



Consultation on proposed extension to the dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach

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Closing date for completion Monday 21 August 2017**

1. Introduction

Redcar and Cleveland council wants to know your views on the proposed changes to the dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach.

The council believes this proposed change will benefit local communities, neighbourhoods, and the local economy, as they will help in the creation and maintenance of clean, safe and healthy neighbourhoods, town centres, and visitor destinations.

The council also wants to know whether or not you have experienced antisocial activities involving dogs and dog walkers on Saltburn beach, so it can assess whether the proposed change is justified.

2. What are the proposed changes?

The council is proposing to extend the area of Saltburn beach covered by the public spaces protection order excluding dogs during 1 May and 30 September.

Concerning Saltburn beach, the current public spaces protection order relates to:

“The beach at Saltburn bounded on the west by a line from the eastern side of the point of access to the beach from Hazelgrove (grid reference NZ666217) in a northerly direction to the sea and on the east by a line following the eastern side of Saltburn pier (grid reference NZ6632218) and continuing in a northerly direction from the end of the pier to the sea”.

The council proposes to vary the public spaces protection order as follows [changes in bold]:

*“The beach at Saltburn bounded on the west by a line from the eastern side of the point of access to the beach from Hazelgrove (grid reference NZ666217) in a northerly direction to the sea and on the east by a line **following the eastern side of Saltburn beck bridge channel (grid reference 466775 521614), continuing in a northerly direction to the sea.**”*

3. The council's current position

The current public spaces protection order, made 1 July 2016, makes it an offence for dog walkers to permit their dog to enter areas of Redcar and Saltburn beaches between 1 May and 30 September.

The council's enforcement officers are able to require a person in charge of a dog which has entered the beach at Saltburn between 1 May and 30 September at the location depicted at **appendix one**, including any slope or slipway leading to the beach, to remove the dog from the beach.

Enforcement officers will ask offenders for their name and address and issue a fixed penalty fine of £100 if they refuse.

4. What this proposal would mean

The proposal would extend the area of the beach at Saltburn where it would be an offence for dog walkers to permit their dog to enter.

The council's enforcement officers would be able to require a person in charge of a dog entering the beach including any slope or slipway leading to this part of the beach, between Saltburn pier and Skelton beck, in addition to the other parts of Saltburn beach covered by the existing order, to remove the dog from the beach. Enforcement officers will ask offenders for their name and address and issue a fixed penalty fine of £100 if they refuse.

The extended location where the varied order would apply is also depicted at ***appendix one***.

The council will retain the existing reasonable exemptions, such as for any person:-

- who is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948, or
- With a disability affecting their mobility, manual dexterity or ability to lift, carry or move everyday objects and who relies on a dog trained by a prescribed charity for assistance.

5. Why we are proposing these changes?

Dog-fouling continues to be a significant issue for many local people across the borough. A recent viewfinder survey found 76.89 % of respondents felt dog-fouling to be a problem in the borough.

The rationale for extending the eastern boundary of the current dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach to Skelton beck is as follows:

- The beach between the eastern side of Saltburn pier and Skelton beck is popular with visitors, having very similar characteristics to those parts of the beach included within the current dog exclusion zone;
- Skelton beck, being a natural boundary, would likely more clearly delineate the eastern boundary of the exclusion zone than the pier currently does, were it to be adopted as the boundary, thereby reducing the scope for dog walkers to enter the exclusion zone unintentionally;
- Members of the public regularly raise concerns with the council about dogs being walked within the Saltburn beach exclusion zone;

- Historic evidence from previous consultation with Saltburn residents that there's some community appetite for the dog exclusion zone to be extended eastwards to Skelton beck;
- Saltburn beach was identified as a location where local people and visitors experience dog-fouling as a problem by respondents to the council's summer 2015 "have your say on dog-fouling" engagement exercise.

Dog walkers will continue to be able to freely exercise and walk their dogs along the great majority of the seven miles stretch of sands between South Gare and Saltburn Scar, outside of the two dog exclusion zones located at Redcar and Saltburn.

The council is nevertheless very keen to welcome dog walkers and dogs to the borough, but wants to encourage responsible dog ownership. Actions has been taken as part of delivering the dog-fouling strategy to enhance the dog waste infrastructure in key locations not just to assist in tackling dog-fouling, but also to promote responsible dog walking at those locations. The council will continue to build on this approach.

6. When might the proposed changes happen?

Providing there is support for the proposal, a decision will be made around mid-September 2017 to go ahead with the proposed variation to the existing public spaces protection order, using powers allocated to the council through the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Following the decision to proceed with the proposal, the council will carry-out a four-week formal consultation and notification, likely mid-September to mid-October 2017, including at locations, such as the lower promenade) on or adjacent to this part of Saltburn beach, concerning varying the public space protection order to extend the dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach.

In giving notice of its intention to vary the public spaces protection order extending the dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach, the council will invite representations on whether the order should be varied as proposed.

Having considered any representations received, the council will publish the varied public spaces protection order on the council's web-site 1 November 2017.

The council's enforcement team will take an informal approach over the close season, advising dog walkers entering the beach at Saltburn the extended dog exclusion zone will take effect 1 May 2018.

8. Who are we consulting?

This consultation involves all stakeholders who may be affected, including dog-walkers; the general public; Cleveland police; local parish and town councils; schools; veterinary

surgeries; kennels; Ramblers' association; Cleveland connect (neighbourhood watch); and housing associations; and neighbouring councils. This document will also be sent to elected members. Anyone can give their views during the 12-week consultation period which runs from Tuesday 30 May to Monday 21 August 2017.

9. How can I comment on these proposals?

We would welcome your responses and suggestions about ways we could introduce the new public space protection order as fairly and smoothly as possible. We want to hear any comments you may have on any aspect of these proposals. Please respond using our on-line survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DogExclusionZone2017>

Paper copies are also available from libraries or by downloading them from www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/haveyoursay

10. What happens next?

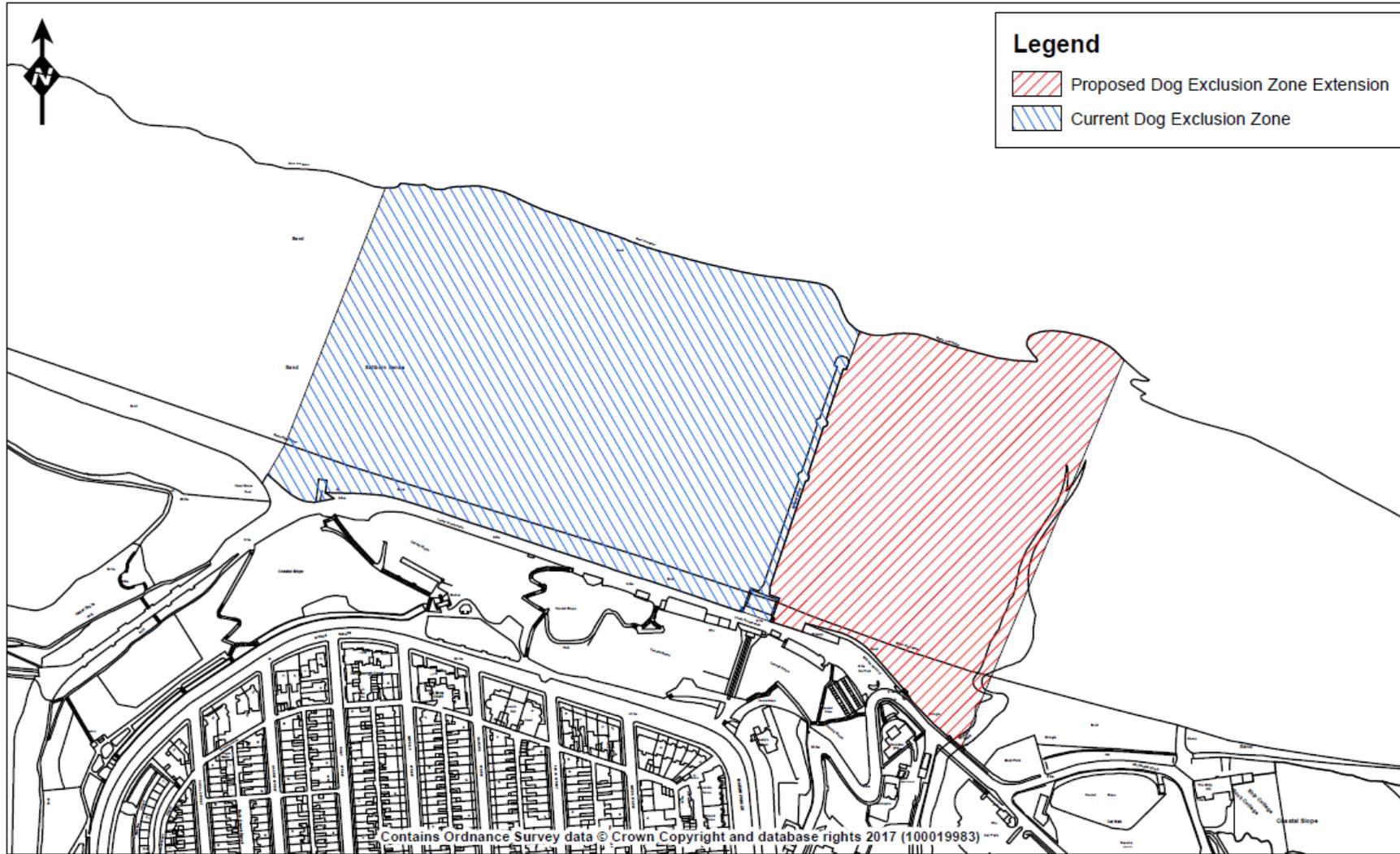
After the consultation period decision makers will consider the outcome of this consultation during early September 2017. They will consider all comments about these proposals received during the consultation period, before deciding the content of the existing public space protection order as it affects Saltburn beach.

11. Where can I get more information?

During the course of this consultation we will be collating all the views and comments we receive. Please contact the improvement, prevention and commissioning team based within neighbourhood and customer services.

Copies of this consultation document and other council documents can be found on the council's website www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk, or by contacting the improvement, prevention and commissioning team or by emailing consultation@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk. This consultation document is also available on request in other formats.

Appendix one: location map showing current extent and proposed extension to dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach



Saltburn Beach - Dog Exclusion Zone

Date: 25/05/2017
Drawn by: BS
Scale = 1:4,000
DWG No: N/A



Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO): proposed extension to the dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach Questionnaire

Redcar and Cleveland council wants to know your views on the proposed extension to the dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach.

It is recommended that you read the consultation document linked to this questionnaire as background information when completing this questionnaire

1. Do you? Tick one box only

Live in Saltburn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Live elsewhere within Redcar & Cleveland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Live outside of Redcar & Cleveland	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. How often, on average, do you visit Saltburn beach during the period (1 May–30 September) the current dog exclusion zone is in force?

At least 2-3 times a week	<input type="checkbox"/>
2-3 times a month	<input type="checkbox"/>
Once a month	<input type="checkbox"/>
2-3 times during May-September	<input type="checkbox"/>
Once	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Thinking about the activities of dogs and dog walkers on Saltburn beach have you had experience of any of the following? Tick any box that applies.

Activity	Yes	No
Dogs fouling (and owners not cleaning up)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dogs causing nuisance, annoyance or disturbance to any other person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dogs causing nuisance, annoyance or disturbance to a bird or another animal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other antisocial activity (please use the box below to describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Do you support the council's proposal to extend the dog exclusion zone on Saltburn beach, moving the eastern boundary from Saltburn pier to Skelton Beck? Tick one box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't Know	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Please use the box below to make any additional comments you may have regarding the council's proposal to extend the dog exclusion zone at Saltburn beach:

About You

To make sure we better understand the views of people using council services in Redcar & Cleveland, we would like to know a few details about you. This will help us know whether concerns and priorities differ between different groups of people.

Please note this information will only be used for statistical purposes to see how views differ. No information will be released that would allow the identification of any individual.

6. Please tell us the first part of your postcode:

7. Are you a dog owner?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Are you:

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Do you have a long-term illness or disability which limits your daily activities?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Which of the following age group do you belong to?

16-24	<input type="checkbox"/>
25-34	<input type="checkbox"/>
35-44	<input type="checkbox"/>
45-54	<input type="checkbox"/>
16-24	<input type="checkbox"/>
55-64	<input type="checkbox"/>
65-74	<input type="checkbox"/>
75+	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey

