

Dewch i
siarad RhCT
Let's talk
RCT

HAVE YOUR SAY!



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

on Dog fouling and the rules for controlling dogs in public places in RCT

Please tell us what
you think by the: **20TH JULY 2026**

How can I have my say?

-  **VISIT:** lets-talk.rctcbc.gov.uk
For more information or to take part in the consultation
-  **EMAIL:** consultation@rctcbc.gov.uk
-  **PHONE:** 01443 425014
-  **WRITE:** Freepost RUGK-EZZL-ELBH
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Research and Consultation, Third Floor Office
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What does the Council want to do?

In 2017 we made new rules for controlling dogs on public land in Rhondda Cynon Taf under what are known as Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs).

In 2020 and 2023 after consultation, the Council renewed the PSPO. The orders need to be renewed every 3 years, so we are now seeking views to extend the orders for 3 years from the 1st October 2026.

Why are the Council doing this?

Dog mess is really unpleasant to look at and can lead to a serious illness in humans called Toxocariasis. This disease can be stopped if dog mess is cleared up straight away. Some of the playing fields also need to be checked quite often for dog mess before they can be used.

Despite the introduction of the orders in 2017 and the extensions in 2020 and 2023 there remains a small number of dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs or keep them under control in public areas.

A report published by Keep Wales Tidy entitled 'An Analysis of Local Environmental Quality in RCT 2022-23' shows that since the introduction of the PSPO in 2017 there has been a reduction in the presence of dog fouling on the streets of RCT from 18% in 2017 to 8.9% in 2021-22 and 10.9% in 2022-23.

The most recent report shows an overall decrease in dog fouling, however, there was a slight increase from the previous year which shows that the PSPO has led to a reduction in the presence of dog fouling on the streets of RCT but also highlights that this still remains an issue.

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg | This document is also available in Welsh

Mae croeso i chi gyfathrebu â ni yn y Gymraeg | You are welcome to communicate with us in Welsh
If you require our advocacy service please let us know

What does this mean?

The rules in the Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) help the Council make sure that people keep their dogs under control in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

They help us control the harmful things that irresponsible dog owners may do and allow the responsible dog owners to continue to exercise their dogs without unnecessary limits.

What are the rules?

The original order, which we want to extend was based on the following rules being enforced:

- **Dog owners MUST...**
clean up their dog's mess immediately and dispose of it properly.
- **Dog owners MUST...**
carry means to pick up dog mess (i.e. bags) at all times.
- **Dog owners MUST...**
follow a direction from an authorised officer to put a dog on a lead.
- **Dogs are BANNED...**
from all schools, children's play areas and marked sports pitches maintained by the Council.
- **Dogs MUST...**
be kept on a lead at all times in Council maintained cemeteries.

→ You can see the 2023 rules here:

Dog Control - Public Spaces Protection Order 2023 – Rhondda Cynon Taf

www.rctcbc.gov.uk/DogFoulingPublicSpacesProtectionOrders

What if people don't follow the rules?

People will continue to be charged a £100 fine if they do not follow the rules.

This is the maximum amount of fine that the Council can issue.

Which areas are currently covered?

The public spaces that are included are shown on a number of maps.

→ You can click on the link below to see these:

www.rctcbc.gov.uk/DogFoulingPublicSpacesProtectionOrders

Aberdare Park

In addition to the rules above there are separate rules for Aberdare Public Park.

In Aberdare Park you must keep your dog on a lead at all times.

What happens next?

After this consultation we will write a report about what people said.

Council Cabinet Members and senior officers will then think about this and make a decision about what the rules should be for the next 3 years.