

Childrens' Play Areas – Responsible Dog Ownership

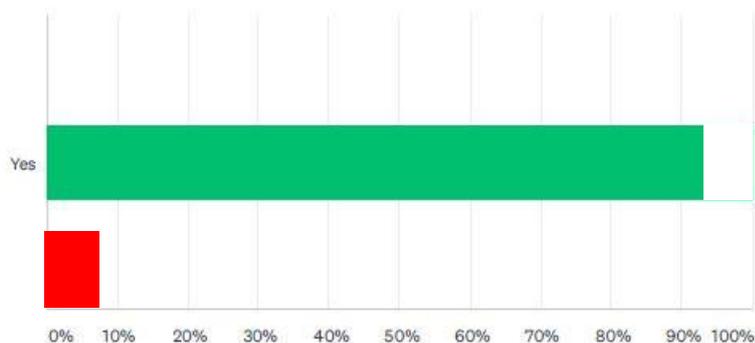
The Isle of Wight Council welcomes dogs and responsible dog owners into our parks and open spaces.

The NEW proposals, with an aim of protecting the health and wellbeing of children and others using fenced play areas is to restrict access of dogs to fenced children's play areas.

Play area location plans can be viewed on our [website](#)

Q5 Do you agree with the above proposal to formalise the arrangement for dogs to be excluded from fenced childrens' play areas?

Answered: 806 Skipped: 321



Comments Received

Comments (69) People were asked to comment if they disagreed [to view click on arrow]

1. Absolutely agree they should be on leads in play areas
2. Dogs could be on leads in these areas. Otherwise they may be left tied up to fences which could be problematical.
3. This may limit parents being about to exercise their dog and their child at the same time. Emphasis should be put on responsible ownership not exclusion.
4. so long as the dog is on a lead theres no problem
5. BUT there should be an area to safely secure dogs, bearing single parents in mind
6. I think that dogs on leads should be allowed in play areas if they are accompanying children
7. My dog and I love the park but even when on children there was stay well away from play area There is plenty of other space in park for us to play ball
8. It is important to have areas for dogs. Often parents have their children and dogs with them. It wouldn't be possible for single parents to accompany their children in the play areas.
9. Dogs should not be allowed into any children's play area. This is not a safe mix.
10. You have single parent families who have dogs. As well as children. I think dogs should be admitted in but be kept on the lead. Given this day and age no single parent will leave a child unattended in a

aground because the dog has to be walked outside of it. Dogs should be kept on leads and bins be provided.

11. They should be kept on a lead
12. Ridiculous
13. I believe we should be teaching our children to be inclusive of animals and learn how to look after them properly. Anyone who doesn't look after their dog shouldn't have one and certainly shouldn't be coming in to a playground.
14. No as long as dogs are on leads this is suitable. Some parents use this time to take dogs for walks and take children out. It would single out single families and make their life a lot harder. Banning is not the answer but responsible ownership.
15. Lots of families have dogs. If dog in lead then let them in to the area. Also why only ask to clarify the disagreement answers and not the agree?
16. Dogs in leads should be allowed
17. I feel that they should all be included, but that Chillerton play area should also be included.
18. Not necessary. Existing local arrangements are adequate.
19. Dogs cannot read and when you point out the large usually vandalised NO DOGS sign dog owners just say 'oh he's not doing any harm' or get nasty and rude that you would insult their beloved pets right to be there
20. I think total exclusion will be hard on families with children and dogs - a compromise that dogs should be on leads in these areas would seem more appropriate.
21. Dogs must be allowed into fenced play areas, but must always be kept on a lead
22. Family dogs should be allowed to be kept on leads when children are in the playgrounds
23. I disagree. I think children and dogs should be allowed in the same space as long as the dog is under the control of its owner
24. Many people who have children also have a family dog that they wish to include in the outing. As long as said dog is behaving and being cleared up after, there is no reason they should be excluded from such areas. Individuals should be punished, not dog owners as a whole.
25. Many families have dogs and they will find it difficult to manage their children's and dogs needs if they are separated.
26. Assistance dogs should be allowed
27. No point in them being fenced off areas if dogs are allowed in them. Any play areas that are currently NOT fenced in should be as it appears that it is alright for children to be at risk from dog faeces in some play areas but not others!
28. Partly...I understand that some children need their own space for play and this will also limit fouling however provision needs to be made alongside this proposal for keeping pets safe outside of the fenced play areas as a large number of families with dogs will visit these places on the way from school and take the opportunity to walk their dog at the same time. Facilities for keeping dogs secure are necessary and need to consider arrangements that avoid keeping unsupervised dogs in close proximity.
29. Exceptions would need to be made for assist dogs, etc.
30. If dogs are kept on a lead and under control then they should be allowed to enter fenced play areas. They should not be barred. Many young families have dogs and many mothers visit these play areas and they are not able to take their dogs with them.
31. Often people take the dog along when taking children to play areas. I think that dogs should be allowed in but kept on a lead
32. I do agree, some children are frightened, do not like dogs but should it also include a few meters outside the area where children also like to play on the grass. Have you thought of allocating an area where dogs can be "parked"?
33. Although what does a lone parent with a dog do? You are effectively saying that dog owning kids can't play on the swings unless both parents are free...

34. So a young mother with a dog is given more difficulty to deal with. Code of conduct on dog fouling for responsible owners, find and fine the bad ones.
35. No I do not agree.
36. Why should people who who have both children AND dogs have to leave the dog behind when taking their children to a play area?
37. Let common sense prevail
38. dogs are part of childrens lives why exclude them.
39. No this makes it very difficult for families with dogs and young children. If they can't both be in the same place you cannot supervise both at the same time. Putting them on a lead seems a more reasonable request.
40. Some parents have children and dogs, how would a single mother or father safeguard their child at the park if they must stay the other side of the fence with the dog.
41. Dogs should be allowed in children's play parks but on leads. Why should a family out with their children and pet have to miss out on going to the park?!
42. As long as they are on leads at all times!
43. Disagree
44. Dogs are part of the family and should not be excluded but should be on a lead and under control
45. Many families visit children's play areas with their dogs. Worry in case families with dogs will leave them in the car on a hot day
46. Assistance dogs of all kinds must be exempt
47. I disagree with this.
48. If they are with their families and under control and on lead ...they should be allowed....but, should warn other families and children not to approach...if they try.
49. I disagree and opposed to this idea entirely. There are plenty of responsible dog owners who have trained their dogs off lead. It's unfair that we should be punished; the proposal makes no logical sense to me. Dogs needs exercise and the best way for them to do that is off lead. There are plenty of responsible dog owners who take their dogs to the park, and play fetch with their dog without any incident.
50. Dogs on leads would be sufficient. Parents with young children and dogs cannot always find time to both walk their dog and give the child time in the play area. Any safety risk from dogs are adequately covered by other legislation.
51. What happens if I have a child and a dog? Am I expected to leave my child alone inside the fenced area or my dog alone outside the fenced area?
52. I think this would make it difficult for families with young children and dogs to make use of these areas, when out for a walk. It would make more sense to ensure the dogs stay on a lead when inside the fenced play areas instead.
53. I agree with the smaller play areas being dog free, but larger areas like simeon rec isn't fair
54. Again, families with kids and dogs face problems if you segregate. How does one parent allow a child to exercise and have fun if they have to take the dog to another area because of exclusion? Not everyone has the luxury of time for 2 outdoor events plus 2 people for said jobs
55. Most of us dog owners are responsible. We like going into open spaces with our children and dogs together as a family. Don't penalise responsible owners, sort out the non responsible owners.
56. No not gor responsible dog owners
57. But no-one ever does anything anyway.
58. I have no objections to fenced in areas, just to the restrictions on public recreational areas
59. They are protected fenced off from dogs going into them lots of family's have dogs & would restrict a family day out
60. Again it is people that are responsible for mess left at sites
61. A sign on applicable children's play area is fine. Some kids make more mess than dogs littering etc!

62. Dogs could be allowed on lead
63. Agree if a safe place to leave dogs while our children are playing is put into action.
64. Many families have dogs and are responsible for them. Restricting access may stop families enjoying the parks
65. Can we ban children instead?
66. Dogs and children should allowed to mix freely
67. I do not agree as children playgrounds are already fenced so I do not understand what is the risk of a free running dog
68. As with the previous proposals there is no context provided to understand the extent of the problem that the PSPO is looking to solve.
69. Why should my dog be excluded from my family? I have a child and dogs, when we go for a dog walk my child often likes to stop off in the park, what am I suppose to do with my dog then? I will not tie her up outside. And I can't leave my child unsupervised. It is a ridiculous rule.