, is not showing community spirit, and is isolating one particular group of residents. We use this open area every single day to exercise our dogs and ensure they are getting the fresh air they need, and taking this area from us and our dogs will be extremely detrimental.
25	No opinion	I have never seen this to be a particular issue at this site. I would of course support action being taken by anyone not clearing up after their dog which is inexcusable, but this is an invaluable area for responsible dog owners and I feel very strongly that dogs should not be banned from this area
26	Yes	As much as I don't want a restriction as we cannot stop the offending party we don't have an option
27	Yes	Dog owners have other spaces they can use, the children from St Pauls School have no alternative green space. Whilst it's the actions of the few that leave the dog mess, the dogs should not be prioritized over children, especially as there is elsewhere to walk them. I'd prefer a system of camera's or a dog DNA database as has been instigated elsewhere in the country as this would allow easy identification of offenders and also stop them fouling the pavements too!
28	Yes	In September I will have three children at St Pauls who will do PE at the field and as we have no garden we play there after school most days when weather is fine
29	Yes	Children play area
30	Yes	I believe that allowing dogs into Holgate Dock makes it inevitable that some irresponsible owners will allow them to drop their faeces on the grass
31	Yes	Something needs to be done to stop dog defecation in this area and the surrounding streets.
32	Yes	My children attended St Paul's School who use the field for PE.

33	Yes	This is just not acceptable for school children to be exposed to dog poo in an area they use for sports.
34	Yes	It is grossly unfair to put the pupils of St Pauls School at risk of serious life-changing illness during sports activities, due to the inconsideration of dog owners who allow their dogs to foul in the area. It is also unfair on the school staff to clean the area prior to its use by pupils. As Toxocariasis can remain in the ground for up to three years, I feel the only safe precaution would be to ban dogs from the area altogether.
35	Yes	There is a risk of children going blind if they get dog faeces in their eyes. Since the toxocariasis can remain in soil for up to 3 years, I think that it is essential that dogs are banned from an area which is regularly used by school children and by St Paul's school itself. There are plenty of other places in which to walk dogs.
36	Yes	My niece goes to St. Paul's primary and it is their sports and events space and shouldn't double up as a dog toilet too !
37	Yes	It is used regularly by primary school children - since some dog owners are irresponsible a total ban should be in place to protect the children's health and well being
38	Yes	In relation to litter and support the fining of dog owners who don't clear up after their dog. I would recommend CCTV to enforce.
39	Yes	I would support this for different circumstances - for example, I feel that drinking shouldn't be allowed in this area as it is often used by children from surrounding areas - particularly St Paul's Primary.
40	Yes	Children have come home (including my children) with dog faeces on their clothes. It's not safe and not acceptable during a school pe lesson. Teachers shouldn't have to check and clear dog poo before each pe lesson.
41		There is no crime being committed is there? So why the banning order? It's not the schools land. It's for the community. I'm afraid banning on account of heresay isn't exactly the right thing to do. I mainly visit westbank park. And I fail to see the difference. I occasionally see dog waste. Will you ban dog users from there too, or pavements? Or any patch of land , field that has it? Doubtfull.

Holgate Dock PSPO

Question 7 - What would you like the PSPO to do?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
A complete ban on dogs all year round	55.6%	74
A ban on dogs during term time only	6.0%	8
A restriction on dogs using the area between 9am and 5pm	7.5%	10
Dogs on leads at all times	2.3%	3
No dog fouling (current position)	28.6%	38
<i>answered question</i>		133
<i>skipped question</i>		49



Holgate Dock PSPO

Question 8 - Is there anything else you would like to say about the potential PSPO at Holgate Dock?

	Response
1	I think it's a really nice area used by responsible dog owners. Please don't ban dogs!
2	So many dog owners using Holgate Dock don't clear up after their dogs, and some dog owners allow their dogs to frighten children means that shared use should not be allowed. The health and well-being of children should be put first, so dogs should not be allowed to use Holgate Dock at all.
3	This should be a clean play area for children. There is no place for dogs.
4	We are happy to involve our dog in DNA registration and testing, which has worked successfully in other parts of the country, we feel it is unfair that we are all banned because of a couple of irresponsible dog owners.
5	I am a dog owner who keeps my dog on a lead, uses the dock early morning (6am) or late evening and cleans up after my pet. This area is a part of our daily routine. What I find more detrimental to the dock is the ruination of the grass by the area being used for sports when the ground is in an unsuitable state, and - potentially dangerously - the pot-holes that I have witnessed children digging in the dock that could easily cause injuries for any child, adult (or dog for that matter) who trips due to putting a foot down them.
6	This petition has been the cause of a few 'loud' residents who think the litter problem is because a few neighbours use the green space to exercise their dogs. This is a nation of animal lovers and York has a high population of dog owners. It is common sense that the people who live in this area will need green space for their pets. If you agree to a ban for dogs on this green space, you how will it be policed? More money will be wasted. Put a litter bin near the space and don't roll over to these dog haters!
7	If YCC is looking to have a public order on the usage of Holgate Dock would they also be able to look at other problems in the same neighbourhood. Despite a 20mph speed limit in the Watson Street/ St Paul's Terrace and surrounding streets most motorists choose to ignore the signage and greatly exceed the limit. I have witnessed cars travelling at least 60mph on frequent occasions. I think speeding vehicles are more of a problem/danger to the children who attend St Paul's primary school and those who live in the area. So if 'policing' of the dock was enforced I would like to see speed cameras and a strong police presence in the area to match the efforts given to the use of Holgate Dock. If the whole area is to retain a supportive community I think we need to look at a rather bigger picture, not just a few irresponsible dog owners - also please consider other people who do not live in the local vicinity also use the dock for their pets (I have witnessed former landlord of a property in the area doing so). How would they be policed and tracked and warned? Same issues for littering around the Holgate Bridge news shop and local area, and motorists jumping the red light (particularly on a morning, again this could have a big impact on the school users) on Holgate Road and so on. I'm hopefully making a pertinent point, why stop at the use of the Dock? Let's look at other issues and try to resolve those as well so the whole community is supported.
8	I support a ban on dogs at any time on the field because it is the only way to stop dog mess being left on the field. This is a valuable amenity for kids and families in the area and whilst I regret the impact this might make on responsible dog owners, the dog mess has just made it a no-go zone.
9	No

10	I personally I'm not a dog owner, but I know that wherever I am walking or going there is going to be someone's shit around! This is a petty, waste of someone's time and effort, whoever has complained needs to get a life!
11	I have used the area for a continual period and never seen dog excrement except what is left to overflow from the uncollected bin. This whole issue has been raised due to repeated altercation with one owner and his overly large dog. It would be a shame if the hysteria following these events cause a change of use for responsible owners, and that CYC did not look at other options of control, such as DNA testing registration and testing to determine which people have fouled the area. I will be writing to you further on this matter having consulted with several places in the UK who carry this out. In the USA it has had a 90% reduction rate in fouling, though as I said, I have NEVER seen dog mess that was not in the process of being picked up, on Holgate dock. I have however picked up broken bottles, tent pegs, pizza boxes and glass, after church events have left the field or kids have been on there at night.
12	I'm a parent and dog owner. On my visits to this area I've never seen any evidence of dog excrement. What we must understand there are other animals that produce excrement cats for one . How does the general public know the difference? I would rather see a survey of all local residents by letter to assess opinions.
13	This is absurd. Dogs are like children, the human adult is responsible. Why not ban a child? I've seen lots of disgusting child based behaviours that need deterring.
14	Dog owners need to be educated. Dogs are an important part of society and it is essential that children get to see and meet well behaved dogs and owners this way future generations are educated into being responsible, caring pet owners and members of society
15	Do not ban dogs off lead. We look after it.
16	A complete ban is the only option until effective fines can be made enforceable for offenders (see DNA suggestion previously - it could be an earner for the council)
17	It's fine as it is - just a handful of people who use it want it - the majority don't
18	The main problem seems to be a litter problem without a litter bin, as usual responsible dog owners are being scapegoats for those that will continue any problems regardless of any PSPO. The informal agreement with the school is not a problem and schools families use the fields for their own dogs out of those times. Many people are always anti dog and will use any reason to try and drum them out. Open space should be for all, fines would be handed out to those that abuse this, not close it to all.
19	I think it is a disaster for the local dog walking community. The mass majority of dog owners are responsible, and a PSPO would be harshly punishing the majority for the sake of a few irresponsible dog owners who would most likely ignore the PSPO anyway.
20	This is a relatively small area for children to play from the local school and for others to use. It is often used by local parents playing games with their children. There are other areas not too far away which people can use for dog exercise and in all cases they need to clean up after their pets
21	This should not go ahead as would lead to all other open spaces in York banning dogs which in turn will lead to street fouling and dogs being run over by cars.
22	Reinforce properly the no dog fouling policy. The majority of the dog owners DO pick up after their dogs. The ones that don't should be heftily fined.
23	No mention is made of how, or who, will enforce the pspo. In order for it to have real impact and effect on the perceived issues it needs to be enforced in perpetuity, otherwise it's just another meaningless piece of paper that will be ignored by many and continue to foster a lack of confidence in the ability of coyc.

24	Having never experienced dog fouling at Holgate Dock it seems as though this order would deprive responsible dog owners from a safe environment to exercise their dogs.
25	There isn't much green space for dogs to enjoy their freedom as it is. As someone who studies dog training the closure of spaces as important as these leads to dogs not being walked or exercised. This therefor leads to unsocial Behavior in dogs which is a huge problem in our society.
26	If there is an issue, then use the dog warden or cameras to monitor the situation. This is not an unusual situation where a few owners do not clean up and create a bad name for those who do.
27	I have had my children come home from PE covered in dog mess and carry wipes as their shoes are often covered in dog mess when they play there after school.
28	Ridiculous
29	I'm baffled that this is even being considered.
30	See notes for 6. Don't penalise responsible users of this space
31	I lived in Holgate close to the Dock for many years and can honestly say dog fouling was never a problem, the dropping of litter broken glass/ youths drinking and smoking on there was. Often things were left by the school and the gates left open after their use. I too experienced rudeness from the teachers and parents who seemed to think that they owned the area!!!!
32	I think it would be very sad and detrimental to a considerable number of locals if you ban dogs from this area. Fines/prosecution for dog fouling and promoting responsible behaviour by dog owners is the way forward in my opinion, not denying the use of this land to the majority who are responsible and clean up after their dogs.
33	It would be a shame not to be able to walk dogs on there.
34	There is limited enclosed spaces to let your dog run in York and it would be a shame to introduce a PSPO to holgate dock. We use the area for dog meets and have never had an issue with dog mess and our group always clean up after our dogs
35	Surely public spaces are for everyone, including responsible dog owners. The presence of these dog owners who pick up poo and litter also act as a deterrent to the minority miscreants. It could also set a precedent where other public spaces also have PSPOs.
36	It is unnecessary. There is not a problem with dog fouling. It seems that some anti dog people have alleged a problem where there is none
37	Should be for everybody to use sensibly
38	The land is public. For everybody. Not just people with children I might add. If you place a PSPO then you have to add one to every piece of public land that has dog waste on it.
39	Don't ban all dogs..not good for the community
40	I think I have said everything I wanted to say except there is one other solution albeit a drastic one. There are 2 entrance gates to Holgate Dock, my proposal is that a third of the land (the bottom section) could be fenced off just past the second gate in order to create an area for dog owners and the rest of the land (using the main entrance gate) have a dog ban. That way ALL the community can use the land and there would still be a very large area for people to play sports. This would be a fair proposal. I have suggested this to members of the community and dog owners and they are in agreement with this idea but only if a fair proposal cannot be met with regard to the whole land.
41	No.
42	My daughter goes to St Paul School and on more than 2 ocassions after-school sports clubs have been abandoned prematurely due to unruly dogs threatening children, and unruly owners of said dogs threatening male teachers. Totally unacceptable and sadly a semi-regular occurrence.

43	Children from the school and out of school club regularly use this site and occasionally children from church. I think it vital that we protect their health.
44	Unless the space was policed 24/7 no restriction would be effective.
45	As a parent of children at St Paul's Primary School and a local resident, I am wholly in favour of the PSPO at Holgate Dock. The dock is used for school activities and as such dogs should not be allowed to use this site. Whilst there are responsible dog owners who do clean up after their dogs, there are many who do not and even when people do there is still a risk that there are traces of faeces left behind on the grass which can be hazardous to children. On several occasions, my children have got dog faeces on their clothes and hands after playing in this area both during and out of school time and this is not acceptable. Nor is it acceptable that school staff have to clean the area prior to children using it.
46	It is the only available area used by the nearby school as a playground. It should be either used by the children of the school or by the dog owners not by both of them. If so it is a serious health concern. I recommend a complete ban all year round.
47	Holgate Dock is a small area of open ground in a very built up area that was intended to benefit many people. Only by banning dogs can these benefits be maximised and those using the grass to play games / relax be able not to worry about stepping in faeces. This is particularly important for school games to be able to take place safely.
48	This is a tricky one as its one of the only green spaces close by. I worry about where else people with mobility difficulties could take their dogs. I'm torn on which to choose as the area is a public space. Perhaps term time only would ensure that the area is kept clean when children use it but the area could be used over the summer for dog walkers. Could signs also go up in the surrounding streets as defecation in these areas is also a problem and lots of children are walking in these areas as well.
49	Prosecution of irresponsible dog owners would help the fouling situation.
50	Dog mess is a real problem in the Holgate St Pauls area. There is often dog mess on the pavement and in the back allys, where some owners let their dogs out at night to foul public spaces and don't make any attempt to clear it up. A PSPO might send a clear message to these dog owners that their behaviour is unacceptable.
51	Its the only outdoor grassed space the school has and they deserve to not do sports etc where dogs go to the toilet!!!
52	You have to ban dogs completely,as any dog poo at all is a risk to the school children who have P.E on that field .even if the poo is picked up,some always remains,and kids are at extreme risk of illness and even blindness! This area can't be enjoyed by locals anymore for games,sports or recreational time because it has just become a great big toilet for dogs! Dog owners only have to walk for ten minutes more and they are at hobmoor which is much more suitable for dogs to be exercised !
53	This is a playing field for a local school. It should not be also a dogs toilet.
54	Dog poo is not the only issue, there are some dogs allowed off the lead to run around and even jump at the kids and frighten them. This is a very small minority but is affecting all!
55	I don't think that dogs and children can co-exist in an open space such as Holgate Dock. The current position of no dog fouling does not work and the minority that do not clean up after their dog are creating a massive health hazard for children.

56	I support a PSPO which will completely ban dogs from Holgate Dock all year round. I have had children at St Paul's Primary for the past 13 years and have had to clean disgusting dog excrement off clothes and shoes on many occasions. I am also Chair of Governors at St Paul's and am concerned for the health of all the children in the school and the wider community. I understand that Toxocariasis in dog faeces can remain in the soil for a long time (up to 3 years). The only way to ensure that children can play safely on Holgate Dock is to enforce a PSPO completely banning dogs all year round. Thank you.
57	It will need policing - there will always be those that think they can get away with it and they need to know that they can't.
58	Toxocariasis in dog poo becomes active after 2-3 weeks then remains in the soil for up to 3 years, so banning dogs only during term would not remove the threat of children becoming blinded from toxocariasis.
59	I fully support it as I think the welfare and safety of people and children using HD is more important; it's crucial to encourage outdoor play and exercise for both physical and mental health. People shouldn't have to worry about dog muck as well, it's bad enough on the walk up there through Holgate as it is!
60	Dog faeces are a real health risk for the young children who use this space for PE and after school recreation and parents should not be obliged to scrape this mess from their children's clothes and shoes on a regular basis. These kids are entitled to run around without dodging dog mess. I have also witnessed aggression from dog owners refusing to control their dog when children are using the space and clearly enjoying causing a disturbance. This is anti social and needs to be stopped before there is a serious incident.
61	We need to recognise certain realities; an outright and complete ban on all dogs on the Holgate Dock is both impractical and unenforceable, and goes contrary to the ethos of a shared space available to all members of the community. An outright ban on all dogs would simply move the problem of dog mess onto either the surrounding pavements, the grass areas around St Pauls Mews or the kerbside grass near to Railway Terrace / St Pauls Terrace / Watson Street. We need to attempt to ensure that Holgate Dock is a safe and pleasant area for the children of the school, and recognise that the problem of dog mess is created by a very small minority of irresponsible dog owners; the vast majority of dog owners will always clear up after their dog and utilise the provided dog mess bin. Therefore, I would like to propose two possible solutions to the issue - both involve an internal subdivision within the dock. 1) A new wooden fence be erected at the top of the dock, running parallel to Watson Street. This area would then be sanded to create a dedicated area purely for dogs with the existing dog mess bin enclosed within the space. The school is then able to continue to use the rest of the Dock with the entire area shared in an approximate 90% / 10% split in favour of the school. 2) There is a metal fence running down the length of the dock, behind the trees, that creates an area of unused and abandoned ground between the Holgate dock and the car park of St Paul's Church. The perimeter fence of the car park would remain, but the metal fence that separates the Dock from the waste ground could be moved to the other side of the trees, the abandoned ground could then be cleared and opened up to dogs and their owners with an entrance and exit via the side of the Electricity Substation building, possibly with a magnetic-locking gate controlled by a push-button on either side of the gate. The question arises as to the status and ownership of the wasted area behind the Electricity Substation building and between the two metal fences; should it be owned by the appropriate electricity company permission would need to be sought. Otherwise I feel that this area could, and should, be made open to dogs and dog owners. Either way, I feel that the solution to this issue is to subdivide the Dock internally to ensure a safe area for the school and the children while at the same time create a dedicated area for dogs and their owners.
62	It seems to be that a lot of people objecting to dogs do not actually live near this area (no I do not let a dog foul here)
63	I have been demonised by the school as a dog owner. I have been called irresponsible and identified as a culprit in the school newsletter. I have been assaulted by a parent of the school. This is not the case. I absolutely support the current position and I suggest there is a need for more enforcement of dog fouling and suggest use of CCTV. I feel the school have a anti dog policy and not an anti dog mess policy which I would support.

64	Perhaps there could be steps taken that only allow access to surrounding residents - for example, keys to gates issued - protecting the space and extra security to ensure those unauthorized aren't able to gain access to the space without permission. (Like at St Paul's Square)
65	There are many more places for children to go than safe enclosed areas for dogs, and I urge you to see this and think of the wider picture.
66	Holgate Dock is currently the only fenced area in this area where a dog can be safely let off the lead. By all means the 'no fouling' policy should be enforced but to remove this amenity from local dog owners would be grossly unfair. Dog owners pay Council Tax too.
67	Please consider individuals who rely on this safe area to exercise and socialise their dogs. My daughter does not allow her dog of the lead anywhere else and this safe haven is her only opportunity to exercise freely and safely. She is a responsible dog owner and regularly meets up with other like minded people. Dog owners are York Residents too. Please consider your actions carefully, thank you.
68	I can only hope you take what I have said above into serious consideration. This is something that I, as a dog owner, take very much to heart as it would be awful to think that my dog can no longer run around on her own or with other dogs in a safe environment. This exercise and fresh air is so important to her happiness and well being, and I would be devastated if I thought she would be confined to her lead for the rest of her life in York.
69	As a parent of two children in St Paul's Primary School I am sure a PSPO would protect the health of the children and encourage dog owners to give their dogs a decent walk in a more suitable patch of land. I believe a full ban will prevent the real threat of a child contracting toxocarasis. Freshly passed faeces are not a Toxocara hazard. Any eggs present in the faeces take two or three weeks to mature. Infectious eggs can then survive in the soil for up to three years, given the right conditions. It is therefore not helpful to have dogs poo during the holidays, to have it left there for several weeks and then to have the children actively using the space in term time. The same risks will potentially be present; risks which can lead to blindness. A full ban is present in other children's playgrounds and school yards in York. I have no hesitation in requesting that a full ban should be made for the children of Holgate too.
70	I have a dog, I'm a responsible owner, and Holgate Dock is a public park. I have even picked up dog mess left from other people and find it just as irritating, and I have kept a diary from the time I found out this had become a public matter each time I've used the park. I now haven't used the park for 17 days (due to the aggravation caused by dogs merely existing around the park), but I feel it is unfair to restrict us all. I think a CCTV operation would help or a better way to find the culprits, otherwise it's a group of the community generally segregating another group and tarring them all with the same brush. A lot of it has been sensation, a parent has even told a neighbour of mine that they "fear for their child's life"...and they don't use the park. It certainly isn't going to help a community feel happier overall. The mud in the field is nothing to do with dogs, it is to do with very bad weather which left most parks still sodden around the whole of York (I use other parks now and they are all boggy and muddy) - the children tread far more of the mud around when using the park (and on the pavement) than the dogs, so bringing that up as a further complaint against dogs is ridiculous. Dogs do not use the park very often at all, the only ones that do currently are on leads anyway, because the regular users have felt pushed out regardless of a ban.
71	Whilst I haven't seen dog fouling in the Dock in the last 12 months, the issue of dog fouling around the area is prominent. The park at the end of Upper St Paul's Terrace also suffers. The pavements leading to those green spaces are often tarnished with dog mess.

Count of RespondentID	Column Labels				
Row Labels	No	No opinion	Yes	(blank)	Grand Total
No	54	1	18	1	74
Yes	12		76	4	92
(blank)	5	1	3	7	16
Grand Total	71	2	97	12	182



THE KENNEL CLUB

Making a difference for dogs

Kennel Club Response to the City of York Council Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation

Submitted on 12th April 2016 by: The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB, tel: 020 7518 1020, email: kcdog@thekennelclub.org.uk

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare and training, whose main objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners. As part of its External Affairs activities the Kennel Club runs a dog owners group KC Dog with approximately 5,000 members, which was established to monitor and keep dog owners up to date about dog related issues, including Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) being introduced across the country.

As a general principle we would like to highlight the importance for all PSPOs to be necessary and proportionate responses to problems caused by dogs and irresponsible owners. It is also important that authorities balance the interests of dog owners with the interests of other access users.

Response to proposed measures

Dog fouling

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

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ proactive measures to help promote responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing Orders in this respect.

From analysing the options presented by the council we believe that the most appropriate option would be to keep the dog fouling measure in place and take proactive measures including: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog poo can be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events; or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.

Dog access

The Kennel Club does not normally oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds, or enclosed recreational facilities such as tennis courts or skate parks, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers in the vicinity. We would also point out that children and dogs should be able to socialise together quite safely under adult supervision, and that having a child in the home is the biggest predictor for a family owning a dog.

We will oppose PSPOs which introduce blanket restrictions on dog walkers accessing public open spaces without specific and reasonable justification. Dog owners are required to provide their dogs with appropriate daily exercise, including “regular opportunities to walk and run”, which in most cases will be off lead while still under control. This is a provision of the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs, which accompanies the Animal Welfare (Wales) Act 2006.

Accordingly, the underlying principle we seek to see applied is that dog controls should be the least restrictive to achieve a given defined and measurable outcome; this is the approach used by Natural England. In many cases a seasonal or time of day restriction will be effective and the least restrictive approach, rather than a blanket year-round restriction. For instance a “dogs on lead” order for a picnic area is unlikely to be necessary in mid-winter.

The council should be aware that dog owners are required, under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, to provide for the welfare needs of their animals and this includes providing the necessary amount of exercise each day. Their ability to meet this requirement is greatly affected by the amount of publicly accessible parks and other public places in their area where dogs can exercise without restrictions. This section of the Animal Welfare Act was included in both the statutory guidance produced for local authorities by the Home Office on the use of PSPOs and the practitioners guidance co-published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Welsh Government.

If restrictions are to be introduced we would urge that the Council seeks the least restrictive approach, which potentially could consider both times of day and term times.

Appropriate signage

It is important to note that in relation to PSPOs the “The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014” require local authorities to –

“cause to be erected on or adjacent to the public place to which the order relates such notice (or notices) as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that place to -

- (i) the fact that the order has been made, extended or varied (as the case may be);
and
- (ii) the effect of that order being made, extended or varied (as the case may be).”

With relation to dog access restrictions such as a “Dogs Exclusion Order”, on-site signage should make clear where such restrictions start and finish. This can often be achieved by signs that on one side say, for example, “You are entering [type of area]” and “You are leaving [type of area]” on the reverse of the sign.

While all dog walkers should be aware of their requirement to pick up after their dog, signage should be erected for the PSPO to be compliant with the legislation.