

Pecyn Dogfennau



Mark James LLM, DPA, DCA
Prif Weithredwr,
Chief Executive,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

DYDD LLUN, 16 MAI 2016

AT: HOLL AELODAU'R Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL

YR WYF DRWY HYN YN EICH GALW I FYNYCHU CYFARFOD O'R Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHELIR YN SIAMBR, NEUADD Y SIR AM 10.00 AM, DYDD LLUN, 23AIN MAI, 2016 ER MWYN CYFLAWNI'R MATERION A AMLINELLIR AR YR AGENDA SYDD YNGHLWM

Mark James

PRIF WEITHREDWR



AILGYLCHWCH OS GWELWCH YN DDA

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Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL

AELODAETH: 10 AELOD

Y Cynghorydd	Portffolio:
Y Cynghorydd Emlyn Dole	Yr Arweinydd (Plaid Cymru) Arweinyddiaeth a Strategaeth Gorfforaethol; Cadeirydd y Bwrdd Gweithredol; Cynrychioli'r Cyngor - Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru; Eiriolwr Gwleidyddol y Cyngor; Penodi'r Aelodau o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol; Penderfynu ar Bortffolios yr Aelodau o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol; Cyswllt â'r Prif Weithredwr
Y Cynghorydd David Jenkins	Dirprwy Arweinydd - Adnoddau (Plaid Cymru) Cyllid a'r Gyllideb; TGCh; Rheoli Eiddo / Asedau; Caffael; Budd-daliadau Tai; Refeniw; Hyrwyddwr y Lluoedd Arfog a Chadeirio'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn absenoldeb yr Arweinydd.
Y Cynghorydd Pam Palmer	Dirprwy Arweinydd (Annibynnol) Rheolwr Busnes y Cyngor; Hyrwyddwr Cymunedol; Ffocws Cwsmeriaid a Pholisi; Cyswllt â'r Heddlu; Diogelwch Cymunedol; Cynllunio Cymunedol Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol/Trosedd ac Anhrefn; Hyrwyddwr Gwrth-dlodi; Cynaliadwyedd; Bioamrywiaeth; Llysgennad Ieuenctid; Materion Gwledig a Chadeirio'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn absenoldeb yr Arweinydd.
Y Cynghorydd Hazel Evans	Gwasanaethau Technegol (Plaid Cymru) Sbwriel; Glanhau Strydoedd; Gwasanaethau Cludiant; Cynnal a Chadw Tiroedd; Gwasanaethau Adeiladau; Gwasanaethau Arlwygo; Gwasanaethau Gofalwyr Adeiladau; Glanhau Adeiladau; Cynlluniau Argyfwng; Llifogydd.
Y Cynghorydd Meryl Gravell	Adfywio a Hamdden (Annibynnol) Datblygu Economaidd; Canolfan Ewropeaidd Gorllewin Cymru; Datblygu Cymunedol; Chwaraeon; Canolfannau Hamdden; Amgueddfeydd; Llyfrgelloedd; Parc Gwledig
Y Cynghorydd Gareth Jones	Addysg a Phlant (Plaid Cymru) Ysgolion; Gwasanaethau Plant; Anghenion Addysgol Arbennig; Diogelu; Cartrefi Seibiant; Gwasanaeth Gwella Ysgolion Integredig Rhanbarthol; Addysg i Oedolion a Dysgu Cymunedol; Gwasanaethau Ieuenctid; yr Aelod Arweiniol dros Blant a Phobl Ifanc; Llysgennad yr Eisteddfod
Y Cynghorydd Linda Evans	Tai (Plaid Cymru) Tai (Cyhoeddus a Phreifat); Cydraddoldeb; Materion Pobol Hŷn
Y Cynghorydd Jim Jones	Diogelu'r Cyhoedd a'r Amgylchedd (Annibynnol) Gorfodi Materion Amgylcheddol; Sbwriel; Gwastraff Di-drwydded; Baw Cŵn; Gwasanaethau Parcio; Safonau Masnach; Iechyd yr Amgylchedd.
Y Cynghorydd Mair Stephens	Adnoddau Dynol, Effeithlonrwydd a Chydweithio (Annibynnol) Adnoddau Dynol; Hyfforddiant; Compact Simpson; Cyllidebu ar Sail Blaenoriaeth; Y Tîm Effeithlonrwydd Corfforaethol; Hyrwyddwr yr Iaith Gymraeg; Llysgennad Cyngorau Tref a Chymuned.
Y Cynghorydd Jane Tremlett	Gofal Cymdeithasol ac Iechyd (Annibynnol) Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Oedolion; Gofal Preswyl; Gofal Cartref; Anableddau Dysgu; Iechyd Meddwl; Cysylltu/ Cydweithredu/Integreiddio â'r GIG; Hyrwyddwr Gofalwyr; Llysgennad Anabledd; Hyrwyddwr Gofal Dementia; Hyrwyddwr 50+ a Chynrychiolydd Grwp Llywio

AGENDA

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB
2. DATGAN BUDDIANNAU PERSONOL.
3. LLOFNODI FEL COFNOD CYWIR COFNODION CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALWYD AR Y 25AIN EBRILL 2016. 5 - 10
4. CWESTIYNAU Â RHYBYDD GAN AELODAU.
5. CWESTIYNAU A RHYBYDD GAN Y CYHOEDD.
6. GORCHYMYN GWARCHOD MANNAU CYHOEDDUS (RHEOLAETHAU CWN SIR GAERFYRDDIN). 11 - 196
7. SWYDDFA ARCHWILIO CYMRU - ADRODDIAD GWELLA BLYNYDDOL 2015-16. 197 - 234
8. TO NOTE THAT THE INDEPENDENT GROUP HAS NOMINATED COUNCILLOR IVOR JACKSON TO REPLACE COUNCILLOR GILES MORGAN ON THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PANEL
9. UNRHYW FATER ARALL Y GALL Y CADEIRYDD OHERWYDD AMGYLCHIADAU ARBENNIG BENDERFYNU EI YSTYRIED YN FATER BRYN YN UNOL AG ADRAN 100B(4)(B) O DDEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL, 1972.
10. ADRODDIADAU NAD YDYNT I'W CYHOEDDI..
NI DDYLID CYHOEDDI'R ADRODDIADAU SY'N YMWNEUD Â'R MATERION CANLYNOL GAN EU BOD YN CYNWYS GWYBODAETH EITHRIEDIG FEL Y'I DIFFINIWYD YM MHARAGRAFF 14 O RAN 4 O ATODLEN 12A I DDEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL 1972 FEL Y'I DIWYGIWYD GAN ORCHYMYN LLYWODRAETH LEOL (MYNEDIAD AT WYBODAETH) (AMRYWIO) (CYMRU) 2007. OS BYDD Y BWRDD, AR ÔL CYNNAL PRAWF LLES Y CYHOEDD YN PENDERFYNU YN UNOL Â'R DDEDDF, I YSTYRIED Y MATERION HYN YN BREIFAT, GORCHMYNNIR I'R CYHOEDD ADAEL Y CYFARFOD YN YSTOD TRAFODAETH O'R FATH.
11. GRWP GORCHWYL A GORFFEN GERDDI BOTANEG CENEDLAETHOL CYMRU (GBCC). 235 - 238
12. PENTREF LLESIANT A GWYDDORAU BYWYD, LLYNNOEDD DELTA, LLANELLI 239 - 248



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Dydd Llun, 25 Ebrill 2016

YN BRESENNOL: Y Cynghorydd E. Dole (Cadeirydd)

Y Cynghorwyr:

H.A.L. Evans, L.D. Evans, M. Gravell, D.M. Jenkins, G.O. Jones, T.J. Jones,
P.A. Palmer, L.M. Stephens a/ac J. Tremlett

Yn bresennol fel sylwedyddion:-

Councillors D. Cundy, T. Devichand and J.S. Edmunds.

Yr oedd y swyddogion canlynol yn gwasanaethu yn y cyfarfod:

M. James, Prif Weithredwr
C. Moore, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol
J. Morgan, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cymunedau
R. Sully, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Phlant
I. Jones, Pennaeth Hamdden
L.R. Jones, Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith
S. Pilliner, Pennaeth Trafnidiaeth a Pheirianneg
W. Walters, Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Adfywio a Pholisi)
D. Hockenull, Rheolwr y y Cyfryngau a Marchnata
S.E. Watts, Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Iechyd y Cyhoedd
M.S. Davies, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democraidaidd

Siambwr, Neuadd y Sir - 10.00 a.m. - 10.45 a.m.

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB

Ni chafwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.

2. DATGAN BUDDIANNAU PERSONOL

Ni chafwyd dim datganiadau o fuddiant personol.

3. COFNODION

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL Iofnodi cofnodion cyfarfodydd y Bwrdd Gweithredol oedd wedi eu cynnal ar 21^{ain} Mawrth ac ar 11^{eg} Ebrill 2016 gan eu bod yn gywir.

4. CWESTIYNAU Â RHYBYDD GAN AELODAU

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau â rhybudd wedi dod i law gan yr Aelodau.

5. CWESTIYNAU A RHYBYDD GAN Y CYHOEDD

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau â rhybudd wedi dod i law gan y cyhoedd.

6. DEDDF YR AMGYLCHEDD 1995 YMGYNGHORIAD CYHOEDDUS YNGHYLCH ANSAWDD AER CAERFYRDDIN

Gan gyfeirio at gofnod 8 o gyfarfod y Bwrdd Gweithredol a gynhaliwyd ar 11^{eg} Mai 2015 rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i adroddiad a oedd yn manylu ar yr ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad ynghylch y bwriad i gyflwyno Ardal Rheoli Ansawdd Aer yng Nghaerfyrddin. Yng ngoleuni'r sylwadau a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad penderfynwyd

peidio â diwygio'r map gwreiddiol o'r ffiniau arfaethedig.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR

- 6.1 bod Gorchymyn yn cael ei gyflwyno sy'n nodi ffin Ardal Rheoli Ansawdd Aer ar gyfer Caerfyrddin, fel y nodwyd yn yr adroddiad a ddosbarthwyd;**
- 6.2 sefydlu Grŵp Llywio a fydd yn cynnwys yr holl randdeiliaid perthnasol i gynorthwyo â datblygu Cynllun Gweithredu;**
- 6.3 datblygu Cynllun Gweithredu yn unol â'r gofynion deddfwriaethol a fydd yn mynd ati i wella ansawdd aer a lleihau lefelau nitrogen deuocsid o fewn yr Ardal Rheoli Ansawdd Aer.**

7. DEDDF YR AMGYLCHEDD 1995 YMGYNGHORIAD CYHOEDDUS YNGHYLCH ANSAWDD AER LLANELLI

Gan gyfeirio at gofnod 7 o gyfarfod y Bwrdd Gweithredol a gynhaliwyd ar 11^{eg} Mai 2015 rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i adroddiad a oedd yn manylu ar yr ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad ynghylch y bwriad i gyflwyno Ardal Rheoli Ansawdd Aer yn Llanelli. Yn sgil yr ymgynghoriad roedd y map o'r ffiniau arfaethedig wedi cael ei ddiwygio i gynnwys Heol y Sandy a Bassett Terrace.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR

- 7.1 bod Gorchymyn yn cael ei gyflwyno sy'n nodi ffin Ardal Rheoli Ansawdd Aer ar gyfer Llanelli, fel y nodwyd yn yr adroddiad a ddosbarthwyd;**
- 7.2 sefydlu Grŵp Llywio a fydd yn cynnwys yr holl randdeiliaid perthnasol i gynorthwyo â datblygu Cynllun Gweithredu;**
- 7.3 datblygu Cynllun Gweithredu yn unol â'r gofynion deddfwriaethol a fydd yn mynd ati i wella ansawdd aer a lleihau lefelau nitrogen deuocsid o fewn yr Ardal Rheoli Ansawdd Aer.**

8. GWASANAETH ARCHIFAU SIR GAERFYRDDIN - ARFARNU'R DEWISIADAU POSIBL O RAN LLEOLIAD I'R GWASANAETH

Gan gyfeirio at gofnod 12 o gyfarfod y Bwrdd Gweithredol a gynhaliwyd ar 30^{ain} Tachwedd 2015 rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i adroddiad a oedd yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am statws presennol y gwasanaeth archifau ac yn amlinellu'r asesiadau o leoliadau posibl ar gyfer Gwasanaeth Archifau Sir Gaerfyrddin. Yn sgil cyfarfodydd safle ag amrywiol adrannau, barn y swyddogion oedd mai estyniad i du cefn Llyfrgell Caerfyrddin fyddai'r lleoliad mwyaf amlwg ar gyfer Gwasanaeth Archifau newydd Sir Gaerfyrddin. Yn amodol ar gymeradwyaeth y Bwrdd, byddai swyddogion yn mynd ati i lunio cynlluniau manwl a chostau ar gyfer y safle. Roedd yr ymchwiliadau cychwynnol wedi dangos bod digon o le ar y safle ar gyfer popeth sydd ei angen, ac y dylai fod modd cyflawni'r cynllun yn unol â'r gyllideb gyfalaf sydd wedi'i dyrannu.

Diolchodd yr Aelod o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol dros Adfywio a Hamdden i bawb a fu'n rhan o symud materion ymlaen.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL

8.1 nodi statws y Gwasanaeth Archifau presennol;



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8.2 cymeradwyo'r argymhelliad i leoli Gwasanaeth Archifau newydd Sir Gaerfyrddin y tu cefn i Lyfrgell Caerfyrddin.

9. Y RHAGLEN MODERNEIDDIO ADDYSG - ADOLYGIAD DWYFLYNYDDOL [SYLWER: Tynnwyd yr eitem hon yn ôl.]

10. CYMORTH ARIANNOL O GRANT CRONFA'R DEGWM

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried cais i Gronfa'r Degwm gan Fenter Mynyddoedd Cambrian am gyllid tuag at gynnig 'Gwytnwch Cymunedol a Pharc Natur'.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL roi grant o £3,000 i Fenter Mynyddoedd Cambrian mewn perthynas â'r prosiect uchod yn amodol ar y telerau a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad.

11. CAIS I'R GRONFA DATBLYGU

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad a oedd yn manylu ar gais gan yr Adran Cymunedau i'r Gronfa Ddatblygu am gymorth ariannol i adnewyddu offer ffitrwydd a chynyddu'r lleoedd ffitrwydd yn rhai o gyfleusterau hamdden yr Awdurdod. Y cyllid y gwnaed cais amdano oedd £600,000.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL

11.1 cymeradwyo rhoi swm o £600,000 ar gyfer adnewyddu offer ffitrwydd a chynyddu'r lleoedd ffitrwydd yn rhai o gyfleusterau hamdden yr Awdurdod;

11.2 bod maen prawf rhif 5 y Gronfa Ddatblygu yn cael ei osod o'r neilltu yng nghyswllt y cais hwn;

11.3 bod yr ad-daliad am y cynllun uchod yn para dros gyfnod o bedair blynedd;

11.4 o ystyried y cyllid sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd yn y Gronfa Ddatblygu, er mwyn rhoi'r cynllun hwn ar waith, bod swm o £500,000 yn cael ei drosglwyddo o'r gronfa wrth gefn a glustnodwyd ar gyfer Yswiriant i'r Gronfa Ddatblygu, gan ad-dalu'r swm hwn ar gyfradd o £125,000 y flwyddyn dros y pedair blynedd.

12. ADRODDIAD MONITRO CYLLIDEB REFENIW Y CYNGOR

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried yr adroddiad monitro ynghylch y gyllideb refeniw am y cyfnod o 1^{af} Ebrill, 2015 i 29^{ain} Chwefror, 2016.

Yn gyffredinol, roedd yr adroddiad yn rhagweld y byddai tanwariant diwedd blwyddyn o £793,000 ar gyllideb refeniw net yr Awdurdod ac y byddai gorwariant o £638,000 ar lefel adrannol. Rhagwelid tanwariant o £2.8m yn y Cyfrif Refeniw Tai.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL

12.1 derbyn yr Adroddiad Monitro ynghylch y Gyllideb;

12.2 bod y Prif Swyddogion a'r Penaethiaid Gwasanaeth yn adolygu eu

sefyllfaoedd cyllidebol yn feirniadol ac yn cymryd camau priodol er mwyn cadw'r gwariant yn unol â'r gyllideb a ddyrannwyd.

13. DIWEDDARU RHAGLEN GYFALAF 2015-16

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad oedd yn rhoi diweddariad ynghylch gwariant y Rhaglen Gyfalaf yn erbyn cyllideb 2015/16, fel yr oedd ar 28^{ain} Chwefror, 2016.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL fod yr adroddiad diweddaru ynghylch y rhaglen gyfalaf yn cael ei dderbyn.

14. ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL PANEL ANNIBYNNOL CYMRU AR GYDNABYDDIAETH ARIANNOL (IRPW), (CHWEFROR, 2016)

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i adroddiad a oedd yn manylu ar y penderfyniadau a'r argymhellion yn Adroddiad Blynyddol Panel Annibynnol Cymru ar Gydabyddiaeth Ariannol [Chwefror 2016] i'w gynnwys yng Nghynllun Cyflogau a Lwfansau presennol y Cynghorwyr ac Aelodau Cyfetholedig ar gyfer 2016/17. Yn ôl Cyfansoddiad y Cyngor roedd yn ofynnol i'r Cyngor fabwysiadu Cynllun ar gyfer Lwfansau'r Aelodau a gydymffurfiai â gofynion Panel Annibynnol Cymru ar Gydabyddiaeth Ariannol. Yn ogystal roedd yr Adroddiad yn manylu ar argymhellion Pwyllgor y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd i'r Cyngor ar gyfer y cyfarfod ar 11^{eg} Mai 2016.

Roedd yr Aelodau yn ansicr ynghylch pa mor 'annibynnol' oedd y Panel mewn gwirionedd ac roeddent o'r farn y dylid ystyried lwfansau Cynghorwyr yn erbyn y galwadau arnynt a'r cyfrifoldebau a roddir iddynt, a hynny yn achos Aelodau'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn benodol, o gymharu ag Aelodau Cynulliad ac Aelodau Seneddol. Hefyd y farn oedd ei bod yn annhebygol y byddai pobl iau'n cael eu hannog i sefyll mewn etholiadau lleol oni bai ei bod yn economaidd ymarferol iddynt wneud hynny.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYFOL fabwysiadu argymhellion Pwyllgor y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd i'r Cyngor.

15. ADRODDIAD NAD YDYNT I'W CYHOEDDI

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL, yn unol â Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972, fel y'i newidiwyd gan Orchymyn Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth) (Amrywio) (Cymru) 2007, orchymyn i'r cyhoedd adael y cyfarfod tra oedd yr eitemau canlynol yn cael eu hystyried, gan fod yr adroddiadau yn cynnwys gwybodaeth eithriedig fel y'i diffiniwyd ym Mharagraff 14 o Ran 4 o Atodlen 12A i'r Ddeddf.

16. CAM 2 FFORDD GYSWLLT ECONOMAIDD CROSS HANDS - PRYNU TIR

Yn sgil gweithredu prawf budd y cyhoedd **PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL**, yn unol â'r Ddeddf y cyfeiriwyd ati yng Nghofnod 15 uchod, ystyried y mater hwn yn breifat gan orchymyn i'r cyhoedd adael y cyfarfod, gan y byddai'r drafodaeth yn datgelu gwybodaeth eithriedig ynghylch materion ariannol neu faterion busnes unrhyw unigolyn penodol (gan gynnwys yr Awdurdod oedd yn meddu ar y wybodaeth honno).

Gan gyfeirio at gofnod 3 o gyfarfod y Bwrdd Gweithredol a gynhaliwyd ar 2^{il} Mehefin 2014 rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i adroddiad a oedd yn amlinellu'r cynnydd a oedd wedi'i wneud o ran datblygu'r prosiect uchod a'r angen i brynu darnau o dir, lle bo'r angen, er mwyn ei gyflawni. Hefyd roedd yr adroddiad yn rhoi manylion am

ffynonellau cyllid posibl yn y dyfodol ar gyfer y prosiect.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL

- 16.1 nodi'r cynnydd a oedd wedi'i wneud o ran y prosiect ers i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol gymeradwyo'r Llwybr a Ffebrir ym mis Mehefin 2014;**
- 16.2 cymeradwyo defnyddio pwerau Prynu Gorfodol, yn ôl yr angen.**

17. LLWYBR BEICIO DYFFRYN TYWI - PRYNU TIR

Yn sgil gweithredu prawf budd y cyhoedd **PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL**, yn unol â'r Ddeddf y cyfeiriwyd ati yng Nghofnod 15 uchod, ystyried y mater hwn yn breifat gan orchymyn i'r cyhoedd adael y cyfarfod, gan y byddai'r drafodaeth yn datgelu gwybodaeth eithriedig ynghylch materion ariannol neu faterion busnes unrhyw unigolyn penodol (gan gynnwys yr Awdurdod oedd yn meddu ar y wybodaeth honno).

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad a oedd yn amlinellu'r cynnydd a oedd wedi'i wneud o ran y prosiect uchod a'r angen i brynu darnau o dir, lle bo'r angen, er mwyn ei gyflawni. Byddai'r cynllun yn darparu llwybr cerdded a beicio diogel rhwng Caerfyrddin a Llandeilo gan ddefnyddio'r hen reilffordd drwy Ddyffryn Tywi. Y weledigaeth yw: *'Creu cyfleuster teithio llesol o'r radd flaenaf yn Nyffryn Tywi sy'n cysylltu Caerfyrddin a Llandeilo ac, yn sgil hynny, cysylltu cymunedau, creu cyfleoedd twristiaeth, a hybu teithio diogel, cynaliadwy ac iach.'* Hefyd roedd yr adroddiad yn rhoi manylion am ffynonellau cyllid posibl yn y dyfodol ar gyfer y prosiect.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL

- 17.1 nodi'r cynnydd a oedd wedi'i wneud o ran y prosiect;**
- 17.2 cymeradwyo prynu tir sydd ei angen ar gyfer y prosiect;**
- 17.3 cymeradwyo defnyddio pwerau Prynu Gorfodol yn ôl yr angen.**

CADEIRYDD

DYDDIAD

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL

23 MAI 2016

**GORCHYMYN GWARCHOD MANNAU CYHOEDDUS
(RHEOLAETHAU CŴN SIR GAERFYRDDIN)**

Yr argymhellion / penderfyniadau allweddol sydd eu hangen:
Ailystyried penderfyniad gwreiddiol y Bwrdd a gynhaliwyd ar 21ain Mawrth 2016 er mwyn ystyried yr holl ymatebion perthnasol i'r ymgynghoriad.

Y Rhesymau:.

Yn ei gyfarfod ar 21ain Mawrth 2016 bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad ynghylch cyflwyno Gorchymyn Gwarchod Mannau Cyhoeddus (Rheolaethau Cŵn Sir Gaerfyrddin) ac

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL:

- 17.1 Derbyn yr ymatebion a gafwyd o'r ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus;
- 17.2 Bod y Gorchymyn Gwarchod Mannau Cyhoeddus sydd ynghlwm wrth yr adroddiad (Atodiad 1) yn dod i rym ar 1 Gorffennaf, 2016;
- 17.3 Cymeradwyo cosb benodedig o £100 fydd yn berthnasol i dorri amodau'r Gorchymyn Gwarchod Mannau Cyhoeddus, i'w thalu cyn pen 14 diwrnod calendr (yn amodol ar y cynllun ad-dalu'n gynnar)
- 17.4 Cymeradwyo cynllun ad-dalu'n gynnar lle gellid talu cosb benodedig o £50, os byddai'r tâl yn dod i law cyn pen 10 diwrnod calendr.

Oherwydd problem wrth drosi un o'r dogfennau mae wedi dod i'r amlwg nad oedd yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad llawn wedi eu cynnwys yn yr adroddiad. Gofynnir i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol ailystyried yr adroddiad.

Ymgynghorwyd â'r Pwyllgor Craffu Perthnasol: Oes
Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad OES
Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad NAC OES

YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO:- Y
Cynghorydd T J Jones

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth:
Adran yr Amgylchedd
**Yr Is-adran Gwasanaethau
Stryd**
Awdur yr Adroddiad:
Michael Roberts

 Awdur yr Adroddiad: Michael
Roberts

Swyddi:

Amherthnasol

 Swyddog Polisi a Strategaeth
Gorfodi Materion
Amgylcheddol

Est 5506

Cyfeiriadau E-bost:

MJRoberts@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE BOARD

23RD MAY 2016

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The issue of Dog Control Orders across Carmarthenshire has been considered at a number of meetings of the Executive Board. Proposals were previously considered under the provisions of the Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005

1.2 The Dog Control Order provisions in the Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005 have now been repealed and replaced with the new powers in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The new act gives authorities power to deal with anti-social behaviour by issuing offenders with Community Protection Notices, or by making Public Spaces Protection Orders that apply to public spaces.

2 THE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

2.1 The new legislation came in to force in October 2014. This means that we are no longer able to make any new dog control orders under the old legislation.

2.2 Under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 local authorities are able to introduce Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) instead. These new PSPOs can be used to introduce controls on dogs, as well as wider controls to deal with wider forms of anti-social behaviour on public land.

2.3 At the Executive Board meeting on 13th July 2015, it was resolved to progress with a consultation exercise as part of the formal order making process.

2.4 The proposed order has 3 main elements:-

- A requirement that people cleanup after their dog if it defecates on public land. This will apply to all publicly accessible land in the County.
- A provision requiring people to place their dog on a lead of not more than 2 metres in length, when directed to do so by an authorised officer of the Council. This will also apply on all publicly accessible land in the County.
- A provision prohibiting dogs from all outdoor enclosed children's play areas in the County.

Penalties

2.5 A person committing an offence under the order will be liable upon prosecution to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the Standard scale (currently £1,000).

2.6 Alternatively, a Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued to a person who breaches the order, thereby affording them the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence

by means of payment of a fixed penalty.

3. RESULTS OF CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

3.1 The Council consulted the general public and interested organisations from the 19th October to 14th December 2015.

3.2 The Council received 476 responses to this consultation and the vast majority of the respondents were in support of the authority's proposals. It was pleasing to note that 56% of the respondents were dog owners. The results are broadly summarised as follows:

- 98% of respondents either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the proposal for an Order to ensure dog owners clear up after their dogs.
- 89% of the respondents either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the proposal for the introduction of an order to direct the use of leads.
- 87% of the respondents either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the proposal for the introduction of an order to exclude dogs from all outdoor enclosed children's play areas within the county.

4. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- The Order will be need to be published on the Council's Website prior to implementation.
- Existing dog fouling signage will need to be removed and new dog fouling signage will need to be erected across the County.
- Prior to implementation we will undertake a program of education and awareness, to ensure that people are aware of the new orders.
- A three month lead-in period is required to give officers time to identify and inspect the children's play areas covered by the order and to erect the necessary signs.
- The new orders should come in to force on the 1st July 2016 at the earliest. In the meantime, we will still be able to continue enforcing the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.
- The proposed PSPO will remain in force for a period of 3 years from the commencement date and will be subsequently reviewed.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 It is recommended that:-

- The responses from the formal public consultation exercise be considered.
- The Public Spaces Protection Order annexed to the detailed report (Appendix 1) is adopted and brought into force on the 1st July 2016 at the earliest.
- To approve a fixed penalty of £100 to apply to breaches of the Public Spaces Protection Order, to be paid within 14 days (subject to the early repayment scheme);
- To approve an early repayment scheme where a reduced fixed penalty of £50 can be paid, if payment is made within 10 days.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: A Williams **Street Care Manager**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities.

This matter falls within Community Safety and Public Health Policies and Initiatives. These proposals will support the Council's aims with regard to reducing environmental Crime and Safeguarding Public Health.

An Equality Impact Assessment in respect of the proposal is attached to the detailed report (Appendix 4).

2. Legal

Introduction of the PSPO (Dog Control Orders) is not a legal duty. However, there may be benefits from introducing the recommended orders, and this would be done in compliance with all the relevant legislation and in consultation with the Council's Legal Services Department.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: A Williams **Street Care Manager**

1. Scrutiny Committee

The Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee was consulted on the 8th June 2015 with respect to the PSPO proposal set out in this report. It was recommended that the Executive Board to commence the order making process, which includes a formal consultation exercise that has now been completed.

Recommendations / Comments:

The original recommendation by Scrutiny Committee also requested that the Executive Board, consider the following additional aspects:

- An order for dogs to be kept on leads at all times on all sports pitches, parks and playgrounds
- An order for dogs to be kept on leads at all times on all public highways.

On 13th July 2015 the Executive Board resolved to commence the statutory order making process in respect of the proposed PSPO, subject to formal consultation: They also resolved that that the additional orders proposed by the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee be considered 6 months after introduction of the currently proposed PSPO.

- 2. Local Member(s)** - N/A; affects whole Authority area.
- 3. Community / Town Council** – N/A; all Town / Community Council affected and included as part of consultation exercise.
- 4. Relevant Partners** - Dyfed Powys Police Authority, Kennel Club, Dog's Trust, Local Access Groups, Neighbouring local authorities and other key stakeholders.
- 5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 Statutory guidance for frontline professionals	Home Office	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/352562/ASB_Guidance_v8_July2014_final_2_.pdf
2014 DEFRA Dealing Practitioner's Manual on dealing with irresponsible dog ownership	DEFRA	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/373429/dog-ownership-practitioners-manual-201411.pdf
The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014	Legislation.gov.uk	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/2591/pdfs/uksi_20142591_en.pdf
Anti – Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Commencement dates of the provisions of the Act.	Home Office	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/365417/asbcp-act-2014.pdf
The Dog's Trust – Being a Good Dog Owner	Dog's trust Website	http://www.dogstrust.org.uk/resources/resources/factsheets09/factsheetresponsibledogownership12.pdf
The Kennel Club - Responsible Dog Ownership	The Kennel Club Website	http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/responsibledogownersh ip

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

DETAILED REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

Public Spaces Protection Order (Carmarthenshire Dog Controls)

HEAD OF SERVICE & DESIGNATION. N/A (Street Scene)	DIRECTORATE Environment	TELEPHONE NO. Ext 4647
AUTHOR & DESIGNATION Michael Roberts Environmental Enforcement Policy and Strategy Officer	DIRECTORATE Environment	TELEPHONE NO Ext 5506

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The issue of Dog Control Orders across Carmarthenshire has been considered at a number of meetings of the Executive Board. Proposals were previously considered under the provisions of the Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005
- 1.2 The Dog Control Order provisions in the Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005 have now been repealed and replaced with the new powers in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The new act gives authorities power to deal with anti-social behaviour by issuing offenders with Community Protection Notices, or by making Public Spaces Protection Orders that apply to public spaces.

2. THE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

- 2.1 The new legislation came in to force in October 2014. This means that we are no longer able to make any new dog control orders under the old legislation.
- 2.2 Under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 local authorities are able to introduce Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) instead. These new PSPOs can be used to introduce controls on dogs, as well as wider controls to deal with wider forms of anti-social behaviour on public land.
- 2.3 As it currently stands the County Council is still using the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, to deal with dog fouling within the County. In 2001, an order was made designating parts of the County for the purposes of the 1996 Act. Those designations have never been revoked or replaced and the Council still enforces on the basis of the 1996 Act within these designated areas. Since the introduction of fixed penalty tickets 503 fines have been issued under this act. It is anticipated that the number of fines will increase as the present restrictions will be eliminated and there are more offences that can be committed. Following the independent findings of Keep Wales Tidy for 2014-2015 it shows the decrease of dog fouling from 7.2% to 4%. The overall cleanliness indicator was reported at 68.7% which is equivalent to the Welsh national average.

- 2.4. At the Executive Board meeting on 13th July 2015, it was resolved to consult the general public and other interested organisations on the introduction of public Spaces Protection Orders (Dog Controls) within Carmarthenshire (Appendix 1). These controls would assist Officers in dealing with a minority of dog owners who do not adequately supervise their dogs. The Council conducted a public consultation from the 19th October to the 14th December 2015 on a PSPO in the following terms:-

Dog Fouling

If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this part of the Order applies, and the person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless he can show that:-

- (a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to him failing to do so;

This part of the Order applies to all public places in the County of Carmarthenshire.

For these purposes, a "public place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

For the purpose of this part of the Order:

- (a) placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for this purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be a sufficient removal from the land;
- (b) being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces, shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces;

Dogs on Leads by Direction

A person in charge of a dog will be guilty of an offence if at any time, on land to which this part of the Order applies, they fail to comply with a direction given to them by an authorised officer of the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead of not more than 2 metres in length for such period and/or in such circumstances as directed by the officer, unless he can show that:-

- (a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land, has consented (generally or specifically) to him failing to do so.

For these purposes, a "lead" means any rope, cord, leash or similar item used to tether, control or restrain a dog, but does not include any such item which is not actively being used as a means of restraint so that the dog remains under a person's close control.

This part of the Order applies to all public places in the County of Carmarthenshire.

For these purposes, a "public place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission

For the purposes of this part of the Order, an authorised officer of the Council may only direct a person to put and keep a dog on a lead if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.

In this part of the Order "an authorised officer of the Council" means a person who is authorised in writing by the Authority for the purpose of giving directions under this Order. This can include a person who is not an employee of the Council.

Dog Exclusions

A person in charge of a dog will be guilty of an offence if at any time he takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or remain on, any land to which this part of the Order applies, unless he can show that:-

- (a) he has a reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land, has consented (generally or specifically) to him doing so;

This Part of the Order applies to all enclosed children's play areas in the County of Carmarthenshire that are open to the air.

For these purposes land which is covered is to be treated as land which is "open to the air" if it is open on at least one side.

Exemptions for Disabled People

The dog fouling provisions in the Order will not apply to a person who:

- (a) is registered as partially sighted or blind, in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
- (b) is registered as "sight-impaired", "severely sight-impaired" or as "having sight and hearing impairments which, in combination, have a significant effect on their day to day lives", in a register compiled under section 18 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or
- (c) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination, or ability to lift, carry, or otherwise move everyday objects, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces; or

- (d) has some other disability, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces.

The dog exclusion provisions in the Order will not apply to a dog trained by a registered charity to assist a person with a disability and upon which a disabled person relies for assistance.

For the purposes of the Order, a “disability” will mean a condition that qualifies as a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010 and a “disabled person” will mean a person who has such a disability.

Exemption for Working Dogs

The Order will not apply to the normal activities of working dogs, whilst they are working.

This will include dogs that are being used for work in connection with emergency search and rescue, law enforcement and the work of Her Majesty’s armed forces; farm dogs that are being used to herd or drive animals; dogs that are being lawfully used for the capture or destruction of vermin and dogs that are being lawfully used for the purposes of hunting.

Other Matters

For the purposes of the Order a person who habitually has a dog in his possession will be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.

Where the person in charge of a dog wishes to rely upon any of the exemptions set out in this order, the burden will be on him to prove that he satisfies the requirements of the exemption being relied upon.

Penalties

A person committing an offence under the order will be liable upon prosecution to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the Standard scale (currently **£1,000**).

A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued to a person who breaches the order, offering them the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence by the payment of a fixed penalty.

3. RESULTS OF CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

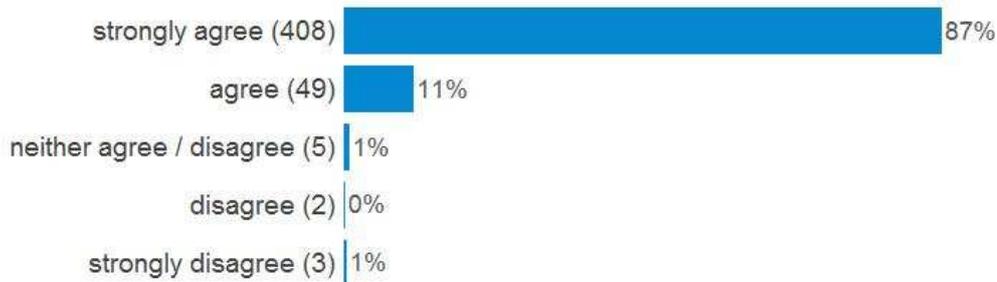
- 3.1 The Council consulted the general public and interested organisations from the 19th October to 14th December 2015. During this period the proposed dog controls were featured in the local media, social networks and for the final two weeks on Carmarthenshire & Scarlet FM radio.
- 3.2 A consultation report setting out full details of the public consultation and the results of the consultation exercise is attached (Appendix 2) together with all of the comments that were received and our responses to them (Appendix 3).

3.3 The Council received **476** responses to this consultation and the vast majority of the respondents were in support of the authority's proposals. It was pleasing to note that **56%** of the respondents were dog owners.

The survey asked respondents to state how far they agreed with the following proposals :

a) ***“the Council I proposing to make an order that will require people to clean up after dog(s) immediately if it defecates on Public Land”.***

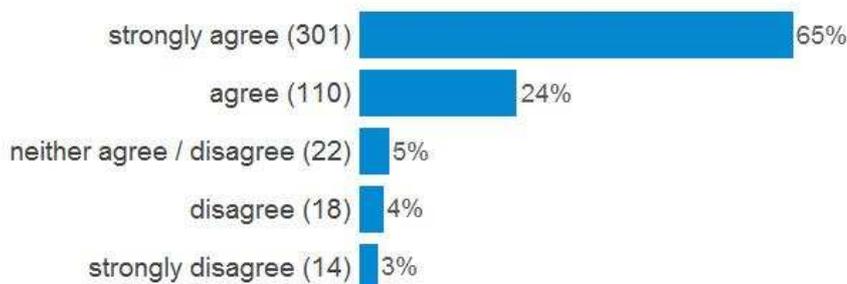
The results are as follows:



With 98% of respondents either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the proposal, there was near unanimous support for an Order to ensure dog owners clear up after their dogs.

b) ***“the council is proposing to make an order that will require people to place their dog on a lead of no more than 2 metres in length when directed to do so by an authorised officer”.***

The results are as follows :

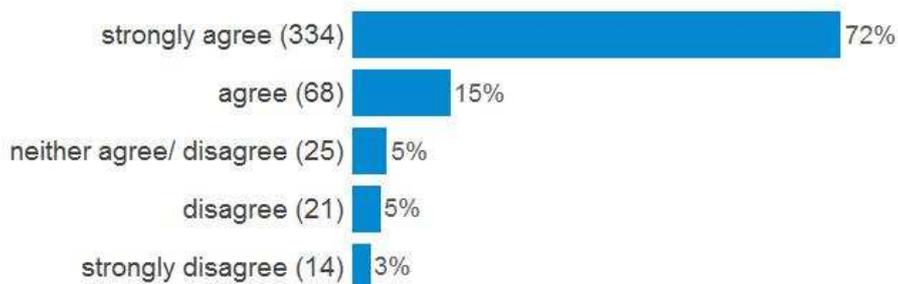


With 89% of the respondents either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the proposal, there was strong support for the introduction of an order to direct the use of leads.

We also asked people whether the proposed maximum lead length of 2m was reasonable. 82% of respondents to the survey agreed that 2m was reasonable, with 18% saying otherwise.

c) ***“the council is proposing to make an order dogs should be excluded from all outdoor enclosed children’s play areas in the county”.***

The results are as follows:



With 87% of the respondents either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the proposal, there was strong support for the introduction of an order to exclude dogs from all outdoor enclosed children’s play areas within the county.

4. AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT ORDER, AND OTHER KEY ISSUES ARISING DURING THE CONSULTATION ETC.

- 4.1 As a result of the public consultation, we have decided to make one minor amendment to the draft order. The Dogs on leads provision in the draft order allowed officers to require a dog to be placed on a lead where it was “causing a nuisance to any animal or bird”. The reference to bird is unnecessary.
- 4.2 A number of the respondents to the consultation identified locations in their community where there are dog fouling problems and other dog related issues. This information will be used when planning future enforcement activities, to help us to target these hotspot areas.
- 4.3 A number of the respondents raised concerns about the enforcement of the orders, and whether the authority has sufficient resources to be able to enforce the orders. A number of respondents indicated that problems often occur outside normal work hours and suggested that there was a need for enforcement officers to be enforcing early in the morning and at evening time.
- 4.4 A number of the respondents raised concerns about a lack of bins where dog owners can dispose of their dog’s faeces, and the frequency with which some bins are emptied. We will therefore be reviewing the number and locations of bins in public areas and the frequency with which they are emptied. Signage will also be placed on bins to ensure that people are aware that they can dispose of bags of dog faeces in litter bins.
- 4.5 Some respondents also suggested that the authority should provide bags in popular dog walking locations.
- 4.6 Some people raised concerns about packs of dogs being used for hunting. They are exempt from the order, as they are regarded as working dogs. We will monitor to see if there are problems of this nature and will work with hunt groups to address any problems that arise.
- 4.7 It is clear from the consultation, that a small number of people were confused about the provision excluding dogs from enclosed children’s play areas. Some respondents may have misunderstood the order, as they appear to have believed that the order was excluding dogs from all parks and/or recreational land.

- 4.8 The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
- 4.9 As part of the statutory consultation, the Council publishing a "Frequently Asked Questions" document on its website in an attempt to help people to understand the proposed order and to answer any questions that they may have. We will be reviewing this FAQ document and amending it to explain the position more fully and to give some illustrated examples. If the PSPO is made, the Council will be publishing this document on its website. The enclosed children's play areas where the dogs are prohibited, will also be marked with appropriate signage.
- 4.10 Some respondents expressed concern about the tethering of dogs outside play areas, saying that dogs tethered at the entrance to play areas could deter people from using play area, and that the authority could consider fixed tethering points for dogs. We will review the need for further facilities for people to safely tether their dogs.
- 4.11 A number of respondents suggested that dogs should be kept on leads at all times in all public places, on all park areas and recreational land. Others suggested that dogs should be banned from all park areas and recreational land. A broad order excluding dogs from all these areas, or requiring dogs to be kept on a lead at all times in these areas, would not be appropriate, as there need to be areas where dogs can be exercised off lead for welfare reasons.
- 4.12 Any order to exclude dogs from these areas, would need to be evidence based and would need to consider locations on a site-by-site basis and we would need to ensure that there was alternative land available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.
- 4.13 Rather than excluding all dogs from these areas, by means of very onerous and administratively burdensome PSPOs, we propose to use Community Protection Notices to deal with any individuals who cause persistent problems at these sites. A Community Protection Notice, is a legal notice that imposes conditions on the behaviour of an individual who is causing anti-social behaviour. They are intended to deal with ongoing problems or nuisances which negatively affect the community's quality of life, by targeting the individual(s) responsible for it.
- 4.14 We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's if there is sufficient evidence available to warrant the introduction of additional PSPO's.
- 4.15 Some respondents suggested that dogs should be excluded from parks and sports pitches. We recognise that members also have concerns about dogs fouling on the county's sports pitches. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches, is difficult. The locations of the pitches can change, and pitch markings are often not maintained all year round. Most pitches are also not fenced off from the rest of the site, and

fencing them off would have resource implications. Therefore, dog owner may not know which areas their dogs are excluded from at different times of the year.

- 4.16 Any order to exclude dogs from parks or sports pitches need to be evidence based, considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches at this time, we propose to use Community Protection Notices to deal with dog owners who allow their dogs to foul on the pitches. We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's if there is sufficient evidence available to warrant the introduction of additional PSPO's.
- 4.17 Some people suggested that dogs should be kept on a short lead on all cycle paths, to prevent accidents. This is a difficult issue, as People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In some locations, cycle paths are the only places where people can exercise their dog off-lead. Some cycle paths also run through large open spaces where dogs are allowed off lead. We will keep the situation with dogs on cycle paths under review and may consider further PSPO's to address this in future if necessary. We will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with any problems that arise.

5. THE CRITERIA FOR MAKING A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

5.1 A local authority may make a Public Spaces Protection Order if satisfied on reasonable grounds that:

- activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or

it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect; and
- the effect, or likely effect, of the activities-
 - (a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
 - (b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
 - (c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

5.2 We believe that these criteria are met because:-

- People who fail to clean up after their dogs on publicly accessible land cause nuisance to others. The presence of dog faeces is a potential hazard to all members of the public alike. It causes risks to health, defaces land and has the potential to deface people and their property.
- When not properly supervised and kept under control, dogs that are allowed off a lead in public areas can cause road traffic accidents, and can cause nuisance or injury to members of the public and to other animals.

- Dogs that are allowed in to children's play areas can become aggressive if startled. They can also defecate in these areas, defacing the amenity and causing a health risk to the young children that use them.

5.3 We are satisfied that the behaviour set out in paragraph 5.2 has had, and is likely to continue to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of people within Carmarthenshire. We also believe that the behaviour is likely to be of a persistent or continuing nature, it is unreasonable and it justifies the restrictions that are being proposed. The results of the public consultation support this.

6. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 The Order will be need to be published on the Council's Website prior to Implementation.

6.2 Prior to implementation we will need to remove the existing dog fouling signage and erect suitable new dog fouling signage across the County.

6.3 In addition, we will also need to order new signage for the enclosed children's play areas and erect signs at all of these play areas covered by the exclusion order. This will potentially include assets held by town and community councils and sports associations, as well as County Council land. We are in the process of identifying and inspecting all of the play areas that will be covered by the order. A number of issues have also arisen, with some sites not being adequately fenced off, or with fences and gates being in disrepair. We will also need to liaise with 3rd parties in respect of privately owned and controlled sites, to confirm that they wish dogs to be excluded from their play areas and are happy for us to erect the necessary signage on their land.

6.4 Prior to implementation we will undertake a program of education and awareness, to ensure that people are aware of the new orders. This will include a media campaign. There will also be a dedicated section on the Council's website in respect of the new orders, including "Frequently Asked Questions" document to assist members of the public. We will also be developing and publishing a code of practice for dog walkers.

6.5 A three month lead-in period is required to give officers time to identify and inspect the children's play areas covered by the order, to erect the necessary signage and undertake a program of education and awareness prior to implementation. We are therefore proposing that the new orders come in to force on the 1st July 2016 at the earliest. In the meantime, we will still be able to continue enforcing the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.

6.6 The proposed PSPO will remain in force for a period of 3 years from the commencement date. Before the 3 years expires, the PSPO will need to be reviewed to ensure that it is still required.

7. IMPACT OF THE NEW PSPO ON EXISTING BYELAWS AND THE DOGS (FOULING OF LAND) ACT 1996.

- 7.1 When the PSPO comes in to force, we will no longer enforce the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, as we will use the Public Spaces Protection Order to deal with dog fouling instead.
- 7.2 The existing byelaws introducing seasonal dog exclusions (from 1st May to 30th September) at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach and the byelaw requiring dogs to be kept on leads at all times on Llansteffan Green, will remain in force.
- 7.3 The byelaw excluding dogs from the children's play area at Pembrey Country Park will no longer be enforced. Dogs will still be excluded from that area, but we will enforce the PSPO instead.

8. THE FIXED PENALTY TO BE IMPOSED FOR BREACHES OF THE PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

- 8.1 Under the current enforcement regime failure by the owner to clear up after their dog can result in the person being issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) imposing a maximum fixed penalty of £75.
- 8.2 Under the new Public Spaces Protection Order the Council may choose to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice to anyone who breaches the order, giving them the opportunity to discharge any liability to conviction by paying a fixed penalty within 14 days. The maximum fixed penalty that can be imposed is currently £100.
- 8.3 The Council is also entitled to can an early payment scheme under which offenders can discharge liability by paying a reduced fixed penalty.
- 8.4 We are proposing to adopt a £100 fixed penalty, payable within 14 days. We are also proposing to allow people to pay a reduced fixed penalty of £50 if payment is made within 10 days.
- 8.5 In most cases, the Council will issue a fixed penalty notice to someone who breaches the order. However, we may decide to prosecute them instead, if we consider it more appropriate to do so. For example, we may consider prosecuting someone rather than issuing a fixed penalty notice if they behave inappropriately towards our enforcement officers, or if they have previously been issued with a fixed penalty notice for similar behaviour.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

- The Public Spaces Protection Order annexed to the report (Appendix 1) is adopted and brought into force on the 1st July 2016.
- A fixed penalty of £100 to apply to breaches of the Public Spaces Protection Order, reduced to £50 where payment is made within 10 days.

10. LIST OF APPENDICES:

Appendix 1		Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016
Appendix 2		Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's): Consultation Report
Appendix 3		PSPO (Dog Control) Qualitative analysis of consultation with responses
Appendix 4		Equality Impact Statement.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin

Deddf Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol, Troseddu a Phlisma 2014

Gorchymyn Gwarchod Mannau Cyhoeddus (Rheoli Cŵn) Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin 2016

Mae Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ("y Cyngor") drwy hyn yn gwneud y Gorchymyn Gwarchod Mannau Cyhoeddus canlynol dan adran 59 Deddf Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol, Troseddu a Phlisma 2014:

Gellir cyfeirio at y Gorchymyn hwn fel 'Gorchymyn Gwarchod Mannau Cyhoeddus (Rheolaethau ar Gŵn) Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin 2016'.

Bydd y Gorchymyn hwn yn dod i rym ar **[Dyddiad i'w ychwanegu pan wneir y Gorchymyn]** a bydd yn parhau mewn grym am gyfnod o dair blynedd.

Cyflwyniad

- (a) Mae pobl nad ydynt yn glanhau baw eu cŵn oddi ar dir sy'n hygyrch i'r cyhoedd yn peri niwsans i eraill. Mae presenoldeb baw cŵn yn berygl posibl i bob aelod o'r cyhoedd. Mae'n beryglus i'r iechyd, yn difwyno'r tir, a gall ddifwyno pobl a'u heiddo.
- (b) Os na chânt eu goruchwyllo'n iawn a'u cadw dan reolaeth, gall cŵn nad ydynt ar dennyn mewn mannau cyhoeddus achosi damweiniau ffordd, a gallant beri niwsans i'r cyhoedd ac i anifeiliaid eraill, neu eu hanafu.
- (c) Gall cŵn sydd mewn mannau chwarae i blant droi yn ymosodol os cânt eu dychryn. Gallant faeddu yn yr ardaloedd hyn hefyd, gan eu difwyno a pheryglu iechyd y plant sy'n eu defnyddio.
- (d) Mae'r Cyngor yn sicr bod yr ymddygiad a nodir uchod wedi cael effaith niweidiol ar ansawdd bywyd pobl yn Sir Gaerfyrddin, a'i fod yn debygol o barhau i wneud hynny.
- (e) Mae'r Gorchymyn hwn yn ceisio atal neu leihau'r effeithiau niweidiol y cyfeirir atynt uchod, drwy osod cyfyngiadau a gofynion rhesymol ar bobl sydd yn gyfrifol am gŵn ar dir cyhoeddus. Mae'n ceisio hwyluso defnydd diogel o'n mannau cyhoeddus, gan gydnabod ar yr un pryd y dylai fod gan bobl yr hawl i ymarfer eu cŵn heb dennyn mewn ardaloedd cyhoeddus, cyhyd ag y bod eu cŵn dan reolaeth ac yn ymddwyn yn briodol.

Troseddau

Rhan 1 - Cŵn yn baeddu

1. Os yw ci yn baeddu ar unrhyw adeg ar dir y mae'r rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn yn berthnasol iddo, ac os nad yw'r sawl sydd yn gyfrifol am y ci ar y pryd yn symud y baw o'r tir ar unwaith, bydd y person hwnnw yn euog o drosedd oni bai ei fod yn gallu dangos:-
 - (a) bod ganddo esgus rhesymol dros beidio â gwneud hynny; neu
 - (b) bod y perchennog, y preswlydd, neu berson neu awdurdod arall sy'n gyfrifol am y tir wedi cydsynio (yn gyffredinol neu'n benodol) iddo beidio â gwneud hynny;

2. Mae'r rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn yn berthnasol i bob man cyhoeddus yn Sir Gaerfyrddin.

At y dibenion hyn, ystyr "man cyhoeddus" yw unrhyw fan y mae gan y cyhoedd, neu unrhyw garfan o'r cyhoedd, fynediad iddo, drwy dâl neu fel arall, fel hawl neu yn rhinwedd caniatâd datganedig neu ymhlyg.

3. At ddiben y rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn:
 - (a) bydd gosod y baw mewn cynhwysydd ar y tir sydd wedi ei ddarparu at y diben hwn, neu i waredu gwastraff, yn ddigonol o ran symud y baw o'r tir:
 - (b) ni fydd peidio â bod yn ymwybodol fod y ci wedi baeddu (naill ai oherwydd nad oedd y sawl a oedd yn gyfrifol yn y cyffiniau neu fel arall), neu beidio â meddu ar ddyfais neu ffordd addas arall o symud y baw, yn esgus rhesymol dros beidio â symud y baw;

Rhan 2 - Cŵn ar Dennyn drwy Gyfarwyddyd

4. Bydd person sy'n gyfrifol am gi yn euog o drosedd os ydyw ar unrhyw adeg, ar dir y mae'r rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn yn berthnasol iddo, yn methu cydymffurfio â chyfarwyddyd a roddir gan swyddog awdurdodedig y Cyngor, i roi'r ci ar dennyn nad yw'n fwy na 2 fetr o hyd, a'i gadw arno am y cyfnod a/neu dan yr amgylchiadau a nodir gan y swyddog, oni bai ei fod yn gallu dangos:-
 - (a) bod ganddo esgus rhesymol dros beidio â gwneud hynny; neu
 - (b) bod y perchennog, y preswlydd, neu berson neu awdurdod arall sy'n gyfrifol am y tir wedi cydsynio (yn gyffredinol neu'n benodol) iddo beidio â gwneud hynny.
5. At y dibenion hyn, ystyr "tennyn" yw unrhyw raff, cortyn, tennyn neu eitem debyg a ddefnyddir i glymu, rheoli neu rwystro ci, ond nid yw'n cynnwys unrhyw eitem o'r fath nad yw'n cael ei defnyddio i rwystro'r ci fel ei fod dan reolaeth agos yr unigolyn.
6. Mae'r rhan hon o'r gorchymyn yn berthnasol i bob man cyhoeddus yn Sir Gaerfyrddin.

At y dibenion hyn, ystyr "man cyhoeddus" yw unrhyw fan y mae gan y cyhoedd, neu unrhyw garfan o'r cyhoedd, fynediad iddo, drwy dâl neu fel arall, fel hawl neu yn rhinwedd caniatâd datganedig neu ymhlyg.
7. At ddibenion y rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn, gall swyddog awdurdodedig y Cyngor ddweud wrth rywun am roi ci ar dennyn a'i gadw arno dim ond os yw rheolaeth o'r fath yn rhesymol angenrheidiol i atal niwsans neu i atal ymddygiad gan y ci sy'n debygol o achosi annifyrrwch neu aflonyddwch i rywun arall, neu boeni neu aflonyddu ar unrhyw anifail.
8. Yn y rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn, ystyr "swyddog awdurdodedig y Cyngor" yw person a awdurdodwyd yn ysgrifenedig gan yr Awdurdod i roi cyfarwyddyd dan y Gorchymyn hwn. Gall hyn gynnwys unigolyn nad yw'n cael ei gyflogi gan y Cyngor.

Rhan 3 - Gwahardd Cŵn

9. Bydd y sawl sy'n gyfrifol am gi yn euog o drosedd os ydyw ar unrhyw adeg yn mynd â'r ci ar dir, neu'n caniatáu i'r ci fynd ar dir neu aros ar dir, y mae'r rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn yn berthnasol iddo, oni bai ei fod yn gallu dangos:-
- (a) bod ganddo esgus rhesymol dros wneud hynny; neu
 - (b) bod y perchennog, y preswlydd, neu berson neu awdurdod arall sy'n gyfrifol am y tir wedi cydsynio (yn gyffredinol neu'n benodol) iddo wneud hynny;
10. Mae'r rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn yn berthnasol i bob man chwarae i blant yn Sir Gaerfyrddin sydd yn yr awyr agored.
- At y dibenion hyn, dylid ystyried bod tir sydd wedi'i orchuddio yn dir sydd "yn yr awyr agored" os yw'n agored ar o leiaf un ochr.
11. At ddibenion y rhan hon o'r Gorchymyn:-
- (a) Ystyr "man chwarae i blant" yw man sydd wedi'i neilltuo er mwyn i blant chwarae ynddo, ac sy'n cynnwys offer chwarae plant fel llithren, siglen, si-so, ffrâm ddringo neu gyfarpar chwarae arall tebyg.
 - (b) Mae man chwarae i blant yn "gaeedig" os yw wedi'i amgylchynu ar bob ochr â ffensys, gataiau, waliau neu adeiladweithiau eraill sy'n nodi maint y man chwarae.

Eithrio Pobl Anabl

12. Nid yw'r darpariaethau yn y Gorchymyn hwn sy'n ymwneud â chŵn yn baeddu yn berthnasol i bobl sydd:
- (a) wedi eu cofrestru'n rhannol ddall neu'n ddall, ar gofrestr a luniwyd dan adran 29 Deddf Cymorth Gwladol 1948; neu
 - (b) wedi eu cofrestru fel rhai sydd â "nam ar y golwg", "nam difrifol ar y golwg" neu "nam ar y golwg a'r clyw sydd, gyda'i gilydd, yn cael effaith sylweddol ar eu bywyd bob dydd", ar gofrestr a luniwyd dan adran 18 Deddf Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Llesiant (Cymru) 2014; neu
 - (c) ag anabledd sy'n effeithio ar eu symudedd, medrusrwydd corfforol, cydsymud corfforol, neu eu gallu i godi, cario, neu fel arall symud gwrthrychau bob dydd, sy'n golygu na ellir yn rhesymol ddisgwyl iddynt symud y baw; neu

(d) ag anabledd arall, sy'n golygu na ellir yn rhesymol ddisgwyl iddynt symud y baw.

13. Nid yw'r darpariaethau yn y Gorchymyn hwn sy'n ymwneud â gwahardd cŵn yn berthnasol i gŵn a hyfforddwyd gan elusen gofrestredig i gynorthwyo pobl sydd ag anabledd, sef cŵn y mae pobl anabl yn dibynnu arnynt am gymorth.
14. At ddibenion y Gorchymyn hwn, ystyr "anabledd" yw cyflwr a ystyrir yn anabledd at ddibenion Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010, ac ystyr "person anabl" yw rhywun sy'n meddu ar anabledd o'r fath.

Eithrio Cŵn Gwaith

15. Ni fydd dim yn y Gorchymyn hwn yn berthnasol i weithgareddau arferol ci gwaith, pan fydd y ci yn gweithio.

Mae hyn yn cynnwys cŵn sy'n cael eu defnyddio ar gyfer gwaith sy'n gysylltiedig â chwilio ac achub brys, gorfodi'r gyfraith a gwaith lluoedd arfog Ei Mawrhydi; cŵn fferm sy'n cael eu defnyddio i gorlannu neu yrru anifeiliaid; cŵn sy'n cael eu defnyddio'n gyfreithlon i ddal neu ddifa fermin, a chŵn sy'n cael eu defnyddio'n gyfreithlon at ddibenion hela.

Materion Eraill

16. At ddibenion y Gorchymyn hwn, ystyrir bod unigolyn sydd yn gyson â chi yn ei feddiant yn gyfrifol am y ci ar unrhyw adeg, oni bai fod rhywun arall, ar yr adeg honno, yn gyfrifol am y ci.
17. Os yw unigolyn sy'n gyfrifol am gi yn dymuno dibynnu ar unrhyw rai o'r eithriadau a nodir yn y gorchymyn hwn, bydd rhaid iddo brofi ei fod yn cwrdd â gofynion yr eithriad y mae'n dibynnu arni.

Cosbau

18. Bydd rhywun sy'n euog o drosedd dan y gorchymyn hwn, o gael collfarn ddiannod, yn agored i ddirwy nad yw'n uwch na lefel 3 ar y raddfa safonol.

19. Gellir rhoi Hysbysiad Cosb Benodedig i rywun sy'n torri'r Gorchymyn hwn. Mae hyn yn cynnig iddynt gyfle i gael eu rhyddhau o fod yn agored i gollfarn am y drosedd drwy dalu cosb benodedig.

Dyddiedig y diwrnod o 2016

Gosodwyd Sêl Gyffredin
Cyngor Sir
Caerfyrddin
ar y ddogfen hon ym mhresenoldeb:

Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs): CONSULTATION REPORT

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CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Public Spaces Protection Orders CONSULTATION

INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

New powers are available to local authorities under the Anti-social, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to tackle irresponsible dog ownership.

Some replace existing powers while others are new. All are designed to give greater flexibility in tackling irresponsible dog owners and incidents involving dogs.

Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) will replace and allow for similar restrictions as Dog Control Orders; for example, they can be used to exclude dogs from certain areas or require dogs to be on leads.

Initial consultation was undertaken from March to May 2015,¹ and following discussion, the Council began developing an approach which would involve the consistent application of a PSPO across designated areas of Carmarthenshire. This forms the basis of this consultation.

1) OUTLINE OF APPROACH AND CONSULTATION METHODS

The consultation focused on gathering views on the proposal to introduce PSPOs, as outlined above.

Publicity

The consultation was publicised through the Council's press office and included: press releases, information on the Council's website and social media feeds. Radio adverts were taken out on both Carmarthenshire and Scarlet FM.

Survey

An on-line survey was made available through Carmarthenshire County Council's iLocal website. Links to the survey were circulated to members of the Citizens Panel, Equality Carmarthenshire, Disability Coalition, tenant networks, Youth Council, 50+ Forum, county councillors, town and community councils. Direct approaches were also made to: all County Councillors; Town & Community Councils; AM's; MP's; The Police & Crime Commissioner; Chief Constable; together with key organisations such as: the Kennel Club; Dogs Trust; Countryside alliance; Carmarthenshire Access forum; and ramblers associations.

A total of 474 survey responses were received from a wide section of the community. Of those 458 who answered the question, 419 (92%) responses were from

¹ 619 responses

individuals,² 23 from town or community councils (T&CCs),³ and 16 from other organisations.⁴

Other

A representation was received from the Kennel Club.

The public consultation phase ran from 19th October to 14th December 2015.

2) KEY FINDINGS FROM THE SURVEY

The section is structured by considering each survey question in turn. Mention will be made of the views of different categories of respondent, to enable comparisons to be made. At the end of the section, general comments from the consultation will be considered, whether these have arisen through survey submission, or letter or email submissions.

The survey covered the following parts of the proposed Order:

- **Dog fouling:** clearing up requirement
- **Dogs on lead** under direction of an authorised officer
- **Dog exclusion** from all outdoor enclosed play areas (subject to exceptions)

About the Average Index Score (AIS)

Sometimes known as a 'weighted average', the AIS is a way of distilling the 'balance and strength of opinion' down into one number. Useful for questions with options to 'strongly agree', 'disagree', etc., the technique is used throughout the report. Values range from 2 (*everyone* strongly agrees) to minus 2 (*everyone* strongly disagrees).

Example

10 people are asked whether they 'strongly agree', 'agree', 'have no opinion', 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree' that Wales will win the six nations.

Results...

3 strongly agree (each response worth 2, so=6)

² The demographic profile of respondents is as follows. Ethnicity: 91% described as white, 2% other ethnicities and 7% preferring not to say (PNTS). Age: 1% were under 25, 11% were 25-34, 25% 35-44, 28% 45-54, 21% 55-64, 14% 65-74, with 2% 75 or over. Gender: 62% female, 35% male, 3% PNTS. Relationship status: the largest categories were: married 59%, single 12% and PNTS 7%. Disability: 6% yes, 89% no, with 5% PNTS. Religion or belief: 37% held a religion or belief (Christian was the largest response category), 46% did not and 17% PNTS. Sexual orientation: 81% heterosexual, 5% lesbian, gay or bisexual, with 14% PNTS.

³ Betws Community Council, Llangunnor Community Council, Llandyfaelog Community Council, Carmarthen Town Council, Llanelli Town Council, Cenarth Community Council, Laugharne Township Community Council, Llandovery Town Council, Llangennech, Talley Community Council, Llanllwni Community Council, Manordeilo and Salem Community Council, Llanelli Rural Council, Kidwelly, Pendine Community Council, St Clears Town Council, Abergwili CC, Quarter Bach Community Council, Cyngor Cymuned Llanfihangel ar arth, Llanpumsaint, Cyngor Cymuned Llanfihangel Ar Arth.

⁴ Open Spaces Society, Furnace United RFC, Ysgol Bro Banw, Laugharne Tenants & Residents, Clwb Rygbi Pantyffynnon, Llandybie rfc, Cefneithin welfare association, Tycroes RFC junior section, Laugharne Festival Committee (Cors Playing Field), Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum, Great Dane Care Charitable Trust, Jonathan Tudor, Countryside Access Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council, Farmers Union of Wales (FUW), The Kennel Club, Betws Commoners Association, Ysgol Gynradd

- 3 agree (each response worth 1, so=3)
- 1 no opinion (each response worth 0, so=0)
- 1 disagree (each response worth -1, so= -1)
- 2 strongly disagree (each response worth -2, so=-4)

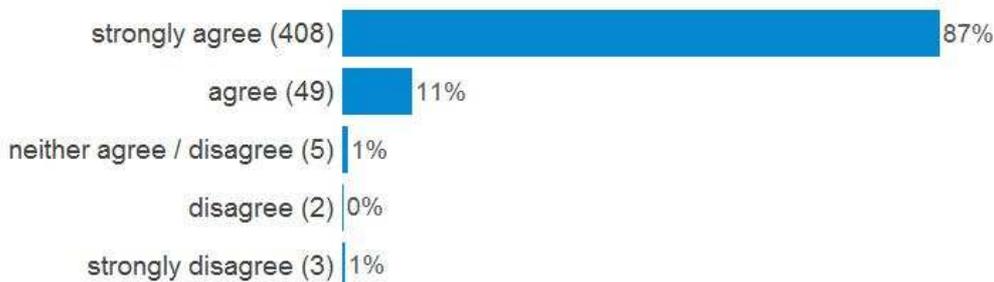
The AIS is calculated by adding all the numbers in bold:

So, $6+3+0-1-4=4$;

Then dividing by the number of responses (10 in this case). The average index score is: $4 \div 10 = \mathbf{0.4}$

Following a series of demographic profiling questions, respondents were asked whether they were **dog owners**. The majority (56%) were. Respondents were further asked whether they were a **parent**. Again, the majority - 75% - were.

The survey then asked respondents to state how far they agreed with the following proposal: ‘the Council is proposing to make an Order that will require people to clean up after their dog(s) immediately if it defecates on public land’. The result is shown below:



There is near-unanimous support for an Order to ensure dog owners clear up after their dog. The tables below show an AIS of 1.84 overall (strongly positive), and strong support from all respondent categories.

	ALL	Individual	T&CC	Other org	F	M	Disabled	Dog - yes	Dog - no	Parent - yes	Parent - no
AIS	1.84	1.83	1.87	1.94	1.86	1.76	1.74	1.78	1.90	1.85	1.78
Base	467	416	23	16	254	144	23	260	202	342	116

	ALL	16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 - 74	75 - 84	85+
AIS	1.84	2.0	1.84	1.81	1.76	1.89	1.86	2	2
Base	467	3	43	99	115	84	57	3	2

It is perhaps notable that the result for the ‘other organisations’ category is more strongly in favour, at 1.94. This result may reflect the fact that a number of responses were received from sports clubs and playing field associations. Non-dog

owners were also more strongly in favour (1.90) than the overall result for respondents in general.

There followed an opportunity for respondents to make any additional comments.⁵: 176 responses were made and the following summarises the issues that arose.

40 comments related to the theme of owners having a responsibility to clear up after their dogs:

Comment	Response
A very widely held view that all dog owners should clear up after their dogs. Could a code of practice be developed?	<i>We will consider a "Code of Practice".</i>
Irresponsible owners give other dog owners a 'bad name'.	<i>Comment Noted : No further response required.</i>
Offenders often do so early or late in the day when less people are around.	<i>This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.</i>
Not clearing up is worst for 'latch door' dogs and, more generally, where dogs are let off their lead.	<i>The dog fouling provision of the order will apply to latch key / stray dogs and dogs off and on lead. The council will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with persistent issues relating to latch key / straying dogs.</i>
The need for meaningful sanctions: very significant fines; being 'named and shamed' in the local paper; and offending owners being put on poop scoop 'community service'.	<p><i>The maximum fine and fixed penalty are set by government. The maximum fine for dog fouling is £1000 and the maximum level for a fixed penalty notice is £100.</i></p> <p><i>Where offenders have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders have been successfully prosecuted through the magistrates' court their details are disclosed to the press.</i></p> <p><i>It would be costly and resource intensive for the local authority to offer restorative work as an alternative to a fixed penalty notice.</i></p>
Public education to inform about responsible dog ownership; work with dog owners who do clear up after their dogs to promote clearing up.	<i>The council also conducts various education and awareness events i.e. road shows, college and school programmes, liaising community</i>

⁵ Respondents' comments may fall under more than one theme. Aggregation of individual counts may therefore exceed this number. This applies equally to treatment of the other qualitative questions.

Comment	Response
	<p><i>groups and media press releases.</i></p> <p><i>The authority's enforcement officers currently engages with dog owners whilst on patrol.</i></p>

26 comments were made on the specific matter of waste bins:

Comment	Response
Distribution of bins inadequate in particular locations.	<i>We will review the number of bins within the County.</i>
Bins not emptied frequently enough.	<i>We will review the frequency of emptying.</i>
The need to raise public awareness that bagged dog foul can be put in normal bins.	<p><i>The council also conducts various education and awareness events i.e. road shows, college and school programmes, liaising with community groups and media press releases.</i></p> <p><i>The order makes it clear that dog mess can be placed in normal litter bins. Our website will make this clear. The authority currently places signs on bins to inform dog owners of this.</i></p>

On a closely related matter, 11 comments were made about inappropriate disposal of bagged dog foul:

Comment	Response
Bagged waste is frequently thrown into bushes, left hanging on fences or left by benches.	<i>This is already a criminal offence. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.</i>
The Order should include the need to properly dispose of collected dog fouling.	<i>It's unnecessary to include something in the order relating to the disposal of bags as throwing bags in to trees or hedges is already a criminal offence.</i>

2 Comments were made suggested that the authority provide poo bags for dog walkers.

Comment	Response
Could the council supply bags that would be available near the bins or in popular dog walking areas.	<i>The authority has previously supplied bag dispensers in key areas around the county, however these facilities have been abused and subsequently withdrawn</i>

25 comments were made on the subject of enforcement:

Comment	Response
Concerns about the capacity of the Council to enforce the Order.	<i>It will be enforced by authorised officers of Carmarthenshire County Council the authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders.</i>
The need for Police and PCSOs to also take enforcement action.	<i>This will be discussed with Dyfed Powys Police.</i>
The use of fines to support the employment of more enforcement officers.	<i>We will review the resources available to enforce the order.</i>
Offenders evade fines by doing so when enforcement officers are not working.	<i>This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.</i>
All recreational land could be designated as 'dog free' between April to September.	<i>Due to animal welfare issues it would be inappropriate to exclude dogs from all land used for recreational purposes. If the existing proposals do not address the problem of fouling on recreational land, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to exclude persistent offenders from these areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.</i>
The need for greater penalties and public 'naming and shaming'.	<i>We will take this into consideration on reviewing the fixed penalty notices. Where offenders have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders have been successfully prosecuted through the magistrates' court their details are disclosed to the press.</i>
A 'zero-tolerance' approach when enforcing.	<i>The authority will adopt a strict approach to enforcement and will endeavour to ensure consistency. However, each incident will be assessed on its own merit and officers do have discretion on the appropriate enforcement action to be taken. Officers will be expected to use common sense.</i>
The use of DNA testing and a DNA database to identify offending cases,	<i>We do not think a DNA database will assist with enforcement activities, as</i>

Comment	Response
funded by a dog licence.	<i>dog owners do not have to provide DNA samples for the database. It is likely that only responsible dog owners would do so.</i>

14 comments related to circumstances where the requirement to clear up should not apply:

Comment	Response
Where a dog is off the lead, the owner should only be obliged to make reasonable attempt to locate and clear up the mess. The location may not be known precisely or it may be physically inaccessible.	<i>The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and ensure they clean up after their dog. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order.</i>
If dogs are trained to defecate off paths, roads, pavements etc and it is not accessible to children, e.g. in a hedge, in scrub etc then I think it is reasonable for the person responsible to leave it where it is.	<i>Members of Public can come into contact with dog faeces in these areas. For this reason the orders should apply to these areas. It is not feasible to limit the dog fouling provision in the order to areas that children access.</i>
If in woodland and the dog fouls in a thicket of brambles or patch of ground that is not easily accessible to get to then this is not really practical to remove it	<i>Under the order a person has a defence to prosecution if they have a reasonable excuse to failing to clear up after their dog. If a dog defecates in an inaccessible location they may therefore have a defence. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order.</i>
Have designated 'allowed areas' where foul doesn't need to be cleared up. Clearly sign to help ensure people, particularly children, avoid the areas.	<i>Members of public can come into contact with dog faeces in these areas. For this reason the orders should apply there. It is not feasible to limit the dog fouling provision in the order to areas that children access.</i>
Some public land is very rarely accessed by people so fouling wont hinder human use of the land. So dog fouling will do fauna and flora good, and is better than gathering in plastic bags for landfill.	<i>It is not feasible to exclude areas rarely accessed by people. To identify these areas and draft an order in those terms would be very difficult.</i>

11 comments were made with direct reference to public health concerns:

Comment	Response
Dog foul is a health hazard. It is also highly disgusting on shoes, pushchair wheels etc.	<i>The council recognises the health issues concerning Toxicarra and the nuisance of dog fouling</i>
As I work with Visually Impaired people I have major concerns about dog fouling in public places. Dog fouling can cause blindness in young children and adults.	<i>The council recognises the health issues concerning Toxicarra.</i>

7 comments referred to dog owners having the necessary equipment to clear up after their dogs.

Comment	Response
Many thought that a fine would be appropriate for those not having the facility to clear up after their dog.	<i>We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.</i>

6 comments were made referencing other types of fouling

Comment	Response
The need to clear up after cats, guide dogs, horses, people and wild animals.	<p><i>Cats are essentially a straying animal and we cannot expect their owner to follow their cat at all times and clear up after it.</i></p> <p><i>The order will not apply to the individuals that have a serious sight impairment that restricts them from seeing their dog defecating.</i></p> <p><i>We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend this control to horses at this time.</i></p> <p><i>Other statutory powers can be used to deal with Human Defecation.</i></p> <p><i>We cannot see how these orders can be used for wild animals.</i></p>

5 responses were made commenting on the proposed exemptions⁶ within the draft Order:

Comment	Response
The Order should apply to all dog owners, including wheelchair users and blind or visually impaired people, given the public health implications of the dog foul will be the same irrespective.	<i>When exercising our functions, we must have regard to the public sector equality duty in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. We must consider the need to eliminate disability discrimination and to advance equality of opportunity. We do not believe that it is appropriate to take enforcement action against people who are unable to comply with the order for reasons that are related to a disability. We could be acting unlawfully if were to do so. It could also discourage disabled people from owning a dog or properly exercising their dogs.</i>
A belief that it is right for people who are not physically able, and assistance and working dogs, to be exempted.	<i>We do not believe that it is appropriate to take enforcement action against people who are unable to comply with the order for reasons that are related to a disability.</i> <i>DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO.</i>
Comments that hunting dogs should not be exempt, given they are not 'working' and because in a pack, can create a lot of foul.	<i>DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting.</i>
Can privately owned open plan gardens be covered?	<i>The Order applies to all land that is open and accessible to members of the public. This includes privately owned land unless the person that controls the land decides otherwise.</i>

4 comments suggested that there was an increased prevalence of dog fouling.

Comment	Response
Dog fouling is increasing.	<i>The new orders will enable the authority to</i>

⁶ The draft dog fouling provisions are not intended to apply to some categories of disabled people, where sight impairments or other disability prevents them from being able to clean up after their dogs.

	<i>deal with this issue.</i>
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13 miscellaneous comments were made:

Comment	Response
Many people thought it was already the case that foul must be cleared up.	<i>Currently, people are only required to clean up after their dog in some areas. The new orders will extend the requirement to all public places within Carmarthenshire.</i>

Town and community council (T&CC) responses (5).

All the councils who provided comment were supportive of the draft provision to ensure owners clear up after their dogs:

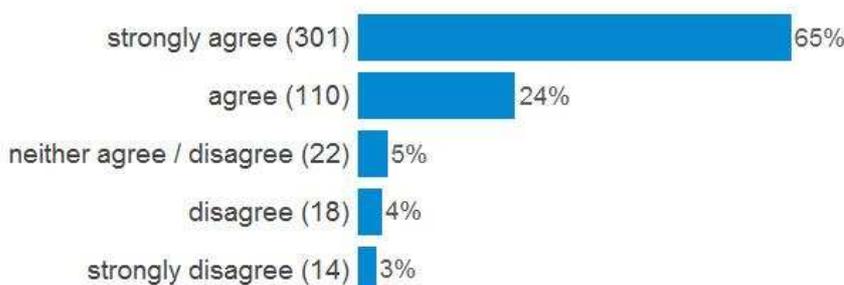
Comment	Response
Despite providing free dog bags this remains an issue for public areas in Laugharne, with many dog owners ignoring our notices and failing to pick up. The council welcome this proposal and are pleased to see the county council taking this positive initiative. Dog fouling is the main complaint we receive from members of the public accessing LTCC land (Laugharne).	<i>This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.</i>
Llandyfaelog Community Council manages a play area at Idole and a Community Garden at Tir Gof, Llandyfaelog. Llandyfaelog Community Hall also has a play area in Llandyfaelog. We would very much wish this to be implemented at these locations, (Llandyfaelog).	<i>The dog fouling provision in the PSPO will apply to all three sites.</i>
Llangennech Community Council resolved to support the Order at its meeting held on the 9 November 2015, (Llangennech).	<i>Comments noted.</i>
This must include all the beach and Pendine as the tide can move mess around, (Pendine).	<i>The Dog Fouling Provisions within the order will apply to all of Pendine beach.</i>
The Town Council is very mindful of health risks associated with dog faeces and is supportive of action against irresponsible dog owners, (St Clears).	<i>Comments noted.</i>

Organisation or group responses (7):

Comment	Response
Cleaning up doesn't remove the problem, there are traces still left on our playing fields. Dogs should always be on a lead in a public place, (Clwb Rygbi Pantyffynon).	<i>It's not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead in all public places for animal welfare reasons.</i> <i>If the existing proposals do not address the problem of fouling on playing fields, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to exclude persistent offenders from these areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.</i>
In principle members agreed that there was a need to clean up dog excrement after fouling, (Farmers Union of Wales).	<i>Comments noted.</i>
Please add that no dogs should be allowed on private leased sporting venue used by adults and children, (Furnace United RFC).	<i>It is for private land owners to decide who can enter on to their land and to deal with any trespass issues. If the existing proposals do not address the dog fouling problem, we will consider using Community Protection Notices or site-specific PSPOs to exclude persistent offenders from these areas.</i>
The dog is a very useful benefit to the vast majority of people, providing a means of exercise, companionship, and security for all ages of people yet the responsible dog owner is treated as a criminal. Without a place to exercise dogs, the health of all ages of people will suffer. The council provides the facility in some places like the country park at Pembrey and the coastal path yet has very few dog poo bins so how does this encourage good practise? (Great Dane Care Charitable Trust).	<i>The Order does not prevent people from exercising their dog off a lead in public areas.</i> <i>Dog waste can be disposed of in normal litter bins, we will review the number of bins within the County.</i>
Publicity will be required to deter people from violating the Order. A wide range of Council employees need to be involved in the enforcement of this Order. Special Constables and Police Community Support Officers (PSCSOs) should also enforce if possible. Further it must be made clear if action can be taken on the basis of sufficient evidence provided to the Council by members of	<i>The Council will take this into account when making arrangements to publicise and enforce the order. The order will be published on the Council's web site and publicised by way of media campaign. Signage will be erected throughout the county. People will be encouraged to report breaches of the order.</i>

Comment	Response
the public who have witnessed the violation of the order e.g. witness statement, photographic evidence and reported, (Countryside Access Manager, CCC).	<i>The use of police officers and PCSO's to enforce the order will be discussed with Dyfed Powys Police.</i>
We would also 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. These proactive measures may include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog poo may 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, (Kennel Club).	<p><i>We will take this in to account when publicising the order. The Authority engages with dog owners and undertakes press releases and media events in promoting responsible dog ownership.</i></p> <p><i>We will review the number of bins within the County.</i></p> <p><i>The order makes it clear that dog mess can be placed in normal litter bins. Our website will also make this clear. The authority currently places signs on bins to inform dog owners of this.</i></p>
As a school we have reported issues of dog fouling on our playing fields on several occasions. Small signage has been posted but this has not resolved the issue. As a school we welcome any sort of restriction placed upon dog owners to ensure the health and well being of our pupils, (Ysgol Bro Banw).	<i>Most school sites are not public land and for these purposes of the PSPO. The Authority is happy to work closely with the schools in tackling these issues which may include the use of Community Protection Notices.</i>

The next question asked how far people agreed with the proposal that ‘the Council is proposing to make an Order that will require people to place their dog on a lead of no more than 2 metres in length, when directed to do so by an authorised officer’. The overall result is shown in the chart below:



It is evident from the chart that there is strong support for the introduction of an Order to direct the use of leads. The tables below show the overall AIS, and that for selected categories, in order to better understand the result.

	ALL	Individual	T&CC	Other org	F	M	Disabled	Dog - yes	Dog - no	Parent - yes	Parent - no
AIS	1.43	1.42	1.91	1.5	1.38	1.49	1.32	1.17	1.76	1.49	1.23
Base	465	23	23	16	252	144	22	259	201	341	115

	ALL	16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 - 74	75 - 84	85+
AIS	1.43	0.33	1.19	1.4	1.35	1.6	1.54	1.0	0.5
Base	465	3	43	97	115	84	57	3	2

An overall AIS of 1.43 reinforces the view that there is strong support for the proposal. The greatest level of support came from the town and community councils – 1.91, closely followed by people who didn't own dogs – 1.76 (in contrast to a much lower score of 1.17 from dog owners). The results suggest that there is a lower level of support from the 25-34 age group (AIS of 1.19), though the result remains strongly positive.

82% of respondents to the survey agreed a maximum lead length of 2 metres was reasonable (18% against).

There followed an opportunity for respondents to make any additional comments. 165 responses were made and the following summarises the issues that arose.

54 comments related to the length of lead to be adopted within the proposed Order, though there were a range of views:

Comment	Response
25 comments thought 1 metre would be better, some suggested it would enable strong or aggressive dogs to be kept under control. Others suggested 1 metre, because longer leads serve as a trip hazard for other users.	<i>We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.</i>
7 agreed 2 metres was a reasonable length.	
8 considered a longer length would be acceptable.	<i>We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.</i>

Comment	Response
14 comments on retractable leads (typically extending over 2 metres), with the majority who expressed a view being against their use on the basis they don't enable the owner to maintain full control. A number requested a ban on the use of retractable leads.	<i>We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads. An order that prohibited the use of extendable leads or restrict their use to specific locations would be difficult to draft and could cause confusion. We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable.</i>
3 of people who commented on the maximum lead length also suggested a different maximum lead length, depending on the location or the size of the dog.	<i>An order that imposed a different maximum lead length based on the location or size of the dog, could cause confusion. For the sake of clarity and consistency, we think that the same maximum length should apply in all areas and to dogs of all sizes.</i>

21 comments were received suggesting that dogs should always be on a lead in public places:

Comment	Response
'Authorised officers' will be few and far between to direct owners to apply a lead and so default position should be use of a lead.	<i>People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If specific dog owners continually fail to control their dogs properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.</i>
Having dogs on a lead will assist owners in clearing up after their dogs.	
This will make cycle paths safer for cyclists.	
On leads, for the safety of people (especially children) and other dogs.	
The danger of unleashed dogs is compounded where owners walk a number of dogs at once.	
Designated areas for dogs to run off-lead could be established.	<i>The Authority currently has no plans to introduce restriction on the number of dogs a person can take out. In appropriate circumstances we will consider using Community Protection Notices to restrict the number of dogs that a person may walk at any one time, if there is evidence to show that they cannot control their dogs. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.</i> <i>In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community. In appropriate circumstances we may look at</i>

	<i>introducing a dedicated dog walking area at a location where there is evidence to justify it, subject to available budgets to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the area.</i>
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Conversely, 13 comments were made stressing the view that leads should only be used when necessary:

Comment	Response
A number suggest they use leads when other people or dogs are in the vicinity	<i>We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. People will not be required to place their dog on a lead if it is not causing or likely to cause a problem.</i>
Views that dogs need space and time to roam unconfined in order to burn off excess energy and to assist their wellbeing.	
Some dogs are well trained and obedient and for these a lead is suggested as unnecessary.	

17 comments related to issues of enforcement:

Comment	Response
Concerns over the feasibility of enforcement, given the size of the County and the inevitably thin distribution of officers empowered to enforce the order.	<i>Authorised officers of the Council will issue directions requiring dogs to be placed on a lead, in appropriate circumstances. The Authority is currently reviewing the use of additional resources, this may mean that park wardens, rangers, police officers and PCSO's may be authorised to enforce the order. The Authority is in consultation with key services to utilise additional resources both within the authority and partner agencies to assist in enforcing the proposed orders.</i>
The need for a number of officers, including PCSOs and special constables, to be able to enforce the Order.	
Officers should be trained in dog behaviour in order to make the correct judgement as to when a leash should be applied.	<i>The Authority will consider arranging dog behaviour training sessions for officers.</i>
Other concerns relating to judgement: including a possible tendency for officers to enforce where it isn't necessary; and the fact that terms such	

as 'nuisance' and 'annoyance' are subjective and open to interpretation.	
Fear of aggressive enforcement where no risk exists which will lead to greatly restricted freedoms for dog owners.	<p><i>We note the concern about aggressive enforcement. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to avoid causing genuine nuisance and annoyance etc.</i></p> <p><i>It is for authorised officers to decide whether the criteria for issuing a direction are met and whether the person in charge of a dog should be directed to place it on a lead</i></p>

10 comments related to the need for common sense and discretion on the part of dog owners:

Comment	Response
Some suggest that responsible owners with well-trained dogs successfully use their judgement in applying leads on the basis of situations and their knowledge of the dog's behaviour.	<p><i>We agree that the majority of dog owners behave responsibly. The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to avoid causing genuine nuisance and annoyance etc</i></p>
Owners should apply a lead when their dogs is causing a nuisance without the need for direction.	
Conversely, it is recognised that some owners are inconsiderate and their dogs untrained and disobedient, underlining the need for the Order.	

8 comments supported the idea that there are circumstances where dogs should always be on leads.

Comment	Response
Suggestions included dogs on roads, cycle tracks, public parks, and within 30 MPH zones. The Council should ensure appropriate signage to help prevent incidents and consequent litigation.	<p><i>People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in these areas. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue. The order will be enforced by Authorised officers of CCC.</i></p> <p><i>At present we do not think that it is appropriate to make an order requiring dogs to be kept on a lead at all times in the highway areas, as we do not have sufficient evidence to justify it. For those dogs that persistently cause concerns near public highways, the Authority may use additional enforcement powers to tackle such issues.</i></p> <p><i>Signage will be erected throughout the county.</i></p>

36 miscellaneous comments were made. These can be summarised as follows:

Comment	Response
People who have taken the trouble to train their dogs should not be penalised.	<i>We agree that the majority of dog owners behave responsibly. The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to avoid causing genuine nuisance and annoyance etc</i>
Dogs chasing wildlife is clearly inappropriate.	<i>The order will enable authorised officers to deal with such situations.</i>
The proposal will promote public safety, since some owners disregard the concerns of people their dogs encounter.	<i>Comments noted : No further response required</i>
Disagreement with hunting dogs being exempt on account of falling within the definition of 'working dogs'.	<i>DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.</i>
In order to maintain control, each walker should have a maximum of	<i>The authority currently has no plans to introduce restriction on the number of dogs a</i>

Comment	Response
2 dogs.	<i>person can take out. In appropriate circumstances, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to restrict the number of dogs that a person may walk at any one time, if there is evidence to show that they cannot control their dogs. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.</i>
Dogs likely to attack others should always be a lead.	<i>We don't think it would be appropriate to make a PSPO requiring some dogs to be kept on a lead at all times in all public places. Where dog owners persistently fail to control aggressive dogs the authority may use additional enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with such issues.</i>

Town and community council (T&CC) responses (1):

Comment	Response
Llangennech Community Council resolved to support the Order at its meeting held on the 9 November 2015, (Llangennech).	<i>Comment noted :No further response required.</i>

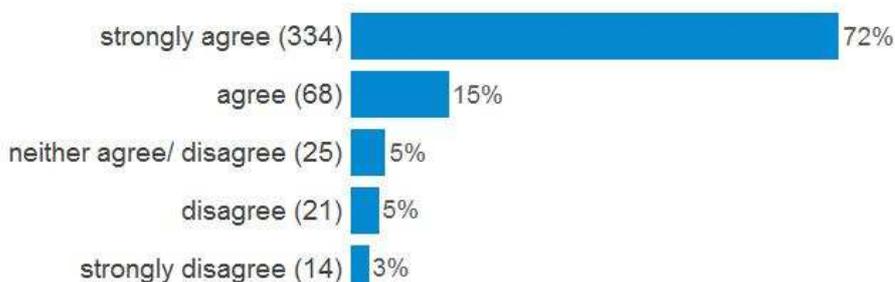
Organisation or group responses (6):

Comment	Response
It was accepted that a dog was under better control whilst wearing a dog's lead but also accepted that many dogs were extremely obedient and under the control of their owners without the need for a lead, (Farmers Union of Wales).	<i>A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. You will not be required to place your dog on a lead if it is not causing or likely to cause problems.</i>
Those on extendable leads are rarely in full control and there are no proposals to encourage owners to attend training classes. these are not allowed inside any council property, (Great Dane Care Charitable Trust).	<i>If authorised officers find that dog owners are unable to control their dogs with extendable leads, they may instruct the owners to reduce the lead length down to 2m. The authority may also use Community Protection Notices as a long term solution in dealing with dog owners that are unable to control their dogs, this could include</i>

Comment	Response
<p>A wide range of Council employees need to be authorised and trained to enforce this Order along with Special Constables and PCSOs if possible. The Order will need to be well-publicised so people understand that Council employees do have these powers, (Countryside Access Manager, CCC).</p>	<p><i>attendance to training classes.</i></p> <p><i>The authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders. The use of Police & PCSO's to enforce the orders will be discussed with Dyfed Powys Police. Where additional resources to enforce the orders are identified appropriate training will be provided. The orders will be placed on the authority's web page, and a media campaign informing the public of the new powers will be undertaken.</i></p>
<p>In the case of public rights of way the council cannot make such a direction as rights-of-way law supersedes this. On a public right of way a dog must be on a lead or otherwise under close control. So we suspect this could lead to some confusion, (Open Spaces Society).</p>	<p><i>Under Right of Way law dogs do not have to kept on a lead on rights of way. They only need to on a lead or under close control.</i></p> <p><i>There are also no criminal sanctions against a person who fails to comply with the requirement in the Countryside and Rights of Way and 2000 to keep their dog on a lead when on Access Land.</i></p> <p><i>The proposed order will give the authority powers to deal with problems in these area by insisting that a nuisance dogs is placed on a lead, and taking enforcement action if the person in charge of the dog refuses to do so.</i></p> <p><i>We do not agree the rights of way law prevents us from making this order. Where existing legislation imposes more onerous restrictions on dog owners, those restrictions are not superseded by our order and can still be enforced by relevant persons.</i></p>
<p>The Kennel Club strongly welcomes 'dogs on lead by direction' orders, as these allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst allowing the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control. We would recommend that the authorised officer enforcing the</p>	<p><i>The authority will consider arranging training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour.</i></p>

Comment	Response
order is familiar with dog behaviour in order to determine whether restraint is necessary. There is a danger that, through no fault of its own, a dog could be a 'nuisance' or 'annoyance' to another person who simply does not like dogs, (The Kennel Club).	
If a dog is on a lead it should be as short as possible to prevent the animal coming into contact with passers-by, (Ysgol Bro Banw).	<i>We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.</i>

The next issue for consideration is the extent to which people thought 'dogs should be excluded from all Outdoor enclosed children's play areas in the County'. The chart below shows the overall result:



The chart shows that a significant majority agree that dogs should be excluded from all Outdoor enclosed children's play areas, with 72% stating they 'strongly agree' and a further 15% who 'agree' with this statement.

	ALL	Individual	T&CC	Other org	F	M	Dis-abled	Dog - yes	Dog - no	Parent - yes	Parent - no
AIS	1.49	1.47	1.95	1.5	1.42	1.57	1.22	1.22	1.82	1.56	1.27
Base	462	412	23	16	250	144	23	257	201	341	113

	ALL	16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 - 74	75 - 84	85+
AIS	1.49	1.67	0.95	1.37	1.44	1.75	1.65	2.0	1.5
Base	462	3	43	98	113	83	57	3	2

Again, the overall result of 1.49 indicates strong overall support for the Council's proposal. The highest level of support was from town and community councils

(1.95), followed by those who didn't own a dog (1.82), parents (1.56) and other organisations (1.5). In common with the previous order relating to leads, the 25-34 age group exhibited a lower level of support (0.95), although this is still suggestive of significant support for the proposal.

There followed an opportunity for respondents to make any additional comments. 155 responses were made and the following summarises the issues that arose.

54 comments suggest straightforward agreement with the proposal. The main reasons include:

Comment	Response
The proposal is absolutely necessary for child health, hygiene and safety.	<i>Comment noted : No further response required</i>
Dog foul can discourage child activity and fitness.	
The measure is necessary as irresponsible owners can't be relied upon to keep dog under control or clear up after it.	<i>Comment noted : No further response required</i>
I am concerned that this cannot be enforced in an unsupervised area.	<i>The authority will enforce the order and is currently reviewing the resources available to do so.</i>

18 respondents went further by calling for the ban to apply to wider public areas:

Comment	Response
The ban should apply to all unenclosed play areas, parks and sports fields. Some owners do not clear up and sports players in particular are exposed to the health consequences of contact with dog foul.	<p><i>The exclusion order will only apply to the enclosed children's play areas within a park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park.</i></p> <p><i>It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas, for animal welfare reasons.</i></p> <p><i>Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches, is difficult. The locations of the pitches can change, and pitch markings are often not maintained all year round. Most pitches are also not fenced off from the rest of the site, and fencing them off would have resource implications. Therefore, dog owner may not know which areas their dogs are excluded from at different times of the year.</i></p> <p><i>Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.</i></p> <p><i>Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we</i></p>

	<p><i>will use Community Protection Notices to deal with offending dog owners.</i></p> <p><i>We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's if there is sufficient evidence available to pursue the additional PSPO's.</i></p>
<p>School playing fields should be covered by the ban, given their use predominantly by children.</p>	<p><i>Most education establishments are classified as private land and the general public should not access this land without consent. The PSPO will not apply to these assets. However if dog owners are found entering such sites the authority may use other enforcement Powers such as Community Protection Notices or deal with it as a trespass issue.</i></p>
<p>The suggestion that beaches and other areas are also covered by the Order.</p>	<p><i>In early 2015 the authority conducted a consultation with the general public to ascertain if there was support for seasonal beach exclusion at a number of amenity beaches in the County. 70% of the respondents indicated that they did not want a beach exclusion order. The dog fouling provisions in the Order will apply to beaches. However the existing seasonal dog exclusion (Bye Law) will remain in place at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach.</i></p>

29 comments were made against the proposal to exclude dogs from outdoor children's play areas, although at least 8 respondents may have misunderstood the order:

Comment	Response
<p>Dogs should be allowed when on leads and with owners clearing up foul. Concentrate on tackling irresponsible owners who do not take such action.</p>	<p><i>There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.</i></p>
<p>It is healthy for dogs and children to interact. Many dogs are integral parts of their families.</p>	<p><i>We agree. Children will be able to continue to interact with dogs in the general area of a park.</i></p>
<p>So you can't take your child and dog for a walk to the park any more.</p>	<p><i>At least 8 respondents may have misunderstood the Order as they appeared to believe that we were excluding dogs from all parks.</i></p> <p><i>The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas . Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.</i></p>

	<i>To avoid confusion we will publish information on our website to help identify which areas the exclusion applies to. The areas where it applies will also be marked with appropriate signage.</i>
The issue of dangerous dogs should be tackled in a different way. perhaps the council should try to address this issue differently. Maybe by introducing dog licences, to ensure that dogs are only owned by responsible individuals.	<i>The Council cannot use PSPO's to require people to have a dog license, or to control who can own a dog.</i>

7 comments related to the definition of 'outdoor enclosed play areas'.

Comment	Response
It was queried whether the Order would apply to premises owned by community councils and others, such as pubs.	<i>The exclusions in the PSPO will apply to all outdoor enclosed children's play areas, subject to signage appropriate signage being erected. This includes privately owned children's play areas, although land owners are able to opt out of the order by giving people permission to breach it on their land.</i>
Some referred to the need to fence in areas not currently enclosed, and the need for fences to be in a suitable state of repair to keep stray dogs and other animals from entering.	<i>We will maintain the fencing at our enclosed children's play areas. We may consider fencing additional play areas, subject to available resources.</i>
The application of the order to large parks which are fenced but contain a play area was queried.	<i>The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas . Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.</i>
There is a need to define children's play areas as it is unclear whether this extends to other facilities for children/teenagers such as skate parks, cycle paths/velodrome, country park facilities etc where children play	<i>They are defined in the order. A "enclosed children's play area" is an area that is set aside for children to play in and contains children's play equipment such as a slide, swings, seesaw, climbing frame or other similar play apparatus. It does not include</i>

Comment	Response
	<i>skate parks, sports facilities and velodromes etc. We will also publish information on our website to help identify which areas it applies to. The areas where the order applies will be marked with appropriate signage</i>

Although it is not the intention of the Order to exclude dogs from other areas, 8 comments were made on the subject.

Comment	Response
The need for dogs to be able to exercise in parkland and sports fields, and the need for Carmarthenshire to maintain its 'dog-friendly' reputation.	<p><i>At least 8 respondents may have misunderstood the Order as they appeared to believe that we were excluding dogs from all parks.</i></p> <p><i>The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas . Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.</i></p> <p><i>To avoid confusion we will publish information on our website to help identify which areas the exclusion applies to. The areas where it applies will also be marked with appropriate signage.</i></p>

4 comments were made on the subject of exemptions.

Comment	Response
Comments made included the view that no exemptions should be allowed, that hunting dogs should not be exempt.	<i>DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs. We believe this includes packs of hounds that are being used for hunting. We do not foresee a problem with dogs entering these areas whilst hunting.</i>
That assistance dogs (not charity trained) should be allowed, and that signage should clearly state exemption for guide dogs.	<i>Assistance Dogs provided by the main assistance dog charities are easily recognisable. They should have formal identification in the form of a white harness, organisation specific branded dog jackets, lead slips or id tags on the dog's collar. Their dogs</i>

	<p><i>are also fully toilet trained.</i></p> <p><i>The Council has considered extending the exemption in clause 13 of the order to apply to all assistance dogs, rather than those trained by a registered charity. However, we are concerned that this could leave it open to potential abuse from people who try to escape enforcement action by claiming that their pet is an assistance dogs when it does not provide them with assistance and has not been properly trained.</i></p> <p><i>Under the order a person still has a defence to prosecution if they have a "reasonable excuse" for failing to comply with it. We believe that people who genuinely rely on a properly trained assistance dog that has not been provided by a registered charity will have a "reasonable excuse" for taking their dogs in to these areas, and we will not take enforcement action if we are satisfied that this is the case.</i></p> <p><i>If dog owners are unsure whether the order applies to them, we will be happy to advise.</i></p> <p><i>Exemptions will be displayed on signs in these areas.</i></p>
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1 person questioned whether the authority could set up enclosed dog areas.

Comment	Response
<p>Areas for dog exercise should be designated.</p>	<p><i>In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community.</i></p> <p><i>Setting aside and fencing off these areas would have resource implications.</i></p> <p><i>We may consider setting up some dog walking areas in the future if this will prevent problems on other neighbouring land</i></p>

20 miscellaneous comments were made. These covered:

Comment	Response
A perception that the intention of the proposed Order was already the case.	<i>Comment noted: No further response required</i>
The need for effective enforcement and the encouragement of public reporting.	<i>The authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders. The Authority actively encourages members of public to report issues concerning irresponsible dog ownership, this can be done either by phone the authority or reporting incidents on-line.</i>
Provision to safely tie dogs on leads near enclosed children's play entrances.	<i>People will be able to tether their dogs outside the play areas. We will review the need for further facilities for people to tether their dogs.</i>
What about wild animals? Will that include all horses, including police horses.	<i>We will try to stop others animals from getting in to these areas, but it is very difficult to exclude some animals such as cats. We are not aware of any problems with horses in children's play areas, so we do not believe that it is necessary to make an order excluding them.</i>

Town and community council (T&CC) responses:

Comment	Response
Llandyfaelog Community Council manages a play area at Idole. Llandyfaelog Community Hall also has a play area in Llandyfaelog. We would very much wish this to be implemented at these locations, (Llandyfaelog).	<i>The enclosed Children's play area at the rear of Llandyfaelog Community Hall would fall within the exclusion order. It will not apply to the park area at Idole. As land owners it is up to you to decide who can access your land. We believe it is not appropriate to exclude dogs from park areas for animal welfare reasons, unless other land is made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.</i>
Llangennech Community Council resolved to support the Order at its meeting held on the 9 November 2015, (Llangennech).	<i>Comment noted : No further response required</i>

Organisation or group responses (6):

Comment	Response
<p>And all playing fields. We use the local park and there are more and more people bringing their dogs to the park and leaving them off the lead, (Cefneithin Welfare Association).</p>	<p><i>It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas, for animal welfare reasons.</i></p> <p><i>Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.</i></p> <p><i>Rather than excluding all dogs from playing fields, we will use Community Protection Notices to deal with offending dog owners.</i></p> <p><i>We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's if there is sufficient evidence available to pursue the additional PSPO's.</i></p>
<p>Members agreed with the proposal for enclosed play areas for Children to be protected. It would be beneficial if there were additionally "Dog Areas" within the same area where parents could take their animals whilst taking their children to the play areas so that they could maintain the family make up, (Farmers Union of Wales).</p>	<p><i>It is not necessary to set up "dog areas" within parks or children's play areas. People will be able to tether their dogs outside the enclosed play areas, and to exercise and play with their dogs in surrounding park areas.</i></p>
<p>Responsible owners will keep a place clean. All efforts should be made by the council to keep these areas cat and fox proof and they both carry toxicara canis and they don't get routine worming like most pet dogs, (Great Dane Care Charitable Trust).</p>	<p><i>We will try to stop others animals from getting in to these areas, but it is very difficult to exclude some animals such as cats.</i></p>
<p>Dogs are already excluded from our playing field, (Laugharne Festival Committee - Cors Playing Field).</p>	<p><i>Comment noted :No further response required.</i></p>
<p>The Kennel Club does not normally oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds, 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.</p>	<p><i>We agree that children and dogs should be able to socialise together quite safely under adult supervision. Our order does not prevent this. We will take these comments in to account when arranging signage for these sites.</i></p>

Comment	Response
Appropriate signage for dog exclusion areas - To ensure compliance and avoid doubt for people with and without dogs, 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]" on one side and "You are leaving [type of area]" on the reverse of the sign, (The Kennel Club).	
It's important to ensure that dogs that are in public places where children play cannot run free but for families who have dogs it is also important that they can take the dog for a walk and that the children have the opportunity to stay in the local park for a while and play with the dog on a lead, (Ysgol Gynradd).	<i>It's not appropriate to make a PSPO to exclude dogs from the parks for animal welfare reasons. Our order only excludes dogs from enclosed outdoor children's play areas, including the enclosed play areas within parks.</i>

3) ANALYSIS OF GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE SURVEY

159 responses were made to the final question, which gave an opportunity for any additional comments to be made. Where respondents differentiated between the 3 proposals within the draft Order, dog fouling was the largest area of comment.

29 comments were made on the subject of enforcement:

Comment	Response
Concerns that the Council lacks the necessary staff to enforce, at a time of financial cutbacks.	<i>The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.</i>
The use of countryside employees and volunteers as uniformed authorised officers.	<i>The Authority will look at utilising other resources within the Authority to enforce the orders.</i>
An increase in patrols.	<i>The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.</i>
Patrols to take place early and late in the day – when many offenders take their dogs to toilet.	<i>The out of hours patrols will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.</i>
A warning for first offenders.	<i>We do not intend to only warn first time offenders.</i>
A zero-tolerance approach to offenders.	<i>In most cases, the Council will issue a fixed penalty notice to someone who breaches the order for the first time. However, we may decide</i>

Comment	Response
	<i>to prosecute them instead, if we consider it more appropriate to do so.</i>
Publicity of prosecutions / offenders.	<i>Where offenders have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders are successfully prosecuted in the magistrate's court their details are published in the press.</i>

17 comments were offered in relation to encouraging compliance with the proposed order:

Comment	Response
Name and shame offenders in local press.	<i>Where offenders have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders are successfully prosecuted in the magistrate's court their details are published in the press.</i>
A public awareness campaign to educate the dog-owning public on the expectations of the Order. This could include issuing a publicity leaflet with each sale of clear-up bags.	<i>Education and Awareness is the first and foremost strategy of the authority. The authority will undertake a publicity campaign raising awareness of the new orders being proposed.</i>
Re-introduce dog licensing, micro chipping and DNA registration.	<i>The council cannot use PSPO's to require people to have a dog license. We are not aware of any plans to reintroduce the dog licence, however the government is introducing mandatory Micro chipping of all dogs in 2016. We do not think a DNA database will assist with enforcement activities, as dog owners do not have to provide DNA samples for the database. It is likely that only responsible dog owners would do so.</i>
Impose significant fines.	<i>The fines for dog fouling are fixed by central government.</i>
Take dog away from offenders and impose restrictions on keeping dogs.	<i>PSPO's cannot be used to take dogs away from people.</i>
Introduce a dog fouling app to assist reporting.	<i>There are no plans to introduce an app at this current time, however to report irresponsible dog ownership or dog fouling, reports can be made via the Authority's contact centre or website on Carmarthenshire ilocal.</i>

19 comments referenced the role irresponsible owners played in necessitating the Order:

Comment	Response
Irresponsible owners spoil it for the rest and give dog owners in general a bad name.	<i>Comment noted : No further response required.</i>
The Orders places unfair restrictions on responsible dog owners who have dogs who are included as part of a normal enjoyable family life. Irresponsible owners will remain irresponsible regardless of the rules in force.	<i>The purpose of the PSPO is to promote responsible dog ownership and to enable the authority to deal with dog owners who do not behave responsibly. We believe that this order strikes a fair balance and is reasonable and proportionate.</i>
Restrictions will affect Carmarthenshire's dog-friendly reputation, with consequences for tourism.	<i>We would like to think that Carmarthenshire is dog friendly county. We believe that this order strikes a fair and sensible balance, it allows people to walk their dogs off lead in public areas, but requires people to clean up after their dog and gives us the power to deal with any problems as and when they occur, by requiring people to place their dog on a lead.</i>
Other measures are needed to tackle dangerous dogs who attack other dogs.	<i>This order will enable us to deal with dogs that cause nuisance or annoyance to others, and attack other dogs on public land. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.</i>
The Order doesn't tackle unsupervised dogs who roam freely.	<i>The Environmental Protection Act 1990 already enables us to deal with stray dogs. The provisions in this order will enable us to deal with dogs that cause nuisance or annoyance to others, and attack other dogs on public land.</i>

18 comments related to views on the areas that the 3 aspects of the Order should apply:

Comment	Response
Dogs should also be excluded from sports pitches, cemeteries and school grounds.	<p><i>Orders to exclude dogs from parks, sports pitches or cemeteries would need to be considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. We will keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.</i></p> <p><i>School sites are not public land for the purposes of the PSPO. The authority is happy to work closely with schools to tackle these issues on their land. This may include the use of Community Protection Notices to deal with problems.</i></p>
Dogs should be on leads when on cycle paths, due to risk of causing accidents.	<i>If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.</i>
Dogs should <u>not</u> be banned from beaches and other open spaces (includes possible tourism impact).	<p><i>We do not have any plans to introduce PSPO's to exclude dogs from beaches or other open spaces at this time but will keep the need for further orders under review. Any further orders to exclude dogs from beaches or open space would need to be considered on a site-by-site basis.</i></p> <p><i>However the existing seasonal dog exclusions (Bye law) will remain in place at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach.</i></p>

13 comments were made in relation to leads or restraint:

Comment	Response
<p>Off lead exercise is essential for dog health and welfare.</p> <p>Dogs on leads are much easier to clear up after, since the location of foul is more straightforward.</p> <p>Having dogs on leads would result in less fighting and aggression.</p>	<p><i>People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places.</i></p> <p><i>If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as</i></p>

Comment	Response
	<i>Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.</i>
Aggressive dogs should be muzzled and on a lead.	<i>In appropriate circumstances, a Community Protection Notice could require an individual to keep their dog on a muzzle in public areas</i>
Family dogs are unlikely to be aggressive. The real problem is unsupervised dogs who are not 'socialised'.	<i>The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing aggressive / nuisance dogs in all publicly accessible land.</i>
Dogs should be on leads on roads and cycle paths.	<p><i>People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In some locations, cycle paths are the only places where people can exercise their dog off-lead. Some cycle paths also run through large open spaces where dogs are allowed off lead.</i></p> <p><i>However we will keep the situation with dogs on the cycle paths under review and may consider additional PSPO's to address this in future if necessary. We will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with any problems that arise.</i></p> <p><i>At present we do not think that it is appropriate to make an order requiring dogs to be kept on a lead at all times in the highway areas, as we do not have sufficient evidence to justify it.</i></p> <p><i>If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly on a cycle path or highway, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.</i></p>

9 comments were made concerning the need for designated areas

Comment	Response
Designated areas where dogs can exercise off lead are needed.	<i>In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community. In appropriate circumstances we may look at introducing a dedicated dog walking area at a location where there is evidence to justify it, subject to available budgets to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the area.</i>

7 comments referred to disposal of waste.

Comment	Response
There is a need for more disposal bins and more frequent emptying.	<i>The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county, and also the frequency of emptying.</i>

35 miscellaneous comments were received. Relevant issues are summarised below:

Comment	Response
It is important for tourism that Carmarthenshire remains 'dog-friendly'.	<i>We would like to think that Carmarthenshire is dog friendly county. We believe that this order strikes a fair balance approach in tackling anti social behaviour concerning irresponsible dog ownership.</i>
Other types of fouling need to be tackled as well. Inc cats, horses and wild animals.	<i>We cannot see how these orders can be used for foxes, birds and other wild animals. Cats are essentially a straying animal and we cannot expect their owner to follow their cat at all times and clear up after it. We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses and cows are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.</i>

Comment	Response
The issue of owners taking a number of dogs at once has not been addressed. Such owners are not in control of their dogs.	<i>The authority currently has no plans to introduce restriction on the number of dogs a person can take out. In appropriate circumstances we will consider using Community Protection Notices to restrict the number of dogs that a person may walk at any one time, if there is evidence to show that they cannot control their dogs. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.</i>
Hunting dogs should not be exempt from the provisions, as not 'working dogs'.	<i>PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO (DEFRA guidance). We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting.</i>
Dog ownership promotes owner health and fitness, so it is important the proposals do not affect this critical outcome.	<i>Comment noted. No further response required.</i>

Town and community council (T&CC) responses (5):

Comment	Response
Council regularly receives reports of dog fouling on footways and on the roadside particularly on side streets in Abergwili and in Peniel in the vicinity of the school and estate roads and pavements nearby. Council would welcome the implementation of powers by CCC that will assist in the elimination of dog fouling. The play area near the school in Abergwili has no dog notices currently but new exclusion powers would ensure that such notices can be enforced should the need arise, (Abergwili).	<i>No further response required. With regards to the issues at the side streets at Abergwili and Peniel, these will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.</i>
For your information - Children's Playground at Heol y Felin, Betws is owned by the Community Council. Also children's playground at Maesquarre Road, Betws is in the process of being handed over from the developer to the County Council. (Paul Murray is aware of the situation), (Betws).	<i>Comment noted : No further response required.</i>
The council supports County Council	<i>Comment noted : No further response</i>

Comment	Response
enforcement officers accessing LTCC land to enforce these proposed orders, (Laugharne).	<i>required</i>
Llangunnor Community Council believe that it would be advantageous to ban dogs from all public parks, if this is not possible the order should include that all dogs be kept on leads when in public parks, (Langunnor).	<p><i>It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas or requiring them to be kept on a lead at all times in these locations, for animal welfare reasons.</i></p> <p><i>Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.</i></p>
The Town Council would wish to ensure that particular areas currently of concern would now enable the County Council to take enforcement action and provide exclusion orders. To this end the Town Council would be prepared to work with the County Council and any other interested parties to eliminate dog fouling on the Welfare Field in Station Road, Peillac Way (63/NCN2/1) the cycle/foot way which runs along the riverbank from the TRA40 road bridge to St Mary's Church. Both these areas give rise to regular reports of dog fouling and is imperative that appropriate action can be taken to educate irresponsible dog owners. The Town Council has responsibility for the Skateboard Park, to the rear of the Car Park in Pentre Road, and the enclosed Children's Play Area alongside the Welfare Field in Station Road and should be the subject of exclusion orders. The Town Council is keen to ensure that all the above are safe areas for the enjoyment of all its residents and free from potential health risks, (St Clears).	<p><i>This information provided will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.</i></p> <p><i>The exclusion order will not apply to the skate park. If there are problems at the skate park we will consider use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.</i></p> <p><i>The authority is happy to work closely with the town council in tackling the aforementioned issues.</i></p>

Organisation or group responses (7):

Comment	Response
The introduction section of the proposed order doesn't seem to make a lot of	<i>Order wording will be reviewed</i>

Comment	Response
sense and not all points seem relevant to what is actually being proposed. The Local Access Forum would like officers to re visit this text before drafting the order, (Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum).	
It was noted that a breach of these orders would result in a criminal conviction being imposed on the recipient. Members did not think that this was a sufficiently serious offence to warrant a criminal conviction with its associated adverse effects (Farmers Union of Wales).	<i>Breach of an order will only result in a criminal record if the offender is successfully prosecuted through the courts. In most cases, the Council will issue the offender with a fixed penalty notice. If they pay the fixed penalty they will not be prosecuted and will not get a criminal record.</i>
Please add that no dogs should be allowed on private leased sporting venue used by adults and children, (Furnace United RFC).	<i>As land owners it is up to you to decide who can access your land. If the existing proposals do not address the problems at these sites, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with persistent offenders. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.</i>
The council should provide area for responsible people to free run dogs especially in holiday area as this is a vital boost to the county's economy. You should have regular meeting with pet dog owner, (Great Dane Care Charitable Trust).	<i>We do not believe that dog run areas are necessary, as the Council does not exclude dogs from its parks and other open spaces. The new order will only exclude dogs from enclosed children's play areas. We do engage with dog owners.</i>
I am a County Council Employee making my submission in a professional capacity as Countryside Access Manager dealing with public rights of way and other access land where dog fouling and out of control dogs are major issues. These proposed Orders appear sensible and proportionate, (Countryside Access Manager, CCC).	<i>Comment Noted: No further response required</i>
We are concerned that implementation of the order may be difficult at our unsupervised park, (Laugharne Festival Committee, Cors Playing Field).	<i>The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.</i>
Working dogs - We strongly welcome the proposed exemptions for working dogs. The guidance document prepared by DEFRA and the Welsh Government to accompany the legislation introducing Public Space Protection Orders is clear	<i>We will continue to engage with the kennel club.</i> <i>No further response required.</i>

Comment	Response
<p>- "PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO". Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to invite Carmarthenshire County Council to sign up to KC Dog. There are no entry requirements, but consulting with KC Dog, or keeping KC Dog up to date with what your council is doing is a good way to keep in touch with our dog-owning members, (The Kennel Club).</p>	

4) REPORT SUMMARY

The consultation shows very clear public and stakeholder support for each of the 3 proposed dog controls.

In respect of the proposal to require people to clear up after their dog immediately of it defecates on public land, 87% 'strongly agreed' (408, out of the 467 who answered the question). A number of comments related to clearing up being an important aspect of being a responsible dog owner, with other comments relating to the need for meaningful sanctions for non-compliance (including enforcement), and adequate provision of the means of disposal.

Considering the proposed provision to allow an authorised officer of the Council to direct the use of a lead no more than 2 metres in length on all publicly accessible land, 65% 'strongly agreed' (301, out of 465 who answered the question). A further 24% 'agreed' with the proposal, with a mere 7% against the proposal (5% 'disagree' and 4% 'strongly disagree'). Analysis of the comments reveals a range of views, with some commenting on the length of lead, the situations where a lead should be used, and concerns about enforcement.

The final proposed provision is to prohibit dogs from all outdoor enclosed children's play areas. Again, there is very strong support, with 72% who 'strongly agree' (334, out of 462 who answered the question) and a further 15% who 'agree'. Most comments stressed agreement, with a small number of respondents (18 of 462) suggesting the ban could go further (for example, to cover parks and sports pitches).

Whilst the consultation has demonstrated public support for the proposed Order, a further benefit has been constructive comment (including in relation to signage, training, definitions and enforcement) which will assist the Council should it decide to introduce the Order.

Carmarthenshire County Council - Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs)

- 1 Are you responding as an...
 - Individual
 - Business
 - Town & Community Council
 - Other Organisation or Group
- 2 If responding as a business, please write its name here.
- 3 If responding as a Town & Community Council, please write its name here
- 4 If responding as an organisation or group, please write its name here

About You

The following demographic questions are asked to allow the Authority to develop a greater understanding of the likely impacts on people.

Carmarthenshire County Council is firmly committed to having a decision-making process that shows due regard to the communities it serves.

We fully comply with the Data Protection Act.

- 5 What is your ethnic group?
 - White
 - Mixed / multiple ethnic groups
 - Asian / Asian British
 - Black / African / Caribbean / Black British
 - Other ethnic group
 - Prefer not to say
- 6 What is your age group?
 - Under 16
 - 16 - 24
 - 25 - 34
 - 35 - 44
 - 45 - 54
 - 55 - 64
 - 65 - 74
 - 75 - 84
 - 85+
- 7 What is your gender?
 - Female
 - Male
 - Prefer not to say

8 Is your gender the same now as when assigned at birth?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

9 What is your partnership status

- Single
- Married
- Separated
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Civil Partner
- Cohabiting
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify)

10 The Equality Act 2010 states that a person has a disability for the purposes of this Act if he/she has or has had '*a physical or mental impairment which has had a substantial and long term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities*'.

Long term has been defined as meaning having lasted 12 months or is likely to last at least 12 months

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

11 Do you hold a religion or belief?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

If yes, please specify

12 What is your sexual orientation?

- Heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Lesbian
- Gay
- Prefer not to say

Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs)

Summary of Proposals

New Powers are available to local authorities under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to tackle irresponsible dog ownership.

Earlier in the year we consulted with the public to find out if there was public support for further dog controls in the County. Based on the results of that consultation exercise, we have now drawn up a draft Public Spaces Protection Order, containing 3 proposed dog controls:–

1. A provision requiring people to clean up after their dogs immediately, if it defecates on public land. This will apply on **ALL** publicly accessible land in the County of Carmarthenshire.
2. A provision requiring people to place their dog on a lead of no more than 2 metres in length, when directed to do so by an authorised officer of the Council. This will also apply on **ALL** publicly accessible land in the County of Carmarthenshire.
3. A provision prohibiting dogs from all outdoor enclosed children's play areas in the County of Carmarthenshire

If the person in charge of a dog breaches the order, they will be committing a criminal offence unless:-

- (a) they have a reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or person in charge of the land has given them permission not to comply with the order on the land.

Anyone who breaches the order may be issued with a Fixed Penalty of up to £100, or they may receive a fine of up to £1,000 if convicted in the magistrates' court.

There are also a number of other exemptions in the order:-

1. The dog fouling provisions will not apply to some categories of disabled people, with whose sight impairments or other disabilities prevent them from being able to clean up after their dogs.
2. The provision prohibiting dogs from all outdoor enclosed children's play will not apply to assistance dogs trained by a registered charity.

3. The 3 provisions in the order will also not apply to working dogs, whilst they are working.

For full details of what is proposed and our reasons for wanting to introduce these controls, we would suggest that you read the **Draft Order** and the **Frequently Asked Questions** document that we have prepared.

When responding to this questionnaire you may wish to consider whether you agree that there is a need for the proposed controls, whether they are reasonable, whether they should be amended in some way, or whether there are other ways we could achieve our objectives. We would welcome any comments that you may wish to make.

13 Are you a dog owner?

- Yes
- No

14 Are you a parent?

- Yes
- No

The following questions relate to specific elements of the proposed order, and would be applied to **ALL** publicly accessible land in the County of Carmarthenshire, subject to the exemptions set out previously

Q15 **Dog Fouling:** The Council is proposing to make an Order that will require people to clean up after their dog(s) immediately if it defecates on public land.

	strongly agree	agree	neither agree / disagree	disagree	strongly disagree
How far do you agree with this proposal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Q16 Please add any comments that you wish to make

A direction to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird.

Q17 **Dogs on Leads by Direction:** The Council is proposing to make an Order that will require people to place their dog on a lead of no more than 2 metres in Length, when directed to do so by an authorised officer.

	strongly agree	agree	neither agree / disagree	disagree	strongly disagree
How far do you agree with this proposal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Q18 Do you agree that the proposed maximum length of 2 metres is reasonable?

- Yes
 No

Q19 Please add any comments that you wish to make

Q20 **Dog Exclusion Orders:** The Council is proposing to make an Order that will prohibit dogs from all outdoor enclosed children's play areas, subject to the exceptions set out above.

	strongly agree	agree	neither agree/ disagree	disagree	strongly disagree
How far do you agree with this proposal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Q21 Please add any comments that you wish to make

Other Matters

Q22 Please add any additional comments that you wish to make

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. It is greatly appreciated as your views can assist Carmarthenshire County Council formulate future policy

Appendix B - List of Consultees

Key stakeholders

Police & Crime Commissioner DPPA

Chief Constable DPPA

The Kennel Club

Dogs Trust Bridgend

Dogs Trust London

Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum

CCC Marketing & Tourism

Crown Properties

National Farmers Union Cymru

National Park Authorities

Farmers Union of Wales

The British Horse Society

Assembly Member for Carmarthen East & Dinefwr

Assembly Member for Carmarthen West & South Pembrokeshire

Member of Parliament for Llanelli

Member of Parliament for Carmarthen East & Dinefwr

Member of Parliament for Carmarthen West & Pembrokeshire

RNLI

Open Spaces Society

CCC Countryside Access Manager

Country Land & Business Association

Dog Control Service (Pembrokeshire)

Environmental Health (Ceredigion)

Powys County Council

City & County of Swansea
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Ramblers Association
Disability Rights UK
Hearing Dogs (UK)
Carmarthenshire Disabled Access Group
Countryside Alliance Wales
Director at CADW
National Trust Wales
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts WWT Llanelli
The Wildlife Trust of South & South West Wales (Bridgend)
Sport and Recreation Alliance
RSPCA
Sustrans Cymru
British Mountaineering Council
Keep Wales Tidy
One Voice Wales
Ramblers Association
Dinefwr Ramblers
Carmarthen & District Ramblers
Llanelli Ramblers
Lampeter Ramblers
Mynydd Mallaen Graziers Association
Glanamman, Pedol & Twrch Graziers
Llanfihangel Rhos-y-Corn Graziers Association
Black Mountain Graziers Association

Black Mountain West

Mynydd Betws Graziers Association

Mynydd Llangydeirne Graziers Association

Trapp & Llandyfan Graziers Association

Best Pet Friends

British Flyball Association

Great Dane Care Charitable Trust

Carmarthenshire Cycle Forum

The National Cycling Charity

Support Adoption for Pets

BPSCA Extremus Dog Training Ltd

Animal Welfare Welfare Network Wales

Members of Carmarthenshire County Council

Clerks of Town & Community Councils

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Clwb Rygbi Pantyffynnon	Cleaning up doesn't remove the problem, there are traces still left on our playing fields. dogs should always be on a lead in a public place	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead in all public places for animal welfare reasons. If the existing proposals do not address the problem of fouling on playing fields, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to exclude persistent offenders from these areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
Farmers Union of Wales (FUW)	In principle members agreed that there was a need to Clean up dog excrement after fouling.	Noted	No further response required
Furnace United RFC	Please add that no dogs should be allowed on private leased sporting venue used by adults and children.	Noted	It is for private land owners to decide who can enter on to their land and to deal with any trespass issues. If the existing proposals do not address the dog fouling problem, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to exclude persistent offenders from these areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
great dane care charitable trust	the dog is a very useful benefit to the vast majority of people, providing a means of exercise, companionship, and security for all ages of people yet the responsible dog owner is treated as a criminal. Without a place to exercise dogs, the health of all ages of people will suffer. The council provides the facility in some places like the country park at Pembrey and the coastal path yet has very few dog poo bins so how does this encourage good practise?	Noted	The order does not prevent people from exercising their dog off a lead in public areas. dog waste can be disposed of in normal litter bin's, we will review the number of bins within the County.
Jonathan Tudor, Countryside Access Manager, Carmarthenshire County council	Publicity will be required to deter people from violating the order. A wide range of council employees need to be involved in the enforcement of this order. Special Constables and Police Community Support Officers (PSCSOs) should also enforce if possible. Further it must be made clear if action can be taken on the basis of sufficient evidence provided to the council by members of the public who have witnessed the violation of the order e.g. witness statement, photographic evidence and reported.	Noted	The council will take this into account when making arrangements to publicise and enforce the order. The order will be published on the council's web site and publicised by way of media campaign. Signage will be erected through out the county. People will be encouraged to report breaches of the order. The authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders. The use of Police & PCSO's to enforce the orders will be discussed with Dyfed Powys Police.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Tudalen 84

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
The Kennel Club	We would also 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. These proactive measures may include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog poo may 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.	Noted	We will take this in to account when publicising the order. The authority engages with dog owners and undertakes press releases and media events in promoting responsible dog ownership. We will review the number of bins within the County. The order makes it clear that dog mess can be placed in normal litter bins. Our website will also make this clear. The authority currently places signs on bins to inform dog owners of this.
Ysgol Bro Banw	As a school we have reported issues of dog fouling on our playing fields on several occasions. Small signage has been posted but this has not resolved the issue. As a school we welcome any sort of restriction placed upon dog owners to ensure the health and well being of our pupils.	Noted	Most school sites are not public land and for these purposes of the PSPO. The authority is happy to work closely with the schools in tackling these issues which may include the use of Community Protection Notices.
Laugharne Township Community council	Despite providing free dog bags this remains an issue for public areas in Laugharne, with many dog owners ignoring our notices and failing to pick up. The council welcome this proposal and are pleased to see the county council taking this positive initiative. dog fouling is the main complaint we receive from members of the public accessing LTCC land.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
Llandyfaelog Community council	Llandyfaelog Community council manages a play area at Idole and a Community Garden at Tir Gof, Llandyfaelog. Llandyfaelog Community Hall also has a play area in Llandyfaelog. We would very much wish this to be implemented at these locations.	Noted	The dog fouling provision in the PSPO will apply to all three sites.
Llangennech	Llangennech Community council resolved to support the order at its meeting held on the 9 November 2015.	Noted	No further response required
Pendine Community council	This must include all the beach and Pendine as the tide can move mess around	Noted	The dog fouling provisions within the order will apply to all of Pendine beach.
St Clears Town council	The Town council is very mindful of health risks associated with dog faeces and is supportive of action against irresponsible dog owners	Noted	No further response required
	dog fouling has become a big problem especially on the cycle path running from Garnant to Ammanford.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	dog fouling in the coastal park is out of contro;	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I think that the extent of dog fouling has notably increased over recent years. I have also noticed more people having more than one dog, in some cases three or four.	Noted	If we become aware of problems concerning a number of people walking loose dogs, we may review the issue in the future.
	There's always dog mess outside Ysgol Llangynnwr and along St Catherine Street from the mini-roundabout down past the Vauxhall Garage, down to Debenhams.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	it is already a legal requirement to clean up after your dog, there is dog mess everywhere so if the existing law is rarely enforced how will another law improve things	Noted	Currently, people are only required to clean up after their dog in some areas. The new orders will extend the requirement to all public places within Carmarthenshire.
	The problem is widespread and prevalent even in very high profile places such as Pembrey Country Park. The efforts made to enforce penalties do not appear to have been very effective despite warning signs and disposal points. Perhaps more visible signs quoting penalty warnings might help educate the offending 'minority' of dog owners.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	a large number of "culprits" of the offence continue to do so during darker hours where they won't be seen and enforcement officers are off duty at these times	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	As a responsible dog owner who always cleans-up after my dog, I strongly agree with the "order" but think it will be difficult to enforce successfully.	Noted	No further response required
	Expensive to enforce. What about an initiative that responsible owners can sign up to and advertise? E.g. on high vis tabards? How about "Don't Be A Sh*t - Clean Up After Your dog (Like I Do)"?	Noted	The authority's enforcement officers currently engage with dog owners whilst on Patrol. The use of High Viz tabards would not be an effective use of resources.
	Fine the offender heavily and publish their name in local papers!	Noted	Fines imposed on conviction are a matter for the courts. All prosecutions are sent to the media section for press reports. For the offenders that have accepted a fixed penalty notice, the authority is unable to publish their details.
	Fines could be used to fund further dog Wardens so that more areas could be monitored more often including evenings and weekends. Also name and shame. Also fines for the culprits who are seen to be picking up but later dump the bags further along on the pretence of picking it back up on their return but invariably fail to do so.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. Where offenders have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. For offenders that have been prosecuted through the magistrates court their details are disclosed to the press. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Dog Fouling

Tudalen 86

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Harsher penalties are needed.	Noted	We will take this into consideration on reviewing the fixed penalty notices, The Prosecution Fines are fixed by the Magistrate courts.
	HOW AND WHO IS GOING TO MONITOR THIS. WILL SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL BE PROVIDED TO ENFORCE THIS.	Noted	It will be enforced by authorised officers of Carmarthenshire County council, the authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	How will the council ensure that people pick up their dog's mess? I live in Ammanford and the amount of dog mess on my 10 minute walk into the centre of town has increased recently. I have friends who own dogs and they scrupulously clear up after them, however, those who don't get away with it as there is no-one around when the mess is made so who is to say which dog/owner is responsible? You can't follow	Noted	The order will be enforced by authorised officers of CCC, these comments will be taken into account when planning future enforcement activities.
	How will this be policed?	Noted	The order will be enforced by authorised officers of CCC, these comments will be taken into account when planning future enforcement activities.
	how will you fund this?	Noted	Within the existing resources, however this will be monitored and reviewed.
	I am a responsible dog owner and always pick up after my dogs but I see so much dog poo not picked up and I don't see how this is going to improve just by making a new order. For this to work you need people going out and watching what is going on and challenging the people who are not picking up after their dogs!	Noted	The order will be enforced by authorised officers of CCC, these comments will be taken into account when planning future enforcement activities.
	I think its awful that dog owners are not already doing this and feel this should be policed far more than it is currently	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	I totally agree with this proposal, however it will be extremely difficult to enforce given that the county is so large and council employees don't work 24 hours a day. Also council employees have other priorities and can't be everywhere.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	It's about time that action was taken against these owners as this is a growing issue.	Agreed	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	My only concern is with budget cuts further looming, how will the local authority enforce such an excellent order?	Noted	The order will be enforced by authorised officers of CCC, these comments will be taken into account when planning future enforcement activities.
	Need to enforce that people must take the dog waste bags away with them. Too many people leave the bags for the dog poo fairies!	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Persistent offenders should be named and shamed - either with signs being put up in their neighborhood or in the paper with their photo.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. Where offenders have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders have been successfully prosecuted through the magistrates' court their details are disclosed to the press.
	sometimes owners can get distracted or not not see if the dog has done anything, es;ecially if its of leash and or gone behind a bush/tree, they should point this out and give them the opportunity to clean it up, i take old peoles dogs for a walk i have plenty of bags on me, but by the time i pick up bottles cans, i often run out and have to get more bags, i just hope the officers use discretion and common sense and not immediatlty fine people	Noted	The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and ensure they clean up after their dog. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order.
	The council need to enusre that they actually have the staff to patrol the street to catch the offenders. The street I live in quite often has dog foul on it and it has appeared overnight when irrisponsible dog owners walk their dogs.	Noted	The order will be enforced by authorised officers of CCC, these comments will be taken into account when planning future enforcement activities.
	This is essential that strong enforcement is introduced as the majority of complaints from the public is dog related; dog muck and dogs off the lead in public places and dogs being left to roam in children's play areas.	Noted	The order will be enforced by authorised officers of CCC, these comments will be taken into account when planning future enforcement activities.
	This should be supported by zero tolerance enforcement	Noted	The authority will adopt a strict approach to enforcement and will endeavour to ensure consistency. However, each incident will be assessed on its own merit and officers do have discretion on the appropriate enforcement action to be taken. Officers will be expected to use common sense.
	All dog owners should carry suitable clean up materials when walking their animal. Those that fail to produce one when challenged by a pcs0 or police officer should receive an on the spot fine as they clearly had no intention of cleaning up any mess the animal makes.	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.
	An authorised officer of the council should be required to ask anyone with a dog on public land to prove that they have come equipped with a bag for the dog mess.	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.
	The council should go further. People with authority should do it, ask dog owners, when they see them with a dog, to show their plastic bag. And if they don't have one the should be fined.	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.

Tudalen 87

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Tudalen 88

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Everyone should be responsible for their dog. As a dog owner I walk many paths walked by other dog woners and am discusted by the amount of dog fouling that I see. I regularly confront dog walkers who have an excuse such as they do not have a bag to put their dog fouling into. Why not look at an order that requires all dog walkers to carry bags to pick up their dog fouling with..? If a dog walker does not have a bag then it is obvious that they have no intention of picking up their dog foul.	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.
	I feel owners walking their dogs should be able to be approached and challenged that they have the necessary equipment (bags)to clean up after their dogs ,and then fined appropriately .	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.
	It is a very few people who do not pick up. Responsible dog owners do. You should do targeted undercover work in chosen area s and fine fine fine those thst do not comply. Make it a law if you have a dog you must carry pooh bags and employ the Pele to ask. By the by. Just cos s dog is on a lead does not mean people will pick up their pooh	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.
	There is a gentleman who walks his dog on the grass area opposite the vets by James Street, Llanelli. I reminded him that he needed to clean up after his dog has done his business on the grass but he completely ignored me and does not carry with him anything to clean the dogs mess up with.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	As a responsible dog owner who always cleans up after my dog, I am amazed by the amount of dog mess left by owners. However the situation is not helped by the lack of bins for use by dog owners to use. I regularly use the Quay in Kidwelly and Pembrey park for walking my dog. Kidwelly Quay has some bins but mainly near the parking areas and therefore quite close together. It would benefit from one at the far end of the canal route and one near the ponds. At Pembrey country park , in the wooden area, there are no bins to be seen for miles. I have noticed that many owners seem to think it's therefore acceptable to throw bagged dog mess into the woods.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. we will review the number of bins within the County. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	But more bins should be provided	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	Do we have enough appropriate bins to put the bags in? Could the council supply bags that would be available near the bins?		we will review the number of bins within the County. The authority has previously supplied bag dispensers in key areas around the county, however these facilities have been abused and subsequently withdrawn
	However, the council MUST provide more bins for people to drop off doggy bags.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County
	I agree especiall in areas where children play, but there needs to be more bins to put it in and emptied more frequently especially in the summer months	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County and the frequency of emptying.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I am a dog owner who regularly walks on the cycle path between Pontamman and Garnant. I often see filled poo bags disgarded on the path. There is a shortage of bins on the path and I think that bog owners who have bothered to bag Poo would use bins if they were placed at regular intervals on the path .Bins that are placed on the path are often over flowing I also walk with my small grandson and often have to megotiate him around large quantities of horse manure, maybe the same rules for bagging poo could include horse poo too.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces. We will also review the number of bins within the area inc the frequency of emptying. We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.
	I strongly agree BUT the council of course needs to ensure that there are sufficient facilities in public areas to allow for disposal of dog poo. There are certainly not enough at the moment.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County, where there are no bin's it is for the person in charge of the dog to take the faeces home with them.
	If this is brought in I would like to see the council supply more bins around the county. This is one of the big reasons for owners I've spoken to for not picking up after their dog as there is no bin around to put it in. Yes responsible owners like myself just carry the bag until we find one or take it home and dispose of it there if no bin is found but more bins would greatly help increase the amount of people picking up.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County, where there are no bin's it is for the person in charge of the dog to take the faeces home with them.
	Insufficient bins for disposing of waste in areas	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	It is easy to clear up after your dog however there are very few bins to put the waste in and walking for a few hours with bag of faeces can get very unpleasant!	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	Make it clear that BAGGED dog mess can be put in any refuse bin.	Noted	The authority currently places signs on the litter bins which indicates that Bagged dog Poo is permitted to placed within the bins.
	More bins in which to dispose of dog poo, particularly in areas that are popular with dog walkers.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	More bins need to be made available	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	More bins needed on recognised walks. I can help to identify Betws area. ***** More you need as local knolage key.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	More bins should provided for people get rid of the dog mess. The easier you make it for people to dispose of the dog mess, the more people will do it	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	more disposable units needed in all parks and childrens play area's also around school area's.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.

Tudalen 89

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Tudalen 90

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	People should be cleaning up after their dogs for sure. However, it can be the case that owners do run out of bags now and again and perhaps a grace period is in place for these instances. I do recognise that the owner has full responsibility, but this has happened to me on one occasion whereby my dog was unwell, and 7 bags were used during one walk, and I had to return to pick up his mess once I had managed to get more bags. Carmarthenshire are slow at changing the bins and I have often had to place my dog's mess on the floor next to the bin due to there being an overflow of poop bags at the bin. This will need to be addressed to encourage people to pick up their dog's mess. There are also areas that do not have any bins at all for example, the river side walk from Brynamman through to Garnant, Sandy Water Park Llanelli and Swiss Valley reservoir Llanelli, no regular bins to dispose of mess, if people are expected to pick it up you need to offer them opportunist to get rid of it. I have seen dog owners pick up their dog mess and hang it of a gate or tree due to there being no bins available.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. we will review the number of bins within the County and the frequency of emptying. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces. It is not always practical to place bins in remote locations.
	People should definitely pick it up but make sure you provide enough bins. Not enough at Pembrey Country Park.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	Please add more bins on known dog walking routes	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	Please provide much more bins in order to dispose of it. I have found on walking our dogs that waste has been left for this reason, it has even been picked up but the waste bag left as no where to put it. It's not nice when out with children, having to hold onto a bag of faeces. It's unsanitary	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	Strongly agree, but more bins are required especially in places like Pembrey Country Park !!	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	The provision of waste bins needs to reflect the impact of the order. People are more likely to bin it if there is a bin close to hand and in an appropriate place. Positioning of bins would be best done with consultation of local dog walkers who know how dogs use the area. In wild or unmanaged areas a 'stick and flick' policy would also be both sensible and workable	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County. The authority does not think it would be appropriate to adopt a stick and flick policy, however landowners may agree to accept this policy on their land.
	There is a lack of bins. The fact that some people do pick up and make things worse by then dumping the bags in the bushes.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. we will review the number of bins within the County and the frequency of emptying. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	there is not enough dog bins some have been taken away why? when you expect people to clean up after their dogs. North Wales provides lots of bins and is very dog friendly.	Noted	we will review the number of bins within the County.
	To make bins available to public for dog waste. Ive seen people leave dog mess and also throw their bags due to lack of bins which have been taken away in some areas	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. we will review the number of bins within the County and the frequency of emptying. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	You need to put more waste bins in the walking areas alongside ensuring that dog owners in town take responsibility for their dogs and clean up waste. It is noticeable that Priory Street and internal areas of town is littered with dog fouling because owners take their dogs out early morning and late at night and allow them to foul without picking it up. It is less likely in the walk areas when people have to make an effort to walk.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. we will review the number of bins within the County and the frequency of emptying.
	Also the disposing of dog waste in doggie bags are sometimes thrown in to bushes, which is worse as it takes a greater amount of time for these to breakdown	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	Bagging dog waste causes an environmental issue when non-decomposing bags used. In some situations waste will be quickly removed by slugs, etc so areas where this applies should be careful considered.	Noted	It is not appropriate to allow dog fouling to be left behind in some locations and to ensure a consistent approach in dealing with dog fouling issues.
	dog mess should be cleaned and put in bins or taken home to bin and full poop bags not left hanging on fences.	Agreed	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	It should also be made clear that the bags should not be left behind and should be placed in a bin.	Agreed	This will be considered when publicising the order. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	I think that every dog owner should carry a kit bag with them when out walking their dog, so that as well as having a bag to place the faeces in they should also have a spray to kill any germs left after the faeces is placed in the bag. That is, any residue should also be cleaned up or neutralised especially in grassy areas. There should also be something in the order about the disposal of bags, as there is nothing worse than seeing filled bags thrown onto the branches of trees or hedges.	Noted	It would be inappropriate to impose such a requirement under the current PSPO's. It's unnecessary to include something in the order relating to the disposal of bags as throwing bags in to trees or hedges is already a criminal offence.
	Not just clean up and bag the dog fouling but take the bags home with them. People often bag up the dog dirt but leave them at the side of footpaths or hanging in trees.	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	people need to clean up after their dog and then responsibly dispose of the bag containing the dog faeces as often this is just thrown into bushes or onto the ground.	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	should also include disposing of the bag and not leaving at the side of the pavement etc	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	The amount of dog mess seen locally is unacceptable, and on many occasions, where dog mess has been put into an appropriate bag, it is then thrown into the nearby hedge.	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	The leaving of dog fouling bags on the floor or hanging from branches are as much a problem as the dog fouling itself	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	The order should include a requirement to dispose of the collected faeces in an appropriate bin or to take it home, with penalties for those bagging and dropping or throwing excrement.	Noted	It would be inappropriate to specify how the waste must be disposed of. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	the proposal that requires people to clean up after their dog should make it clear that they should remove and responsibly dispose of the dog's faecal waste in biodegradable bags. I am fed up of, no - really angry about coming across bags of dog poo hanging from fences, hedges or just plain abandoned in public areas.	Agreed	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	They should also take the bags home or put them in a bin rather than leave them at the side of the path or throw them in a tree.	Agreed	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	As a parent it is really disgusting having to clean my children's shoes after they have stepped in dog mess. Hopefully this will reduce this occurring. Another major issue for me is cat fouling in my garden and drive, there seems to be @ 10 cats that foul in my garden and drive. My children and others have frequently stepped on this cat poo and walked it through the house. It concerns me as there is a nasty parasite in the cat poo which can affect children's sight. Could the council insist that cat owners have litter boxes for their cats as many clearly do not and let their cats foul everywhere. Also place a limit to the amount of cats one person can have.	Noted	Public Spaces Protection Orders can only be used to regulate activity on public land. They cannot be used to limit the number of cats a person can have and impose a requirement to have litter boxes. Where Cat fouling is a serious problem the council could consider using other statutory powers.
	As I work with Visually Impaired people I have major concerns about dog fouling in public places. dog fouling can cause blindness in young children and adults.	Noted	The council recognises the health issues concerning Toxicarra. The current enforcement regime on dog fouling is limited to designated areas, for this reason the authority is looking to introduce a county wide orders for dog owners to clear up after their dog within all publicly accessible areas.
	dog faeces are medically dangerous (eye infection and general gut content bacteria etc). It is also highly disgusting on shoes, pushchair wheels etc. Also why do some dog owners who pick up dog faeces in a bag then leave the bag on the path or on a seat . you will need to include those who do not dispose of faeces correctly even if picked up	Noted	The council recognises the health issues concerning Toxicarra and the nuisance of dog fouling. The current enforcement regime on dog fouling is limited to designated areas, for this reason the authority is looking to introduce a county wide orders for dog owners to clear up after their dog within all publicly accessible areas. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	I often take my child in his pram/trike to public parks and areas and the wheels get covered in dog mess.	Noted	No further response required
	I thought that was the law anyway. If not it is behind the times as we all try to keep our areas hygienicly clean and pleasant .	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible land.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I walk to & from work everyday & walk through many streets in Carmarthen town. Nearly every street i walk through as dog fouling there. The area where I mostly walk there a 2 schools where parents walk their children to school & on many occasion I can see that pram wheels have gone though the dog foul & then this is taking into schools & people homes, which is most Unhygienic.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning enforcement activities.
	Important for Public health and safety	Agreed	No further response required
	It is no longer a pleasure to go for a walk in many parts of Carmarthenshire due to dog fouling. You are unable to walk and enjoy the view as you are constantly having to check where you're walking in case of dog fouling on the path. Also children aren't able to play freely as I am worried that they will come across dog dirt.	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible areas.
	It is revolting to see dog fouling left in public spaces, it is not difficult to clean up after your dog.	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible areas.
	Most dog owners are responsible and do clean up but there are a number of dog owners around my area that totally disregard the law and repeatedly leave their dog mess where children walk and play	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible areas.
	There is nothing worse than dog mess on shoes etc., and that is before health issues are even looked at!	Noted	The council recognises the health issues concerning dog fouling. The current enforcement regime on dog fouling is limited to designated areas, for this reason the authority is looking to introduce a county wide orders for dog owners to clear up after their dog within all publicly accessible areas. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.

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Dog Fouling

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	This is long overdue and I personally feel very pleased to see this being taken forward. When I walk my own dog, its upsetting to see how much dog mess is left by owners around our public spaces, this is particularly upsetting to see in areas where our children play.	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible areas.
	Accompanied dogs are not really the issue it is latchkey dogs and strays	Noted	The dog fouling provision of the order will apply to latch key / stray dogs. The council will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with persistent issues relating to latch Key / straying dogs.
	As a dog owner I am very angry as we always clean up after our dogs and did so before it ever became law. It is also annoying as people may think we are culprits. I cannot understand how the offending dog owners don't care about mess. Do they not mind if they or their children step in it and take germs home with them. A big problem is when the owners of large dogs let them out of their cars so the dogs run off, make a mess whilst owners are locking their vehicles etc and don't see or care what their dogs have done.	Noted	The council recognises the health issues concerning dog fouling. The current enforcement regime on dog fouling is limited to designated areas, for this reason the authority is looking to introduce a county wide orders for dog owners to clear up after their dog within all publicly accessible areas. For those dog owners that fail to keep control of their dogs, the authority may use Community Protection Notices that would place conditions on them to comply with the law.
	As a dog owner i feel very strongley that it is my responsibilty to clean up any mess left by my dogs and i expect others to do the same.	Noted	No further response required
	As a responsible dog owners it makes my bloody boil that majority are NOT the amounts of times I have had arguments with owners WHO do not pick up after there own dogs and offering bags to them just blatantly ignore all efforts and walk away! It's so dangerous and disgust on many levels! It's dose not cost much to buy poop bag I pay £1 for 100 bags in home bargain! So no excuse at all! JUST lazy irresponsible dog owners who should not have a dog if not willing to look after it properly and be responsible for it and every one around, upper Brynamman park is coverd in dog foul all the time and children have to walk through park 2ce a day to go to the school!	Noted	The issues highlighted in Brynamman Park will be taken into account when conducting future enforcement activities.
	As dog owner I always clean up after my dog.	Noted	No further response required

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Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	dog owners are responsible for their pet's behaviour and should clean up after them as soon as possible	Agreed	Unfortunately there are a minority of irresponsible dog owners that continue to disregard the law, and these individuals have been targeting areas where there is no enforcement regime. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle this anti social behaviour.
	dog owners should clean up after their dog, this is a no brainer	Agreed	No further response required
	dog ownership has it's responsibility . owners should adhere to a Code of Practice. We have The Highway Code ,Countryside Code ,etc., why not dog owners Code?	Noted	We will consider a "Code of Practice"
	dog responsibility needs to be taken seriously, not only for the health of public using facilities, but also the health of the dog, and that includes cleaning up.	Agreed	No further response required
	As a responsible dog owner, it is perfectly fair to ensure that other dog owners clean up after their dogs immediately, and put them in a bin rather than leave the refuse bag on the pavement or somewhere similar.	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	I agree wholeheartedly with the proposal. I ALWAYS clean up after my dogs and expect every other dog owner to do the same.	Noted	No further response required
	I agree with this as good dog owners get tarred with the same brush as bad ones.	Noted	No further response required
	I always pick up my dog's mess straight after he does one, and I make sure he does not go onto private land as some dog owners do!!!	Noted	No further response required
	I am a new puppy/dog owner and have not once failed to clean up after my pup. I am venturing onto many walks, paths and common ground areas where I have not been before and my dog seems able to sniff out any dog mess that has been left by irresponsible pet owners. It never ceases to amaze me how many people fail to pick it up.	Noted	No further response required
	I coached a local junior rugby team, I had to turn up early to clean the dog mess off the pitch, during daylight owners respect tend to clean up, during the night time I have seen owners that just release their dogs by the gate and do not bother even following the dog into the park. dogs should be on a lead at all times in public parks not only in childrens play areas. On a Sunday morning during a game with young children all around a dog owner with 2 German Shepherds works into the park with both dogs off the lead. I did ask him to place the dogs on the lead, he refused.	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead in all public places for animal welfare reasons. If the existing proposals do not address the problem of fouling on playing fields, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to exclude persistent offenders from these areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
	I encourage all fellow dog walkers to clean up after their dogs, and won't hesitate to reprimand anyone who does not.	Noted	The authority does not encourage members of the public to challenge these irresponsible dog owners and recommends that these types of incidents are reported to the council.
	I have previously owned many dogs so understand the reason for this	Noted	No further response required

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I note from my local area that all persons I know with dogs always carry bags and pick up their dogs mess.	Noted	No further response required
	I think most people do, and I commend the council for the number of bins in Carmarthenshire to make it easy to comply. I think there should be more compliance from dog owners and the leaving of filled bags around is very bad. I am in favour of education rather than aggressive legislation. I fear enforcement for enforcements sake having lived in a country where such laws are enforced without common sense (the USA) and understanding.	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces. The council also conducts various education and awareness events i.e. Road shows, College and school programmes, liaising Community Groups and media press releases.
	If a person owns or is in charge of a pet they should be accountable for that pet.	Agreed	No further response required
	In Cefneithin Park people from all over the Gwendraeth Valley come, let their dogs off the lead and foul all over the park with out picking up!! NOT ON	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	It is a meaningful responsibility of being a dog owner!	Agreed	No further response required
	it is the responsibility of the few dog owners who do not "pick up" gives everyone else a bad name !!!!!!!!!!!!	Noted	No further response required
	LOCAL PARKS SEEM TO BE THE MAJOR PROBLEM - DOGS ARE LEFT TO ROAM FREE TO FOUL ALL OVER	Noted	No further response required
	owners should be cleaning up after their dog anyway but I do realise that irresponsible owners don't and therefore they should be fined and named and shamed in the local newspaper.	Noted	Where offenders have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders have been successfully prosecuted through the magistrates' court their details are disclosed to the press.
	The fines should be more like £500 This would help to pay more wardens i also think every boady should have to clean after there dog with no exceptions . This then would allow all responsible dog owners into parks and public places.	Noted	The fine and fixed penalty is set by government and the maximum fine for dog Fouling is £1000 and the maximum level for a fixed penalty notice is £100.
	the problem isn't so much dogs with owners it's latch-key dogs and strays	Noted	The dog fouling provision of the order will apply to latch key / stray dogs. The council will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with persistent issues relating to latch Key / straying dogs.
	There are several dog owners who use the coastal path in Machynys who do not pick up their dogs faeces.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	There is no excuse. If you have a dog, you have it in the knowledge that you are absolutely responsible for cleaning up after it. Not having dog poo bags is not a viable excuse. I clean up after my dog, other dog owners should do the same.	Noted	Under the Equality Act there are exemptions for those dog owners that have a disability that restricts them from being able to clear up after their dog. We also believe an exemption has to be made for working dogs.

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	There is simply no excuse for not cleaning up after a dog. Carmarthenshire provides more than ample disposal bins, and these are regularly emptied. Suitable bags are available at Tesco for 35p for three hundred. Failure to clean up after a dog is simply unacceptable and offenders should be dealt with by the strongest means possible. Very significant fines should be imposed on ALL offenders.	Noted	Under the Equality Act there are exemptions for those dog owners that have a disability that restricts them from being able to clear up after their dog. We also believe an exemption has to be made for working dogs.
	There needs to be much more pro-active education, starting with schools, teaching the next generation that it's irresponsible not to clean up after your dog, issuing fines is not enough, the council needs to work with responsible dog owners who do the right thing, maybe set up a voluntary task force, I don't want further restrictions to be introduced all because of persistent irresponsible owners who spoil it for everyone else	Noted	The council has conducted various education and awareness events for a number of years which include Road shows, College and school programmes, liaising Community Groups and media press releases. We feel that the proposed orders are reasonable and proportionate.
	There should be no reason for people not to clean up after their dog.	Noted	No further response required
	They should anyway	Noted	No further response required
	This applies to County councillors as well, I have see with my own eyes not clearing up after his dog when he takes it for a walk, another takes his dog to a playground to walk his dog when your own signs say this is not allowed.	Noted	Subject to the exemptions set out within the order, the order will apply to members of public inc county councillors.
	This is what responsible owners have always taken for granted.	Noted	No further response required
	This should be common sense by all dog in owners.	Noted	No further response required
	we show and breed dogs and when out with our dogs country or town we always have poop bags in the car or in our pockets and clean up after them	Noted	No further response required
	I have owned several dogs in the past and have never found it a problem to clean up after it. It is important to respect the environment and other walkers.	Agreed	No further response required
	Any dog owner, regardless of disability or visual impairment, is responsible for the fouling of their dog and should not be excluded from this order. It is the repsonilbilty of the individual in question to make the necessary arrangements to clean up after the dog in a public place. The public can not be adequately protected from uncotrolled fouling in e.g playgrounds if there are rules for some and not for others - whatever the circumstances. A child's illness caused by exposure to dog feaces is a lot more important, serious and in the interests of society than anxiety by lawmakers about dogs owned by disabled people.	Noted	When exercising our functions, we must have regard to the public sector equality duty in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. We must consider the need to eliminate disability discrimination and to advance equality of opportunity. We do not believe that it is appropriate to take enforcement action against people who are unable to comply with the order for reasons that are related to a disability. We could be acting unlawfully if were to do so. It could also discourage disabled people from owning a dog or properly exercising their dogs.

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Dog Fouling

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	dogs should not be allowed on playing areas full stop	Noted	Due to animal welfare issues it would be inappropriate to exclude dogs from all playing areas. If the existing proposals do not address the problem of fouling on playing fields, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to exclude persistent offenders from these areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
	Feel people who are physically able the rule is right . Also feel it right that include the Exemption list of Assistance dog and working To their nature Of assistance dog and working dog . People in that list are right if not able to	Noted	DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO.
	I am extremely dismayed about the hunting dogs exception. The order should especially apply to packs of hunting hounds who cause all manner of annoyance and disturbance as well as dog faeces everywhere.	Noted	DEFRA Guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor this and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.
	I believe that the definition of working dogs should not include dogs being used for hunting as this cannot be defined as work. I therefore believe that this proposal relating to fouling should apply to dogs being used for hunting	Noted	DEFRA Guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.
	What happens if a child falls in an area where a dog has fouled and results in a permanent injury/disability for a child? I believe that anyone who has a dog should be treated equally irrespective of what category they fall into, the after effects for a child will be the same irrespective of who's dog has fouled.	Noted	Under the Equality Act there are exemptions for those dog owners that have a disability that restricts them from being able to clear up after their dog. We also believe an exemption has to be made to working dogs.
	Agree where the dog defecates close too or on public footpaths but when the dog is off the lead and is away from any paths, discretion should be given where the owner has made a reasonable attempt to try and locate the mess because when the dog is free to roam and the grass or ground is un kept, its quite difficult to find the mess to clean up.	Noted	The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and ensure they clean up after their dog. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order.

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dependent on how easy it is to access where the dog has defecated.	Noted	Under the order a person has a defence to prosecution if they have a reasonable excuse to failing to clear up after their dog. If a dog defecates in an inaccessible location they may therefore have a defence. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order.
	I think all public land is a bit silly. I don't see anything wrong with not cleaning up if the mess is on a grass verge or a farmers field for example. Obviously playing fields pavements and paths should never have any mess left there	Noted	Members of Public can come into contact with dog faeces on grassed verges and open access land. For this reason the orders should apply to all these areas.
	If dogs are trained to defecate off paths, roads, pavements etc and it is not accessible to children, e.g. in a hedge, in scrub etc then I think it is reasonable for the person responsible to leave it where it is.	Noted	Members of Public can come into contact with dog faeces in these areas. For this reason the orders should apply to these areas. It is not feasible to limit the dog fouling provision in the order to areas that children access.
	If in woodland and the dog fouls in a thicket of brambles or patch of ground that is not easily accessible to get to then this is not really practical!	Noted	Under the order a person has a defence to prosecution if they have a reasonable excuse to failing to clear up after their dog. If a dog defecates in an inaccessible location they may therefore have a defence. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order.
	If the dog is off a lead then it could be out of owners sight and dog defecating could be missed	Noted	The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and ensure they clean up after their dog. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order.
	In my mind there is scope for certain public land to be designated 'Allowed' areas - this is because it can be very overgrown and be difficult for a dog owner to go in and even find where it may have messed. Though these areas would have to be signposted - and be areas less likely to be somewhere children would play.	Noted	Members of public can come into contact with dog faeces in these areas. For this reason the orders should apply there. It is not feasible to limit the dog fouling provision in the order to areas that children access.

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Or footpath. Bushy countryside verges can sometimes be excused as it's hard to get it out effectively. The point should be made that the dog cannot help it. Naughty owners should not be fined but have to do community service and pick it up for a few hours in a hot poop spot and not be let off until they have collected a certain weight related to the location of their offence.	Noted	Under the order a person has a defence to prosecution if they have a reasonable excuse to failing to clear up after their dog. If a dog defecates in an inaccessible location they may therefore have a defence. Officers will use discretion and common sense if there are good reasons why an individual cannot comply with the order. The Penalties are decided by the courts. It would be costly and resource intensive for the local authority to offer restorative work as an alternative to a fixed penalty notice.
	owners do not always see what their dog is doing when it is not on a lead or where it is doing it.	Noted	The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and ensure they clean up after their dog.
	Should include paths, verges. We live in the country and our lane is covered with dog fouling.	Noted	The order will include these areas
	some public land is very rarely accessed by people so fouling wont hinder human use of the land. So dog fouling will do fauna and flora good, and is better than gathering in plastic bags for landfill. So an order for all fouling to be cleaned up on ALL public land is detrimental.	Noted	It is not feasible to exclude areas rarely accessed by people. To identify these areas and draft an order in those terms would be very difficult.
	The only difficulty with this may be if you are walking your dg in woods or a beach (where they are allowed) and they go out of sight while running around. You cannot have your eyes on them at all times, and it would be a shame to keep a friendly dog on a lead all the time.	Noted	The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and ensure they clean up after their dog.
	The order is excessively stringent. In more wild areas cleaning is less necessary as natural processes operate quickly. Also there is the problem of many people's preference for leaving bags of faeces rather than removing them.	Noted	It is not feasible to limit the dog fouling provision in the order to areas rarely accessed by people. To identify these areas and draft an order in those terms would be difficult. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	We have a lawned area in front of our house (ours) and all our neighbours - they are our property but due to new build they don't have any walls etc separating each garden, and from the main road. We have a lot of problems with dog owners leaving their dog mess in our front lawns because of this. Could this be included as well i.e. will owners receive a fine if their dog messes on someone else's property/land?	Noted	The order applies to all land that is open and accessible to members of the public. This includes privately owned land unless the person that controls the land decides otherwise.

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Yes pick up in a park but not in a country lane etc. Would be ideal if you could make secure dog only areas for free running.	Noted	Members of public can still come into contact with dog faeces in country lanes, it is not feasible to exclude these areas from the order. As large rural authority it is not practical to provide such facilities throughout the county. This also has resource implications.
	but what about horse owners the piles that there animals leave on public ground far outweigh that which is left by canines and cigarette butts what is being done about them ?	Noted	We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.
	Can the policy please be extended to include cats?	Noted	Cat's are essentially a straying animal and we cannot expect their owner to follow their cat at all times and clear up after it.
	Can we also talk about the double standard about horse shit? If you have the local hunt's horses shitting in public that also needs cleaning up.	Noted	We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.
	Chewing gum is also an issue!! dogs eat it and is toxic	Noted	Litter Fixed Penalties are issued to individuals who drop / throw down chewing gum.

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I think improved signage is also needed in all parks and other areas that people frequent with their dogs. And come to think of it I don't much like stepping in horse muck so why aren't horses included?	Noted	It is not feasible to provide signage in every piece of Public land within the County. The authority will endeavour to provide signage in locations where there is an adverse affect from dog Fouling and will publicise the order by other means. We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.
	Officers should also catch the humans who defecate on river walk . dogs do not cut up bits of newspaper in tiny squares. If these disgusting people can take newspaper in their Lycra pocket they can take a dog poo bag.	Noted	Other statutory powers can be used to deal with human defecation.
	What about horses, foxes, cats, birds and other wild animals? What about guide dogs, as the owner can not see what the dog has done?	Noted	We cannot see how these orders can be used for foxes, birds and other wild animals. Cat's are essentially a straying animal and we cannot expect their owner to follow their cat at all times and clear up after it. We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time. The order will not apply to the individuals that have a serious sight impairment that restricts them from seeing their dog defecating.
	I am in a wheelchair, the dog fouling is always on the pavemenn where I live. It is very awkward to get to where I want to go. There is always a lot of dog fouling where I live. I went yesterday about 500 yards from my house. there was approx 8 places where there was dog fouling.I	Noted	No further response required
	In parks and on footpaths	Noted	The dog fouling provisions will apply to the orders

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Dog Fouling

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Please could you specify what publicly accessible land is. Does this also includes beaches ? National Trust parks? Fields? Woodland? Roads?	Noted	For these purposes a "Public Place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission. These will include Beaches, National Parks, Fields , woodlands and roads where there is public access.
	Surely this is in place now !	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible land.
	There has been the odd occasion were I have found myself without bags but have always returned later to clean up. However it would be useful to have bags available esp in popular dog walking areas.	Noted	It is up to dog owners to ensure that they have sufficient bags with them to comply with order. The authority has previously supplied bag dispensers in key areas around the county, however these facilities were abused and have now been subsequently withdrawn
	This is not being done at Cwmamman Park Garnant	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. The dog Fouling provision in the order will apply at Cwmamman Park.
	This is surely already the law anyway	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible land.
	Thought this was already the case.	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible land.

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Dog Fouling

Tudalen 104

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	we should try and adopt the new system of DNA testing dog mess as other authorities have done. I would pay for that as would most responsible dog owners. on our street there is an owner who lets their dog defecate on a daily basis. its kind of annoying when it does it on your path or directly outside your gate!	Noted	We do not think a DNA database will assist with enforcement activities, as dog owners do not have to provide DNA samples for the database. It is likely that only responsible dog owners would do so.
	well it is not working so far so what is the point? Why not open a DNA data base?	Noted	The current enforcement regime on dog fouling is limited to designated areas, for this reason the authority is looking to introduce a county wide orders for dog owners to clear up after their dog within all publicly accessible areas. We do not think a DNA database will assist with enforcement activities, as dog owners do not have to provide DNA samples for the database. It is likely that only responsible dog owners would do so.
	Within a few minutes to allow dog to finish fouling and being able to hold dog whilst picking up. Some people may need to tie to dog to a post etc to allow them both free hands to pick up poop.	Noted	the person in charge of the dog is required to remove the dog faeces forthwith, however officers will allow a reasonable opportunity for them to do so.
	All dogs should be registered on a DNA database and offenders identified by DNA testing of faeces. This should be paid for by the introduction of a new dog license, the council should make representations to this effect to the legislature.	Noted	These are matters for central government to consider. We do not think a DNA database will assist with enforcement activities, as dog owners do not have to provide DNA samples for the database. It is likely that only responsible dog owners would do so.
	All land used for recreational purposes should be designated as 'dog Free Zones' especially from April to October.	Noted	Due to animal welfare issues it would be inappropriate to exclude dogs from all land used for recreational purposes. If the existing proposals do not address the problem of fouling on recreational land, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to exclude persistent offenders from these areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
	please see the attached link regarding daventry council http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-northamptonshire-34972213	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Farmers Union of Wales (FUW)	It was accepted that a dog was under better control whilst wearing a dog's lead but also accepted that many dogs were extremely obedient and under the control of their owners without the need for a lead.	Noted	A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. People will not be required to place their dog on a lead if it is not causing or likely to cause problems.
great dane care charitable trust	those on extendable leads are rarely in full control and there are no proposals to encourage owners to attend training classes. these are no allowed inside any council property.	Noted	If authorised officers find that dog owners are unable to control their dogs with extendable leads, they may instruct the owners to reduce the lead length down to 2m. The authority may also use Community Protection Notices as a long term solution in dealing with dog owners that are unable to control their dogs, this could include attendance to training classes.
Jonathan Tudor, Countryside Access Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council	A wide range of Council employees need to be authorised and trained to enforce this order along with Special Constables and PCSOs if possible. The order will need to be well-publicised so people understand that Council employees do have these powers.	Noted	The authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders. The use of Police & PCSO's to enforce the orders will be discussed with Dyfed Powys Police. Where additional resources to enforce the orders are identified appropriate training will be provided. The orders will be placed on the authority's web page, and a media campaign informing the public of the new powers will be undertaken.
Open Spaces Society	In the case of public rights of way the council cannot make such a direction as rights-of-way law supersedes this. On a public right of way a dog must be on a lead or otherwise under close control. So we suspect this could lead to some confusion.	Noted	Under Right of Way law dogs do not have to be kept on a lead on rights of way. They only need to be on a lead or under close control. There are also no criminal sanctions against a person who fails to comply with the requirement in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 to keep their dog on a lead when on access land. The proposed order will give the authority powers to deal with problems in these areas by insisting that a nuisance dog is placed on a lead, and taking enforcement action if the person in charge of the dog refuses to do so. We do not agree that rights of way law prevents us from making this order. Where existing legislation imposes more onerous restrictions on dog owners, those restrictions are not superseded by our order and can still be enforced by relevant persons.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 106

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
The Kennel Club	The Kennel Club strongly welcomes 'dogs on lead by direction' orders, as these allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst allowing the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control. We would recommend that the authorised officer enforcing the order is familiar with dog behaviour in order to determine whether restraint is necessary. There is a danger that, through no fault of its own, a dog could be a 'nuisance' or 'annoyance' to another person who simply does not like dogs.	Noted	The authority will consider arranging training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour.
Ysgol Bro Banw	If a dog is on a lead it should be as short as possible to prevent the animal coming into contact with passers by.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
Llangennech	Llangennech Community Council resolved to support the order at its meeting held on the 9 November 2015.	Noted	No further response required
	A well behaved dog under the control of its owner and no threat to man or animal should not have to be on a lead. It restricts exercise and the officer can be biased in their view of if the animal is under control. How could they prove otherwise if the dog has done nothing wrong. This restricts well behaved dogs from social interaction with other dogs in public spaces and can be detrimental to socializing puppies on future good behavior. This could create a new generation of dogs who have no skills in interaction and would infact make dog control worse in some cases.	Noted	We accept that there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. People will not be required to place their dog on a lead if it is not causing or likely to cause problems.
	All dogs need the freedom to run off a lead,2 metres is to short but you can still have controll on a longer lead even in populated areas,The wardens who would have the control to advise people to put there dogs on leads need too be trustworthy people who would not use it as a power controll, i do agree that there are times when dogs need to be on a lead, most people who walk trhere dogs and care enough to walk there dogs, will be sensible and cotroll situations for themselve they need to be trusted to do this	Noted	We accept that there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	As a responsible dog ower you would only let your dog off the lead when it is safe .I mean bye safe that when there are no other dogs or children about	Noted	No further response required

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I don't agree that dogs should be on lead all the time on public land though. Only when there is a specific need for that dog to be on the lead.	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The order does not require dogs to be kept on a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	I think this is a good idea . We only let are dog off the lead when there are no people around or other dogs, although he is friendly not all people like dogs and also we have had problems when people leave there dogs off the lead and they won't come back when called and have attacked are dog which has made him nervous of big dogs.	Noted	No further response required
	I worry that officers will approach all dog owners an demand that they put them on leads when the dogs are not being a nuisance or disturbance. I can take my dog anywhere and I know he will behave and I therefore won't take kindly to anyone demanding he is put on a leash.	Noted	The order will not be used to require dogs to be put on a lead at all times, or to impose restrictions unnecessarily. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. People will not be required to place their dog on a lead if it is not causing or likely to cause problems.
	If area is vacant then will we be obliged to put dogs on lead?	Noted	No, the order does not require dogs to be kept on a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. If an area is vacant it is highly unlikely that these criteria will be met.
	if the dog is no danger to others and is away from traffic they should be allowed to enjoy their freedom	Noted	We accept that controls should not be imposed unnecessarily and there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	It is good for dogs to be off on a lead and take responsibility for ensuring that they are called to heel and place them on a lead when people are around and other dogs its about allowing them some freedom appropriately as long as they are trained in obedience	Noted	A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	Large dogs need off lead exercise in order to keep them stimulated, this makes for well socialised happy dogs less likely to cause disturbance or problems.	Noted	We accept that there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons.
	Not all dogs need to be on leads - many are well behaved and friendly. There are plenty of unfriendly dirty cats roaming free that are a lot worse than dogs and nothing is done about them (As far as I am aware).	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The order does not require dogs to kept on a lead at a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. Cats are outdoor, straying animals and we cannot expect owners to follow their cat at all times and clear up after them.
	Someone walking through hundreds of acres with no one else around shouldn't need to keep the dog on a lead. Carmarthenshire is after all the lowest population density county in England and Wales. It will inhibit dogs from getting proper exercise. and I have seen many dogs on the lead under far less control than many dogs off the lead.	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. The order does not require dogs to kept on a lead at a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	This would be appropriate if other dogs are around.	Noted	A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	A responsible dog owner should always have their dogs on leads whenever they are in public spaces. It is not enough to say they can have them off lead unless an authorised officer directs them How often are authorised officers in and around? Officers can't be everywhere.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make an order requiring people to keep their dogs on a lead at all times in all public areas. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. authorised officers will patrol areas where reports / complaints are received of nuisance dogs. The authority anticipates to include Park Rangers / Wardens and PCSO's as authorised officers.
	All dogs in public areas should be on a lead. The lead should be a short length to enable full control of the dog. A long lead is not visible to people, cyclists passing a person walking a dog and therefore, can act as a ligature with obvious consequences - particularly for cyclists. I am aware of many accidents, some serious, that have occurred when a cyclist overtakes a pedestrian with a dog on a lead extending from one side of the road/path to another. A dog not on lead on a public path caused a personal accident,resulting in serious injury.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. We will keep the situation with dogs on cycle paths under review and may consider further PSPO's to address this in future if necessary. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	All dogs should always be on a lead, otherwise the owner can lose sight of the dog and be unaware that the dog has made a mess.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and <u>ensure they clean up after their dog.</u>
	All dogs should be kept on leads while in public whether there's anyone there to tell them to do so or not.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. This order strikes a fair balance.
	all dogs should be on a lead at and around all public used area's	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. This order strikes a fair balance.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	All dogs, particularly on the cycle path, should be on a lead, not exceeding 2 metres .Not only would this prevent dog fouling , but it would make the cycle path safer for the many cyclists ,who visit the area. An area, adjacent to the Visitors Centre peninsular, could be fenced off, to allow dogs to come freely and their owners to oversee the collection of their dogs poo	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. We will keep the situation with dogs on cycle paths under review and will consider further PSPO to address this in future if necessary. We will also consider using additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue. The authority may also look at introducing dedicated dog walking areas this would be subject to available budgets to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the area.
	Believe that all dogs should be kept on leads at all times in public, including beaches/parks etc where they bound around like lunatics.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	Dogs not on leads or extended leads pose a hazard to cyclist. It would be much better to make it mandatory to put all dogs on leads when they are on designated cycle paths eg. millenium path.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In some locations, cycle paths are the only places where people can exercise their dog off-lead. Some cycle paths also run through large open spaces where dogs are allowed off lead. However we will keep the situation with dogs on the cycle paths under review and may consider additional PSPO's to address this in future if necessary. We will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with any problems that arise.
	Dogs should be on a lead permanently when out in public! Dogs are very unpredictable, especially if they are old or ill or just moody they will bite people and other dogs when usually they do not!	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Feel that all dogs should be on a lead when they are in public areas.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate and would not withstand a legal challenge. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	I am sceptical about how effective this provision will be as it is very rarely that I have seen a council officer when I have been out in dog walking areas. Unless there are more officers covering these areas more frequently I feel that most people will still have their disobedient dogs off lead. I think it would be better to have a blanket requirement for dogs to be on leads or have a system where the public can more easily report uncontrolled off lead dogs	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue. The order will be enforced by authorised officers of CCC. These comments will be taken into account when planning future enforcement activities.
	I believe dogs should be on leads in public places for the safety of other dogs and children. Dogs that are loose often charge up to other dogs often frightening a nervous dog or even attacking them. This has caused many owners to have large veterinary bills and often worse when some dogs have not survived. Better to have a policy of dogs on leads at all times with certain exempt areas to allow the dogs freedom so owners can choose whether to frequent these places	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	I do not agree with dogs being off their leads in public places especially if there are children around.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 112

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I think all dogs should be on leads all the time. Especaly on paths and anywhere where there are public peolpe. Even if the dog is a friendly one, you never know what that dog could do if it comes accross an other dog. Leads all the time -Simple.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	I think that dogs should be on leads at all times when out in the public domain	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	My dog who is always on a lead has been pounced on quite aggressively on 4 occasions while walking around Llyn llech Owain. My dog is now extremely wary and nervous of loose dogs approaching us. So I would welcome the need for all dogs to be on leads in public places as a necessity for safety to others.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	People should not be allowed to walk a number of dogs, e.g., six, along public footpaths such as the River Aman path, without leads at all. There are people walking multiple unleashed dogs that cause havoc and annoyance to both other dog owners and cyclists.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	Should be taken further by having dogs on leads at all times in all public places. The council should then provide allocated off lead dog areas.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. Creating "dog off-lead areas" in every community of a large rural county would be difficult.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Suitable placarding in place instructing dog owners that dogs MUST be on a lead at ALL TIMES and not only when instructed by unauthorized officer of the Council.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	think certain public areas should have a ban on dogs being off the lead completely	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. The Council can consider site specific dogs on leads orders, but any orders would need to be evidence based. We would need to consider animal welfare issues and the availability of other land in the vicinity where dogs can be walked off-lead.
	This is a brilliant idea for people who have dangerous dogs, the shorter the lead the better. They should also not be allowed to walk around town with what is classed as dangerous even if they are on a short lead. There is only one reason why people have these dogs, it is as a weapon/intimidator to others.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. Where dog owners persistently fail to control aggressive dogs the authority may use additional enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with such issues. This may include the owner to muzzle the dog there is any evidence to show it will attack people or dogs whilst it is out with it's owner.
	Too many dog owners don't even use a lead especially in busy public areas. People who are attacked or barked at from dogs without a lead should be better informed who to contact in order for necessary action to be taken to the dog owner.	Noted	Where dog owners persistently fail to control aggressive dogs the authority may use additional enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with such issues. This may include the owner to muzzle the dog there is any evidence to show it will attack people or dogs whilst it is out with it's owner.
	1 meter	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 114

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	1 metre would make it easier to control/prevent a dog from harassing or frightening people, especially small children.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. Where dog owners persistently fail to control aggressive dogs the authority may use additional enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with such issues.
	2 meters is reasonable but I do think that the expandible leads should be banned!!	Noted	We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads. The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires owner to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	2 metres is far to long, a regular leash should be used. Extending retractable leads are a hazzard to others and can cause burns to the skin as dogs run past peoples legs.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	2 metres is not enough.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	2 metres is too long. They should be on a short lead to facilitate control.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	A full length extendable lead (up to 5m) is reasonable as the dog is still leashed.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	A lead will put the dog under control however long and flexible leads mean the dog can exercise without bothering anyone and be bought back to owner quickly so maximum length unnecessary.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	A strong retractable long lead would be acceptable. NOT a long lead/training line which is harder to control.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	Amy length up to 5m is acceptable as the dog is still leashed.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	As my dog has to always be on a lead, due to lack of recall, I feel 2 metres is too short in places where there is no traffic, as this would limit his freedom, unless large enclosed spaces are provided by the council in each town/ village . He is not a risk .	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead in all public places for animal welfare reasons, however if a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue. Currently there are no plans to introduce dedicated off the lead areas for dogs within the county however this would be reviewed subject to available resources.
	Ban the use of retractable leads	Noted	We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads. The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	Could be short length	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	Depends on the size of the dog. The bigger the dog - the shorter the lead.	Noted	An order that imposed a different maximum lead length based on the size of the dog, could cause confusion. It would also require enforcement officers to measure the dogs, to determine the maximum lead length to apply. For the sake of clarity and consistency, we think that the same maximum length should apply to dogs of all sizes.
	Discretionary length by agreement	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	Extendable ones on parks etc are fine	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	flexi leads can be adjusted but dog can be controlled	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	How can a dog owner be in control of their dog when the lead they have on is too long.	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 116

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I agree that a 2metre lead for walking a dog is adequate, however, if an owner is expected to keep a dog on a lead at all times then a 5 metre flexi lead would be more adequate giving the dog some form of freedom for exercise purposes.	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead in all public places for animal welfare reasons, however if a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	I agree with the 2m however i think it should be specific to the size of dog and wether or not the handler of the dog is able to control it should it pull away	Noted	An order that imposed a different maximum lead length based on the size of the dog, could cause confusion. It would also require enforcement officers to measure the dogs, to determine the maximum lead length to apply. For the sake of clarity and consistency, we think that the same maximum length should apply to dogs of all sizes.
	I believe that 2 meters is reasonable to be able to control your dog and keep sufficient distance between other users of public space.	Agreed	No further response required
	I metre would be enable the dog to be controlled more easily	Noted	We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads. The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so. We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	I personally would prefer a shorter lead and that leads that have expanding and contracting extra lengths should be banned as they are dangerous to children, the elderly and bicycle users.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	I think 1.5 metres is long enough. Many of the paths in Carmarthenshire are under 2 metres in width! Not all children (or adults) feel comfortable around dogs. We always see at least two dog when we go for a walk in the evenings and my daughter gets quite nervous when a dog comes in the opposite direction because the dog is quite often on our side of the path as the lead is so long. Many dog owners seem to assume that everyone feels relaxed around dogs and very often make no attempt to pull their dog to one side.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	i think 2 meters is two long for town situations but they are fine in open spaces where there is no traffic	Noted	An order that imposed a different maximum lead length based on the location, could cause confusion. For the sake of clarity and consistency, we think that the same maximum length should apply to dogs of all sizes.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I think it could be shorter, having walked dogs for friends 2 metres would allow the dog to pull and the owner not to have full control. I often think the extendable leads are a big nuisance in themselves and should only be used in an exercise area and not so that the owner can walk metres behind the dog.	Noted	This mirrors the requirement under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads. An order that prohibited the use of extendable leads in some locations would be difficult to draft and could cause confusion. We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable.
	I think that 1/5 metres is more than adequate.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	I use a retractable lead which is approx 4m in length. Most people using leads these days are responsible and use retractable leads. I don't see the problem. It is the people who don't use leads - esp small yappy dogs that seem to cause the most problems.	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	I use an extending lead but can control the length of it to below 2 metres	Noted	No further response required
	I would like to see a maximum of one meter	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	If a dog is causing a nuisance to the degree that it can be seen to need putting on a lead, then it may be that a two metre length is too long!	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	It should be shorter than 2 metres - dogs should be kept on a lead on all land designated for recreational use or as above not allowed on that land in the 1st place.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.. It's not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead in all public places for animal welfare reasons, however If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	max. length should be 1 metre.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	Most extendable leads are 3m in length it would be difficult to judge 2 metres.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 118

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	My dog has an extendable lead but we also use a 5 metre lead when practicing/ teaching him recall etc sometimes we need to do this in public because he needs distractions etc to learn	Noted	No further response required
	No I feel strongly that the length of a lead should be a maximum on 1 metre.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	No it should be much shorter.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	No, our dog leads extend to more than 2 metres. We keep them short when there are people around but let them run on the extended leads when there is no-one in sight. 2 metres is very short for proper exercise.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The PSPO only requires the person in charge of a dog to place and keep it on a lead of no more than 2m if they are directed to do so by an authorised officer to prevent nuisance and annoyance etc. At all other times the dog can be exercised off lead, or on a lead of more than 2m.
	Not convinced is 2 Metres a little short !	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	One of my dogs was recently attacked by another dog in a completely unprovoked attack, the other dog was on an extended lead and the owner had no control over their dog. This change may prevent others suffering a similar attack.	Noted	Where dog owners persistently fail to control aggressive dogs the authority may use additional enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with such issues.
	Shorter as flexi leads people walk with them and dog ha all over when use my guide dog. All on hight of dog but people shouldnt have flexi lead on walk	Noted	An order that imposed a different maximum lead length based on the size of the dog, could cause confusion. It would also require enforcement officers to measure the dogs, to determine the maximum lead length to apply. For the sake of clarity and consistency, we think that the same maximum length should apply to dogs of all sizes. We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads.
	Should be shorter	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	some children weather the dog is on a lead or not are scared. 2 meters maybe too long for some children to walk past a dog	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	Some owners & dogs are kept under control on an extended lead.	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	The difficulty arises when retailers sell extendable leads over 2m, there being a lack of understanding on the part of the public	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	The length of the lead needs to be longer or shorter dependant upon the situation in order to keep the dog under control. The purpose of this has to be to keep the dog under control and therefore the length of the lead does not need to be stated.	Noted	An order that imposed a different maximum lead length based on the situation could cause confusion. For the sake of clarity and consistency, we think that a consistent maximum length should apply.
	the shortest extending lead is 3m making it difficult for responsible owners to adhere to the 2m length restriction due to the nature of the lead recoil and extend action.	Noted	The lead can be retracted to less than 2m
	There should be a provision to allow use of a retractable lead so long as it is "reined in", as many people would not have an alternative lead with them. I don't think a dog at the end of a retractable lead can be thought of as under control, particularly on a cycle track, however in an open space such as a park or empty beach this would be acceptable and allow more exercise for the dog.	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads. It requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m <u>if</u> directed to do so. At all other times, the lead can be extended to beyond 2m.
	This should be a normal lead wich is under 1 meter.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	This would depend on the size of the dog and therefore, I feel that this needs to be carefully considered. Putting a dog on a lead which ensures they have full control of a dog is better rather than specifying a length of lead.	Noted	An order that imposed a different maximum lead length based on the situation could cause confusion. For the sake of clarity and consistency, we think that a consistent maximum length should apply.
	Too often I have seen people with the extending leads leaving their dogs to wander near the road, leads need to be shorter to avoid this.	Noted	Where dog owners persistently fail to control aggressive dogs the authority may use additional enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with such issues.
	Two metre is more than generous. Irresponsible dog owners to shout to inform you that their dog "won't bite" or "only wants to play" when their dog is bounding towards you fail to understand that is someone is genuinely frightened of dogs, or has nice clean clothes on doesn't want any dog anywhere near them.	Noted	The order doesn't stop people from using extendable leads, but requires the person in charge of a dog to retract the lead to no more than 2m if directed to do so.
	Up to 8m is reasonable provided the dog is restrained	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 120

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	authorised officers must receive appropriate training from qualified and experienced dog behaviourists/trainers so they fully understand what they are seeing. How can someone judge a situation or behaviour if they have no experience or knowledge to base their decision on?	Noted	The majority of authorised officers are dog owners, the authority will look consider training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour.
	Frequently, I see dogs that are not on a lead on Llansteffan beach, in the months where it should not happen. Rules are fine but they do need to be enforced to be effective.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. The authority is also looking to widen the use of Park rangers / wardens and PCSO's as authorised officers to enforce this order.
	HOW AND WHO IS GOING TO MONITOR THE NEED FOR RESTRAINT. WILL SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL BE PROVIDED TO ENFORCE THIS	Noted	authorised officers of the Council will issue directions requiring dogs to be placed on a lead, in appropriate circumstances. The authority is currently reviewing the use of additional resources, this may mean that Park warden / Rangers and PCSO's maybe authorised to enforce the order.
	I agree to the extent that it should be possible to direct people if a real nuisance is a risk. I fear aggressive enforcement where no risk exists which will lead to greatly restricted freedoms for dog owners. Part of the appeal of this Country is the ability to enjoy dog ownership. I agree that dog owners must be considerate and responsible.	Noted	We note the concern about aggressive enforcement. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to avoid causing genuine nuisance and annoyance etc.
	I do hope that the authorised officers will be capable of understanding dog behaviour to be able to make a sensible judgement and not bully people as they have in the past	Noted	The majority of authorised officers are dog owners, the authority will look consider training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour.
	I think that this proposal should be extended to any member of the public requesting a dog to be put on a leash, if they feel threatened by another dog. Many times I have had my dog on a leash, only for another owner to allow thier dog to jump and threaten my dog. I am also aware this situation happens to other responsible dog owners.	Noted	People who issue directions and enforce these orders will require appropriate training and must be willing to attend court to give evidence. There could also be health and safety implications, as people could be met with aggression and abusive behaviour. Therefore, we think that enforcement should be limited to authorised officers of the Council.
	measuring annoyance or disturbance is such a subjective thing. To be told to put your dog on a lead because it is chasing a squirrel or rabbit would be annoying for the dog owner! However I would agree that a dog chasing cows/sheep would be a nuisance. Who decides on this?	Noted	It is for authorised officers to decide whether the criteria for issuing a direction are met and whether the person in charge of a dog should be directed to place it on a lead. The authority will look consider arranging training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Not entirely sure how effective this would be due to limited availability of enforcement officers. There should be a requirement for dogs to be kept on leads on narrow footpaths and rights of way. As a runner using the cycle ways and footpaths around Carmarthen, I've lost count of the number of times I've been lunged at by dogs whether they're on leads or not. I've also been bitten twice and chased along the footpaths by out of control dogs.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders. Where dog owners fail to control aggressive dogs the authority may use additional enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with such issues.
	One would hope that the Officer of the Council applies some common sense and not target any dog that is not on a lead.	Noted	A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to avoid causing genuine nuisance and annoyance etc. They will not - and cannot - be used to require people to place their dog on a lead at all times. authorised officers will be suitably trained and expected to use commonsense.
	Only if it is warranted	Noted	No further response required
	Only in designated areas where it is not conducive to have dogs running free. However all non aggressive dogs must be allowed to have areas where they can run freely off lead, in order to exercise .	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. We do not think that it is feasible to limit it to designated areas, as problems with out of control dogs could occur anywhere. The "dog on lead" provisions in this order do not prevent dogs from running freely off-lead, unless the person in charge of the dog is ordered to place it on a lead.
	The authorised officer needs to identify themselves or wear visible identification on order to avoid conflict.	Noted	All authorised officers will be in Uniform and are required to carry with them at all times their authorisation and identity card.
	There won't be any officers anyway as the council can't afford them so this is a waste of ink	Noted	We disagree. The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	This is fine 'in theory' but I would like this to only be by a qualified person that has a proper sound understanding of dog behaviour. No use giving this to someone in charge who has no grasp of dog behaviour or training with no experience at all. The length of lead is irrelevant. Control is control. However I believe that flexi leads are not a sufficient device for controlling a dog.	Noted	The majority of authorised officers are dog owners, the authority will look consider arranging training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour. We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads.

Tudalen 121

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 122

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Who is this authorised officer? Who decides what is 'reasonably necessary'? Who decides that an annoyance or disturbance is likely? I am quite concerned that this gives an undefined amount of control to an undisclosed 'officer of the council' to demand that dogs are restrained based on their own opinion. There would need to be clearer wording than that given above (which is extremely vague). What constitutes a nuisance annoyance or disturbance? Surely it would be better to designate certain areas of Carmarthenshire as onlu for dogs on leads. At least then, owners would know what was expected of them without the intervention of some outside figure.	Noted	Authorised officers are appointed by the council. The authority will look consider training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour. It will be up to the officers to decide whether the criteria for issuing a direction are satisfied, and whether to issue a direction in appropriate circumstances. The wording of our order is based on the old Dog Control orders, which were approved by the Welsh Government.
	will it be enforced	Noted	Yes, it will be enforced. The authority is currently reviewing the resources that are available to do so.
	Would the authorised office have any training in Animal Care / dog handling ect?	Noted	The majority of authorised officers are dog owners, the authority will look consider training sessions for officers to be familiar with dog behaviour.
	Dogs running free, particularly on roads, pose a significant threat to other road users.	Noted	For those dogs that persistently cause concerns near public highways, the authority may use additional enforcement powers to tackle such issues. This could include a Community Protection Notice imposing restrictions on the individual for safety reasons, when traversing a public highway.
	Dogs should be kept on leads at all times on cycle paths.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In some locations, cycle paths are the only places where people can exercise their dog off-lead. Some cycle paths also run through large open spaces where dogs are allowed off lead. However we will keep the situation with dogs on the cycle paths under review and may consider additional PSPO's to address this in future if necessary. We will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with any problems that arise.
	It's important from a road safety point of view, but what about hunting dogs? Shouldn't they be subject to the same control as other dogs. The only exception should be police dogs.	Noted	DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO.. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	No dog should be off the lead in a public park! Sorry not all children like dogs and become scared if a dog big or small runs up to them.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	Not in total agreement, but dogs should be kept on shortened leads in public spaces where children and people are approaching.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	The council should consider signage that all dogs should be kept on leads on the cycle paths. I have been knocked off my bicycle by out-of-control dogs and have had another near miss recently. Dog owners seem unaware that they are liable for any injuries and damage caused by their dogs in such circumstances, as evidenced by a £65,000 payment ordered by the courts and reported in the press only last week. Education and information is preferable to injury and litigation!	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In some locations, cycle paths are the only places where people can exercise their dog off-lead. Some cycle paths also run through large open spaces where dogs are allowed off lead. However we will keep the situation with dogs on the cycle paths under review and may consider additional PSPO's to address this in future if necessary. We will also consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with any problems that arise.
	The definition of an "authorised officer" should be as wide as possible and the power thus conferred should be exercised in order to minimise the nuisance caused by dogs.	Noted	People who issue directions and enforce these orders will require appropriate training and must be willing to attend court to give evidence. The authority is currently reviewing the resources available to enforce the orders.
	They must be on a lead if animals are in the same field as them. Unless a working dog with the animal owners permission.	Noted	A "public place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission. Many fields will not qualify as public land for the purposes of this order.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Tudalen 124

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	They should NOT be off a lead in 30mph limits . It's not that expensive to fence off play / pitch areas so we can be sure there is no poo. Picking up poo does not always happen effectively despite owners best efforts. Should there be doggy recycle poo toilets instead of bins?	Noted	At present we do not think that it is appropriate to make an order requiring dogs to be kept on a lead at all times in these areas, as we do not have sufficient evidence to justify it. For those dogs that persistently cause concerns near public highways, the authority may use additional enforcement powers to tackle such issues. Fencing off all marked sport pitches in the entire county would be resource intensive.
	Gain. Depends on location. Dogs should be under control but still able to exercise.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate.
	I also think this need to be deturmining by the abedience of the dog, my dogs are well trained, and will stand next to us whilst people pass, some people feel this should automaticall be done and does not take this into account	Noted	A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	I have dogs which function better and are more controllable on longer, or no leads, while still being under total control and causing no nuisance. Dogs should be required to be under reasonable control, but not on a lead of specific length.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	I walk my dog using a retractable lead with has a maximum length of 5m. However, when passing people or near traffic etc, I always retract the lead. There is no reason that anyone should dispute putting a dog on a lead IF it is causing a nuisance.	Noted	No further response required
	If the dog is seen as being a nuisance, then he owner should act responsibly. The beauty of Carmarthenshire are the many dog friendly beaches and wooded areas	Noted	No further response required
	If you have a trained dog and your a responsible owner then it's fine for dogs to be off the lead.	Noted	The order does not require dogs to kept on a lead at a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	It would be great if all dog owners notice when you put your own dog on the lead - and also do the same. Some dogs are nervous of others, so to keep my dog safe if I see another dog that may be a little boisterous I will put my dog on a lead, some other dog owners acknowledge this and then put their dog on the lead - but a lot do not.	Noted	The Purpose of the PSPO is to address the issue of irresponsible dog ownership in particular with those that cannot control their dogs correctly.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	My dog is better off without a lead as she is lead aggressive/nervous. However, she poses no threat to man nor beast when without a lead. It should be down to the owners discretion and understanding of their dog. However, I do understand the theory behind this being dogs kept on a lead are safer- but this isn't always the case. And some cannot be controlled when on a lead.	Noted	A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. People will not be required to place their dog on a lead if it is not causing or likely to cause problems.
	My dog is very good off the lead, but I do understand that other people's dogs can be socially challenged. I will always put him on a lead if a dog approaches us, as I am aware that other people's dogs are not as socially trained as mine. Nevertheless, I have come across people who do not take this into consideration, so I am happy with this to be implemented.	Noted	No further response required
	If a dog behaves properly off the lead, and has been properly trained, it shouldn't be a problem. Unfortunately, we sometimes see that they haven't been trained and they definitely need to be kept under control if the owner is unable or unwilling to do so.	Noted	People will not be required to place their dog on a lead if it is not causing or likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to others, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	Very unreasonable, some dogs are well trained and are able to walk without the requirements of a lead!	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The order does not require dogs to be kept on a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	A bird is, by definition, an animal. Better wording.....to any other animal, or causing damage to the property of a third party.	Noted	The wording of our order is based on the old Dog Control orders, which were approved by the Welsh Government. We agree with the respondent's and will amend the order accordingly.
	about time	Noted	No further response required
	As a qualified canine behaviourist, BSc. Hons and former member of the UK Registry of Canine Behaviourists. Well socialized dogs need open space off leash exercise, and for certain breeds, eg. spaniels need something much larger than an enclosed garden space. Whilst I agree that firm measures should be in place for clearing up after dogs, and against owners of anti-social dogs, people who have taken the time and the effort to train their dogs should be encouraged and rewarded. One solution to this could be, that people who have trained through the Kennel Club's Good Citizen Dog Scheme should be allowed access to places where untrained dogs are not allowed. Also there needs to be more venues available to people who run dog training classes, and also insistence that people who are teaching these classes are properly qualified AND are a member of a reputable professional body.	Noted	We accept that there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. We do not think that it would be appropriate to make an order allowing people who have trained through the kennel club to have access to areas of land that other people do not. PSPO's must be evidence based, so we would need to good reasons to limit access to land or to particular categories of land in this way. The dog owners who do not have access to these restricted areas could be aggrieved that others are being treated differently. A county-wide order identifying these restricted areas could also be difficult to draft and to enforce.
	Definitely.	Noted	No further response required

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dogs are being allowed to run off lead at Cwmamman Park Garnant	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. Dogs will still be able to run off-lead at Cwmamman Park, unless an authorised officer instructs the person in charge of a dog to place it on a lead. Cwmamman Park will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	dogs chasing wild birds on the beaches and rampaging through the vegetation in the parks and nature reserves is inappropriate	Noted	The order will enable authorised officers to deal with such situations.
	I assume this will only apply to land that is open to the public, and not on private land	Noted	The "dogs on leads by direction" provisions in this order will apply to all public places in the County of Carmarthenshire. For these purposes, a "public place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission. It includes privately owned land that the public (or a section of the public) has access to, although land owners are able to opt out of the order by giving people permission to breach it on their land. The order will not apply to private land that is not subject to public access.
	I believe that the definition of working dogs should not include dogs being used for hunting as this cannot be defined as work. I therefore believe that this proposal relating to dogs on leads should apply to dogs being used for hunting	Noted	DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.
	I fully support this proposal which is badly needed.	Noted	No further response required
	I have concerns that this will be used to demand that dogs be kept on a lead at all times wheather they are causing annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird or not . If it is used only as worded then I agree with it.	Noted	The order will not be used to require dogs to put on a lead at all times, or to impose restrictions unnecessarily. A request to put a dog on a lead will only be made where an authorised officer of the council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	I used to walk regularly along the path overlooking the North dock beach and regulaly be confronted by loose dogs. If I were to tell the dog to "get off" I would be told by the owner "what is wrong with you you miserable git" or "go away you horrible man". I no longer walk along the path. A similar situation occurs around Sandy Water Park but what infuriates me when loose dogs are encouraged to dive into the lake amongst the swans and ducks even at time young ducks are fledging.	Noted	The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing aggressive / nuisance dogs in all publicly accessible land.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Important that people feel safe around dogs walking without fear or threat	Noted	The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing aggressive / nuisance dogs in all publicly accessible land.
	It depends where the dog is at the time.	Noted	The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. We do not think that it is feasible to limit it to designated areas, as problems with out of control dogs could occur on any public land.
	It will allow people to feel safer in their communities.	Noted	No further response required
	Many dog owners seem to think that a casual "sorry, he won't hurt you" makes up for a dog jumping up at a stranger.	Noted	No further response required
	Might be too long. Definitely the extendable ones are dangerous. Can you make that dogs must be on leads at all times? I walk with my grandchildren and have dogs bounding up to them (often pushing them over!) with dog owners saying such irritating things as 'oh he loves children'. Dogs kill children so everytime one bounds up to my grandchildren I am justifiably scared . The children are terrified. Also when they jump up they dirty clothes and of course their feet are dirty. I have gone to the beach with my grandchildren but have not gone onto the beach because dog owners are letting their dogs (often Rottweilers or Alsatians) run wild and I won't risk it. With rights come responsibilities and too often dog owners do not show responsibility.	Noted	We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads. People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. Therefore, it is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. If the existing proposals do not address some problems, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with persistent offenders. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address further problems.
	Pointless - how likely/frequently is this going to happen? Why not have all dogs on leads all the time unless there's a specific area where they can be allowed off? When they're off the lead is when they dump, threaten/attack other dogs, generally make a nuisance of themselves. Or, on lead unless they've passed the Responsible Citizen test - and the owner can have something - e.g. a tabard - to advertise the fact. Their dogs will be under control as they will have been trained to return to heel on command.	Noted	We disagree that the order is pointless. People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons, so it is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order requiring people to keep their dog on a lead unless they have passed a responsible citizen test would be unlawful. Administering such a test would also be resource intensive. If dog owners continually fail to control their dogs properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to address their behaviour.

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Dog's on Leads

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	providing this doesn't slip into - at all times. Dogs have a right to run freely.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. The order will not be used to require dogs to put on a lead at all times.
	Public need to feel safe around dogs . Help minimize threat of attack	Noted	The Purpose of the PSPO is to address the issue of irresponsible dog ownership in particular with those that cannot control their dogs correctly.
	Restraints where worrying children/ babies should be included... they are surely more of a concern than animals and birds.	Noted	This is already covered by the existing wording.
	some dogs are off lead which should be controlled...	Noted	The orders will enable us to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to avoid causing genuine nuisance and annoyance.
	The number of dogs supervised by one person should be limited to 2:1 and this should apply to ALL dogs. My Doberman, on a lead, was attacked by 3 terriers that were running loose and badly supervised by a person in a mobility scooter. We have also had to avoid certain areas where we know there are individuals who exercise up to 5 dogs off the lead. I am strongly in favour of dogs always being kept on the lead if other dogs are around and the the number of dogs an individual can supervise in public being limited to 2 . I would support it being 1:1 for large breed such as my dog.	Noted	The authority currently has no plans to introduce restriction on the number of dogs a person can take out. In appropriate circumstances we will consider using Community Protection Notices to restrict the number of dogs that a person may walk at any one time, if there is evidence to show that they cannot control their dogs. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
	The sentence above - "disturbance of birds inparticular I feel, is taking the matter too far. I believe dogs should be restrained/put on a lead where animals are concerned i.e. other dogs, deer, horses, cows, sheep etc.	Noted	We believe that these controls should enable officers to deals with the situation where dogs are worrying or disturbing any animals, including birds.
	The wording of this is open to too much Interpretation and as such leaves it wide open to abuse. If this is brought in it needs to clearly set out that would be considered a reasonable nuisance other wise it could lead to owners of dogs who are not likely to cause a problem for others falling fowl of this section. For example a group of dogs running of lead happily playing for some may give them fear the dogs will cause them a nuisance or annoyance when the dogs are not doing anything wrong. Id rather it read something like: "A direction to put a dog on a lead can only be made by an authorised officer of the Council when a dog is out of control and causing a nuisance to people, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird." this would prevent owners of dogs who are under control but off lead for being targeted unnecessary. I also feel 2 meters is not long enough to exercise all types of dogs if one is asked to be placed on a lead, many leads are 5 meters or more long.	Noted	Our order is based on the old Dog Control orders, the wording of which was approved by the Welsh Government. It will not be used to require dogs to put on a lead at all times, or to impose restrictions unnecessarily. Officers will be appropriately trained and expected to use common sense in their use of the orders. The amendment suggested would weaken the order and could lead to disputes about whether a nuisance dog is "out of control". We believe a maximum lead length of 2m is reasonable. 82% of respondents agreed. This also mirrors the lead length requirements in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
	Think definition is very much open to interpretation - for example, yhe defonition of annoyance is subjective	Noted	Our order is based on the old Dog Control orders, the wording of which was approved by the Welsh Government. It will not be used to require dogs to put on a lead at all times, or to impose restrictions unnecessarily. Officers will be appropriately trained and expected to use common sense in their use of the orders.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Dog's on Leads

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	This is a strange order, since the purpose of the order is not really explained properly, but I assume that this is in order to prevent "dangerous" dogs from threatening the safety of other individuals or animals/things?	Noted	The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. We believe that the purpose of the order is adequately explained.
	This proposal is not unreasonable although needs to be used with common sense	Agreed	No further response required
	This proposal is too limiting. There should be more dogs on leads only areas. In crowded public places they should be muzzled. The lead should be shorter on a cycle path on the beach or park the 2m lead would be fine. I have seen cyclists fall from their bikes having come across an extended lead on a cycle path.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. Therefore, it is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We do not believe that it would be appropriate to make a CPN requiring all dogs to be muzzled in crowded public areas. Evidence is required to justify making a PSPO requiring dogs to be kept on a lead at all times in an area. The authority would have to consider animal welfare issues and the availability of other areas in the vicinity where people can walk their dogs off lead. If an individual fails to keep their dog under control and continues to cause problems, we may consider the use of other powers (such as Community Protection Notices) to address their behaviour. In appropriate circumstances, a Community Protection Notice could require an individual to keep their dog on a muzzle in public areas. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address any future problems.
	What about working farm dogs?	Noted	DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO.
	When I had a dog she was once attacked by a pack of two pit bull like dogs who were off the lead whilst out walking. The owner could not control them and they were very aggressive, acted like a pack and were biting and trying to kill my dog, who was a very timid whippet type mongrel. In the end my partner had to kick the dogs off my dog to stop them attacking her and even then they came back to bite her. If they were on a lead, the owner could have controlled them better. It was a very traumatic experience for me and my dog. When out walking you just don't know what type of dogs you are going to meet and their reaction to your dog and/or young children.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons, so it is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We encourage people to report incidents like this to ourselves and to the police, so that we may consider the use of other powers (such as Community Protection Notices) to deal with the individuals whose dogs cause such problems.

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Dog's on Leads

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Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	While I don't want to see dogs running amok I notice that there are very few open spaces in Carmarthen that allow dogs at all. What this does is encourages people into their cars to travel to excersize their dogs when realistically, dogs that get picked up after on a 5m lead in public parks seem to be less of a nusence than extra cars on the road taking dogs for a walk.	Noted	We accept that there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. We do not exclude dogs from our outdoor public spaces, other then our enclosed children's play areas. However the existing seasonal dog exclusion (Bye Law) will remain in place at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach.
	Why should hunting dogs be given an exemption? This order should especially apply to packs of hunting hounds who cause all manner of annoyance, disturbance and nuisance to wildlife, landowners, other people and pets.	Noted	DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.
	Also if you know your dog is likely to attack another dog or person however far away it should always be kept on a lead in public.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. If an individual fails to keep their dog under control and continues to cause problems, we may consider the use of other powers (such as Community Protection Notices) to address their behaviour.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Cefneithin welfare association	And all playing fields. We use the local park and there are more and more poepke bringing their dogs to the park and leaving them off the lead.	Noted	It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas, for animal welfare reasons. Any order to exclude dogs from parks or sports pitches need to be considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. Rather than excluding all dogs from playing fields, we will use Community Protection Notices to deal with offending dog owners. We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's if there is sufficient evidence available to pursue the additional PSPO's.
Farmers Union of Wales (FUW)	Members agreed with the proposal for enclosed play areas for Children to be protected. It would be beneficial if there were additionally "Dog Areas" within the same area where parents could take their animals whilst taking their children to the play areas so that they could maintain the family make up.	Noted	It is not necessary to set up "dog areas "within parks or children's play areas. People will be able to tether their dogs outside the enclosed play areas, and to exercise and play with their dogs in surrounding park areas.
great dane care charitable trust	responsible owners will keep a place clean . all efforts should be made by the council to keep these areas cat and fox proof and they both carry toxicara canis and they don't get routine worming like most pet dogs.	Noted	We will try to stop others animals from getting in to these areas, but it is very difficult to exclude some animals such as cats.
Laugharne Festival Committee (Cors Playing Field)	Dogs are already excluded from our playing field.	Noted	As land owners it is up to you to decide who can access your land. We believe it is not appropriate to exclude dogs from park areas for animal welfare reasons, unless other land is made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.
The Kennel Club	The Kennel Club does not normally oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds, 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. Appropriate signage for dog exclusion areas - To ensure compliance and avoid doubt for people with and without dogs, 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]" on one side and "You are leaving [type of area]" on the reverse of the sign.	Noted	We agree that children and dogs should be able to socialise together quite safely under adult supervision. Our order does not prevent this. We will take your comments in to account when arranging signage for these sites.
Ysgol Gynradd	It's important to ensure that dogs that are in public places where children play cannot run free but for families who have dogs it is also important that they can take the dog for a walk and that the children have the opportunity to stay in the local park for a while and play with th dog on a lead.	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO to exclude dogs from the parks for animal welfare reasons. Our order only excludes dogs from enclosed outdoor children's play areas, including the enclosed play areas within parks.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders
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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Llandyfaelog Community Council	Llandyfaelog Community Council manages a play area at Idole. Llandyfaelog Community Hall also has a play area in Llandyfaelog. We would very much wish this to be implemented at these locations.	Noted	The enclosed Children's play area at the rear of Llandyfaelog Community Hall would fall within the exclusion order. It will not apply to the park area at Idole. As land owners it is up to you to decide who can access your land. We believe it is not appropriate to exclude dogs from park areas for animal welfare reasons, unless other land is made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.
Llangennech	Llangennech Community Council resolved to support the Order at its meeting held on the 9 November 2015.	Noted	No further response required
	Absolutely necessary	Noted	No further response required
	Again, I fully agree with this proposal.	Noted	No further response required
	Agreed that dogs should be kept off enclosed children's play areas, but only the small areas with play facilities, as should drunken, drug taking youths. That is a problem I see far more often though the council has never put any effort into addressing the problem.	Noted	The anti-social behaviour legislation can be used to deal with other ASB including drunken behaviour through the use of PSPO's or Community Protection Notices. Such issues would be dealt with on a site specific basis.
	As a mother of young children and a dog, I struggle with this as yes I agree an enclosed outdoor play area is no place for a dog but I feel that if I am out with my dog and children I would like to bring my dog into the playground, on a lead and sat close to me as he would only woof constantly if I tied him up outside the gates of the play area. It's a difficult one but I guess the sensible option is no dogs as there are some irresponsible dog owners who would not be as responsible as me.	Noted	No further response required
	As a responsible dog owner, I agree, support and comply with the above anyway. In relation to point 20 - in the interests of fairness, could consideration be given to allowing enclosed dog areas as the do in the States?	Noted	In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community. Setting aside and fencing off these areas would have resource implications. We may consider setting up some dog walking areas in the future if this will prevent problems on other neighbouring land .
	As always should be the case	Noted	No further response required
	As with my previous comment is this not the case with the signs you have in place, if not why are they up?.	Noted	The only exclusion bye law in place is the enclosed children's play area in Pembrey Country Park. Generally any signs that are currently in place have been erected by the land owners. As land owners they may be imposing their own restrictions
	Children's play area should be protected, likewise for responsible dog owners the freedom to walk their dogs off lead is important.	Noted	We accept that there need to be areas of recreational land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead.
	Dogs should be banned from all children's play areas	Noted	No further response required
	Extremely important for safety and public health reasons	Noted	No further response required

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	for safety and health reasons	Noted	No further response required
	Hugely important for health and safety	Noted	No further response required
	Hygiene and safety - need I say more.	Noted	No further response required
	I agree with this, but when I'm walking my dog and my child wants to play in a park, I either have to leave my child enter and play in the park on her own in order to stay outside the fence with the dog, or I can't allow her to play in the park. It may be helpful to have specific/designated points where a parent in this situation can tether their dog outside the playground boundary in order to enter the playground to accompany their child.	Noted	People will be able to tether their dogs outside the play areas. We will review the need for further facilities for people to tether their dogs.
	I believe that, subject to the exceptions, this proposal is reasonable as children and parents should expect outdoor enclosed play areas to be safe and clean.	Noted	No further response required
	I cannot emphasis how essential this measure is.	Noted	No further response required
	I find this acceptable. I think other dog owners would also agree that this is acceptable so long as there are dog friendly places in the community then they do not need to be exercised in areas for children.	Noted	No further response required
	I have often seen dogs roaming around play areas off lead, and seen small children be very wary of them, especially big dogs.	Noted	No further response required
	I recently had to report an incident of dog farces being smeared all over a piece of children's play equipment at a park in Llanelli. I was mortified to find the mess as I was about to put my little boy onto the slide. I reported it immediately so as to get it addressed before other children went to play in the park.	Noted	The proposed PSPO will not prevent such irresponsible behaviour. However, other ASB powers could be used to deal with this situation, if the offender could be identified
	I totally agree to keeping play areas free from dogs, although it does make it difficult for people wanting to take their dogs out together with their children, maybe a fenced area within the play area where space allows could be set aside to help with this problem	Noted	It is not necessary to set up "dog areas "within children's play areas. People will be able to tether their dogs outside the enclosed play areas, and to exercise and play with their dogs in surrounding park areas.
	I wouldnt want my dog going anywhere near an enclosed children's play area	Noted	No further response required
	if the area is completely enclosed.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to children's play areas that are enclosed on all sides.
	Many parks already have no dogs signs but from my experience some dog owners still let their dogs run wild. You should put a report telephone number on the signs no dogs to deter the owners	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to the enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed play area within a park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. There will be appropriate signage placed in the area to inform dog owners. Information on how to report incidents will be published on the Council's website.
	Most play areas are fenced off	Noted	No further response required
	My child walks/crawls on grassed areas that a dog could/has left its mess on so I would support this new proposed order.	Noted	No further response required

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Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	My nephew lives in a village just outside Carmarthen, in the village there is a child playground, football field & cricket pitch. When I visit i can see dog owners from the village walking around these play areas & allowing their dogs to foul & not cleaning it up.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to the enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed children's play area within a park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas, for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches, is difficult. The locations of the pitches can change, and pitch markings are often not maintained all year round. Most pitches are also not fenced off from the rest of the site, and fencing them off would have resource implications. Therefore, dog owner may not know which areas their dogs are excluded from at different times of the year. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN to deal with offending dog owners. We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's.
	no brainer	Noted	No further response required
	Obviously if it's an enclosed children's area then dogs should not be allowed	Noted	No further response required
	Play areas are for children and adults NOT dogs.	Noted	No further response required
	Play areas should be excluded, as some young children are afraid of dogs, and some dogs can in turn react to that fearfulness. Many owners are unable to read the body language of their dogs to understand when a reaction could occur.	Noted	No further response required
	Providing that the children area is fenced off. By dogs should be aloud in the park/ playing fields to run around.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to children's play areas that are enclosed on all sides. Where there is an enclosed play area within a park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	I understand that not every parent or child likes dogs so this aim is fair.	Noted	No further response required
	Some dogs get over excited around children and 'herd' them. My children will not go into a play area where there are dogs.	Noted	No further response required
	Some people are reckless with their dogs around children and are blind to the dangers that could potentially happen.	Noted	No further response required
	There are more than enough adequate areas to take dogs, there is no need for dogs to be allowed in Children play area's. We are supposed to be encouraging children to stay fit and healthy by playing outside to get some exercise but when you see play area with dog dirt it makes things difficult.	Noted	No further response required

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	There are plenty of other places to take the dogs so don't see why they should be permitted in a play area	Noted	No further response required
	There is an obvious serious risk to children's health from dog fouling, particularly from the parasites in faeces affecting eyesight.	Noted	No further response required
	There is no place for dog poo in play parks or dogs. There are plenty of other walks dogs can go on with their owners. Dog and cat mess is a health hazard especially for children.	Noted	Cats are outdoor, straying animals and we cannot expect owners to follow their cat at all times and clear up after them.
	There is no reason for a dog to be in a children's play area, children should be able to run and play without being concerned by dogs being present that may bark or cause a nuisance to them or worse leave a mess that they tread in.	Noted	No further response required
	There is simply no excuse for allowing a dog to foul any public area, whether intended for children or not. Good governance, however, dictates that dogs should be completely banned from any area intended for children's play.	Noted	No further response required
	These areas should be places of safety, it is totally unacceptable to have dogs running around when there can be young children there who are frightened of dogs.	Noted	No further response required
	This already exists in Llandysul.	Noted	No further response required
	This has been introduced by other councils in the past, and is something I considered to be common sense.	Noted	No further response required
	this has to be done as some owners are irresponsible. how large an area is included? some people may be prevented from walking their dog on a playing field? But is this due now to the irresponsible owners.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	This makes good sense ?	Noted	No further response required
	This should have happened years ago. It is necessary.	Noted	No further response required
	to be fair, when I visit a park with my daughter I never see dogs within the confines of the actual park.	Noted	No further response required
	Totally agree	Noted	No further response required
	totally agree, there's nothing worse than seeing dog mess in children's parks or seeing dogs chase children when they play as they want to play with them also, dogs can nip (not bite) when they get excited with play!	Noted	No further response required
	very necessary	Noted	No further response required
	Zero tolerance	Noted	No further response required

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Totally agree, dogs should be prohibits dogs from children's playgrounds and sports fields. Who want faeces in your face when you're playing rugby?	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to the enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed children's play area within a park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches, is also difficult. The locations of the pitches can change, and pitch markings are often not maintained all year round. Most pitches are also not fenced off from the rest of the site, and fencing them off would have resource implications. Therefore, dog owners may not know which areas their dogs are excluded from at different times of the year. They may feel that the only way to avoid breaching the order is to avoid park areas or to keep their dog on a lead at all times, which could have welfare implications. Any order to exclude dogs from parks or sports pitches need to be considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN to deal with offending dog owners. We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Also any rugby football pitch or unenclosed play area with swings and similar.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to the enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed children's play area within a park, it will not apply to the remainder of the park. It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches, is also difficult. The locations of the pitches can change, and pitch markings are often not maintained all year round. Most pitches are also not fenced off from the rest of the site, and fencing them off would have resource implications. Therefore, dog owners may not know which areas their dogs are excluded from at different times of the year. They may feel that the only way to avoid breaching the order is to avoid park areas or to keep their dog on a lead at all times, which could have welfare implications. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN to deal with offending dog owners. We will keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	And all playing fields.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above.
	And cemeteries and not only the play areas all public parks, Parc Howard Ilanelli especially!	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Any exclusion order should prohibit dogs from all play area. Eg. Park grassed areas, football fields	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	Does the definition of outdoor enclosed children's play areas include all school grounds / fields? Not sure whether all school fields include play equipment, but I wouldn't like to see any dogs permitted on any school land.	Noted	Most education establishments are classified as private land and the general public should not access this land without consent. The PSPO will not apply to these assets. However if dog owners are found entering such sites the Authority may use other enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices or deal with it as a trespass issue.
	Dog owners also take their dogs to the local park in Dafen, let them off their leads and the dogs run over the grass playing field area, foul and go running over to other dogs who are on leads and being controlled. This needs to be stopped, they should not be allowed to run around grass areas which are then used by local clubs for sports training.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dog walkers do not need to take dogs on playing fields where sport is played. Council owned land or private rugby footy fields.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	Especially school playing fields where dogs fouling is regularly not cleaned up and disgusting	Noted	most education establishments are classified as private land and the general public should not access the land unless consent has been given. PSPO will not apply to these assets. However if dog owners are found entering such sites the Authority may use other enforcement powers such as Community Protection Notices or as a trespass issue.
	Hope this extends to public land where children play competitive sport for Clubs?	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Hopefully this will apply to playing fields - rugby/football pitches. Children partake in events played on these grounds and they should be able to play without parents fearing they'll step into dog mess!! The health hazards of such incidents are widely known and reported!	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	I suggest that this should include playing fields- rugby, soccer and cricket - which are not enclosed.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	I would add all playing areas to this proposal. Football, Rugby and other sport areas.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I WOULD HOPE THIS INCLUDES THE BEACH, WHERE I HAVE CONSISTANTLY WITNESSED FAECES IN SEAWEEED (UNDETECTABLE) AND DOGS USING CHILDREN'S SANDCASTLES FOR THEIR TOILET AND THEN THE CHILD/CHILDREN RETURNS TO PLAY WITH THE CASTLE UNKNOWINGLY.	Noted	In early 2015 the authority conducted a consultation with the general public to ascertain if there was support for a seasonal beach exclusion at a number of amenity beaches in the County. 70% of the respondents indicated that they did not want a beach exclusion order. The dog fouling provisions in the Order will apply to beaches. However the existing seasonal dog exclusion (Bye Law) will remain in place at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach.
	I would like to see this ban extended to all sports grounds whether activity is taking place or not.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	No dogs should be allowed in any park areas, especially where there are children playing - this is a problem in Ammanford Park, Betws Flower Park in Park Street, Betws Park in Heol y Felin, Gorslas Park and Llangynnwr Park. Dog mess everywhere!!	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	reside in abergwili where residents walk their dogs frequently near the rugby fields. despite signs prohibiting entry they still allow dogs to enter freely and defecate. this poses extreme dangers for children playing in fields.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	Same should apply to beaches	Noted	In early 2015 the authority conducted a consultation with the general public to ascertain if there was support for a seasonal beach exclusion at a number of amenity beaches in the County. 70% of the respondents indicated that they did not want a beach exclusion order. The dog fouling provisions in the Order will apply to beaches.
	Should also include some grassy areas in park and gardens, for example; the picnic area at Carmarthen museum which is heavily used by dog walkers but sadly not used by families because of constant dog mess on the grass.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Orders to exclude dogs from other sites need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis. Alternative land also needs to be available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	Should include sports fields as well	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.
	There is also need to patrol the Museum grounds as there are dog walkers there that allow their dogs to run riot.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	There seems to be dog waste everywhere and people not clearing up. Have lost count of the number of times that rugby/football matches have had to be stopped due to dog mess on the fields. It's not nice and it is very dangerous	Noted	The dog fouling provisions in our PSPO should address this. It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches in the county, is also difficult for the reasons set out above.
	And maybe not all left tied to the entrance gate which would make other children frightened to enter. Do the outdoor childrens play areas include those owned by the Council? By Community Councils? By Public Houses?...	Noted	People will be able to tether their dogs outside the play areas. If this is a problem, we will review the need for further facilities for people to tether their dogs. The exclusions in the PSPO will apply to all outdoor enclosed children's play areas, subject to signage appropriate signage being erected. This includes privately owned children's play areas, although land owners are able to opt out of the order by giving people permission to breach it on their land.
	Are you talking playgrounds or parks? If owners pick up then dogs should be allowed into parks as in some areas these are the only green safe areas to allow a dog to run free	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it. We accept that there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons.
	As a parent and dog owner we often find ourselves in the local park with the children and the dog. We live in Hendy and the children's play area is not enclosed as I am sure many other parks are the same throughout the County. Does this mean that all play areas will need to be enclosed? If so at what is the expense ? How in the insatnce of Hendy Park is the enclosed area defined when it is not enclosed ?	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it. We may consider fencing additional play areas, subject to available resources.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I agree with the dogs being banned from childrens play areas although it states "enclosed" play areas. Is this a catch as many people may believe this may refer to all childrens play areas That is different. Many parks have open green spaces where children run around that are not "enclosed" e.g. Carmarthen Park? Where children play in areas that are green and open space and surrounded by 2 m high boundary railings? All dogs should be banned from Council Parks, Open green spaces and have an area of their own.for the dog and owner to be exercised.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and the areas in question will be marked with appropriate signage. We will also publish further information on our website to help identify which areas it applies to. It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Orders to exclude dogs from other sites need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis. Alternative land also needs to be available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review. In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community.
	I agree with this but i do think it needs to be clearly stated whether this would include a park which has a play area in it, and excludes the whole park, or if this is just areas designated solely for children that is sign posted and fenced off.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it. The areas where it applies will be marked with appropriate signage.
	Need to define children's play areas as unclear whether this extends to other facilities for children/teenagers such as skate parks, cycle paths/velodrome, country park facilities etc where children play	Noted	They are defined in the order. A "enclosed children's play area" is an area that is set aside for children to play in and contains children's play equipment such as a slide, swings, seesaw, climbing frame or other similar play apparatus. It does not include skate parks, sports facilities and velodromes etc. We will also publish information on our website to help identify which areas it applies to. The areas where it applies will be marked with appropriate signage.
	There needs to be clear guidance on what constitutes outdoor childrens enclosed play areas	Noted	We will publish information on our website to help identify which areas it applies to. The areas where it applies will also be marked with appropriate signage.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	While I agree that dogs should not be running around a children's play areas I'd like to see a set size for the outdoor enclosed children's play area where dogs are banned. Other wise this could cover a very large fenced in field/park with a small play area in one small corner of it having the whole park being classed as one being enclosed play area when it isn't really. This could lead to a risk to children if parents allow them to play unsupervised while they wait with their dog far away. A good compromise would be to ban dogs if the area is under a certain size (so parents can safely watch their children from outside the fence) and require dogs to be kept on leads if the area is over a certain size (so parents can sit and watch their children with the family dog on lead).	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it. We will publish information on our website to help identify which areas it applies to. The areas where it applies will also be marked with appropriate signage.
	I often take my relatives to the park and have the dog with me, I do not agree that he should be banned from entering the play area, as he will sit on the lead next to me while the children play. It's my opinion that this highly dependent on the owner and the dog.	Noted	We accept that some dogs will be better behaved than others. There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	Allow dogs on short lead. Children should be able to interact with dogs.	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate. Children will be able to continue to interact with dogs in the general area of a park.
	As a responsible dog owner it would be safe to allow me to take my god into these areas.	Noted	No further response required
	as already stated, dogs on leads at all times in public, spend more on modern cleanup facilities.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make an order requiring people to keep their dogs on a lead at all times in all public areas. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate.
	As long as you have well socialised dogs, and pick up after them this is not an issue which need any further action	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	Be nice to take your dog to the park with the kids!!	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	Children need to grow up around animals and if a dog is found to soil these areas then follow through with prosecution of the owner	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dependent on the dog. I take my dog and two young children for walks and will tie my dog up to a fence in a play area while they play and the dog sleeps. I tie the dog up in the corner away from the play equipment. I think putting too many Orders in place is over the top and it should be down to people to be sensible. I wouldn't be happy to accept a fine when my dog is not doing anything and it would put me off using certain play areas.	Noted	We accept that some dogs will be better behaved than others. There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	There is no reason to do so if people comply with 15 and 17 above. It would be reasonable to insist that all dogs have to be on a lead in such areas, but unfair and extreme to bann dogs completely. E.g. it is stupid that it isn't allowed to walk through the path in the main park in Carmarthen, and that the long path that goes around the park has to be used in stead.	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate. Our exclusion order only applies to enclosed children's play areas and does not exclude dogs from the paths in Carmarthen Park. Carmarthen Park is controlled by the Town Council and any dog exclusions is imposed by them.
	Dogs on leads, not banned	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	Dogs should be on lead not banned.	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	It should be allowed if on a lead	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	families should be able to take their dogs on a lead as they are part of the family	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	I do not have children, so this does not worry me personally, but if I had children, as a person who is never without her dogs, I would find this a very difficult order to obey. Say there is a play area, there are no children around, or those that are around are fine with my two doggies, surely that is ok? If this is an order to prevent "dangerous" breeds from harming children, perhaps the council should try to address this issue differently. Maybe by introducing dog licences, to ensure that dogs are only owned by responsible individuals, and not hoodies who see staffie ownership as a status symbol.	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate. The Council cannot use PSPO's to require people to have a dog license, or to control who can own a dog.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I don't think they should be off lead but if well behaved should be able to join family at park	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	I have a little dog but also have grandchildren so does this mean I cant take my pet dog out with the grandchildren to the park? If everybody cleans up after their dogs why should this be a problem.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	I would like to be able to take my grandson to the park with my dog on a lead. As long as the dog is under owners control then why can't it go into a park.	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	If dogs are accompanied and looked after properly you should be allowed to take them anywhere	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	If the owner is out walking the dog with children, Dogs should be allowed on a lead within the enclosed play area as it would be difficult to separate and observe the children and dogs if the owner is alone. It should only apply to enclosed play areas with proper fencing. Some play areas in the county have open green spaces that are useful for exercising the dogs.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Is this going to adversely affect the well being of dogs and their owners if say a single mother goes to a park with kids but can't take dog?	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	Provided dogs are on a lead and owners pick up dog mess I see no problem allowing them in parks	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	Provided that owners clear up faeces there is no reason to exclude dogs. However dogs should be on a lead in these areas.	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	Providing the dog is under firm control with the parent/s of the child in the play area, I can't see any problem. However, the parent/s must be held responsible for clearing up any mess made by the dog or face a FPT. Many parents take their children out with their dogs at the same time.	Noted	There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate. The dog fouling provisions in the order will enable us to deal with dog fouling in these areas.
	so long as the dog is on a lead and you clean up after it then its ok to be in the park with children.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	So you can't take your child and dog for a walk to the park any more, it all depends on the dog you've got, as long your dogs on a lead I see no problem.	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	Some children like to have their dogs with them when they're playing.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from playing with their dogs elsewhere.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Some families have dogs. Where would u take them if your children wanted to play in park?	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	Some of the dogs are family members, it is a shame that most responsible dog owner are to be banned from these places.	Noted	Dog owners are not being banned from the parks, the exclusion order only applies to the enclosed children's play area.
	There are some bad owners who need to have dogs removed responsible owners would keep the dog under control	Noted	The Council cannot use PSPO's control who can own a dog.
	What about families with pet dogs who also have young children and want to use the play area when the dog is with them? Allowance needs to be made for this too!	Noted	Dogs can be tethered outside the play area. There has been an overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	What happens if a family go out to a park with their pet dog? Where will they put the dog? A lot of families these days have a dog and therefore, we should not deter them from enjoying a family day out. I believe a good compromise would be that all dogs need to be placed on leads when in and around an outdoor enclosed play area and the Owner to ensure they have full control of the dog in that area.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. If someone wishes to enter a play area, their dog can be tethered outside it. There has been an overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	Whilst I would not like to see dogs off the lead in play areas, dogs that are under adult control and on a lead when part of the family is part of family time. Remember most dogs are family pets, usually well behaved - but the right to ban individual pets/owners should be available - it is often irresponsible owners and not the pets that are the issue.	Noted	There has been an overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	Again, there should be no exception for hunting dogs for this.	Noted	DEFRA guidance states that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds that are being used for hunting. We do not foresee a problem with dogs entering these areas whilst hunting. We work with Hunt groups if issues arise.

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Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I run a therapy dog unit of dogs trained and tested for such work which includes special needs school children but I am not a registered charity. Why should my dogs be excluded because I am not a charity. But are equally if not more suitable than some working for registered charities. Your own Carmarthenshire Therapy dogs will fall foul of this part of the regulation. (I run Tinland Therapy Dogs)	Noted	Assistance Dogs provided by the main assistance dog charities, are easily recognisable. They should have formal identification in the form of a white harness, organisation specific branded dog jackets, lead slips or id tags on the dog's collar. Their dogs are also fully toilet trained. The Council has considered extending the exemption in clause 13 of the order to apply to all assistance dogs, rather than those trained by a registered charity. However, we are concerned that this could leave it open to potential abuse from people who try to escape enforcement action by claiming that their pet is an assistance dogs when it does not provide them with assistance and has not been properly trained. Under the order a person still has a defence to prosecution if they have a "reasonable excuse " for failing to comply with it. We believe that people who genuinely rely on a properly trained assistance dog that has not been provided by a registered charity will have a "reasonable excuse" for taking their dogs in to these areas, and we will not take enforcement action if we are satisfied that this is the case. If dog owners are unsure whether the order applies to them, we will be happy to advise.
	Specific exclusion from this order for guide dogs should be made explicit on any signage.	Noted	Exemptions will be displayed on the signs
	There should be no exceptions.	Noted	When exercising our functions, we must have regard to the public sector equality duty in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. We must consider the need to eliminate disability discrimination and to advance equality of opportunity. We do not believe that it is appropriate to exclude assistance dogs from play areas, as it could prevent people with a disability who rely on an assistance dog from using these areas. DEFRA guidance also state that PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs. We have therefore excluded working dogs.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	this should be at discretion of landowner	Noted	The owner, occupier or person in control of a piece of public land can give the person in charge of a dog permission not have to comply with the order on their land. They can give this permission to individuals, to groups of people, or to everyone that uses their land. By doing this, they can opt out of the exclusion order, so it will not apply to their land.
	I only agree to this if the play area is closed off, for example hendy park has an open play area, whilst the local park over the border in swansea in Pontarddulais has an enclosed play area which is safer for children. If this was to apply to keeping a dog on the lead for the whole of Hendy park i would object as i believe that dogs need to socialise and play with other dogs to be learn socialisation. Dogs who do not do this are more of a risk to younger children and adults. I would suggest this area is either closed off or the bottom area of the park is used for an exclusive area for dogs.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to children's play areas that are enclosed on all sides.
	But not banned from public parks completely	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park
	Carms Council is suppose to be a dog friendly county. I would insist that this is respected. Dogs require exercise off-lead in some public open spaces. It is not acceptable to force dogs to be on leads at all times in all public areas.	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas. We accept that there need to be areas of public land where people can exercise their dogs off-lead. The order does not require dogs to be kept on leads at all times in all public areas.
	Enclosed Play areas such as swings etc, but not football pitches	Noted	The PSPO Exclusion order will only apply to the Enclosed children Play areas and will not apply to football pitches.
	Enclosed play areas yes but parks and fields no.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park.
	Outdoor aresa such as parks etc yes definately,fielsd that are sometimes used no but the council needs to trust dog owners to do the right thing	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. . We will keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	So long as then ban does not include open space in the parks. Many families with children visit the parks with the family dog.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. Where there is an enclosed play area within a larger park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park. Where there is an unenclosed play area within a larger park site, the exclusion order will not apply to it.
	Could we have parks especially for dogs? They only need an empty space - a field for example, where wouldn't be much upkeep therefore costs would be very low.	Noted	As large rural authority it is not practical to provide such facilities all throughout the county. This also has resource implications.
	but it should be ensured that there is a suitable place for dogs to go in every area. There is no-where in Carmarthen where dogs are allowed to go-	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the parks and other areas. Some open spaces are not owned or controlled by this Council, and restriction in these areas are imposed by the person in control of the land.
	Dogs should be on a lead in all parks.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all parks. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate.
	Dogs that annoy people like me who are terrified of them should not have to face dogs or their owners who pester me. Extendable leads should be banned, sometimes they are just rats on a string!	Noted	We do not think that it would be appropriate to use these orders to ban the use of extendable leads
	I am concerned that this cannot be enforced in an unsupervised area.	Noted	The Authority is currently reviewing the resources available to enforce these orders.
	I was under the impression that this was already the case.	Noted	The only children's play area where this Council currently excludes dogs, is in Pembrey Country Park.
	i would have expected this to be the case already	Noted	No further response required
	It is important that the fences around these areas are suitable to keep dogs out -AND MAINTAINED, you can't expect a dog not to jump through a gap to follow their child into a play area.	Noted	We will maintain the fencing at these locations.
	LOCAL PARKS SEEM TO BE THE MAJOR PROBLEM - DOGS ARE LEFT TO ROAM FREE TO FOUL ALL OVER	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. The dog fouling provisions in the order will enable us to deal with dog fouling issues.
	Obviously. Isn't this being done already?	Noted	The only children's play area where this Council currently excludes dogs, is in Pembrey Country Park.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	please also prohibit dogs from being tied up immediately outside children's area to prevent people from being intimidated from entering the children's play area by the presence of dogs.	Noted	There are no plans to restrict dogs from being tethered onto the fencing around enclosed children's play areas. However if this is a problem we will review the need for further facilities for people to tether their dogs and will consider steps to address the problem.
	Policing? Prosecution should be automatically applied for offences in these areas.	Noted Noted	The order will be enforced by the County Council. In most cases, the Council will issue a fixed penalty notice to someone who breaches the order. However, we may decide to prosecute them instead, if we consider it more appropriate to do so. For example, we may consider prosecuting someone rather than issuing a fixed penalty notice if they behave inappropriately towards our enforcement officers, or if they have previously been issued with a fixed penalty notice for similar behaviour
	Public should be encouraged to report thoracic owners that do not comply with this proposed order.	Noted	The Authority actively encourages members of public to report issues concerning irresponsible dog ownership, this can be done either by phone the authority or <u>reporting incidents on-line</u> .
	Someone has removed the no dogs sign outside Llangunnor Park, there seems to be confusion about whether dogs are not allowed in parks or not!	Noted	This Council does not exclude dogs from its parks. However, not all parks are managed by the local authority. Some of the parks are managed by Town & Community Councils or Sport Associations, who may be imposing their own restrictions.
	The direction could be seasonal as a parent and a dog walker in winter months the children's parks are empty but still have to walk my five year old past the park if we have the dogs with us.	Noted	The exclusion order will only apply to enclosed children's play areas, and will not stop people from taking their dog to the park. There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the exclusion order should apply all year round.
	There should be provisions for dogs to be safely tied up outside the play area where they can be seen by the owner.	Noted	There are no plans to restrict dogs from being tethered onto the fencing around enclosed children's play areas. We will review the need for further facilities for people to safely tether their dogs.

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Outdoor Enclosed Children's Play Area's

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	This is in place anyway where there are fences - BUT all play areas need to be fenced PROPERLY	Noted	We will maintain the fencing at our enclosed children's play areas. The only children's play area where this Council currently excludes dogs, is in Pembrey Country Park. However, not all play areas and parks are managed by the Local authority. Some sites are managed by the Town and Community Council or Sports associations. As land owners they may be imposing their own restrictions.
	Tricky if people leave the gates open. Dogs wandering around town on their own can easily get into play areas.	Noted	The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times to ensure that it does not stray in to these areas.
	What about have proof dog is soshalysed as some sounds can spook and dog owner has done class with there dog	Noted	There has been an overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.
	What about wild animals? Will that include all horses, including police horses.	Noted	We will try to stop others animals from getting in to these areas, but it is very difficult to exclude some animals such as cats. We are not aware of any problems with horses in children's play areas, so we do not believe that it is necessary to make an order excluding them.
	The ideas, at 19 above, I have seen working in Melbourne--dog fouling is almost eliminated and the cycle-ways, much safer.	Noted	No further response required

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	authorised officers should include people who work as volunteers with the countryside services team,	Noted	The Authority will look at utilising other resources within the Authority to enforce the orders.
	Common sense would hopefully prevail when considering whether a FPT is issued regarding any dog related matters. Every incident should be considered on its merits and not fixed in stone.	Noted	Each incident will be based on its own merit, officers do have discretion on the appropriate enforcement action to be taken.
Abergwili CC	Council regularly receives reports of dog fouling on footways and on the roadside particularly on side streets in Abergwili and in Peniel in the vicinity of the school and estate roads and pavements nearby. Council would welcome the implementation of powers by CCC that will assist in the elimination of dog fouling. The play area near the school in Abergwili has no dog notices currently but new exclusion powers would ensure that such notices can be enforced should the need arise.	Noted	No further response required. With regards to the issues at the side streets at Abergwili and Peniel, these will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	enforcement officers possibly being made available out of office hours as these are generally the time i experience the problems in my area	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	Enforcement powers should extend to all of the countryside team in Carmarthenshire not just country park rangers, council should consider volunteer rangers to enforce this proposal	Noted	The Authority will look at utilising other resources within the Authority to enforce the orders.
	Ensure that this is policed properly and I know that the council are making financial cuts everywhere so it is not likely to be done. I do agree with what you are planning.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	Failure to pick up after a dog exhibits a disgusting lack of courtesy towards other people. In the same vein, all littering is equally unacceptable and a civilised society should not tolerate such behaviour. A zero tolerance policy towards ALL levels of such anti-social behaviour would raise standards in Wales towards those enjoyed by more obviously far sighted states as Singapore where litter, spitting, smoking debris, and dog fouling are simply unheard of.	Noted	Both dog fouling & litter fixed penalty notices are issued by authorised officers of the authority.
	finer should be increased and enforced more rigorously.	Noted	Fines imposed on conviction are a matter for the courts.
	Have you enough Enforcement Officers to police this if the order is passed ?.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	How will the Local authority enforce the new orders, in particular that most of the issues that affect the communities occur in the non working hours, no point introducing the orders if there is no-one there to enforce them !	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	I agree on the whole but how the Authority are going to police it remains to be seen.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	I also think that more dog wardens are also required in order to enforce the above proposals.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I am particularly concerned about dog fouling on grass verges and on the public highway in rural areas especially as there are no pavements and as a regular walker it is hazardous trying to avoid the dog fouling when vehicles are passing, often forcing me to stand on the verges. I welcome any law enforcement to dog owners to keep their dogs on a lead as I have had many occasions out in the park with my grandchildren who have been traumatised by loose dogs running towards them.	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible areas. People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If specific dog owners continually fail to control their dogs properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	I have lived in Carmarthen for 12 years and walk my dog daily, all over Carmarthenshire. The amount of dog faeces on EVERY public footpath is diabolical. I have NEVER seen the dog warden on patrol. Setting new orders is great but the council also need to ensure they are enforced.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	I have taken a career break since having my little boy and we spend alot of time out and about in both Carmarthenshire and Swansea. Since having him and being out and about with either a pushchair or a trike I have been disgusted to see the extent of dog fouling in both Counties. You become acutely aware of it when you risk pushing your babies pram through such foul mess. I have also become very much more aware of how many people take their dogs onto the beaches during times when they are supposed to be banned. Despite seeing plenty of signs around they are very often ignored and it's not just the dog mess issue, I want to see little ones playing on the beach safely without the fear of a dog coming bounding along the beach towards them. These issues really need to be addressed and soon.	Noted	We hope that the new PSPO order will enable us to address the dog fouling issue. In early 2015 the authority conducted a consultation with the general public to ascertain if there was support for a seasonal beach exclusion at a number of amenity beaches in the County. 70% of the respondents indicated that they did not want a beach exclusion order. We are not therefore pursuing any beach exclusions orders at this time. If there are future problem on beaches, we may consider seasonal site specific orders in future.
	I personally think the first offence should be a warning, names held on a data base and if caught a second or further time then there should be a sliding scale of fines, also everyone should be made to clean up immediately wether fined or not	Noted	We do not intend to only warn first time offenders. In most cases, the Council will issue a fixed penalty notice to someone who breaches the order for the first time. However, we may decide to prosecute them instead, if we consider it more appropriate to do so. For example, we may consider prosecuting someone if they have previously been issued with a fixed penalty notice for similar behaviour. The Current fines for prosecution are fixed by central government.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I thought there was already an order to require people to clean up after their dogs immediately. How will this be enforced? I have never seen a dog warden patrolling early in the morning when owners are walking their dogs and blatantly allowing them to foul public areas. e.e. between 7 and 9 am Parc Pendre Kidwelly. Words and orders are easy to make but they must be enforceable and action be seen to take place.	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible land. The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	I would like to see more Dog Wardens on patrol and preferably well trained ones. I would also like to see more areas where dogs are welcomed, and would like to see more prosecutions for dog fouling as I believe that will be the time irresponsible owners will take more notice.	Noted	The current enforcement regime in tackling dog fouling is limited to dog fouling within designated areas. The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing dog fouling in all publicly accessible land. The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	It appears that the dog population is on the increase and that dog excrement is bad. Will there be an increase in the number of people that the council employs to do this work?	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	More patrols needed, to stop irresponsible owners letting their dogs defecate on the Cwmamman football pitch. Usually first thing in the morning and then again in the evening. The walk from pitch down towards Ammanford has piles of excrement. As is behind Glanamman Square-Trim Trail. More irresponsible owners should be named and shamed. More bins required at beginning and end of walks to stop idiots tying them to wire fencing and dangling like a pair of earrings.	Noted	The issues highlighted in Cwmamman football pitch will be taken into account when conducting future enforcement activities. Where offenders have accepted a fixed penalty notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders are successfully prosecuted in the magistrates' court their details are published in the press. The authority will be reviewing the number of Litter bins within the county.
	People walking dogs in the evenings, when dark, do not clean up after their dogs as they are unable to see the mess.	Noted	No further response required
	Please monitor Cefneithin playing field by the community hall. People are really misusing it and letting their dogs foul, without picking up after them!	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities
Laugharne Township Community Council	The council supports County Council enforcement officers accessing LTCC land to enforce these proposed orders	Noted	No further response required
	the dog and cat fouling in carmarthenshire is diabolical, there should be more animal wardens appointed, i think like the police, get more uniformed wardens, first of all a uniform is a deterrent also there are lots of male & females only waiting to get a uniform on, and would accept a moderate salary. i think it is worth creating even part time patrols.	Noted	Cat's are essentially a straying animal and we cannot expect their owner to follow their cat at all times and clear up after it. The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	The sooner the better we impose dog control on public land the better	Noted	No further response required

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
St Clears Town Council	The Town Council would wish to ensure that particular areas currently of concern would now enable the County Council to take enforcement action and provide exclusion orders. To this end the Town Council would be prepared too work with the County Council and any other interested parties to eliminate dog fouling on the Welfare Field in Station Road, Peillac Way (63/NCN2/1) the cycle/foot way which runs along the riverbank from the TRA40 road bridge to St Mary's Church. Both these areas give rise to regular reports of dog fouling and is imperative that appropriate action can be taken to educate irresponsible dog owners. The Town Council has responsibility for the Skateboard Park, to the rear of the Car Park in Pentre Road, and the enclosed Children's Play Area alongside the Welfare Field in Station Road and should be the subject of exclusion orders. The Town Council is keen to ensure that all the above are safe areas for the enjoyment of all its residents and free from potential health risks.	Noted	This information provided will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities. The exclusion order will not apply to the skate park. If there are problems at the skate park we will consider use CPN's to deal with offending dog owners. We will also keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review. The authority is happy to work closely with the town council in tackling the aforementioned issues.
	There needs to be more authorised people manning public paths	Noted	The Authority will look at utilising other resources within the Authority to enforce the orders.
	THIS NEEDS TO HAPPEN. BUT IT WILL NEED TO BE MONITORED BY AN OFFICIAL. MANY A COASTAL PATH/COUNTRY WALK HAS BEEN SPOILT FOR ME BY THE DOG OWNERS WHO DO NOT SEE THE NEED TO CLEAR UP AND ARE ABUSIVE WHEN ASKED TO DO SO. ON THE SPOT FINES SHOULD BE HANDED OUT.	Noted	No further response required
Laugharne Festival Committee (Cors Playing Field)	We are concerned that implementation of the order may be difficult at our unsupervised park.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.
	You need to make it easier for people to report dog fouling anywhere in the county.	Noted	Members of the public do have the facility to report dog fouling, this can be done via telephone 01267 234567, online through the authority's web page known as I-local report it (http://ilocal.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/iLocal/ufsmain?formid=REPORT_DOG_FOULING&ebd=0&ebz=1_1452786757093) or by calling in to any of our Customer Service Centres at Carmarthen, Ammanford or Llanelli.
	All names of people that DO NOT clean up should be published in the papers. NAME & SHAME them.	Noted	Where offenders have accepted a fixed penalty notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders are successfully prosecuted in the magistrates' court their details are published in the press.
	Concern that enough resources are made available to ensure compliance More bins should be made available Promote campaign / educate public; Publicity would get the message across to dog owners / Posters	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders. We will review the number of bins within the county. The authority will undertake a publicity campaign raising awareness of the new orders being proposed

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dogs should be microchipped and ownership subject to approval and licensing. Failure to comply should result in destruction and legal sanctions respectively.	Noted	The council cannot use PSPO's to require people to have a dog licence. We are not aware of any plans to reintroduce the dog licence, however the government is introducing mandatory Micro chipping of all dogs in 2016.
	Ensure that sufficient resources are in place to implement the policy Provision of dog fouling bins important Public awareness campaign; posters would be beneficial	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders. we will review the number of bins within the County. The authority will undertake a publicity campaign raising awareness of the new orders being proposed
	I believe fins for fouling should be higher I'm also of the opinion that dogs should be taken away from irresponsible people	Noted	Fines imposed on conviction are a matter for the courts. PSPO's cannot be used to take dogs away from people.
	I have two dogs. Many years ago, I would have had to purchase a dog licence to keep a dog. Can this be re-introduced? If anyone has a dog, then they can afford to pay circa £20 a year for a dog licence. This money could be used for more dog bins and to fund officers? If not, I would warly welcome any orders that keep our pavements and paths clear and clean and allow the "good" dog walkers to better enjoy our County.	Noted	The council cannot use PSPO's to require people to have a dog licence. We are not aware of any plans to reintroduce the dog licence, however the government is introducing mandatory Micro chipping of all dogs in 2016.
	I know dog licences were stopped a number of years ago - but I feel that that they should be reintroduced and all dogs chipped - too many dogs are left to roam our streets without any consequence for the owners (besides them defecating, tearing open bags on rubbish night is an issue).	Noted	The council cannot use PSPO's to require people to have a dog licence. We are not aware of any plans to reintroduce the dog licence, however the government is introducing mandatory Micro chipping of all dogs in 2016.
	I think encouragement is more beneficial than trying to clobber people with fines. If a person is seen not to have cleaned up after their dog they should be offered bags to do so prior to issuing a fine. Their name could then be added to a database (or their dog's microchip number) that is available on a handheld device so that if seen again they are then issued with a fine. I also think as much effort should be put in to stop people riding their horses on pavements resulting in having to dodge horse manure which covers a far greater area than a dog's mess.	Noted	The council does encourage people to clean up after their dogs and promotes responsible dog ownership. We will also undertake a publicity campaign raising awareness of the new orders being proposed. The onus is on the person in charge of a dog to ensure that they have adequate means to clean up after it. We do not intend to only warn first time offenders. In most cases, the Council will issue a fixed penalty notice to someone who breaches the order for the first time. We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	It is disgusting that a minority of dog owners do not clean up after their dogs and this needs to be stopped as it reflects on us responsible dog owners. They should be given greater penalty's in order to stop them doing this. We need to find better methods of catching them and punishing them.	Noted	Fines Imposed on convictions are a matter of the courts, the authority will be constantly reviewing the enforcement activities to ensure that resources are used to their maximum potential.
	It is not only dog mess in these parks what about broken glass, needles, litter etc are the council worker going to approach children if they see them littering and breaking glass in the public areas!!!!!! On numerous occasions I have come across soiled nappies in parks as well as beaches, will parents be approached for this???? If owners do allow their dog to foul and not clear up after them, then they should be banned from keeping dogs, if they are not acting responsibly they are not fit to care for an animal. Council may need to consider bringing in a dog licence or something.	Noted	Enforcement officers enforce dog fouling, littering and other waste offences. If offenders are children they will be referred to the Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator who in turn will engage with their parents. PSPO's cannot be used to take dogs away from people. or to require people to have a dog license. We are not aware of any plans to reintroduce the dog licence, however the government is introducing mandatory Micro chipping of all dogs in 2016.
	its a small minority that let their dogs foul-they should have their dogs talkie form them. dogs should have licenses, and there should be fair bigger punishment for deliberate dog fouling. we should have a dog fouling app that lets you point out problem areas-see Flintshire link below. DNA testing should be introduced as mentioned in Flintshire Council meeting http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-east-wales-33585594	Noted	PSPO's cannot be used to take dogs away from people. The fines for dog fouling are fixed by central government. We do not think a DNA database will assist with enforcement activities, as dog owners do not have to provide DNA samples for the database. There are no plans to introduce an app at this current time, however to report irresponsible dog ownership or dog fouling, reports can be made via the Authority's Contact centre or on online at http://ilocal.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/iLocal/ufsmain?formid=REPORT_DOG_FOULING&ebd=0&ebz=1_1453904938306
	More advertising of the fines and bins in the area would be helpful. my street has a woodland as part of it, but no bin available and people often fail to pick up meaning my children are at risk of standing / being in contact with dog poo.	Noted	The authority will undertake a publicity campaign raising awareness of the new orders being proposed. A review will be undertaken on the number of bins within the county.
	one big problem is even when there are notices people just do what they want	Noted	No further response required
	People should be encouraged in responsible dog ownership through education and reward (ie, positive comments), rather than legislation and punishment. Once enforcement officers get involved common sense flies out of the window. If fines are to be introduced they should be proportionate. It sounds easy to say £100 fine. £100 can mean a very real hardship to people, where the minimum wage is £6.50 per hour that represents 15 hours (pre tax) work. Dog owners are often pensioners on a limited income or others, for whom their sole recreation is exercising their dog. I think if fines are involved that they should be on a sliding scale, with £100 being at the high end, for persistent offenders.	Noted	Education and Awareness is the first and foremost strategy of the authority. Fines imposed on conviction are a matter of the courts. The maximum fixed penalty is also set by central government. The respondent's comments will be taken in to account when the council sets its fixed penalty.
	Publicise how many people are fined for these offences.	Noted	The authority already publicises all enforcement actions.

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Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	The risk that dogs pose are real from serious infections to physical threats -they should all be on leads and owners who fail to dispose of faeces safely should have big fines and be named and shamed in the local paper. Dogs aren't children and dog owners need to realise this. Children's and all people's safety and comfort outweigh the rights of dogs to frighten, attack and contaminate public spaces	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead on all public areas for animal welfare reasons, however if specific dog owners continually fail to control their dogs properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue. Where offenders that have accepted a Fixed Penalty Notice, the authority is unable to publish their details. Where offenders are successfully prosecuted in the magistrates court their details are published in the press.
	This survey could be available to dog owners for comment. Also the council should consider distributing information with doggie bags to those who live in town re the fouling. I walk to work daily and the town is full of fouling.	Noted	This public consultation was open to all stakeholders including dog owners. Information on the law on dog fouling and irresponsible dog ownership is available on the authority's web page. Due to resource implications the authority is unable to provide doggie bags.
	With specific reference to Furnace ponds then signage must be prominently displayed on the three public approaches to this area (note the road to Craig Gwyn is a council adopted road - many dog owners let their dog foul this area assuming it is "countryside")	Noted	A review on the signage will be undertaken. We will take the information about Craig Gwyn into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	As a dog owner I always clean up after my dog but I also feel strongly that the council have a part to play by emptying the bins regularly. I live near the Green in Ann Street Llanelli and the bins are disgraceful, not only are they not emptied enough people are dumping their household waste in the bins. I am sick and tired of confronting people to be faced with a load of abuse. The Council is aware of the problem and only a few days ago one of the three bins was blown up by a firework so we are now one bin down. This is an area where many people walk their dogs and it should be kept clean because the bins are on a public footpath, when the bins are full which is most of the time, the poop bags are just thrown on the floor and left. The Council are quick enough to issue fines for dog fouling but not quick enough to empty the bins on a regular basis for members of the public to dispose of their poop bags safely.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county, this will also include the frequency of emptying.
	Carmarthenshire county council have removed some bins along the Millennium coastal path, having cleaned up after my dog I have had to carry the bag along my circular route until at the end of the walk a bin was available at the car park. I strongly disagree with them removing a bin half way along the route. The bin was regularly used. Also bins are overflowing on Fridays and are often not emptied until Monday.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county, this will also include the frequency of emptying.
	I do feel more bins are required especially in Sandy Water park as there are hardly any and the Riverside walk from Brynamman to Garnant and Swiss Valley water park. I have been informed by a colleague in work that some people while picking up their dog mess actually resort to hanging the bags from a tree!!	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county, this will also include the frequency of emptying. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	Need dog bins in Llandybie, Ammanford. especially by the school, as there are always dog mess on the path going up to the school on school hill, plus path between school and the horse's field and also on the public footpaths by the school!!!	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county, this will also include the frequency of emptying.

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Need more dog bins on coastal path	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county.
	Please please can you ensure more waste disposal bins are provided? I visited Llyn Llech Owain over the weekend with my dog and failed to find one bin for my dogs waste bag on the entire walk, until my return to the main pay and display car park. Now i do not have a problem with carrying the filled bag until I find a bin, there are many walks we go on with the pup and carry the poop home in the boot and then dispose of it in a suitable manner, however in a place such as Llyn Llech Owain, I would expect there to be more bins available. I saw a few instances of poop filled bags thrown into the hedges and woods. People who are making the effort to 'scoop the poop' obviously do not want to carry the full bag all the way back to the car park. There is also a lack of bins in Penlan Park, Llandeilo.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	You ask dog owners to clean up, which i agree, unfortunately there are insufficient bins for the bags to be disposed of. I have seen people who will then throw these bags into bushes etc, which defeats the object and will take longer to decompose.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county. Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	You expect people to pick up after their dogs but there are not enough bins everywhere and the ones that are there are definitely not emptied enough. I see so many bins full to overflowing and not emptied for weeks. This is a health hazard and needs to be sorted out.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the number of bins within the county, this will also include the frequency of emptying.
	A few people spoil things for others and still may not comply If this applies to roads and verges - should horseriders also comply	Noted	We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.
	All dog owns have the resposibility to clean up after thier dogs, if they don't do this then they should not own a dog.	Noted	No further response required
	An authorized officer of the council ? It is a big responsibility to give to one person making a judgement in the street. I would be unhappy if my dogs were running free on the beach to be told to put them on a lead if they were doing nothing wrong. This is treating people and their family pets unjustly for the few bad owners who have not trained their animals and do not show good regard for others.	Noted	A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	I always clean up after my dogs and feel that responsible owners would do the same. I hope this encourages others to clean up and be more responsible dog owners.	Agreed	No further response required
	I am all for the new orders you are proposing to introduce, I get extremely irrate when dog walkers do not clean up after their dogs mess. I also get frustrated that the dogs can mess in areas where my child plays, granted a responsible dog owner will clean up the mess but my remains will always be left. This is not acceptable when young children play in these areas.	Agreed	No further response required
	I am grateful to officers for encouraging this to be finally sorted out. As a dog owner it is necessary for all to understand and comply.	Agreed	No further response required

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders. Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I fear that it is responsible dog owner that will be penalised and the pleasure that families have by going to parks with the family dog will be destroyed	Noted	The Purpose of the PSPO is to address the issue of irresponsible dog ownership and not for those who comply with the law. The order does not prevent families from taking their dog to their local park.
	I feel that the council should have better things to do with their time,effort and energy than chase after, humiliate, and persecute dog owners. Just because a person owns a dog doesn't mean he/she is a chav causing trouble.	Noted	The Council does not accept that it is persecuting or humiliating dog owners. The purpose of the PSPO is to promote responsible dog ownership and to enable the authority to deal with dog owners who do not behave responsibly
	I feel very strongly about this.Please dont tare us all with the same brush thank you	Noted	The purpose of the PSPO is to promote responsible dog ownership and to enable the authority to deal with dog owners who do not behave responsibly.
	I understand that we like in a nation full of dog lovers but many people aren't being responsible owners. We live in a beautiful part of Wales and we are unable to appreciate it fully due to these irresponsible dog owners. The cycle paths, the beach in pembrey, sandy water park are but a few places that are being spoilt due to dog fouling	Noted	No further response required
	Many families and individual dervie great pleasure out of sharing their lives with dogs, and enjoy taking them out for the day or on holiday. Too many obstacles should not be placed therefore on dog owners, but at the same time, there is a duty on owners to behave responsibly. Unfortunately, the behaviour of a minority has a detrimental effect on most people who are responsible owners. It is a pleasure to visit counties like Devon or areas such as the Peak District, where dogs are welcome in pubs, shops etc. P.S The translation in some [arts of this questionnaire needs to be corrected!	Noted	The purpose of the PSPO is to promote responsible dog ownership and to enable the authority to deal with dog owners who do not behave responsibly. We believe that this order strikes a fair balance and is reasonable and proprtionate.
	It's about time the dog owners start behaving more responsibly; I hope that hese measures will be implemented.	Agreed	No further response required
	My dog is always kept on a lead and we would clean up after him if he was to do his business outside of our garden. Unfortunately other dog owners let their dogs off their leads in the park area and on many occasions a loose dog has run over to our dog barking and snapping at our dog. We now have to muzzle our dog so that our dog does not get the chance to snap back. When my husband tells the loose dog owners that they need to control their dogs he is verbally abused and told that we have the dangerous dog (as we have a staffordshire bull terrier and we obviously have to muzzle him!!!!) not them (even though it is their dog that is doing the growling and snapping). These irresponsible dog owners need to be targeted, not just owners of specific breeds.	Noted	The purpose of the PSPO is to promote responsible dog ownership and to enable the authority to deal with dog owners who do not behave responsibly. The order applies to all breeds of dog.
	My neighbors cat was recently killed by 2 husky dogs who had escaped from their owners, and I have been threatened 3 times by dogs jumping up on me. The last time was when I picked up the mentioned cat to comfort it and was subsequently attacked by one of the dogs. Another neighbour managed to kick it away before it bit me. This incident was made worse by the fact there were 3 children playing in the street and there were 4 adults close by. The dogs were not afraid!! The humans were. Dog licenses and chipping should be compulsory. Owners should also prove they have a secure space to keep dogs safely and healthily. Too many dogs are cruelly kept locked up all day in cages and then let out into someone's garden for 5 mins. before being locked up again.	Noted	Incidents such as these should be reported to the Council and the Police. We are not aware of any plans to reintroduce the dog licence, however the government is introducing mandatory Micro chipping of all dogs in 2016. Being a responsible dog includes ensuring that the dogs welfare is given priority, if members of the public have any welfare concerns they should be reported immediately to the RSPCA.

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Other Comments

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Not all dog owners should be punished because of a minority of irresponsible owners	Noted	The purpose of the PSPO is to promote responsible dog ownership and to enable the authority to deal with dog owners who do not behave responsibly. We believe that this order strikes a fair balance.
	Owners must be aware of their dogs if they are aggressive and they should be kept on a lead when there are other people or animals around.	Agreed	The Purpose of the PSPO is to address the issue of irresponsible dog ownership in particular with those that cannot control their dogs correctly.
	Please don't take away the freedom that our beloved pets have. The majority of us are responsible owners	Noted	We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. The Purpose of the PSPO is to address the issue of irresponsible dog ownership in particular with those that cannot control their dogs correctly. People who behave responsibly have nothing to fear from these orders.
	The County Council should be applauded for taking this action, for the benefit of all, including dogs, who are subject to the care of inconsiderate and ill-educated human beings. Da lawn.	Agreed	No further response required
	There are issues in Parc Stephens, Kidwelly, where some dogs are left to roam freely without supervision from owners. Consideration should be given to extend control orders to cover such instances. There are also issues where dogs attack other dogs. Again, the control orders should be extended to deal with this issue.	Noted	The Environmental Protection Act 1990 already enables us to deal with stray dogs. The provisions in this order will enable us to deal with dogs that cause nuisance or annoyance to others, and attack other dogs on public land. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	Unfortunately, there are far too many irresponsible dog owners in the county and unless patrols are increased, I doubt whether legislation will protect public health in any way.	Noted	The Authority will look at utilising other resources within the Authority to enforce the orders.
	We as responsible dog owners feel we would be victimised by non dog owners if these restrictions are imposed, many of whom never use the open spaces we do. It would also be detrimental to the tourists and holiday makers who come to beautiful Wales because they can bring their dogs. Without the freedom of off lead walking many dogs and indeed their owners would not get the exercise they require as walking on lead is indeed a very different for those dogs who have bounds of energy.	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. The Order does not require dogs to be kept on a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	<p>Whatever steps are taken, the 5 rights for animals must also be considered. One of these is the right to behave and exercise normally. When dogs have to remain on lead all the time it prevents normal behaviour. In parts USA dogs are only allowed off lead in dog parks but these are hot spots for both disease transmission and behavioural problems. It is a difficult balance to make and unfortunately irresponsible owners will always be irresponsible owners no matter what laws are brought in. It is vital that responsible owners are not penalised for the poor behaviour of others.</p>	Noted	<p>We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. The Order does not require dogs to be kept on a lead at all times on public land. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.</p>
	<p>Any dogs that show signs of aggression to any person or creature should be muzzled and kept on short leads.</p>	Agreed	<p>The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing aggressive / nuisance dogs in all publicly accessible land. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.</p>
	<p>By being off the lead my dog gets far more exercise than he would if he was on lead. Vets would also agree with this as being off lead is a vital form of exercise for all dogs. If anyone saw a dog fouling and owners did not clean it up they should take a photo and upload it to a council website where if they can be identified and are publicly shamed and fined. You could always offer a small reward (the dog owner should pay) for every successful prosecution which would give the public an incentive to report irresponsible dog owners.</p>	Noted	<p>The authority recognises that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare. If an individual fails to keep their dog under control and continues to cause problems, we may consider the use of other powers (such as Community Protection Notices) to address their behaviour. The authority does not encourage members of public to confront or photograph irresponsible dog owners for health and safety reasons. Incidents should be reported to the Council.</p>
	<p>Carms Council is supposed to be a dog friendly county. I would insist that this is respected. Dogs require exercise off-lead in some public open spaces. It is not acceptable to force dogs to be on leads at all times in all public areas.</p>	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	<p>People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. The order does not require dogs to be kept on a lead at all times. A request to put a dog on a lead will only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.</p>
	<p>I agree to a fine for picking up dog foul and a requirement for people to put dogs on leads if they are out of control but I think a sensible approach needs to be taken in play areas. I don't want my children to be put in danger but I think an Order is too restrictive. Many people with children also have dogs and generally the dogs that live with a family will be good with children. There is more danger with dogs in a street or on a walk who may not be used to being around children.</p>	Noted	<p>There has been overwhelming support for dogs to be excluded from enclosed children's play area and we believe that the order is reasonable and proportionate.</p>

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I feel strongly that ALL dogs should be on a tight lead, so that the owner has full control of the animal at all times, in all public areas and that people should always clean up any dog fouling, for obvious reasons.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make an order requiring people to keep their dogs on a lead at all times in all public areas. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate
	I have been chased, harassed and on a few occasions threatened (a dog snarling and snapping at me) by off lead dogs. Sometimes the owners make an attempt at recalling the dog but the majority of the time the dog ignores the owner and continues chasing. Some of these dogs have been dangerous (and reported to the police) but any off lead dog has the potential to cause injury directly or indirectly - if an offlead dog ran in front of a car etc	Noted	The proposed orders will enhance the enforcement powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership within the county, in particular to enforcing aggressive / nuisance dogs in all publicly accessible land. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	I submitted a FOI request to Dyfed Powys Police on the number of dog incidents reported to the DLO (Dog Legislation Officer). They were unhelpful (in fact that's how I found the DLO in a meeting recently). However they give me the following figures:- It has been established that there are a minimum of 25 tagged dog related storm incident records recorded each month, which equates to a minimum of 300 records per annum". There are also a very many unreported incidents - including attacks on other dogs resulting in their needing veterinary attention. All dogs on leads all the time unless they have earned their exemption would dramatically reduce dog fouling and dog threats and attacks. It would be very welcome amongst those responsible owners as well - as they could walk their dogs without fear of attack from other dogs, and with a reduced likelihood of trampling in other dogs' mess.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. If specific dog owners continually fail to control their dogs properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.
	I would like to see an order making dogs on leads compulsory on the cycle path.	Noted	<p>People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In some locations, cycle paths are the only places where people can exercise their dog off-lead. Some cycle paths also run through large open spaces where dogs are allowed off lead.</p> <p>However we will keep the situation with dogs on the cycle paths under review and may consider additional PSPO's to address this in future if necessary. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue.</p>
	im a dog owner and have never once left my dog off the lead when taking her for a walk.	Noted	No further response required
	Loose dogs that are not strictly obedient with immediate recall to its owner should not be allowed to spoil the enjoyment of others. One is met with cheek and aggression when requesting nicely for their dog to be put on a lead and these are the people who let the side down. Roll on the new law. Hope you will be able to police it.	Noted	The authority will be reviewing the resources available to enforce the new orders.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	My personal belief is that all dogs outside a residence should be muzzled.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to muzzle their dogs at all times in all public places. If an individual fails to keep their dog under control and continues to cause problems, we may consider the use of other powers (such as Community Protection Notices) to address their behaviour. In appropriate circumstances, a Community Protection Notice could require an individual to keep their dog on a muzzle in public areas.
	No mention has been made of whether dogs need to have a muzzle on	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to muzzle their dogs at all times in all public places. If an individual fails to keep their dog under control and continues to cause problems, we may consider the use of other powers (such as Community Protection Notices) to address their behaviour. In appropriate circumstances, a Community Protection Notice could require an individual to keep their dog on a muzzle in public areas.
	Put out advice for dog owners that an easy way to avoid random fouling by their dog, is to WALK THE DOG ON THE LEASH UNTIL IT HAS DONE IT'S BUSINESS BEFORE LETTING IT OF FOR A RUN.	Noted	It would be inappropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dogs on a lead before it does it's business for welfare reasons. The authority has various advice i.e. being a responsible dog owner on their web page.
	Restricting exercise for dogs will lead to less socialised animals, who will become frustrated and will suffer from behavioural problems, which will cause more problems within society in general	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. The order does not require dogs to kept on a lead at all times
	As a dog owner I would ask that (other than play areas, parks and Football/Rugby areas) dogs be allowed access subject to 15/17/18 above	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO to exclude dogs from the parks for animal welfare reasons. Our order only excludes dogs from enclosed outdoor children's play areas, including the enclosed play areas within parks.
	Dog shouldnt be in shops or less working or assistance dog learning job or Qualified Or finish work . Shouldnt tye dogs bear doors as assistance dogs get bark at	Noted	We do not believe that such an order is necessary. Generally the only dogs permitted into shops are assistance dogs.
	Dogs should also be prohibited from sports areas.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas for animal welfare reasons. Orders to exclude dogs from parks, sports pitches or cemeteries needs to considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. We will keep the need for further site-specific PSPO's under review.

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dogs should always be on a lead on the coastal path! I have witnessed several near misses of cyclists having to avoid stray dogs. On one occasion, a cyclist on a racing bike swerved to avoid a small dog and then narrowly avoided running down a toddler. It's only a matter of time before somebody is seriously injured or killed on the path. Who then is responsible? The cyclist, dog owner or council for not enforcing regulations?	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in these areas. If a dog owner persistently fails to control their dog properly, the authority may use additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue. The order will be enforced by Authorised officers of CCC.
	I agree in so much that this means actual dedicated children's playgrounds and not areas where children may play as this could lead to exclusions on many green spaces, which are becoming few and far between	Noted	Our exclusion order only applies to enclosed children's play areas and does not exclude dogs from other green spaces.
	I agree that dogs should not be where children are playing.	Agreed	No further response required
	I am a keen runner and cyclist - dogs are often allowed off their leads at Pembrey Country Park and the Millennium Coastal Path. These areas are used by families with young children. All such recreational areas and not simply children's play areas should prohibit dogs. Allocate specific 'Dog Areas' on land not normally used for recreational purposes.	Noted	We will keep the situation with dogs on millennium coastal paths under review and will consider further PSPO to address this in future if necessary. We will also consider using additional powers such as Community Protection Notices to deal with the issue. The Authority may also look at introducing dedicated dog walking areas this would be subject to available budgets to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the area.
	I am part of a volunteer group that garden in the Carmarthen Museum and we encounter dogs being allowed to run riot all over the grounds and flower borders without supervision. There is a lot of dog fouling there as well. Unfortunately Guide dogs that are not supervised.	Noted	The onus is on the person in charge of the dog to watch their dog at all times and ensure they clean up after their dog. Any order excluding dogs from the museum or requiring them to be on a lead at all times, would need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I believe all playing fields within parks should be included also.	Noted	It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas, for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches, is difficult. The locations of the pitches can change, and pitch markings are often not maintained all year round. Most pitches are also not fenced off from the rest of the site, and fencing them off would have resource implications. Therefore, dog owner may not know which areas their dogs are excluded from at different times of the year. They may feel that the only way to avoid breaching the order is to avoid park areas or to keep their dog on a lead at all times, which could have welfare implications. Any order to exclude dogs from parks or sports pitches need to be considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN to deal with offending dog owners. We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's.
	i hoe you do not ban dogs from beaches parks and other open spaces	Noted	We do not have any plans to exclude dogs from beaches or other open spaces at this time but will keep the need for further orders under review. Any further order to exclude dogs from beaches or open space would need to be considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.
	I hope that this will not affect beaches being closed to dogs. But happy that these rules apply to all beaches where dogs are allowed	Noted	The order does not exclude dogs from beaches, although the existing seasonal dog exclusions will remain in place at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach. In early 2015 the authority conducted a consultation with the general public to ascertain if there was support for a seasonal beach exclusion at a number of amenity beaches in the County. 70% of the respondents indicated that they did not want a further beach exclusion order.

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Tudalen 170

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I would also like dogs to be banned from recreational grounds and school playing areas	Noted	It's not appropriate to make a PSPO to exclude dogs from the parks for animal welfare reasons. Our order only excludes dogs from enclosed outdoor children's play areas. School sites are not public land for the purposes of the PSPO. The authority is happy to work closely with the schools in tackling these issues which may include the use of Community Protection Notices to deal with problems.
	It would be a shame if the beaches became unwelcoming to dogs/ dog owners. Many people come in holiday to this area specifically because it is so dog friendly.	Noted	The order does not exclude dogs from beaches, although the existing seasonal dog exclusions will remain in place at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach.
	it would be beneficial for a directory of where dog walking is permitted.	Noted	The is no requirement for a directory and it would be difficult to draw up and maintain comprehensive maps showing every area in the County where dog walking is permitted. Many areas are also outside our ownership and control. However, any areas where the <u>County Council</u> excludes dogs will be adequately signposted informing dog owners of any restrictions.
Llangunnor Community Council	Llangunnor Community Council believe that it would be advantageous to ban dogs from all public parks, if this is not possible the order should include that all dogs be kept on leads when in public parks.	Noted	It is not appropriate to make a broad order excluding dogs from all park areas or requiring them to be kept on a lead at all times in these locations, for animal welfare reasons. Any such exclusions need to be evidence based and considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead.
Furnace United RFC	Please add that no dogs should be allowed on private leased sporting venue used by adults and children.	Noted	As land owners it is up to you to decide who can access your land. If the existing proposals do not address the problems at these sites, we will consider using Community Protection Notices to deal with persistent offenders. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
	There are not enough areas in Carmarthenshire to permit off-lead exercising of dogs. Banning dogs from parks and beaches is an infringement of the rights of dog owners in addition to being an animal welfare issue as dogs require off-lead exercise daily. In addition many footpaths are unusable for dog owners as they run through fields containing cattle, which pose a danger to dog walkers.	The respondent may have misunderstood the Order.	Our order does not exclude dogs from parks or beaches. Our order only excludes dogs from enclosed outdoor children's play areas, including the enclosed play areas within parks. Where there is an enclosed children's play area within a park, the exclusion will not apply to the remainder of the park.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	<p>we do not believe dogs should be banned from the beaches there should be areas beaches that dogs can go with easy access Carmarthenshire has very long beaches tourists bring their dogs here and like to us the beaches as us locals do if you ban them it's sending a message out you are not welcome with your dog. Pembrey Park campsite has dogs on it that run freely in this area the campers should be made to keep dogs on lead as everyones close together. Broken glass around is a bigger issue than dogs Pembrey canal path has had broken glass there for six weeks places need to be cleaned up properly not now and again people on bikes need to be told to slow their speed down where people are walking as you can't hear them behind you especially me as I am profoundly deaf my dog turns around and slows down when they come near which makes me turn around people with good hearing say they don't always hear them coming are there going to be enough enforcement officers anyway? lots of things arn't enforced like parking on pavements walking along Dan Y Bryn pavements Pembrey is impossible some days one council tennant drives along the pavement the wrong way up on my crossover to get to her house three doors down so she doesn't have to bump her tyres on the kerb she told me she knows the law and will carry on doing so lets have more enforcements for the things that matter not just dogs.</p>	Noted	<p>The order does not exclude dogs from beaches, although the existing seasonal dog exclusions will remain in place at Cefn Sidan and Llansteffan beach. Many of the issues raised by the respondent do not relate to the proposed PSPO. we will use CPN to deal with offending dog owners. We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's.</p>
	<p>Why not add sports fields?</p>	Noted	<p>It is not appropriate to exclude dogs from all park areas, for animal welfare reasons. Excluding dogs from all marked-up sports pitches, is difficult. The locations of the pitches can change, and pitch markings are often not maintained all year round. Most pitches are also not fenced off from the rest of the site, and fencing them off would have resource implications. Therefore, dog owner may not know which areas their dogs are excluded from at different times of the year. They may feel that the only way to avoid breaching the order is to avoid park areas or to keep their dog on a lead at all times, which could have welfare implications. Any order to exclude dogs from parks or sports pitches need to be considered on a site-by-site basis and alternative land made available in the vicinity where dogs can be exercised off lead. Rather than excluding all dogs from sports pitches, we will use CPN to deal with offending dog owners. We will also review the need for further site-specific PSPO's.</p>
	<p>Areas could be assigned for dog exercise - fenced if considered necessary to separate from children's areas if close. Dogs need to exercise off lead. Owners still need to control them even if off lead.</p>	Noted	<p>We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community. Setting aside and fencing off these areas would have resource implications. We may consider setting up some dog walking areas in the future if this will prevent problems on other neighbouring land .</p>

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

Tudalen 172

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dog owners and dogs should have a separate area(s) to exercise the dogs and themselves. Not in a main Council Park where many children and families play safely with no dogs present and no dog faeces.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all parks. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate. The Authority may also look at introducing dedicated dog walking areas this would be subject to available budgets to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the area.
	Dog owners pay rates too and contribute to the economy, but should be made aware of acceptable behaviour. It is not acceptable to cause distress to others or to deposit faeces in a public place. It would be a good idea where possible to provide dog toileting areas, complete with bags and bins, in parks and adjacent to car parks. We need more bins and more warning notices put up.	Noted	In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide dog toileting areas in every community. Setting aside and fencing off these areas would have resource implications. The Authority may also look at introducing dog toileting areas in some locations, subject to available budgets. The authority will be reviewing the number of litter bins within the county.
	although of course children and communities' safety is crucial, as well as keeping areas clean - it is necessary to provide suitable places and visible dispensers' bags too	Noted	The authority has previously supplied bag dispensers in key areas around the county, however these facilities have been abused and subsequently withdrawn. Due to resource implications the authority is unable to provide bag dispensers for dog owners.
	I have been a dog owner until earlier this year and can say that living in town, there is little choice of where you can walk a dog. You are left with walking the streets with them. All dogs need exercise to fit, healthy and happy. Perhaps the local authority could give some thought to providing a designated area for dog walkers? Just a thought.	Noted	In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community. In appropriate circumstances we may look at introducing a dedicated dog walking area at a location where there is evidence to justify it, subject to available budgets to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the area.
	I would emphasise that dogs need to run and be free to socialise in order to allow them to become socially acceptable within the dog community, and all irresponsible dog owners should be penalised.	Noted	We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons.
	It is essential for dogs to have exercise and there should be defined off lead perhaps enclosed areas where owners can relax and let their dogs have a big run to expend their energy and possibly play with other dogs. It is physically impossible for a human to fully exercise a dog by walking it on a lead. They have four legs after all. Twice the speed. Pendine beach out of season is fantastic but my dog can run at 30 or 40 mph I cannot keep up. Exercise makes them happy and easier to train.	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. In a large rural county like Carmarthenshire it is not feasible to provide fenced dog walking areas in every community. In appropriate circumstances we may look at introducing a dedicated dog walking area at a location where there is evidence to justify it, subject to available budgets to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the area.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	it is true that persons owning dogs need to be responsible, however dog owners do need places to exercise their dogs.	Noted	We accept that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons.
great dane care charitable trust	the council should provide area for responsible people to free run dogs especially in holiday area as this is a vital boost to the county's economy. You should have regular meeting with pet dog owner.	Noted	We do not believe that dog run areas are necessary, as the Council does not exclude dogs from its parks and other open spaces. The new order will only exclude dogs from enclosed children's play areas. We do engage with dog owners.
	There must be public areas where people can exercise their dogs off lead. Dog owners pay enough in taxes etc for vets food and dog items. They deserve rights to. Spilt a beach make half dog friendly and half dog free	Noted	There are plenty of area where people will be able to exercise their dogs off-lead. The Council's orders do not stop people from exercise their dogs off lead. A request to put a dog on a lead can only be made where an authorised officer of the Council believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
	As a dog owner myself I agree with certain orders regarding dogs, however I think the grandfather who took his 2 grandchildren down the beach and complained about dogs has over reacted. He didnt state that these dogs showed any aggression. The dog urinating on the sandcastle is a natural process for the dog. They are not humans and not taught to use toilets. If the children were that frightened then maybe they should interact more with animals(maybe trip to folly farm for example to reduce their anxiety towards animals and to educate	Noted	No further response required
	As an example re 21 above, my children go to Ysgol y Dderwen, and they often use the gate located at the far end of the school field (near Siswrn Hairdressers). In fairness to the school, during the day, the gate is locked, but in the morning and afternoon, it is open to allow for pedestrian access. I have witnessed an individual once 'hanging around' outside the gate, but I noticed that there was a dog on school land. I addressed the individual regarding the dog and he said he'd been 'unable' to stop the dog from running in... I wouldn't be surprised if it was a regular occurrence that that individual was doing this daily, as it was easier to leave the dog run around and defecate freely, rather than actively having to take the dog for a walk and picking up after it.	Noted	School sites are not Public Land and for these purposes of the PSPO. The Authority is happy to work closely with the school in tackling these issues which may include the use of Community Protection Notices.
	Beware of the Dogs Facebook group https://www.facebook.com/groups/1681264938824950/?hc_location=ufi	Noted	Information passed on to the Public Protection Unit.
	Cat mess is equally offensive and dangerous and often less apparent than dog mess. This matter needs serious consideration.	Noted	Cat's are essentially a straying animal and we cannot expect their owner to follow their cat at all times and clear up after it.
	COUNCIL NEED TO WATCH LOCAL PARKS ESPECIALLY - OUR VILLAGE CEFNEITHIN AND DREFACH HAVE A HUGE PROBLEM WITH DOG FOULING	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	Dog fouling in public areas isn't the only problem. The Aman Valley River path is very popular with cyclists and runners. Human excrement can often be seen on the riverbank where other people walk and children play. Dogs will also roll in it. We know it's not dog poo as they have not evolved enough to wipe their own bottoms and leave a neat pile of dirty tissue beside it. Runners that have been challenged about their behaviour complain they have to go somewhere. How about at home before they set off before fouling the river walk? If you're going to fine dog walkers for not clearing up, fine runners that drop their shorts as well. This is a serious public health issue which the council needs to do something about.	Noted	Other statutory powers will be used to deal with Human Defecation. Dyfed Powys Police also have powers to deal with human defecation.
	Dylech wirio'r Gymraeg yn yr holiadur hwn 'gryf' nid 'grif' ac mae'r frawddeg olaf o ddiolch bron yn anealladwy. (Translation : You should check the Welsh in this questionnaire 'strong' not 'grif' and the last sentence of thanks).	Noted	Translation unit to re-check the Welsh language translation
Betws Community Council	For your information - Children's Playground at Heol y Felin, Betws is owned by the Community Council. Also children's playground at Maesquarre Road, Betws is in the process of being handed over from the developer to the County Council. (Grounds Maintenance unit is aware of the situation)	Noted	No further response required.
	Has anyone even thought about these proposals?? It seems like a pointless exercise at the cost of the tax payers to get counsellors in the paper, without really addressing the problems that people face and causing many more!	Noted	We disagree that the order is pointless. The purpose of the PSPO orders is to tackle various issues concerning irresponsible dog ownership.
	How does this order deal with dog owners who are walking more than 3 dogs. In Pembrey Country Park in particular, gangs of dogs can be very intimidating.	Noted	The authority currently has no plans to introduce restriction on the number of dogs a person can take out. In appropriate circumstances we will consider using Community Protection Notices to restrict the number of dogs that a person may walk at any one time, if there is evidence to show that they cannot control their dogs. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
Jonathan Tudor, Countryside Access Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council	I am a County Council Employee making my submission in a professional capacity as Countryside Access Manager dealing with public rights of way and other access land where dog fouling and out of control dogs are major issues. These proposed Orders appear sensible and proportionate.	Noted	No further response required
	I am currently not a dog owner but I kept and trained dogs for over thirty years - and enjoyed it in a responsible and considerate manner. The dog fouling problem is in urgent need of addressing! I have heard several visitors complaining about the Country Park, Llanstephan and more than one area in Kidwelly - including streets not far from the Castle. We are doing ourselves no favours by not taking major steps to control the problem.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	I believe that the definition of working dogs should not include dogs being used for hunting as this cannot be defined as work. It is not lawful to hunt animals with packs of dogs, those taking packs of dogs out on hunts claim to be following scent trails and define this as a sport. I therefore believe that all aspects of these regulations should apply to dogs being used for hunting.	Noted	DEFRA guidance on this is as follows : PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.
	I believe there should be a limit on the amount of dogs a person can exercise at one time....I often encounter dog owners of 4 or more dogs, mostly off their leads, and it is intimidating to my dog, myself and my child.	Noted	The authority currently has no plans to introduce restriction on the number of dogs a person can take out. In appropriate circumstances we will consider using Community Protection Notices to restrict the number of dogs that a person may walk at any one time, if there is evidence to show that they cannot control their dogs. We may also consider further site specific PSPO's to address the problem.
	I did have a dog and hope to have again .I ALWAYS cleaned up after her never let her into children's play areas and was on a short lead at all times . Pass all your rules ASAP good work CCC	Noted	No further response required
	I don't think Carmarthenshire as a whole is a dog friendly council!	Noted	No further response required
	I feel that the current draft proposals are very limiting and cannot see these orders making a lot of difference. We don't even have a may to september beach ban here in Llanelli, so even that would be a start or at least to make one section of the beach dog free during the summer.	Noted	We believe that the proposed orders will make a difference. We will keep them under review and may consider further orders in the future if necessary. review In early 2015 the authority conducted a consultation with the general public to ascertain if there was support for a seasonal beach exclusion at a number of amenity beaches in the County. 70% of the respondents indicated that they did not want a beach exclusion order. We are not therefore pursuing any beach exclusions orders at this time. If there are future problem on beaches, we may consider seasonal site specific orders in future.
	I have spent my life avoiding pests and that includes dogs. In public places they should be strictly controlled.	Noted	No further response required
	I would like the opportunity to speak with someone on these matters. I am pretty well read up on legislation (and have my own copy of DEFRA's Dangerous Dogs Law Guidance for Enforcers 2009), and have met with the DLO (Dog Legislation Officer) of Dyfed Powys Police, co-writer of DPP's own policy on Dangerous Dogs. I can explain how and why the policy isn't working. I have today set up a Facebook group "Beware of the Dogs" to assist regarding dog on dog attacks. I have spoken with the Carmarthen Journal.	Noted	Dangerous Dogs legislation falls under the remit of the Police. Dog wardens can deal with stray dogs and dogs which are causing problems under the new Anti social behaviour legislation, but if someone fears their pet or themselves will be bitten / injured by someone else's dog, the Police should be informed and take the lead.
	I would like to see Carmarthen in particular become a more dog friendly place. It's good for tourism for a start!	Noted	No further response required

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Farmers Union of Wales (FUW)	It was noted that a breach of these orders would result in a criminal conviction being imposed on the recipient. Members did not think that this was a sufficiently serious offence to warrant a criminal conviction with its associated adverse effects.	Noted	Breach of an order will only result in a criminal record if the offender is successfully prosecuted through the courts. In most cases, the Council will issue the offender with a Fixed Penalty Notice. If they pay the fixed penalty they will not be prosecuted and will not get a criminal record.
	It would be fantastic if Carmarthenshire strove to become the most dog friendly area of the UK. This could be done by ensuring that there are plenty of dog playing areas (I have to say, there are indeed plenty around my area), by ensuring that there are plenty of dog bins and dog poo bag supplies available, and by promoting doggie friendliness. Doggies are the key to a healthy community, in many ways. Certainly, you will rarely find a very overweight dog owner, unless he or she does not walk their doggies. Promoting doggie friendliness will be good for health, community spirit, as well as tourism.	Noted	We would like to think that Carmarthenshire is dog friendly county. We believe that this order strikes a fair and sensible balance. It allows people to walk their dogs off lead in public areas, but requires people to clean up after their dog and gives us the power to deal with any problems as and when they occur, by requiring people to place their dog on a lead. The authority has previously supplied bag dispensers in key areas around the county, however these facilities have been abused and subsequently withdrawn. Due to resource implications the authority is unable to provide bag dispensers for dog owners. The authority will be reviewing the number of Litter bins within the county.
	Major problem at Cwmamman Park Garnant.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.
	Our world isn't only for human beings :) Interaction with animals is healthy and makes our communities a happier place.	Noted	No further response required
	pleased that the issue is on the agenda	Noted	No further response required
	Same should apply to farmers responsible for horses and cows that deposit their poop on our roads. They should be made to clean up, areas like llyn llech owain for e.g. often pass horse shit, it's unacceptable.	Noted	We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses and cows are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time.
	Some owners do pick up dog mess but don't deposit it in a bin or take it home but appear to leave the bag at the road side or just drop it when nobody around.	Noted	Litter fixed penalty notices are issued to those who deposit / drop or throw down bags of faeces.
	The amount of dog fouling in the areas of Kidwelly, Pembrey (inc. the Country Park), Burry Port and parts of the coastal path, is really excessive. This can only have a detrimental effect on the perception of the whole area as a holiday destination.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning our enforcement activities.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	The exemption for hunting dogs should be removed. Why are you pandering to the local hunts when the Hunting Act 2004 makes hunting with more than two dogs illegal? If necessary, why don't you specify the two dog rule in the proposed order. For example, you could say in the exception clause something like... 'this exemption applies only when two hunting dogs are used and this order applies in full for a pack of three dogs or more notwithstanding them being used for hunting.'	Noted	DEFRA guidance on this is as follows : PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO.. We believe this includes packs of hounds used for hunting. We will monitor and work with Hunt groups if issues arise.
Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum	The introduction section of the proposed order doesn't seem to make a lot of sense and not all points seem relevant to what is actually being proposed. The Local Access Forum would like officers to re visit this text before drafting the order.	Noted	We have reviewed the introduction of the order and are satisfied with the wording.
	there are too many loose dogs in vehicles, even though they should be contained or in a harness to restrain in rear of vehicles. Nobody seems to be checking.	Noted	We do not believe that it is necessary to impose such a restriction, but will keep this issue under review.
	Think about introducing cat fouling controls to urban areas, especially giving rights to property owners who don't have a cat but have neighbours many cats fouling in their gardens and drives. Introduce limits to the amount of cats a person can have, especially if they have mental health problems as you can't discuss anything with them regarding litter trays etc and controlling where their cat foul.	Noted	Cat's are essentially a straying animal and we cannot expect their owner to follow their cat at all times and clear up after it.
	What proposals are being enforced for :horses , and smokers wether electric or not .	Noted	We receive fewer complaints about horse muck than dogs mess. As horses are herbivores, their faeces is less harmful than dog faeces. It also may not be safe for a horse rider to dismount and clear up after their horse immediately. For these reasons, we do not feel that it is necessary or appropriate to extend these control to horses at this time. The authority issues FPN's for littering offences.
	When asked recently by tourists in Carmarthen town, why the area was so dog unfriendly and dogs not allowed in the park. I had to agree and suggested they visited Swansea as all the parks there are accessible to dogs, as are most other towns in the UK. Bute Park in Cardiff is a very family dog friendly park and is a joy to see families with children and well behaved dogs all playing and interacting together. I sometimes think the way dogs are segregated from and not encouraged to be part of the family leads to many of our antisocial dog problems. Carmarthenshire is already known as the Puppy Farming capital of the UK. Our dog comes with us on holiday and it is interesting how many towns have special dog designated parks in the middle of built up areas. This all helps puppies to grow up being socialised correctly from a young age.	Noted	This Council does not exclude dogs from its parks and open spaces (other than enclosed play areas). However, not all parks are managed by the local authority. Some of the parks are managed by Town & Community Councils or Sport Associations, who may be imposing their own restrictions.
	Why are only dog owners being subject to this?	Noted	It is not clear which other groups of people the respondent is alluding to.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Response to Public Spaces Protection Orders.
Other Comments

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Group	Comments	Appraisal	Response
	wish you were half as keen on ridding us of illegal puppy farms in the area. If you got rid of these farms there would be a lot less dogs needing homes. But of course you cannot do that as it brings a good income for you. Never mind lives are being ruined by you	Noted	Recent new legislation, and more stringent licensing conditions, will mean more establishments that breed dogs will fall into the licensing regime. Carmarthenshire County Council is committed to raising the standards of welfare at all licensed premises. The local authority has no power to stop licensed dog breeding as it is a legitimate business.
The Kennel Club	Working dogs - We strongly welcome the proposed exemptions for working dogs. The guidance document prepared by Defra and the Welsh Government to accompany the legislation introducing Public Space Protection Orders is clear - "PSPOs are not intended to restrict the normal activities of working dogs and these activities are not envisaged to meet the threshold for the making of a PSPO". Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to invite Carmarthenshire County Council to sign up to KC Dog. There are no entry requirements, but consulting with KC Dog, or keeping KC Dog up to date with what your council is doing is a good way to keep in touch with our dog-owning members.	Noted	We will continue to engage with the kennel club. No further response required.
	See above Question 16	Noted	No further response required

Appendix 4

Carmarthenshire County Council

Assessing Impact

The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together and replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies and strengthens the law, removes inconsistencies and makes it easier for people to understand and comply with it. The majority of the Act came into force on 1 October 2010.

The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the 'general duty'), replacing the separate duties on race, disability and gender equality. This came into force on 5 April 2011.

What is the general duty?

The aim of the general duty is to ensure that public authorities and those carrying out a public function consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in their day-to-day activities. The duty ensures that equality considerations are built into the design of policies and the delivery of services and that they are kept under review. This will achieve better outcomes for all.

The duties are legal obligations. Failure to meet the duties may result in authorities being exposed to legal challenge.

Under equality legislation, public authorities have legal duties to pay 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality with regard to race, disability and gender, including gender reassignment, as well as to promote good race relations. The Equality Act 2010 introduces a new public sector duty which extends this coverage to age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief. The law requires that this duty to pay 'due regard' be demonstrated in the decision making process. It is also important to note that public authorities subject to the equality duties are also likely to be subject to the

Appendix 4

obligations under the Human Rights Act and it is therefore wise also to consider the potential impact that decisions could have on human rights as part of the same process.

Carmarthenshire's approach to Equality Impact

In order to ensure that the council is considering the potential equality impact of its proposed policies and practices, and in order to evidence that we have done so, every proposal will be required to be supported by the attached Equality Impact Assessment. Where this assessment identifies a significant impact then more detail may be required.

Reporting on assessments

Where it is clear from the assessment that the likely impact on the authority's ability to meet the general duty is substantial, then it must publish a report.

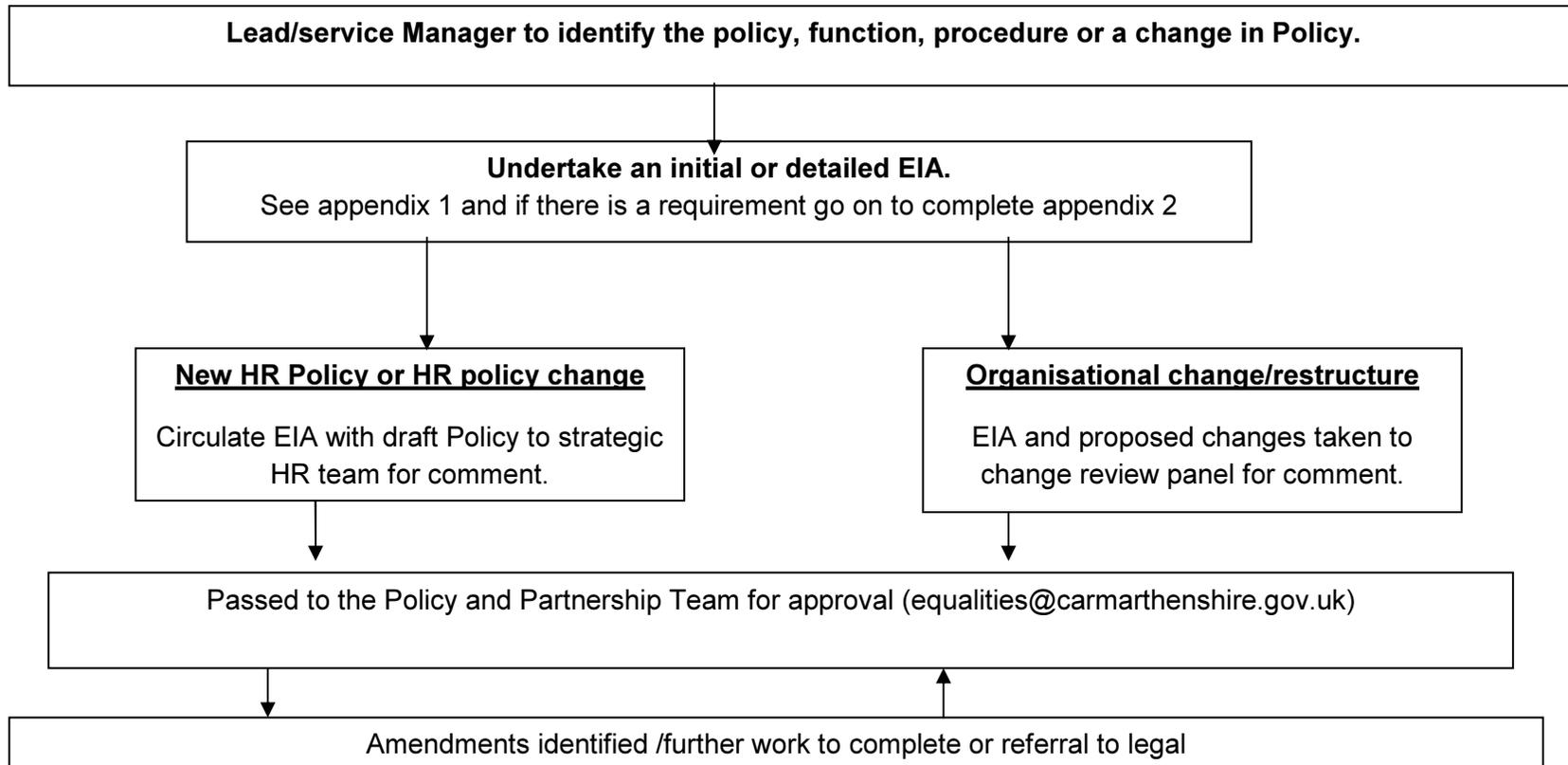
Initial and Detailed Equality Impact Assessments

The initial EIA (appendix 1) is a simple and quick method of assessing the effect of a policy, function, procedure, decision including financial cuts on one or more of the protected characteristics.

The Service Manager responsible for the relevant new or revised policies, functions, procedures and financial decisions must undertake, at least, an initial EIA and where relevant a detailed Equality Impact Assessment (appendix 2); EIA must be attached as background paper with reports to Executive and Scrutiny .

Appendix 4

Equality impact assessment – Process to follow where HR implications have been identified



Initial Equalities Impact Assessment Template

Appendix 1

Department: Environment Department	Completed by (lead): Michael Roberts	Date of initial assessment: 12 th February 2016 Revision Dates:
Area to be assessed: (i.e. name of policy, function, procedure, practice or a financial decision)	Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Controls) and the use of Fixed Penalty Notices.	
Is this existing or new function/policy, procedure, practice or decision?	New Service on Public Spaces Protection Orders (Dog Controls) and the use of Fixed Penalty Notices.	
What evidence has been used to inform the assessment and policy? (please list only)		

1. Describe the aims, objectives or purpose of the proposed function/policy, practice, procedure or decision and who is intended to benefit.	1. Describe the item you are assessing and the outcomes you want from it ? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthenshire County Council is proposing to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order to tackle irresponsible dog ownership that is occurring in the County. Earlier in the year we consulted with the public to find out if there was public support for further dog controls in the County. Based on the results of that consultation exercise, The Authority have now drawn up a draft Public Spaces Protection Order, containing 3 proposed dog controls, which include : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A provision requiring people to clean up after their dogs immediately, if it defecates on public land. This will apply on ALL publicly accessible land in the County of Carmarthenshire.
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Appendix 4

- A provision requiring people to place their dog on a lead of no more than 2 metres in length, when directed to do so by an authorised officer of the Council. This will also apply on ALL publicly accessible land in the County of Carmarthenshire.
- A provision prohibiting dogs from all outdoor enclosed children's play areas in the County of Carmarthenshire

Anyone who breaches the order may be issued with a Fixed Penalty of up to £100, or they may receive a fine of up to £1,000 if convicted in the magistrates' court.

The dog fouling provisions in the Order will not apply to a person who:

- (a) is registered as partially sighted or blind, in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
- (b) is registered as "sight-impaired", "severely sight-impaired" or as "having sight and hearing impairments which, in combination, have a significant effect on their day to day lives", in a register compiled under section 18 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or
- (c) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination, or ability to lift, carry, or otherwise move everyday objects, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces; or
- (d) has some other disability, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces.

The dog exclusion will not apply to a dog trained by a registered charity to assist a person with a disability and upon which a disabled person relies for assistance.

Anybody who fails to comply with a requirement of order will have a defence against prosecution if they can show that they have a "reasonable excuse" for doing so.

2. Who is intended to Benefit, what is the full scope of the item and who is it aimed at ?

The aim of the policy is to:

- Help make Carmarthenshire a cleaner, greener and safer environment through the appropriate use of FPN's with the Public Spaces Protection Orders
- These would address Dog Fouling, a pest free environment and a culture change in people's attitude to dog fouling and controlling their dogs in public areas.
- Ensure enforcement action is transparent, accountable, proportionate, consistent and targeted.
- Provide Enforcement Officers with a policy and guidelines to enable them to issue FPN's appropriately and in line with the general enforcement principles
- To inform the public, business and the community of the principles by which enforcement action is taken.

3. Do the anticipated outcomes meet or hinder any other things that the authority is doing ?

The aims of the policy is to link in to the strategic priorities in line with the Integrated Community Strategy 2011 – 2016 (<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1000254/IntegratedCommunity-Strategy2011-2016.pdf>), to serve our communities effectively by

- Maintaining a clean, green and safe County
- Improving the health, safety & welfare of people working in, living in and visiting the County
- Increasing the levels of street scene related enforcement activities

The Policy is supplementary to Carmarthenshire County Council's Overarching Environmental Enforcement Policy and has been **drafted in line with the** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/fixed-penalty-notice-issuing-and-enforcement-by-councils>

4. Who defined the Policy, Function or service provision and who are the main stakeholders.

The PSPO has been developed by officers in conjunction with members and approved by the Executive Board.

The enforcement Policy has been defined by members of the Environmental Enforcement Unit, Corporate Strategies, statutory Functions and guidance laid down by external organisations such as DEFRA, Crown Prosecution Service etc.

The Main stakeholders are :

Members of the Environmental Enforcement Unit.

Other Internal Departments that manage public assets such as Country Parks, County Parks etc.

All Members of Public inc visitors to the County.

Town & Community Councils

Dyfed Powys Police Authority.

Sports Associations and other groups.

5. Who Implements your proposal and who is responsible for delivery ?

The Policy will be implemented and delivered by Officers of the Environmental Enforcement Unit and partner organisations such as Dyfed Powys Police.

6. Is this Policy, Practice , service or function affected by external drivers for changes ? e.g. new legislation, national policy, external inspection etc.

Anti Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 in relation to dealing with ASB issues which include Irresponsible dog

Appendix 4

	<p>ownership. The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 requires full consultation. This is currently being undertaken with all key stakeholders identified.</p> <p>7. How is the information about the Policy, practice, service or function publicised?</p> <p>Authority's web page.</p> <p>Fact Sheets</p> <p>Community News</p> <p>Word of Mouth</p> <p>Social Media i.e. Facebook, Twitter</p> <p>Local Newspaper reports</p> <p>Signage</p>						
<p>The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have “due regard” to the need to:-</p> <p>(1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;</p> <p>(2) advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and</p> <p>(3) foster good relations between different groups</p>	<p>2. What is the level of impact on each group/ protected characteristics in terms of the three aims of the duty?</p> <p>Please indicate high (H) medium (M), low (L), no effect (N) for each.</p>	<p>3. Identify the risk or positive effect that could result for each of the group/protected characteristics?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1084 1169 1713 1359"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1084 1169 1379 1198">Risks</th> <th data-bbox="1379 1169 1713 1198">Positive effects</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1084 1198 1379 1359"></td> <td data-bbox="1379 1198 1713 1359"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Risks	Positive effects			<p>4. If there is a disproportionately negative impact what mitigating factors have you considered?</p>
Risks	Positive effects						

Appendix 4

(see guidance notes)					
Protected characteristics	Age	L	<p>Juveniles are specifically covered within the Children & Young adults Policy. Warning letters and restorative justice techniques are normally used where offences are committed by children, to avoid criminalising children. We liaise with youth offending teams as appropriate.</p> <p>The elderly could be impacted if they have medical conditions which contribute to their ability to comply with the legislation.</p>	<p>People who fail to clean up after their dogs on publicly accessible land cause nuisance to others. The presence of dog faeces is a potential hazard to all members of the public alike. It causes risks to health, defaces land and has the potential to deface people and their property. Young children can be at particular risk from dog mess.</p> <p>The order should make public areas safer for all.</p>	<p>Warning letters and restorative justice techniques are normally used where offences are committed by children, to avoid criminalising children. We liaise with youth offending teams as appropriate.</p> <p>All staff issuing FPN's will be appropriately briefed to use a common sense approach at all times.</p> <p>Whilst there is no appeal mechanism for FPN's, if additional information is made available to the council it may result in the FPN being cancelled. Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical conditions that contribute to the offence.</p>

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			<p>All staff issuing FPN's will be appropriately briefed to use a common sense approach at all times.</p> <p>Whilst there is no appeal mechanism for FPN's, if additional information is made available to the council it may result in the FPN being cancelled. Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical conditions that contribute to the offence.</p>		
	Disability	M	The Council recognises that some people will not be able to clean up after their	The order should make public areas safer for all, including disabled people.	The Council has included exemptions in the order (as set out in box 2 above) to disapply these requirements to people with

Appendix 4

Tudalen 189			<p>dogs for reasons that are related to a disability. For example, people with serious sight issues may not be able to see their dog defecate, and people with mobility or manual dexterity problems might not be able to remove the faeces.</p> <p>To address this the Council has included exemptions in the order (as set out in box 2 above) to disapply these requirements to people with appropriate physical and mental impairments.</p> <p>The Council</p>		<p>appropriate physical and mental impairments.</p> <p>The Council recognises that some disabled people rely on assistance dogs and that prohibiting assistance dogs from children’s play areas could prevent these people and their families from using play areas. To prevent this, the Council has included an exemption in the order stating that the dog exclusion will not apply to trained assistance dogs.</p> <p>Anybody who fails to comply with a requirement of order will have a defence against prosecution if they can show that they have a “reasonable excuse” for doing so.</p> <p>Any disabled person who believes that their disability gives them a reasonable excuse for failing to comply, but who is not covered by the disability exemptions within the</p>
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Appendix 4

			<p>recognises that some disabled people rely on assistance dogs and that prohibiting assistance dogs from children's play areas could prevent these people and their families from using play areas. To prevent this, the Council has included an exemption in the order stating that the dog exclusion will not apply to trained assistance dogs.</p> <p>Anybody who fails to comply with a requirement of order will have a defence against prosecution if they can show that they have a "reasonable excuse"</p>		<p>order, will still be able to raise a "reasonable excuse" defence.</p> <p>By incorporating these defences and exemptions in the order, the Council has endeavoured to avoid any discrimination against disabled people.</p> <p>All staff issuing FPN's will be appropriately briefed to be fair and reasonable and to use a common sense approach at all times.</p> <p>When enforcing the orders, officer will have regard to any known disabilities and the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality of opportunity and will be expected to take these issues in to account when deciding whether or not to take enforcement action against an individual.</p> <p>Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical</p>
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Tudalen 191			<p>for doing so.</p> <p>Any disabled person who believes that their disability gives them a reasonable excuse for failing to comply, but who is not covered by the disability exemptions within the order, will still be able to raise a “reasonable excuse” defence.</p> <p>By incorporating these defences and exemptions in the order, the Council has endeavoured to avoid any discrimination against disabled people.</p> <p>All staff issuing FPN's</p>		<p>conditions that contribute to the offence.</p>
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			<p>will be appropriately briefed to be fair and reasonable and to use a common sense approach at all times.</p> <p>When enforcing the orders, officer will have regard to any known disabilities and the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality of opportunity and will be expected to take these issues in to account when deciding whether or not to take enforcement action against an individual.</p> <p>Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical conditions that</p>		
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Tudalen 193			contribute to the offence.		
	Gender reassignment	N			
	Race	M	<p>There could be potential impacts on those who are not fluent in English or Welsh.</p> <p>All Enforcement Staff will be briefed to ensure they recognise that there is diversity within the community and care must therefore be taken to ensure that any enforcement actions are clearly understood.</p> <p>Pictorial signage will be used to ensure that the requirements of the</p>		<p>All Enforcement Staff will be briefed to ensure they recognise that there is diversity within the community and care must therefore be taken to ensure that any enforcement actions are clearly understood.</p> <p>Pictorial signage will be used to ensure that the requirements of the order are easily understood by all .</p> <p>Consideration will be given to providing documents in appropriate language if necessary. The Council may also arrange for interpreter in appropriate cases.</p>

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		order are easily understood by all . Consideration will be given to providing documents in appropriate language if necessary. The Council may also arrange for interpreter in appropriate cases.		
Religion/Belief	N			
Pregnancy and maternity	N			
Sexual Orientation	N			
Sex	N			
Welsh language	L	The orders will be made and published on the Council's website bilingually. Bilingual fixed penalty books are also used.		The orders will be made and published on the Council's website bilingually. Bilingual fixed penalty books are also used. Offenders can be interviewed bilingually and court proceedings

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			Offenders can be interviewed bilingually and court proceedings can be undertaken through the medium of Welsh.		can be undertaken through the medium of Welsh.
	Any other area	N			

<p>5. Has there been any consultation/engagement with the appropriate protected characteristics?</p>	<p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>6. What action(s) will you take to reduce any disproportionately negative impact, if any?</p>	
<p>7. Procurement</p> <p>Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any procurement implications to the activity, proposal, service.</p> <p>Please take the findings of this assessment into your procurement plan. Contact the corporate procurement unit for further advice.</p>	
<p>8. Human resources</p> <p>Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any Human resource implications to the activity, proposal or service?</p>	
<p>9. Based on the information in sections 2 and 6, should this function/policy/procedure/practice or a decision proceed to Detailed Impact Assessment? (recommended if one or more H under section 2)</p>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

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Approved by: Head of Service		Date:
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**BWRDD GWEITHREDOL
23AIN MAY 2016**

**SWYDDFA ARCHWILIO CYMRU - ADRODDIAD GWELLA
BLYNYDDOL 2015-16**

Yr Argymhellion / Penderfyniadau Allweddol Sydd Eu Hangen:

Derbyn yr adroddiad

Y Rhesymau:

Mae'r Adroddiad Gwella Blynyddol hwn yn crynhoi'r gwaith archwilio a wnaed yng Nghyngor Sir Caerfyrddin (y Cyngor) ers cyhoeddi'r adroddiad diwethaf o'r fath ym mis Gorffennaf 2015. Bob blwyddyn, mae rhaid i'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol gyflwyno adroddiad ar ba mor dda y mae holl Awdurdodau Cymru yn cynllunio ar gyfer gwella a darparu eu gwasanaethau.

Ymgynghorwyd â'r pwyllgor craffu perthnasol - AMHERTHNASOL

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad - YDY - Mai 23ain 2016

Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad – YDY - Mehefin 8fed 2016

YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO:- Cyng. Pam Palmer

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth: Adran Prif Weithredwr	Swyddi:	Rhifau ffôn/ Cyfeiriadau E-bost
Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth: Wendy S Walters	Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol /Adfywio a Pholisi	01267 224112 wswalters@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Awdur yr Adroddiad: Noelwyn Daniel	Rheolwr Perfformiad a Gwybodaeth	01267 224476 NDaniel@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
EXECUTIVE BOARD
23RD MAY 2016

WALES AUDIT OFFICE - ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2015-16

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT

Drawing on the work of the Wales Audit Office (WAO) and that of relevant Welsh inspectorates, this report concludes 'The Council, in collaboration with partners and despite increasing pressure on budgets, is continuing to improve performance across its priority areas and has complied with the Local Government Measure 2009.

The Auditor General has concluded that: Carmarthenshire County Council, demonstrating ambition in its vision, with collective leadership and more robust and transparent governance, is delivering improved outcomes for its citizens although some out-dated approaches may limit the speed of progress. The Auditor General has reached this conclusion because:

- the Council, in collaboration with partners, is continuing to improve performance across its priority areas and has complied with the Local Government Measure 2009;
- the Council's arrangements for managing its resources have served it well in the past, but the current approach in some areas is out dated and not joined up, which may limit the speed of progress towards improved outcomes for citizens; and
- the Council has made good progress in establishing improved governance arrangements which are now more robust and transparent, although there are opportunities for further improvements to enable Members to be more effective in their roles.

The Annual Improvement Report also concludes that public reporting of performance is fair and balanced. The ARIP is clearly laid out and presents a comprehensive picture of what the Council is aiming to achieve, the progress it is making and how its performance compares with other Councils in Wales.

Proposals for Improvement were made in the Corporate Assessment published in January 2016 which are being monitored. No new proposals for improvement were made in the Annual Improvement Report 2015-16.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Wendy S Walters - Assistant Chief Executive Regeneration & Policy

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

To comply with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 we published a combined Annual Report and Improvement Plan that provided :-

- an evaluation and assessment of our previous year's performance 2014/15
- an Improvement Plan for 2015/16

Our regulators Wales Audit Office must produce an Annual Improvement Report which assesses whether we have met our duty under the Measure.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Wendy Walters - Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)

1. Scrutiny Committee – N/A
2. Local Member(s) – N/A
3. Community / Town Council – N/A
4. Relevant Partners – N/A
5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW :-

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Corporate Assessment Report 2015		http://www.wao.gov.uk/publication/carmarthenshire-county-council-corporate-assessment-report-2015
Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009		http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dsjlg/publications/localgov/100713part1lg.pdf
Carmarthenshire County Council's - Annual Report and Improvement Plan		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/846036/Full_A_RIP_Report_15-16.pdf

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol



WALES AUDIT OFFICE
SWYDDFA ARCHWILIO CYMRU

Annual Improvement Report 2015-16

Carmarthenshire County Council

Issued: March 2016

Document reference: 203A2016



This Annual Improvement Report has been prepared on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales by Jeremy Evans and Margaret Maxwell under the direction of Jane Holownia.

Huw Vaughan Thomas
Auditor General for Wales
Wales Audit Office
24 Cathedral Road
Cardiff
CF11 9LJ

The Auditor General is independent of government, and is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen. The Auditor General undertakes his work using staff and other resources provided by the Wales Audit Office, which is a statutory board established for that purpose and to monitor and advise the Auditor General. The Wales Audit Office is held to account by the National Assembly.

Together with appointed auditors, the Auditor General audits local government bodies in Wales, including unitary authorities, police, probation, fire and rescue authorities, national parks and community councils. He also conducts local government value for money studies and assesses compliance with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

Beyond local government, the Auditor General is the external auditor of the Welsh Government and its sponsored and related public bodies, the Assembly Commission and National Health Service bodies in Wales.

The Auditor General and staff of the Wales Audit Office aim to provide public-focused and proportionate reporting on the stewardship of public resources and in the process provide insight and promote improvement.

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Performance

The Council, in collaboration with partners and despite increasing pressure on budgets, is continuing to improve performance across its priority areas and has complied with the Local Government Measure 2009	9
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Use of resources

The Council's arrangements for managing its resources have served it well in the past, but the current approach in some areas is out dated and not joined up, which may limit the speed of progress towards improved outcomes for citizens	17
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Governance

The Council has made good progress in establishing improved governance arrangements which are now more robust and transparent, although there are opportunities for further improvements to enable Members to be more effective in their roles	19
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Summary report

About this report

- 1 This Annual Improvement Report (AIR) summarises the audit work undertaken at Carmarthenshire County Council (the Council) since the last such report was published in July 2015. This report also includes a summary of the key findings from reports issued by 'relevant regulators', namely: the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW); Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales (Estyn); and the Welsh Language Commissioner (the Commissioner). Nonetheless, this report does not represent a comprehensive review of all the Council's arrangements or services. The conclusions in this report are based on the work carried out at the Council by relevant external review bodies and, unless stated otherwise, reflect the situation at the point in time that such work was concluded.
- 2 Taking into consideration the work carried out during 2015-16, the Auditor General will state in this report whether he believes that the Council is likely to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement for 2016-17.
- 3 This statement should not be seen as a definitive diagnosis of organisational health or as a prediction of future success. Rather, it should be viewed as providing an opinion on the extent to which the arrangements currently in place are reasonably sound insofar as can be ascertained from the work carried out.
- 4 We want to find out if this report gives you the information you need and whether it is easy to understand. You can let us know your views by e-mailing us at info@audit.wales or writing to us at 24 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ.

2015-16 performance audit work

- 5 In determining the breadth of work undertaken during the year, we considered the extent of accumulated audit and inspection knowledge as well as other available sources of information including the Council's own mechanisms for review and evaluation. For 2015-16, we undertook improvement assessment work under three themes: performance, use of resources and governance.
- 6 The work carried out since the last AIR, including that of the 'relevant regulators', is set out below:

Project name	Brief description
Wales Audit Office Financial Resilience	Review of the Council's financial position and how it is budgeting and delivering on required savings.
Wales Audit Office Annual 'Improvement Plan' Audit	Review of the Council's published plans for delivering on improvement objectives.
Wales Audit Office Annual 'Assessment of Performance' Audit	Review of the Council's published performance assessment, including testing and validation of performance information.
CSSIW Annual Report	Annual Review of the Council's Social Services function.
Wales Audit Office Corporate Assessment	Review of the Council's capacity and capability to deliver continuous improvement.
Wales Audit Office Performance Assessment	Assessment of performance in relation to two of the Council's Key Improvement Priority Objectives, to understand whether the Council's public reporting of its performance is fair and balanced.
Follow-up work	To provide assurance that the Council has appropriate corporate processes for responding to reports, tracking implementation of recommendations and reporting this to the appropriate committee.
National Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The financial resilience of councils in Wales • Community safety partnerships • Income generation and charging • Council funding of third sector services

Carmarthenshire County Council, demonstrating ambition in its vision, with collective leadership and more robust and transparent governance, is delivering improved outcomes for its citizens although some out dated approaches may limit the speed of progress

- 7 Based on, and limited to, the work carried out by the Wales Audit Office and relevant regulators, the Auditor General believes that the Council is likely to comply with the requirements of the Measure and secure improvement during 2016-17. The Auditor General has reached this conclusion because:
- a the Council, in collaboration with partners, is continuing to improve performance across its priority areas and has complied with the Local Government Measure 2009;
 - b the Council's arrangements for managing its resources have served it well in the past, but the current approach in some areas is out dated and not joined up, which may limit the speed of progress towards improved outcomes for citizens; and
 - c the Council has made good progress in establishing improved governance arrangements which are now more robust and transparent, although there are opportunities for further improvements to enable Members to be more effective in their roles.

Recommendations

- 8 Given the wide range of services provided by the Council and the challenges it is facing, it would be unusual if we did not find things that can be improved. The Auditor General is able to:
- a make proposals for improvement – if proposals are made to the Council, we would expect it to do something about them and we will follow up what happens;
 - b make formal recommendations for improvement – if a formal recommendation is made, the Council must prepare a response to that recommendation within 30 working days;
 - c conduct a special inspection and publish a report and make recommendations; and
 - d recommend to Ministers of the Welsh Government that they intervene in some way.

- 9 During the course of the year, the Auditor General did not make any formal recommendations.
- 10 We make no new recommendations in this report and neither did we in our full corporate assessment reported in January 2016. However, we did make a number of proposals for improvement in the corporate assessment report that we will monitor as part of our ongoing work.
- 11 The Auditor General also makes recommendations that may be relevant to Councils in his Local Government National Reports. A list of relevant recommendations contained in reports issued in 2015-16 can be found in [Appendix 3](#).
- 12 In addition, the CSSIW, Estyn and the WLC included areas for improvement in their inspection reports and letters issued to the Council during the year. These are available at www.cssiw.org.uk, www.estyn.gov.uk and www.comisiynyddygydraeg.org.

Detailed report



Performance

The Council, in collaboration with partners and despite increasing pressure on budgets, is continuing to improve performance across its priority areas and has complied with the Local Government Measure 2009

- 13 The Council has complied with the Local Government Measure 2009 and we issued a combined compliance certificate for the Council's Annual Report and Improvement Plan (ARIP) in July 2015.
- 14 Public reporting of performance is fair and balanced. The ARIP is clearly laid out and presents a comprehensive picture of what the Council is aiming to achieve, the progress it is making and how its performance compares with other councils in Wales. The Council's wider ambitions for the community and improvement priorities are clearly explained as is the contribution of partners to delivery. Each priority outcome is presented in a consistent way, setting out what the Council has done, what it aims to achieve together with the key measures it will use to monitor progress.
- 15 The combined review of past performance with the actions the Council plans to take next within a single document allows the reader to form a balanced picture of how well the Council is performing. The ARIP is lengthy and detailed and there is also a useful summary, together they provide all the information the reader could need. The ARIP and summary are published in Welsh and English, with appropriate arrangements for publicity. The report is easy to find on the Council's website.

The Council takes account of the recommendations of national regulators but there is scope to use findings more systematically and consistently to better support improvement

- 16 Although the Council has regard to the findings and recommendations of external regulators, there is considerable variation across different services in how recommendations and good practice are taken account of. There are some corporately agreed procedures to guide what is expected of the Head of Service to ensure that recommendations are properly considered, but the extent to which identified good practice is adopted is largely discretionary and is not normally subject to political scrutiny. As a result, the Council may be missing some of the opportunities afforded by these studies to more systematically drive improvement.
- 17 When external reports are identified by the corporate performance team, they are logged and responsibilities identified for taking recommendations forward. Heads of Service are expected to address report findings in business plans, which form an integral part of the Council's framework for managing improvement. In practice, the nature, extent and timeliness of the Council's response is largely at the discretion of service managers, with little direct challenge to this process or formal scrutiny of its thoroughness.

The Council, in collaboration with partners is clear about it wants to achieve for citizens and it is strengthening its ability to monitor the progress it is making in terms of outcomes

- 18 The improved outcomes that the Council wants to achieve in conjunction with partners are clearly expressed and understood by staff and stakeholders. A well aligned hierarchy of plans and strategies effectively cascades these outcomes from the Local Service Board's (LSB) Integrated Community Strategy (ICS) through a range of corporate and service strategies down to business plans and objectives for staff.
- 19 The Council has adopted the five high-level ICS outcomes and 30 associated goals as its priorities for improvement over the next five years, which are supplemented by key improvement objective priorities (KIOPs) for more focused attention each year. KIOPs are reviewed annually to take account of progress made and ensure that the Council continues to address any barriers to improvement. The Council has also identified two further priorities to strengthen the way it operates and make better use of resources.
- 20 The high-level ICS outcomes the Council wants to achieve in the medium term are:
 - a people in Carmarthenshire are healthier;
 - b people in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential;
 - c people who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer;
 - d Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable; and
 - e Carmarthenshire has a stronger and more prosperous economy.
- 21 The specific issues for focused attention (KIOPs) in 2015-16 are:
 - a older people: supporting the growing numbers of older people to maintain dignity and independence in their later years;
 - b housing: improving the Council's housing stock and assisting people to gain access to rented and affordable homes;
 - c education: improving school attainment; and
 - d tackling poverty.
- 22 These outcomes and KIOPs provide a clear template for the Council's improvement activity. They are well understood by staff and stakeholders and form the basis of all data gathering and performance reporting to monitor progress. All services map their contribution to these outcomes as an integral part of business planning to help maximise their contribution to improvement.

- 23 The Council uses information from a variety of sources to track the progress it is making. A set of 44 high-level 'population indicators' allows the Council and its partners to monitor progress against the ICS outcomes over time. No specific targets are set but trends are monitored and compared with those in other councils across Wales. In addition the Council has selected a set of key measures from the available set of national performance indicators (PIs) to monitor progress against the ICS outcomes and assess how this compares with other councils. Progress against KIOPs is generally assessed by monitoring a combination of agreed actions, national PIs and some local measures.
- 24 A significant amount of data is gathered to help the Council evaluate the impact of its activities on citizens. The ARIP draws on a variety of sources including user feedback, compliments and complaints, information from partners and the views of regulators. A section entitled 'is anyone better off?' helps the Council focus on the outcomes it is achieving which it also illustrates in a number of case studies. Although information from partners is included in the ARIP, the Council's analysis of the effectiveness of partnerships is being developed further but at the time of our review was insufficient to properly evaluate whether a partnership is worth pursuing or not.
- 25 The Council is steadily improving its ability to measure the outcomes it is achieving. Some services are reviewing their reliance on PIs, concentrating only on those that are most useful while others are developing their own suite of tailored indicators, replacing traditional input/output measures with outcome measures that better reflect customer need.

Despite increasing pressure on budgets, performance is continuing to improve across the Council's priority areas and public satisfaction with Council services is growing

- 26 Performance Indicators suggest that the Council is continuing to improve its performance and this in turn is supporting improved outcomes for local people, despite the increasingly challenging budget pressures it faces. Frontline services have been protected, as a result of budget decisions and more efficient ways of working. Overall performance as measured by PIs continues to improve. According to national indicators for 2014-15 performance in 60 per cent of PIs is above average for Wales compared with 51 per cent the previous year. Over the past year more PIs improved than did not. Fifty-six per cent of PIs improved, 32 per cent declined and 12 per cent remained unchanged. This is just above average performance for Wales and needs to be considered in the wider context of declining budgets and the Council's current level of performance in these indicators.

- 27 Results from both the Citizens Panel and the National Survey of Wales demonstrate that public satisfaction with the Council is improving. According to the 2015 National Survey of Wales 58 per cent of residents are both satisfied with the Council and feel that it provides high quality services, representing a five per cent improvement on the previous year and placing it sixth out of 22 councils in Wales. Results from the Citizens Panel in 2014 back this up, with 58 per cent of people satisfied with the Council, an increase from 52 per cent in 2012. These are encouraging results at a time of increasing austerity and the need for tough spending decisions.
- 28 A clear improvement trend is apparent across the Council's priority areas. Some representative examples are considered below.

Good progress is being made in modernising the Council's housing stock, tackling homelessness and bringing empty homes back into use

- 29 The aim of improving housing conditions is both a KIOP and contributes to the Council's Healthier Communities priority. Good progress is being made in modernising the Council's housing stock, tackling homelessness and bringing empty homes back into use. The £200 million investment programme to modernise the Council's housing stock is nearing completion. Eighty eight per cent of homes now meet the Carmarthen Homes Standard and the Council expects all works to be completed by December 2015. Positive feedback from tenants indicates that 90 per cent feel that their home now suits their needs, up from 73 per cent in 2009. Sixty per cent of tenants find it easier to meet the cost of living in their improved homes, up from 34 per cent in 2009. A significant reduction in re-let times has been achieved by responding to tenant feedback and streamlining processes. This has reduced average re-let times from 86 days to 25 days over the course of a year.
- 30 A number of initiatives are helping to tackle homelessness under the Welsh Government's Houses into Homes scheme for the region. The scheme aims to increase the supply of private rented accommodation through a combination of advice and financial assistance to landlords. The Council is also successfully bringing empty homes back into use. One hundred and thirty-five properties were returned to use last year, 20 more than the previous year and the fifth highest number in Wales. Overall performance in preventing homelessness is the second best in Wales.
- 31 The Council is rising to the huge challenge it faces in attempting to bridge the gap between the demand for affordable homes and the number of homes currently being provided. Only 47 new affordable homes were built last year, one of the worst performances in Wales although performance can be highly variable year to year and this figure exceeded the target set. An ambitious 10-year strategy for affordable housing has recently been launched to increase delivery and better reflect local demand in terms of tenure. Key elements include the suspension of Right to Buy to enable the Council to retain its housing stock, buying back housing already sold under Right to Buy and cross-subsidising new affordable housing from the development of new housing for private ownership. Planning policies are in place to support this but have not yet been tested.

Estyn's evaluation of school performance

- 32 The proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals in Carmarthenshire is a little lower than the Wales average. This is taken into account when evaluating the performance in the authority.
- 33 Performance in the Foundation Phase indicator and key stage 2 core subject indicator has improved steadily over the last three years. In 2015, performance in both indicators is broadly in line with the Wales average.
- 34 At key stage 3, performance in the core subject indicator has improved in recent years at a similar rate to the Wales average. In 2015, performance in this measure is a little better than the average for Wales. At key stage 4, performance has improved since 2012 in both the level 2 threshold including English or Welsh and mathematics and in the capped points score. For each of the last two years, performance in these measures has met or slightly exceeded the benchmarks for performance set by the Welsh Government.
- 35 The performance of pupils eligible for free school meals has improved across all main indicators in primary and secondary schools and is close to the average for similar pupils in Wales.
- 36 Attendance rates in primary and secondary schools have improved well over the last three years and for the last two years have been higher than average across Wales.

Good progress is being made to support the Council's priority to achieve a Sustainable Environment

- 37 The amount of waste the Council recycles continues to increase. Progress has been made in steady incremental steps over a number of years, resulting in 59.6 per cent of waste being recycled in 2014-15. This is among the best performance in Wales and is comfortably ahead of next year's statutory target of 58 per cent. At the same time, the amount of waste sent to landfill has significantly declined, largely as a result of shipping residual waste to Scandinavia where it is burned to fuel community heating schemes. Just over 18 per cent of municipal waste was sent to landfill in 2014-15 compared with just under 38 per cent the previous year. This represents above-average performance for Wales and is set to further improve once data for the full year is included.
- 38 Door knocking exercises by a team of permanent advisers have successfully increased participation in food recycling in targeted areas, although overall participation rates remain low at 34 per cent. The Council is about to pilot the use of free biodegradable liners for food recycling bins to try to increase participation to 60 per cent. According to the National Survey of Wales, 85 per cent of people are satisfied with the Council's recycling service, which is joint third out of 22 councils in Wales. However, only 60 per cent felt that the Council kept them informed about its recycling service which is amongst the lowest in Wales. This suggests that there is scope for the Council to review the effectiveness of its promotional activity.

The Council's services for adults and children continues to be amongst the best in Wales

- 39 The CSSIW published its [Performance Evaluation Report 2014-2015 in October 2015 and this is available on its website](#).
- 40 The CSSIW states that the Council continues to make solid progress in transforming service delivery to reduce dependency and promote independence. The development of multi-disciplinary community resource teams that are co-located with GP practices is helping to avoid unnecessary hospital admissions and reduce the length of stay. The number of delayed hospital transfers continues to decline although performance remains below the Wales average. The Council is working to move people away from a dependency culture, for example, by issuing direct payments to allow them to source their own care and the numbers using this service are steadily increasing. However, more needs to be done to improve the speed of processing disabled facilities grants and the percentage of older people supported in care homes is still too high, partly because of the growing number of people with complex needs.
- 41 In children's services there has been a strengthening of preventative services, with a number of key services implementing a more refined multi-agency approach to working.
- 42 During the year there have been changes in senior officers with the previous statutory director and the two heads of adult social care retiring. These senior officers have left a positive legacy for their successors. The new statutory director has continued to ensure effective delivery of the strategic priorities and the director's annual report provides an accurate account of the Council's performance and sets out the priorities for the next 12 months. One key aim is to improve performance management, with new measures and better use of the collected data. The officers in adult and children services continue to provide effective leadership and are clear on their priorities. The Council continues to be amongst the best in Wales.

The Council is working hard to tackle poverty, which presents a major challenge, but without its contribution the situation may be worse

- 43 The KIOP of tackling poverty supports the Council's objective of a 'Stronger and more Prosperous Economy' and presents a major challenge for the Council. More than 37 per cent of Carmarthenshire households have been identified as living in poverty. To tackle this, the Council is co-ordinating its efforts and working collaboratively with external partners and across a range of services to tackle the causes of poverty and support people who live in poverty.
- 44 Through the Communities First initiative the Council is supporting 2,500 residents across 19 different core programmes and four school based programmes. These aim to help people find employment, do better at school, and improve financial management as well as physical well-being. The Money Sense programme introduces concepts of money management to children at an early age and is now available to all 106 primary schools through a dedicated website. Employment initiatives such as Workways for the long-term unemployed has helped 43 per cent of participants find permanent employment, exceeding the target of 35 per cent. The Council has supported the development of 11 fuel clubs across the county that are run by volunteers and are securing significant savings for Members. Outreach health and transport initiatives such as Bwcabus enable young people in rural areas to attend after-school activities. However, specific outcomes from this range of activity are difficult to evaluate.
- 45 A one stop information Hub in Llanelli, Yr Hwb, provides face to face advice and information on a range of issues through the involvement of 18 different partner organisations. Services include signposting on education, training and employment, financial management and free digital access. Plans are in place to extend its use to other services such as homelessness and housing enquiries and to open further Hubs in Carmarthen and Ammanford.
- 46 The difference the Council is making to people's lives is difficult to measure in the short term and the Council relies heavily on completed actions and outputs to monitor the progress it is making. There are some positive trends in PIs such as the improving speed of processing new housing and council tax benefit claims. The Council also anticipates that its work on the Families First and Flying Start programmes to improve the health and educational outcomes for children.
- 47 Despite the Council's efforts, key poverty indicators continue to show a deteriorating trend. The number of households living in poverty continues to rise, which is in line with the Welsh average. Average incomes are declining and are now below average for Wales. This highlights both the scale of the challenges facing the Council and the difficulty it has in demonstrating the impact of its actions, without which the situation could easily be worse.

- 48 The Council is determined to make a real difference to people's lives and is currently strengthening its ability to do so through more strategic and co-ordinated action. It is formulating a tackling poverty action plan, developing a position statement on current activity, mapping third sector involvement to minimise duplication and is improving its knowledge base of rural poverty. It is also considering the appropriate officer structure to more effectively lead and co-ordinate the poverty agenda.

A number of strategic regeneration projects have delivered positive outcomes and improved employment opportunities

- 49 A number of strategic regeneration projects in recent years have delivered high profile outcomes and improved employment opportunities for the area, contributing to the Council's aim to achieve a Stronger and more Prosperous Economy. A major focus of regeneration activity is on business growth and job creation. Over the past year the Council estimates that it has facilitated more than 350 jobs and safeguarded 210 others through its portfolio of products and services designed for the business community. Through the use of Local Investment Fund (LIF) grants, the Council has provided flexible financial support for small and medium sized businesses and enterprise start-ups. According to Council data, the Council procured nearly £3 million grant funding to create 59 new businesses and 419 jobs over the five-year lifespan of the LIF programme. A further 1,854 existing jobs were safeguarded.
- 50 The Council's regeneration activity is shaped by effective collaborative working with neighbouring councils to form the Swansea Bay City Region. To support this, a strategic regeneration plan for the next 15 years has recently been launched to promote new opportunities for business growth, skills development, job creation, developing the knowledge economy and tourism. This underpins the Council's renewed vision to put regeneration at the heart of everything it does.

Use of resources

The Council's arrangements for managing its resources have served it well in the past, but the current approach in some areas is out dated and not joined up, which may limit the speed of progress towards improved outcomes for citizens

- 51 A summary of our assessment of the Council's use of resources is included here, for more detail please refer to [Carmarthenshire County Council's Corporate Assessment report](#).
- 52 We concluded that the Council's ability to respond to future financial challenges could be hampered as service and financial planning and performance are not clearly linked, individual savings are not routinely monitored and weaknesses in grants management continue to be a concern. We came to this conclusion because:
- a the Council undertakes extensive consultation on the budget savings proposals, and comprehensive and reasonable planning assumptions have been made in identifying the Council's budget shortfall for 2015-16, but it could use benchmarking and value-for-money indicators to help identify other areas for cost reduction;
 - b the Council has a good track record in delivering annual budgets against the planned actions it approved, but progress on achieving budget savings lacks transparency as the achievement of budget savings and associated risks is not reported on an individual basis;
 - c the Council's financial management and control arrangements are fit for purpose and are being effectively managed, but lack explicit links between service and financial plans;
 - d the Council is in a strong position in respect of 'usable' reserves and has increased these in recent years, reserves are reviewed annually when setting the Council's annual budget, but Members are not provided with enough information on reserves or the decisions to use reserves; and
 - e there is work ongoing to review the Council's policy in relation to income generation/charging, this review is still not complete limiting the impact this area can have on addressing funding pressures;
 - f weaknesses in grants management continue to be a concern; and
 - g procurement arrangements are not always followed.

- 53 We also found that:
- a the Council's approach to people management is working well and it is addressing some of the key areas that need strengthening, such as strategic workforce planning;
 - b the Council's ability to effectively manage its asset base is currently being hampered by a number of factors; and
 - c the Council was slow to respond to the significant shortcomings with its ICT arrangements the Council is now taking action to improve.

The appointed auditor issued an unqualified audit opinion on the accounts with key matters to be addressed reported to the Audit Committee in September 2015

- 54 On 10 December 2015 the Auditor General issued an Annual Audit Letter to the Council. The Annual Audit Letter can be found in [Appendix 2](#). The Letter summarises the key messages arising from his statutory responsibilities under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 as the Appointed Auditor and his reporting responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice. The Auditor General issued an unqualified opinion on the Council's financial statements confirming that they present a true and fair view of the Council's and the Pension Fund's financial position and transactions. The Auditor General's opinion on the financial statements did, however, include an emphasis of matter which arose as there was a difference of opinion between the Council and the Appointed Auditor about two decisions the Council made which, in the Appointed Auditor's view, resulted in unlawful expenditure being included in the 2013-14 comparative information in the Financial Statements.
- 55 The Appointed Auditor has also reported that the Council's approach to asset valuations needs to improve, the Council needs to ensure it more fully reviews all financial reserves and that, as reported for a number of years, the Council's grants management processes need to improve. Looking forward, the Appointed Auditor has also reported that the recent Welsh Government budget settlement, together with a range of other cost pressures, will mean that all local government bodies in Wales will face extremely challenging financial positions. The Medium Term Financial Plan approved by the Council in February 2015 for the period 2015-16 to 2017-18 established challenging efficiency savings totalling some £41.5 million – there will be some tough decisions for the Council if these savings are to be delivered.

Governance

The Council has made good progress in establishing improved governance arrangements which are now more robust and transparent, although there are opportunities for further improvements to enable Members to be more effective in their roles

- 56 A summary of our assessment of the Council's governance arrangements is included here, for more detail please refer to [Carmarthenshire County Council's Corporate Assessment report](#).
- 57 We concluded that the Council has made good progress in establishing improved governance arrangements which are now more robust and transparent, although there are opportunities for further improvements to enable Members to be more effective in their roles. We came to this conclusion because:
- a the Council is improving the transparency of its governance arrangements; and
 - b the Council is strengthening its approach to Member training and development but further improvements are needed to support Members to be effective in their specific roles within the Council's governance arrangements.

Appendix 1 – Status of this report

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) requires the Auditor General to undertake an annual improvement assessment, and to publish an annual improvement report, for each improvement authority in Wales. This requirement covers local councils, national parks, and fire and rescue authorities.

This report has been produced by staff of the Wales Audit Office on behalf of the Auditor General to discharge his duties under section 24 of the Measure. The report also discharges his duties under section 19 to issue a report certifying that he has carried out an improvement assessment under section 18 and stating whether, as a result of his improvement plan audit under section 17, he believes that the authority has discharged its improvement planning duties under section 15.

Improvement authorities are under a general duty to ‘make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of [their] functions’. Improvement authorities are defined as local councils, national parks, and fire and rescue authorities.

The annual improvement assessment is the main piece of work that enables the Auditor General to fulfil his duties. The improvement assessment is a forward-looking assessment of an authority’s likelihood to comply with its duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement. It also includes a retrospective assessment of whether an authority has achieved its planned improvements in order to inform a view as to the authority’s track record of improvement. The Auditor General will summarise his audit and assessment work in a published annual improvement report for each authority (under section 24).

The Auditor General may also, in some circumstances, carry out special inspections (under section 21), which will be reported to the authority and Ministers, and which he may publish (under section 22). An important ancillary activity for the Auditor General is the co-ordination of assessment and regulatory work (required by section 23), which takes into consideration the overall programme of work of all relevant regulators at an improvement authority. The Auditor General may also take account of information shared by relevant regulators (under section 33) in his assessments.

Appendix 2 – Annual Audit Letter

Cllr Emlyn Dole
Leader
Carmarthenshire County Council
County Hall
Carmarthen
SA31 1JP

Dear Cllr Dole

Annual Audit Letter – Carmarthenshire County Council 2014-15

This letter summarises the key messages arising from the Auditor General's statutory responsibilities under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and my reporting responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice.

The Council complied with its responsibilities relating to financial reporting and use of resources although there remains scope for improvement in some areas

It is the Council's responsibility to:

- put systems of internal control in place to ensure the regularity and lawfulness of transactions and to ensure that its assets are secure;
- maintain proper accounting records;
- prepare financial statements in accordance with relevant requirements; and
- establish and keep under review appropriate arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

The Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 requires me to:

- provide an audit opinion on the accounting statements;
- review the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources; and
- issue a certificate confirming that I have completed the audit of the financial statements.

Local authorities in Wales prepare their financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. The Code is based on International Financial Reporting Standards. On 30 September 2015 I issued an unqualified audit opinion with an 'emphasis of matter' paragraph on the financial statements confirming that they present a true and fair view of the Council's and the Dyfed Pension Fund's financial position and transactions. A similar audit opinion was issued in 2012-13 and 2013-14.

The emphasis of matter related to the 2013-14 comparative information included in the Council's 2014-15 financial statements and not those of Dyfed Pension Fund. The emphasis of matter arose as there was a difference of opinion between the Council and us about two decisions the Council made which, in our view, resulted in unlawful expenditure being included in the 2013-14 financial statements.

The key matters arising from the audit of the financial statements were reported to the Audit Committee in my Audit of Financial Statements report on 30 September 2015. At this Audit Committee we reported that the quality of the financial statements was good. We reported that we did not identify any material weaknesses in your internal controls but we identified a number of issues, the key ones are set out below:

- We have identified some significant weaknesses in the Council's approach to asset valuations. Our testing identified a number of errors in the way assets were valued and this resulted in a £38.5 million reduction in the value of assets. The Council has agreed to improve its processes for asset valuations in 2015-16.
- The Council holds a range of earmarked reserves which it reviews as part of the annual budget setting process. Given the current financial position, as part of its budget setting process, the Council needs to ensure it more fully reviews all reserves ensuring that they have a clear purpose and are still required. Reserves which are not required should be released and considered when setting future budgets. The Council has agreed to follow-up this issue in 2015-16.
- Within earmarked reserves, the Council holds a £9.6 million Insurance Reserve. A proportion of this reserve should be disclosed as a provision (ie a short-term liability in the balance sheet). The Council is currently unable to quantify this, although we are satisfied that it would not have a material impact on the financial statements. The Council has agreed to follow-up this issue in 2015-16.
- For a number of years we have reported weaknesses within the Council's grants management processes. Internal Audit has already issued a critical report on the Council's management of the Welsh Government's Supporting People grant to the July 2015 Audit Committee. Our 2014-15 grants work is work in progress and there have been improvements in some areas. We have however identified concerns regarding some of the WEFO European grant schemes, some of which WEFO have now reviewed and confirmed eligibility of those grants. Our findings from our grants work will be report to the Audit Committee early in 2016.

I issued a certificate confirming that the audit of the 2014-15 financial statements has been completed on 30 September 2015.

I am satisfied that the Council has appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

My consideration of the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness has been based on the audit work undertaken on the financial statements as well as placing reliance on the work completed as part of the Improvement Assessment under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

My Annual Improvement Report published in June 2015 concluded that the Council has continued to make good progress in its priority areas and it is working to address a range of governance issues. We have recently undertaken a detailed Corporate Assessment on the Council's arrangements and this will be reported in early 2016.

Our work on financial resilience will be reported in December 2015. We have concluded that the Council has a track record of delivering a balanced budget but the Council now needs to sharpen its focus to ensure alignment of financial planning with corporate priorities and that to supplement the budget monitoring processes, performance is underpinned by a more robust framework for monitoring and reporting on the achievement of specific savings proposals.

In 2014-15 the Council had a positive final out-turn position with a small underspend of £0.6 million which reduced the planned draw on general reserves to £175,000. At departmental level there was a marginal overspend of £0.4 million. At the end of the financial year the Council's useable reserves decreased by £1.5 million to £82 million (this excludes 'ring-fenced' reserves including the Housing Revenue Account, Schools' reserves and capital receipts). At the end of the current 2015-16 financial year, the Council is currently forecasting a £0.2 million overspend against the budget.

Looking forward, the recent Welsh Government budget settlement, together with a range of other cost pressures, will mean that all local government bodies in Wales will face extremely challenging financial positions. The Medium Term Financial Plan approved by Council in February 2015 for the period 2015-16 to 2017-18 established challenging efficiency savings totalling some £41.5 million. It will be a challenge for the Council to deliver these savings and increasingly more difficult to identify these types of savings going forward.

At the planning stage the financial audit fee for 2014-15 was £183,995. We anticipate that the final financial audit fee will be some £187,000 as a result of our additional work on testing asset valuations, this is currently being discussed with the Director of Corporate Services.

Yours sincerely

Richard Harries

For and on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

Appendix 3 – National report recommendations 2015-16

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
October 2014	<p>Delivering with less – the impact on environmental health services and citizens</p>	<p>R1 Improve strategic planning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifying, collecting and analysing financial, performance and demand/need data on environmental health services; • analysing collected data to inform and understand the relationship between ‘cost: benefit: impact’ and use this intelligence to underpin decisions on the future of council environmental health services; and • agree how digital information can be used to plan and develop environmental health services in the future.
January 2015	<p>Managing the Impact of Welfare Reform Changes on Social Housing Tenants in Wales</p>	<p>R1 Improve strategic planning and better co-ordinate activity to tackle the impact of welfare reform on social housing tenants by ensuring comprehensive action plans are in place that cover the work of all relevant council departments, housing associations and the work of external stakeholders.</p> <p>R2 Improve governance and accountability for welfare reform by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appointing member and officer leads to take responsibility for strategic leadership on welfare reform and be accountable for performance; and • ensuring Members receive adequate training and regular briefings on welfare reform to be able to challenge and scrutinise performance and decisions. <p>R3 Ensure effective management of performance on welfare reform by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting appropriate measures to enable Members, officers and the public to judge progress in delivering actions; • ensuring performance information covers the work of all relevant agencies and especially housing associations; and • establishing measures to judge the wider impact of welfare reform.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
January 2015	<p>Managing the Impact of Welfare Reform Changes on Social Housing Tenants in Wales</p>	<p>R4 Strengthen how welfare-reform risks are managed by creating a single corporate-level approach that co-ordinates activity across the Council and the work of others to provide adequate assurance that all the necessary and appropriate actions to mitigate risk are taking place.</p> <p>R5 Improve engagement with tenants affected by the removal of the spare-room subsidy through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the provision of regular advice and information on the options open to them to address the financial impact of the change in their circumstances; • the promotion of the ‘Your benefits are changing’ helpline; and • the provision of support to tenants specifically affected by the removal of the spare-room subsidy to participate in regional/national employment schemes. <p>R7 Improve management, access to and use of Discretionary Housing Payments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing a clear policy or guide that is available in hard copy and online to the public that sets out the Council’s policy and arrangements for administering Discretionary Housing Payments; • clearly defining eligible and non-eligible housing costs covered by Discretionary Housing Payments in application forms, policy documentation and applicant guidance leaflets; • clearly setting out the maximum/minimum length of time that such payments will be provided; • setting and publishing the timescale for the Council making a decision on Discretionary Housing Payment applications; • including information within public literature on the Council’s policy for right to review or appeal of a decision and the timescales and process to be followed in deciding on these; and • clearly define the priority groups for Discretionary Housing Payments in public literature to ensure that those seeking assistance, and those agencies supporting them, can assess whether such payments are a viable option to address their housing and financial needs.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
April 2015	<p>The Financial resilience of Councils in Wales</p>	<p>R6 Councils should develop corporate wide policies on income generation with a view to increasing revenue streams and relieving financial pressures.</p> <p>R7 Councils should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthen budget setting and monitoring arrangements to ensure financial resilience; and • review the coverage and effectiveness of their internal and external assurance financial systems and controls to ensure they are fit for purpose and provide early warning of weaknesses in key systems. <p>R8 Councils must review their finance teams and ensure that they have sufficient capacity and capability to meet future demands.</p> <p>R9 Council officers need to equip councillors with the knowledge and skills they need to deliver effective governance and challenge by extending training opportunities and producing high quality management information.</p>
June 2015	<p>Achieving improvement in support to schools through regional education consortia – an early view.</p>	<p>R1 To clarify the nature and operation of consortia. We found there to be continuing uncertainty about some aspects of the nature of regional consortia and their present and future scope (paragraphs 2.2 to 2.20). We therefore recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local authorities should clarify whether consortia services are jointly provided or are commissioned services (services provided under joint-committee arrangements are jointly provided services and are not commissioned services). <p>R2 To focus on outcomes through medium-term planning. We found that the development of effective regional consortia was hindered by a focus on short-term actions and uncertainty about the future of consortia (paragraphs 2.33 to 2.36; 3.16 to 3.17). We therefore recommend: As any possible local authority reorganisation will not be fully implemented until 2020, the Welsh Government and regional consortia should develop three-year plans for the further development, scope, and funding of regional consortia linked to appropriate strategic objectives.</p>

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
June 2015	<p>Achieving improvement in support to schools through regional education consortia – an early view.</p>	<p>R3 To develop more collaborative relationships for the school improvement system. The development of the National Model for Regional Working involved many school improvement partners but we found that this had not led to the development of sufficiently collaborative relationships (paragraphs 2.25 to 2.32). We therefore recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional consortia should develop improved arrangements for sharing practice and supporting efficiency (for example, one consortium could take the lead on tackling an issue or have functional responsibility for the development of a policy). • The Welsh Government, local authorities and regional consortia should recognise the interdependency of all partners fulfilling their school improvement roles and agree an approach to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – information sharing and consultation about developments related to school improvement; – developing collaborative relationships of shared accountability; and – undertaking system-wide reviews, and an alignment of the understanding and position of regional consortia across all Welsh Government relevant strategies. <p>R4 To build effective leadership and attract top talent. Regional consortia, local authorities and the Welsh Government have all found difficulties in recruiting to senior leadership for education and we found there had been limited action to address this (paragraphs 2.37 to 2.40). We therefore recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Welsh Government and local authorities should collaborate to improve the attractiveness of education leadership roles to attract the most talented leaders for the school improvement system; and • local authorities should collaborate to support the professional development of senior leaders and to ensure appropriate performance management arrangements are in place for senior leaders.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
June 2015	<p>Achieving improvement in support to schools through regional education consortia – an early view.</p>	<p>R5 To improve the effectiveness of governance and management of regional consortia. Whilst continuing progress is being made, we found that regional consortia have not yet developed fully effective governance and financial management arrangements (paragraphs 3.2 to 3.36). We therefore recommend that local authorities and their regional consortia should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve their use of self-evaluation of their performance and governance arrangements and use this to support business planning and their annual reviews of governance to inform their annual governance statements; • improve performance management including better business planning, use of clear and measurable performance measures, and the assessment of value for money; • make strategic risk management an integral part of their management arrangements and report regularly at joint committee or board level; • develop their financial management arrangements to ensure that budgeting, financial monitoring and reporting cover all relevant income and expenditure, including grants funding spent through local authorities; • develop joint scrutiny arrangements of the overall consortia as well as scrutiny of performance by individual authorities, which may involve establishment of a joint scrutiny committee or co-ordinated work by local authority scrutiny committees; • ensure the openness and transparency of consortia decision making and arrangements; • recognise and address any potential conflicts of interest; and where staff have more than one employer, regional consortia should ensure lines of accountability are clear and all staff are aware of the roles undertaken; and • develop robust communications strategies for engagement with all key stakeholders.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
October 2015	Supporting the Independence of Older People: Are Councils Doing Enough?	<p>R1 Improve governance, accountability and corporate leadership on older people's issues through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the appointment of a senior lead officer who is accountable for coordinating and leading the Council's work on older people's services; • realigning the work of the older people's strategy coordinators to support development and delivery of plans for services that contribute to the independence of older people; • the appointment of a member champion for older people's services; and • regularly disseminating and updating information on these appointments to all staff and stakeholders. <p>R2 Improve strategic planning and better coordinate activity for services to older people by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring comprehensive action plans are in place that cover the work of all relevant council departments and the work of external stakeholders outside of health and social care; and • engaging with residents and partners in the development of plans, and in developing and agreeing priorities. <p>R3 Improve engagement with, and dissemination of, information to older people by ensuring advice and information services are appropriately configured and meet the needs of the recipients.</p> <p>R4 Ensure effective management of performance for the range of services that support older people to live independently by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting appropriate measures to enable Members, officers and the public to judge progress in delivering actions for all council services; • ensuring performance information covers the work of all relevant agencies and especially those outside of health and social services; and • establishing measures to judge inputs, outputs and impact to be able to understand the effect of budget cuts and support oversight and scrutiny.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
October 2015	Supporting the Independence of Older People: Are Councils Doing Enough?	<p>R5 Ensure compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty when undertaking equality impact assessments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting out how changes to services or cuts in budgets will affect groups with protected characteristics; • quantifying the potential impact and the mitigation actions that will be delivered to reduce the potentially negative effect on groups with protected characteristics; • indicating the potential numbers who would be affected by the proposed changes or new policy by identifying the impact on those with protected characteristics; and • ensuring supporting activity such as surveys, focus groups and information campaigns includes sufficient information to enable service users to clearly understand the impact of proposed changes on them. <p>R6 Improve the management and impact of the Intermediate Care Fund by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting a performance baseline at the start of projects to be able to judge the impact of these overtime; • agreeing the format and coverage of monitoring reports to enable funded projects to be evaluated on a like-for-like basis against the criteria for the fund, to judge which are having the greatest positive impact and how many schemes have been mainstreamed into core funding; and • improving engagement with the full range of partners to ensure as wide a range of partners are encouraged to participate in future initiatives and programmes.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
December 2015	Delivering with less - leisure services	<p>R1 Improve strategic planning in leisure services by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting an agreed council vision for leisure services; • agreeing priorities for leisure services; • focusing on the Council's position within the wider community sport and leisure provision within the area; and • considering the potential to deliver services on a regional basis. <p>R2 Undertake an options appraisal to identify the most appropriate delivery model based on the Council's agreed vision and priorities for leisure services which considers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the availability of capital and revenue financing in the next three-to-five years; • options to improve the commercial focus of leisure services; • opportunities to improve income generation and reduce council 'subsidy'; • a cost-benefit analysis of all the options available to deliver leisure services in the future; • the contribution of leisure services to the Council's wider public health role; • better engagement with the public to ensure the views and needs of users and potential users are clearly identified; • the impact of different options on groups with protected characteristics under the public sector equality duty; and • the sustainability of service provision in the future.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
December 2015	Delivering with less - leisure services	<p>R3 Ensure effective management of performance of leisure services by establishing a suite of measures to allow officers, Members and citizens to judge inputs, outputs and impact. This should cover council-wide and facility specific performance and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capital and revenue expenditure; • income; • council 'subsidy'; • quality of facilities and the service provided; • customer satisfaction; • success of 'new commercial' initiatives; • usage data – numbers using services/facilities, time of usage, etc; and • impact of leisure in addressing public health priorities. <p>R4 Improve governance, accountability and corporate leadership on leisure services by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regularly reporting performance to scrutiny committee(s); • providing elected Members with comprehensive information to facilitate robust decision-making; • benchmarking and comparing performance with others; and • using the findings of internal and external audit/inspection reviews to identify opportunities to improve services.

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