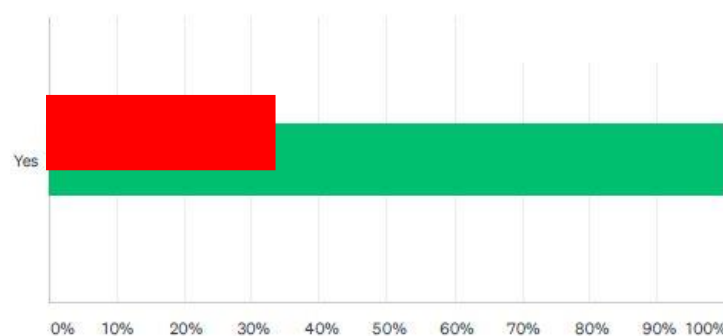


St Helens Dover - Responsible Dog Ownership – Dogs on Leads

Q7 NEW Proposal - Local landowners and St Helen's Parish Council have asked us to consider a dogs on lead order at St Helens Dover revetment area and car park during the period 1 May to 30 September. A map of this area can be found on our website Do you agree with this proposal?

Answered: 617 Skipped: 510



Comments Received

Comments (204) People were asked to comment if they disagreed. [to view click on arrow]

1. This is used respectfully by dog walkers with a choice of them being on and off the lead made by the owners, i feel this is not necessary for this area.
2. Dog owners should be trusted to use their own judgement based on the situation at the time.
3. Again owners know when it is safe and when it is not they do not need to be told.
4. No, dogs and owners can you use the area to access the beach.
5. This is a popular area where dogs exercise all year round by locals and tourists, restrictions will do more harm than good, we should be encouraging people to use our beauty spots not the opposite.
6. No
7. Unnecessary
8. No. If dig is under control, no need to enforce on lead along revetment. No different to saying be under control on other pathways
9. Dogs should be allowed all year round
10. Well mannered dogs do not need to be on a lead
11. Another piece of pointless legislation. An example of the NIMBY attitude that is overtaking and killing the Island
12. How about June to August
13. There is enough space for all users to enjoy

14. No car park area I agree with but I don't see the need for a dog to be on lead on the revetment.
15. Not required
16. It's very restrictive for an open area like the Duver to not to be able to have dogs run free
17. Dogs should be kept on a lead in any public space at all times. See comments from previous sections
18. Dogs have always been off the leads around this area. For some people that live around that way it's their local place that they can take their dogs around to walk them. You want to make that time short? People can go eat somewhere else if they don't like dogs.
19. Most definitely not. A draconian proposal spoiling the pleasure of many, many local people.
20. No ridiculous extreme
21. All dogs should be under control not necessarily on a lead. If dog does not walk to heel then unload. The word should be under control.
22. It has not been proved that this area has a problem with dogs off leads. How many complaints has there been? If in single figures there is not a problem
23. This sounds like anti-dog hysteria.
24. Again only if dog causing nuisance
25. Only July and August from 6pm and before 10am.
26. Only in July and August
27. I agree with car park but July & August for revetment & must be controlled at all times eg I have a 15 yr old lab who likes to walk at her own pace if I put her on lead she just stops but & it takes us ages to get anywhere! if I walk slightly ahead she follows.
28. No, because it is a large grassed sand dune area with few cars passing by. I suggest that the traffic should be controlled to travel slowly and drivers should be alert for any rouge dogs.
29. I think this will cause more issues than it solves with regard to animal behaviour.
30. Well behaved dogs should be allowed off the lead apart from in the car park
31. do not consider that location to be as sensitive to require dogs to be on leads as opposed to a cemetery
32. Let's all of us come up with a place to put new rules in place.
33. Please also consider dogs on leads order for Ventnor to Bonchurch revetment
34. We always keep our dog under control and love walking the Duver as part of a visit to St Helens.
35. St Helens Parish Council have also asked for consistency between the revetment and the beach, consistency for times (eg 10-4), and the duration - and that appropriate signage is in place.
36. It's a good place for dogs to exercise and it doesn't cause a nuisance
37. The duver is probable the most dog fouled place on the island, I have followed cars from Sandown taking a load of dogs to the Duver, when I took my children to school I passed the entrance EVERY car turning down towards the Duver had dogs panting with anticipation of their morning constitutional, many years ago I took my children down to the Duver to play Dog owners were putting on overshoes and wellingtons on a bright summers day, the place is a dogs toilet no more no less. The bad news is if the dogs don't go there they will go else where. DNA and fine the foulers.
38. It would be hard to enforce - what about the beach? - work needs to be done on getting owners to be responsible - no matter where they are
39. The order should not be restricted. It should be all year round.
40. no need for this
41. This is a popular dog walking area all year round. More wardens to catch the irresponsible dog owners.
42. We take our dogs up to St Helen's frequently. My dogs are extremely well behaved and will not annoy other users of this space, and nor will they scavenge. I have never seen irresponsible dog

owners at St Helens and most people seem to enjoy seeing the animals running around. Why is there a need for any further restrictions?

43. For the same reason as with beaches they need freedom to exercise, I agree that dogs should be on a lead in the car park for their own safety.
44. Dogs need free rein to run, the Duver has always been an area where they can, don't take all areas away from dog owners, I will admit some owners are not responsible but don't let the minority spoil it for the majority .
45. I disagree as this is a key space for families with dogs to enjoy a day out.
46. I don't believe this would serve any uestfull purpose
47. I strongly disagree with this proposal. Hundreds of people a day walk their dogs along here with no problems, summer and winter, including beach hut owners. We are promoting the Island as Dog Friendly so keep it so!
48. This is one of the beaches families enjoy with their dogs. It attracts business to the cafe, allows people camping / living locally whom have a dog to access the waterfront & cafe. I have been to the beach, cafe and revetment many tines with my dog, have never witnessed any issues with dogs being there & have always found it has created a nice atmosphere with people interacting with the dogs there
49. No - its not a well used area - I mainly see dog walkers when I am there with my dog
50. No- St. Helens is a great place to walk dogs. They should be under control, not on leads
51. No dogs should be allowed for off lead runs in this area
52. I cannot see the problem with a dog being off lead
53. No this is an area that many dog walkers utilise all year round and encourages visitors to the area
54. This has never caused a problem and I do not see why this is needed.
55. Not necessary for trained dogs under control
56. This seems unnecessary and a detriment to this area's attractiveness to dog owners and dog friendly tourism. As above, the Council is urged to review the duration of its tourism related bans, as Cornwall County Council has done recently, reducing most of them to cover 10am to 6pm during July and August only.
57. the 'dogs on leads' should be all year round as it is an important feeding area for migrant and winter visiting birds.
58. No always worked well for years stay as it is
59. There is enough room for dogs to be off the lead it is also national trust property not the councils
60. As with earlier answers, it seems like this is penalising the majority of dog owners for the irresponsible actions of a few and I don't feel it is justified. The council should be making use of targeted powers to combat issues with dogs rather than introducing draconian legislation.
61. Dogs need some room to roam.
62. I think that this should only last up until the start of the Autumn term in schools.
63. I strongly object to this proposal. St Helens beach is one of few beaches with no restrictions for dogs during the spring/summer and we welcome this as it is attached to the Duver which the National Trust controls and which allows dogs to be exercised off the lead. At times of high tide, the only accessible area along the beach is the promenade past the beach huts. It seems therefore an impractical proposal that is both unnecessary and that will be very difficult to manage and control. Living locally it is also apparent that this proposal stems from some of the beach hut owners/tenants who feel aggrieved by passing visitors generally. If dogs are required to be on lead to minimise disruption on a public path, I would also request that children are put in harnesses as an equal annoyance.....

64. Dogs need not to be on leads as long as dog fouling is controlled
65. This is an unworkable and unenforceable order. Dogs run from the beach to the paved area and back again all the time, it is unreasonable to expect them to just stay on the beach only.
66. This area is used extensively by both local and visitor dog owners. It will have a negative impact on tourism and revenue to local businesses
67. It is large enough to accommodate dogs.
68. The dogs love to run free at the Duver
69. I always keep my Dog under control at the Duver and so do all the other Dog walker I meet ,it is only a small amount don't
70. Makes no sense. Dogs allowed to run freely on the beach, so why not the area indicated. Little traffic, fouling is not a problem and dogs not interfering with property of residents/landowners. No issue with the beach huts as very rarely are they used. This is a good dog friendly area on the National Trust area and the beach. Never seen any problem with dogs off lead.
71. Not really necessary away from the cafe area and if a nuisance or threat then would be covered by other legislation
72. Don't feel this is necessary except perhaps peak summer season
73. If dogs cannot have a run I would not bother going there. The cafe there relays on dog walkers. In the summer lots of holidaymakers have dogs
74. I neither agree or disagree
75. Over restrictive and unnecessary. Dogs need exercise in open air all year round.
76. Dogs should be under control but not required to be on a lead
77. No, dogs should be allowed off the lead at the Duver, but we do agree to dogs being on a lead once in the car park area.
78. No. I disagree. Dogs can be off lead and still under control. This should be up to the owner to decide at the time.
79. I don't think this is necessary and further restrictions are put on dog owners
80. This is a well used area although quite rare to see anyone without a dog there when I go there. It is a very favourite area for my dog, we don't bother anyone and we clear up - my wife has limited mobility and this is one of the better places to let the dog run without doing any harm. You can have the car park bit if you must
81. I do not agree with this
82. no i do not agree
83. St Helens Duvwe should allow dogs off leads. The car park and revetment dogs should be on leads
84. I use this area for walking my dogs all year round and I use the National Trust Car Park as a NT member. As I walk the dogs on the St Helens Duver and can let them off the lead, I would also like to be able to continue to use the revetment area in the same way, with dogs off the lead. I think the majority of dog owners are responsible and aware of other beach and revetment users and this should not be a problem.
85. It's a lovely area for dog walking, and I don't see why this is necessary
86. No I do not agree.
87. I think all dogs should be on lead unless they hold a highly trained certification as there are too many nice dogs being attacked by nasty ones
88. Let common sense prevail
89. Many dog owners let their dogs off the lead.
90. Just enforce the cleaning up after them, enforcement is key to all thes issues but as usual I do not suppose anything will change
91. Well behaved dogs should be allowed to run free.

92. This should be left to the discretion of the dog owner. Imposing orders and laws at the request of 'local landowners' is tantamount to the adage 'one rule for us, another for them'.
93. This is a popular dog walking area which has been fine for years. It is used by locals and holiday makers with dogs without incident. There are plenty of other beaches with controls during high season. Leave this place be.
94. Seems very excessive as this is one of the only beaches that allows dogs all year round currently. Tourist levels will drop in this area if this is applied.
95. No. Many dog owners use the Duver to exercise their dogs, as do I. I have never seen any problems. In fact the dogs (and owners) socialise beautifully. Everyone also picks up their dog poo and places it in the numerous bins provided.
96. If this is a new restriction then no. It can be seen as the IOW Council being non dog friendly and could affect the holiday trade.
97. No,
98. I do not agree
99. The proposed area concerned is largely between two areas where no such control is proposed. Whilst I would support such control in the area where cars park before the public toilets / cafe it seems an unnecessary and unenforceable restriction on the balance of the proposed designated area.
100. Always been very popular area for dog walkers and we have used for many years. We will no longer use StHelens car park if ban initiated further loss of income to council car parking
101. It should be all year
102. As an existing user of this area there is no reason to make this change
103. The Duver is a beautiful place enjoyed by many dog owners, who respect the area.
104. Very popular dog walking area, in my experience most people I see there have a dog with them. It is a good safe place for responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs properly off lead.
105. Absolutely disagree, the dogs love free reign and I see no reason to stop this
106. No
107. The length proposed should be reduced and should finish shortly after the last beach hut (southern end) rather than extending to the Ferry House.
108. Although this is better than the previous proposal which covered the whole of the Duver area in reality this will be unenforceable. Statistics obtained under FOI show that the Council does not enforce the existing restrictions with regard to dogs on lead, beach exclusions and fouling across any areas on the Island. Extending the restriction to the revetment area is therefore pointless. What records do the landowner / parish council have regarding the number of complaints about dogs in this area and therefore what is the scale of the problem?
109. As a wide open area I don't feel it is necessary to lead a Dog here
110. It's grass land and not very busy so I don't think it should apply here
111. Agree as long as this does not include the beach
112. This is a popular dog walking area, this should remain as such
113. No - dogs should be allowed off lead at St Helens Duver but should be on lead in car park
114. Dogs love it on the Duver
115. No
116. This is a lovely place to walk dogs, don't agree with having to be kept on a lead, seems unnecessary as it's a big open space, big enough for everyone including dogs off the lead.
117. During busy periods it would be an incredibly well trained dog that could keep its nose out of someone's picnic or BBQ!
118. Dogs should be allowed to exercise off lead on the golf course area
119. I don't think that this is necessary in this case

120. Not necessary, the whole world has gone dog mad
121. Would limit if at all between 10am and 5pm - no incidents happend before and with limitation dogs are kept away during peak times in summer.
122. This is one of the few places where you can let a dog off lead, too much on lead has been shown to lead to dogs being nervous and not able to free roam. If it is because of fouling then the people allowing this should be fined, but 100% of the irresponsible owners get away with it all the time, same as any uncontrollable dogs. This is supposed to be a dog friendly island.
123. I disagree, I think the island should remain dog friendly to attract tourists.
124. Dogs should be able to enjoy the beach too
125. This is a very popular walk for dog owners, one of the few where dogs are safe off lead as there are no busy highways. It isn't an area heavily used by children, as so many other public areas are. This means there are fewer controversial overlap instances regarding children versus dog use. This is also one of the few walks where there are no livestock to contend with, so no issues for farmers to have to worry about.
126. No. There are many other beaches for people who don't like dogs to go to where dogs are banned. I don't like other peoples kids running around the beach but we can't lead them, so tough. I'll go elsewhere.
127. no
128. There is no difference between this public land and any other. Many people exercise their dogs there, especially when access to the beach is restricted. I am unaware of any evidence that the current position creates any risk to visitors. So why change it?
129. Not needed.
130. I don't walk in this area and therefore not familiar with the area but I certainly agree that a dog should be on the lead in a car park.
131. It's a popular dog walking area which requires addition waste bins
132. If I've understood the marked area properly, it's not a beach and there's no harm in having dogs off the lead. Dog owners are still required to pick up after the dogs, and the dogs will need to be on a lead near the car park since it's a public highway. It would be nice if the survey contained the reasoning behind the proposal.
133. No, because families with dogs may be visiting nodes point and this would be taking away from them and locals
134. Another draconian measure that is not required. It will penalise 'responsible' dog owners .
135. This is a very popular area for dog walkers. Most are responsible and I know it is not just me but we clean up litter from the rest of the public who only visit this area in good weather. If it is the wild flowers people are worried about then children should be banned from entering that area. Humans do most of the damage.
136. It's not needed and you give no evidence to justify this.
137. Dogs need exercise just like humans. Where else do you suggest that they get a chance to run.
138. Not required
139. No, this is an open space and dogs should be allowed off the lead.
140. Any responsible dog owners will voluntary put their dog on the lead if there is any danger to their dog or to wildlife, and also if it's very busy with people, don't punish the many because of the few. Dogs do need to be let off the lead to let off steam. The way some adults and children behave perhaps they should been restrained as well
141. Most of us dog Owners are responsible, so don't tarr us together with the none responsible ones.

142. A time restriction would be more reasonable. Between the hours of 9am and 6pm? This would then allow for people to exercise their dogs mornings and evenings
143. Meaningless when you never enforce issues re dog fouling anyway. Just a rhetoric waste of time exercise dreamed up by some desk person.
144. Perhaps between 10am and 4pm and then people can exercise their dogs before and after these times
145. There is no need for a blanket order. At some times of the day, there is nobody about and it would restrict the exercise for both the dogs and their owners.
146. This is reasonable as long as dogs are still allowed off lead on the whole of the beach area.
147. No need to have your dog on a lead here if they are well behaved
148. No danger for anyone
149. No
150. Getting very restrictive on where dogs can have a run. Responsible owners shouldn't be penalised.
151. I agree that dogs should be on lead in the car park for everyone's safety, but it will be very hard to police the footpath. Also it will be very inconvenient to put the dog on lead when crossing from the Duver to the beach. Seems like a lot of hassle for something that will surely be ignored. answers
152. This is an area which should be free for people and dogs to use as leisure space without the dog being on a lead
153. This is the only area for people who live in at Helens that may have no transport to allow their dogs to run around safely
154. No, definitely not, St Helens Duver is a main area for exercising dogs off leads during the summer months when they aren't allowed on beaches
155. Do not agree as its open space and if dogs are strictly required elsewhere to be on a lead. Then why restrict elsewhere.
156. This area I believe is NT land not council, and this request I believe has come from the person(s) that has recently brought up numerous properties in that area regardless of the residents that have lived all their lives in the village and have always walked dogs on/off leads as their choice
157. This has always been a popular area for dogs to exercise off the lead, I have never heard of, or seen any incidents that suggest the current situation should change.
158. We walk the Dover and have never seen any problems with dogs having fun off the lead more people walk their Dogs than any other recreational activity would be a real big shame to lose the option
159. No dogs should be allowed off lead
160. We take our dog to St Helens Duver on a regular basis as it is local & convenient to us. It's a good area to allow our dog the exercise he needs rather than be restricted by a lead. If a situation was to arise whereby he was required to be put on a lead then we would happily do that. It's called common sense. If the Island is to retain its reputation as dog friendly I do not see how putting restrictions on dogs in open areas such as The Duver for the period suggested would be appropriate. I sincerely hope that the views of not only ourselves but those who are like minded will not simply be brushed aside by the powers that be but considered very carefully & fairly.
161. This isn't necessary
162. Again, as long as dogs are under control there should be no need for a lead.
163. This seems unnecessary
164. There are few locations in this area to exercise dogs off leads.

165. This would restrict dog owners from being able to exercise their dogs with a particular unfair impact on persons with limited mobility and low income who may not have the option of travelling elsewhere.
166. There is absolutely no reason to implement this. The duver is a safe place for dogs to run free. It certainly doesn't hurt anybody and as long as people pick up their own dogs mess I can't see a problem. It's a lovely place for families to go and enjoy walks with dogs and picnic etc... also people who come in on boats and stay for the weekend with pets this is a ideal place for them. Absolutely ridiculous to ban dogs from St Helens Duver.
167. As Dogs are allowed on the beach and on the sand dunes behind, keeping dogs off this area/path when they are off lead will be a nightmare. Sometimes a dog will run up the stairs from the beach when they see a friend, holidaymakers with kids who run up to get an ice cream and the dog follows them etc. This part of the proposal just seems ridiculous and I can't believe more than a handful of people really believe that this is a sensible idea.
168. It should be left as it is at present
169. This is not necessary. Last time this was proposed it was overwhelmingly rejected by public consultation.
170. This is one of the few dog friendly beach areas
171. No, this is large area that we often have a well behaved dog off the lead as we move from one part of the beach to another or on walks.
172. The Duver is not a pristine family beachy environment unlike Sandown, Shanklin etc. There are limited facilities and the beach is fully covered at high tides. Parking is limited and therefore not ideal for a family day at the beach. Walkers, with or without dogs, enjoy the current environment and changes are not required. I have considered moving to St Helen's (from the mainland) as the environment is perfect for walking with my dogs. If limits are imposed I will reconsider this move.
173. Why should dogs be kept on a lead while kids run round out of control?
174. Disagree.
175. Should the period be extended to end October
176. No logical reason to implement this. Totally disagree
177. I disagree with this proposal
178. No as it does not say clearly what is the reason for that
179. This is wonderful dog walking area, there is no need for dogs to be on leads
180. No This is unfair and not necessary for the majority. If people want to take dogs to the beach they should do so responsibly and have the choice.
181. An area used by many dog owners and one should not be denied.
182. There are more than enough restrictions on dog owners. This proposal is not necessary.
183. Acceptable if only pertaining to the revetment and car park areas themselves, with dogs allowed to remain free running on beach and in grassy areas behind
184. No
185. No
186. No, leave it as it is.
187. unnecessary
188. Very difficult to manage as dogs off lead either side of path. Have never seen a problem - just a lot of happy dogs and owners.
189. Dogs need this srea
190. It works fine without one. It's a live place for owner to let their dogs be natural
191. As above. Increase in dog wardens and environment officers to monitor the location is a more effective way forward

192. The current arrangement is not a problem and it is a very popular area with dog walkers as well as families with dogs. I don't see a problem with the status quo.
193. I do not think this is necessary
194. Dogs are generally better behaved than children. Don't penalise the majority because of the minority
195. No, dogs can run free by the beachhuts, they're not causing any harm. I do agree by the carpark and cafe.
196. This is a great area for dog walkers but it does get let down by irresponsible owners. However I think a summer ban is not necessary
197. Why? If you post that the PC has asked for something then there has to be a reason.
198. ALL DOG ARE ALREADY WELL BEHAVED AND VERY DIFFICULT TO POLICE IF THIS WAS INTRODUCED
199. I disagree with this proposal. The vast majority of people using this area are exercising their dogs
200. Absolutely NOT
201. An ask from a local landowner or parish council is not evidence of a problem, nor does it provide the evidence that is required to justify the use of a PSPO
202. My family really enjoy walking on this part of the island, we meet up with many doggy friends and have a wonderful time. If our dogs were required to be on a lead, it would ruin one of our favourite things to do.
203. There are few enough areas for dogs to be off lead, without the council making more.
204. The Duver and carpark are the perfect safe space for dogs to roam and run free, I think introducing a lead only policy would be a huge mistake, it's not the right place for it.