APPENDIX 2

Results of the Consultation on the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO): Dog Control

The public consultation was launched on 24 May 2021 and it was open until 23:59 on 21 June 2021. The questionnaire was posted on the Council's website and was shared with the Citizens' Panel, Community Councils and relevant stakeholders. A list of these can be seen in **Appendix A**. Reminders were posted on the Council's social media pages and a press release issued to promote it. Paper copies and information packs were distributed to every library/Siop Gwynedd in the county also.

1,324 responses were received to the on-line questionnaire, and 7 e-mails also.

A gender analysis of the respondents shows that 708 (54%) were female, 324 (25%) were male, 4 (0.3%) noted their gender as 'other'. 288 did not answer the question (21%)

97 (7%) of the respondents noted that they have a disability as defined under section 6 (1) of the Equality Act 2010.

Table 1 provides a cross-section of the respondents' age groups. In terms of representation, it is certain that the younger age groups under 24 years old along with the oldest age group 85 or older have been under represented.

Table 1: Respondents' Age Group

Age Group	Number	Percentage
15 years old or younger	1	0.1%
16 - 24 years old	13	1.0%
25 - 44 years old	316	23.9%
45 - 64 years old	482	36.4%
65 - 84 years old	234	17.7%
85 + years old	5	0.4%
I prefer not to say	55	4.2%
Not answered	218	16.5%
Total	**1,324**	**100%**

See below an analysis of the questions asked. A copy of the e-mails can be seen in **Appendix B**.

In terms of representation, it can be seen in **Table 2** below that the majority have completed the questionnaire as individuals.

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Table 2: On whose behalf are you responding?

Completing the questionnaire:-	**Number**	**Percentage**
As an individual	1,284	96%
As a County Councillor	10	1%
On behalf of the Town / Community Council	10	1%
On behalf of an organisation, group or businesses	20	2%
Total	**1,324**	**100%**

A summary of results from Town/Community Councils, Councillors and Organisations, groups and businesses can be seen from **Table 25** onwards.

The respondents were asked whether or not they were a dog owner. The response is seen in **Table 3.**

Table 3: Are you a dog owner?

Dog owner	**Number**	**Percentage**
Yes	695	53%
No	557	42%
I prefer not to say	32	2%
No answer	40	3%
Total	**1,324**	**100%**

Under the Dogs Exclusion (Gwynedd Council) Order 2013, dogs were completely excluded from certain sensitive areas throughout the year. These included public outdoor spaces with a 'Dog Exclusion Zone' sign, children's play areas, school and college recreation grounds, playgrounds and other sports facilities.

It was asked whether the respondents would support or oppose the exclusion of dogs from different places. 67 of the respondents chose not to answer this question. **Table 4** shows the response of those who answered the question.

Table 4: Response to the different Order proposals

	Support	**Oppose**
Public outdoor spaces with a 'Dog Exclusion Zone' sign	931 (74%)	326 (26%)
Children's play areas	1,196 (95%)	61 (5%)
Grounds of schools, further education institutions and higher education institutions	1,118 (89%)	139 (11%)
Playing Fields	1,170 (93%)	87 (7%)
Other sports facilities	1,070 (85%)	187 (15%)

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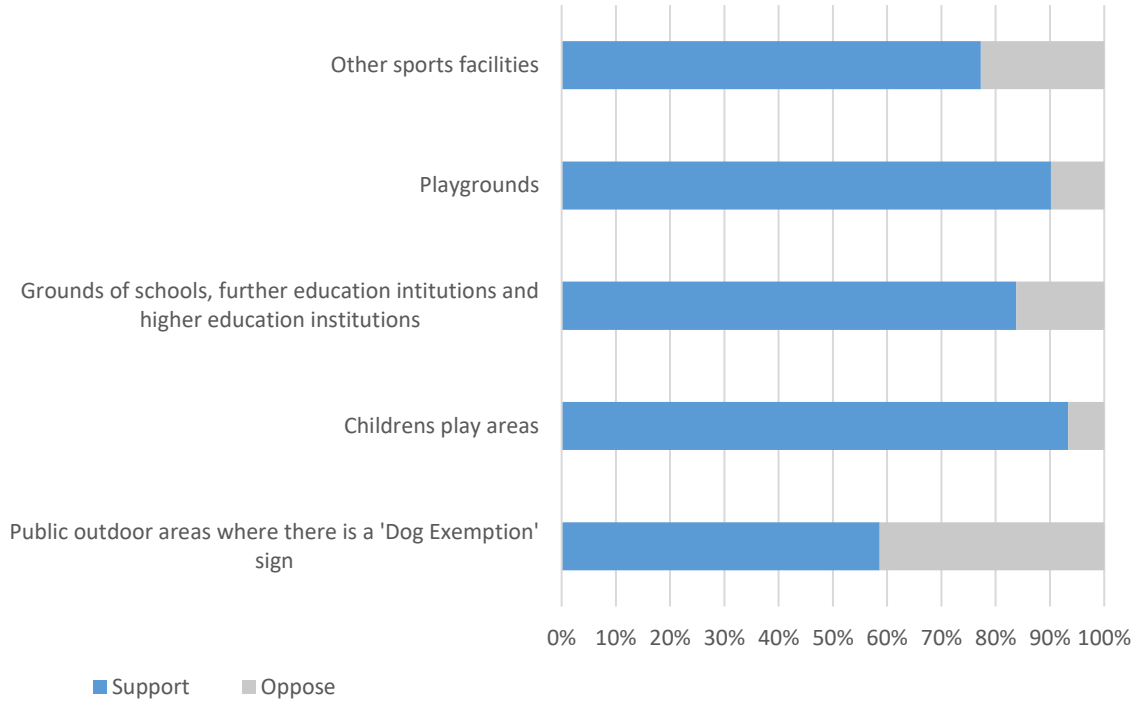
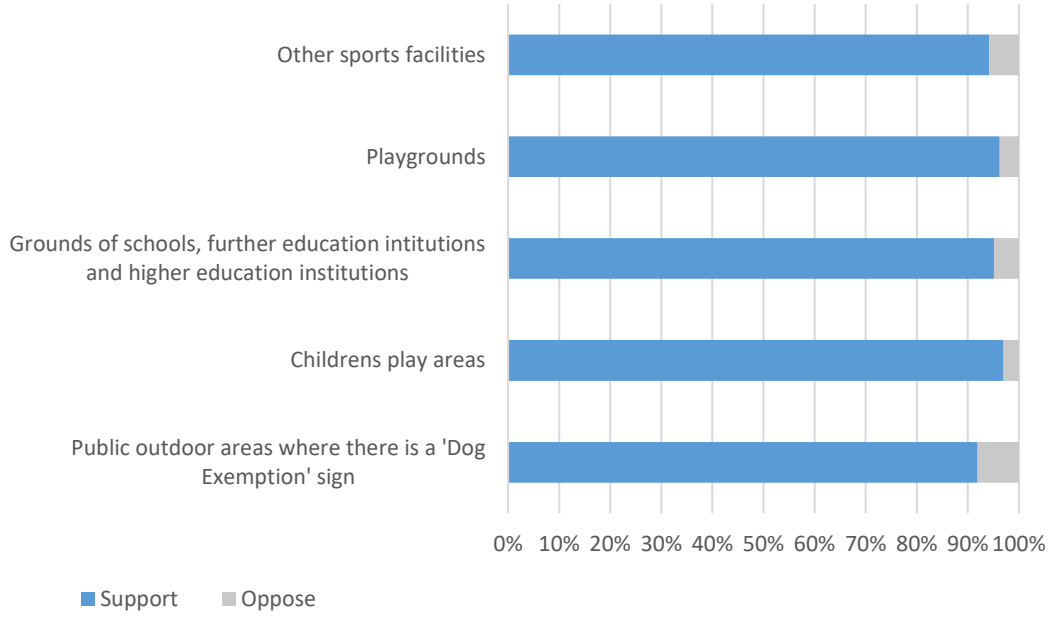
Figures 1 and 2 offer a comparison between the responses of those who are dog owners and those who are not.

Figure 1: Response to the different proposals by dog owners (n=660)*



**35 dog owners did not answer the question*

Figure 2: Response to the different proposals by non-dog owners (n=533)*



**24 of non-dog owners did not answer the question*

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The respondents were asked to provide further comments on banning dogs from the above-mentioned areas, regardless of whether they were dog owners or not, and 527 of the respondents did so. See below a summary of the comments made. Some respondents made several comments.

Table 5: Further comments on banning dogs from the areas identified in the Order

Comment	Number
Agree with the order	100
Unfair that all dog owners are penalised due to a small number who are irresponsible	91
Dogs should be banned from sports areas / any locations that are frequented by children and young people	90
Dog fouling/threat a danger to children/health	84
Agree that dogs should be on leads in public areas	58
If dogs are to be banned from the identified areas, there should be better provision for places where dogs are allowed	50
The wording of the order needs to be more explicit in terms of where exactly they are thinking of - need more information before making a decision	45
Do not agree with the order to ban dogs from all of the areas	44
Dogs should not be banned from playing areas/ other sports areas - I would not be able to go to the park with my children/watch them play because of the order	34
Need appropriate bins and complementary dog waste bags	28
Need to increase the penalties	25
There should be an exception for assistance dogs/therapy dogs/educational dogs	23
Need much greater control over dogs in Gwynedd	22
There should be better signage to note exactly which areas are banned	18
Need more dog wardens	17
Dogs are part of the family - they should not be banned	17
Dogs should not be banned from beaches	11
Need to empty the dog waste bins regularly	10
The pandemic has exacerbated the problem as more people have dogs now	10
Need teaching sessions on how to be responsible owners	9
Dog owners not putting their dogs on leads on private/agriculture land is a problem	7
Risk that the order will enable anyone to put up signs banning dogs	6
Pavements and footpaths - dog fouling is a major problem in these areas	6
Need more use of CCTV	4
Need to ban dogs from bird nesting areas	1
Dogs should not be allowed in cemeteries	1

The respondents were asked whether they supported or opposed the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the beaches identified in the Order. **Table 6** shows the responses according to dog owners and non-dog owners. 128 of the respondents did not answer the question.

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Table 6: Do you support or oppose the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the identified beaches between 1 April and 30 September?

	Dog owner		Non-dog owner		Total*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Support	399	64%	480	94%	933	78%
Oppose	222	36%	33	6%	263	22%
Total	**621**	**100%**	**513**	**100%**	**1,196**	**100%**

**including those who did answer but did not note whether or not they were dog owners*

The 263 who opposed were asked to note the reason why. **Table 7** shows the results and whether or not they were dog owners.

Table 7: Reason for opposing the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the identified beaches between 1 April and 30 September

	Number	**Percentage**
I object to a restriction on a specific beach	31	12%
I object to the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on all beaches	201	76%
I object because I would like to see more beaches included in the Order	3	1%
Other reason	28	11%
Total	**263**	**100%**

The 31 who objected to a restriction on a specific beach were asked which beaches they were referring to. **Table 8** shows how many objected to which beaches.

Table 8: Number objecting to the restrictions on specific beaches

Beach	**Number of Objections**
Aberdyfi	3
Tywyn	7
Friog	2
Barmouth	3
Bennar	2
Llandanwg	3
Harlech	4
Morfa Bychan	2
Cricieth Promenade	9
Glan y Don, Pwllheli	8
Marian-y-De, Pwllheli	8
Abersoch	3
Aberdaron	3
Porth Oer	4
Porth Tywyn	3
Morfa Nefyn	8
Nefyn	7
	5

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There was an opportunity for the other 232 respondents to explain their reason for objecting to the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the identified beaches between 1 April and 30 September. 195 of them explained why. Their response can be seen in **Table 9** below, where some note more than one reason.

Table 9. Reasons for objecting to the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the identified beaches between 1 April and 30 September

Comment	Number
The beaches are there for everyone's enjoyment including dogs	31
They should be changed to "on lead" and "off lead" zones	29
People make more mess than dogs	28
The majority of dog owners are responsible	23
Need better control of the irresponsible owners rather than excluding the responsible ones	23
Dogs should be allowed an all public beaches all year round	17
The six month exclusion period is excessive	16
Dogs are part of the family - they should not be excluded	15
Exclusion will affect the dog's health	14
This exclusion is happening at a time when people's well-being is very important	11
Need more dog waste bins and free bags	9
It will have a negative impact on tourism	9
Do not agree with a day-long exclusion - there should be an allotted time first thing in the morning and late at night	8
Need better signage noting exactly where the exclusion zone is and when	7
It would be better to ensure that the current restrictions/rules are enforced	6
Appropriate access for people with disabilities/older people must be secured to the areas where dogs are allowed	5
Leave dog waste on the beach for the tide to take away - reduces plastic waste	3
Why exclude dogs and no horses	3
The council needs better reasons to justify excluding dogs from beaches	2
Need to ensure that assistance/therapy dogs are not excluded	1
Dogs promote caring and empathy skills - excluding dogs gives the wrong message	1

The respondents were asked to provide further comments on excluding dogs from designated areas on the beaches, and 301 of the respondents did so. A summary of the comments made can be seen in **Table 10** and note that it was possible for respondents to make more than one comment.

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Table 10: Further comments on the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the beaches

Comment	Number
It should be ensured that the order is enforced and that wardens are visible	73
Believe there should be designated areas on beaches for dogs	72
Need better signage/maps that are visible from every access/on-line information	51
Dogs should not be allowed on any beach or at any time of the year	50
Dogs should not be allowed on beaches where children play	40
If dogs are to be permitted on beaches they should always be on a lead	23
Irresponsible owners who leave dog mess on beaches are disgusting	23
More dog waste bins are needed on beaches	11
Need to include any areas on beaches that have bird nesting sites	6
Believe that dogs should be allowed on beaches before 8am and after 6pm	5
Believe that the exclusion period should run from May to September	4
Has Gwynedd Council prosecuted anyone for breaching the dog control order in the last year?	3
Why has the Western Beach in Cricieth not been included in the new order?	3
Llwyngwril beach should be added to the list of exclusion areas	3
Believe that the exclusion period should be March to November	3
Irresponsible to take dogs to the beach on hot days	3
Dogs should not be excluded from beaches that are part of the coast path	2
The Dinas Dinlle exclusion zone makes no sense - dogs should not be allowed on the beach until they reach the area opposite the airfield	2
Fairbourne beach should be added to the list of exclusion areas	2
The exclusion area should be extended on Harlech beach to include the southern side and the northern side of the beach	2
Trefor beach should be added to the list of exclusion areas	2
Consumption of alcohol and BBQs should also be banned from beaches	2
Llanbedrog beach should be added to the list of exclusion areas	2
Who decided on the designated areas?	1
The exclusion area on Bennar beach should be extended to the east to include the sand dunes and also to the north	1
The exclusion area should be extended Friog beach to include the entire promenade	1
The Morfa Nefyn beach exclusion zone makes no sense - dogs should not be allowed in the direction of Tŷ Coch	1
Abersoch jetty should be added to the list of exclusion areas	1
Believe that the exclusion period should be March to September	1
Need an easy system to enable the reporting of individuals who breach the rules	1
These exclusions discriminate against dog owners	1
The order will have a negative impact on tourism	1

They were asked to answer the question 'What in your opinion should be changed?'. 25 respondents proposed changes - their comments are set out in **Table 11**. Note that some have made more than one comment.

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Table 11: Comments about what should be changed

Comment	Number
Some of the exclusion zones make no sense in terms of time, period or location	15
The current restrictions are sufficient and fair	5
It is safe for dogs to be on leads in the exclusion areas	5
There should be restrictions on the areas where dogs can be off lead on the beach	3
Need better/more visible signs	2
No one takes any notice of the signs on beaches	2
Not enough dog waste bins on the beaches	1
Horses should be excluded in the same way	1

There was an opportunity for the respondents to note whether they believed that dog fouling was a problem in their area. Table 12 shows the responses according to dog owners and non-dog owners. 142 of the responders did not answer the question.

Table 12: Is dog fouling a problem in your area?

	Dog owner		Non-dog owner		Total*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Yes	457	74%	441	87%	949	80%
No	158	26%	64	13%	233	20%
Total	**615**	**100%**	**505**	**100%**	**1,182**	**100%**

**including those who did answer but did not note whether or not they were dog owners*

The responses can be considered further per area. **Table 13** demonstrates the response per Gwynedd Well-being Area. Note that some from outside Gwynedd have also responded to the consultation.

Table 13: Is dog fouling a problem - per Well-being Area

	Yes	No
Bangor Area	159 (82%)	34 (18%)
Caernarfon Area	245 (88%)	35 (12%)
Dolgellau Area	110 (76%)	35 (24%)
Ffestiniog	34 (83%)	7 (17%)
Llŷn	105 (76%)	33 (24%)
Penllyn	10 (67%)	5 (33%)
Porthmadog Area	77 (75%)	26 (25%)
Tywyn Area	91 (78%)	8 (22%)
Outside Gwynedd	19 (58%)	14 (42%)
No postcode noted	99 (85%)	18 (15%)
Total	**949 (80%)**	**233 (20%)**

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Of the 949 who answered that dog fouling was a problem in their area they were asked where in particular it was causing problems. **Table 14** shows the numbers.

Table 14: Areas where dog fouling is a problem

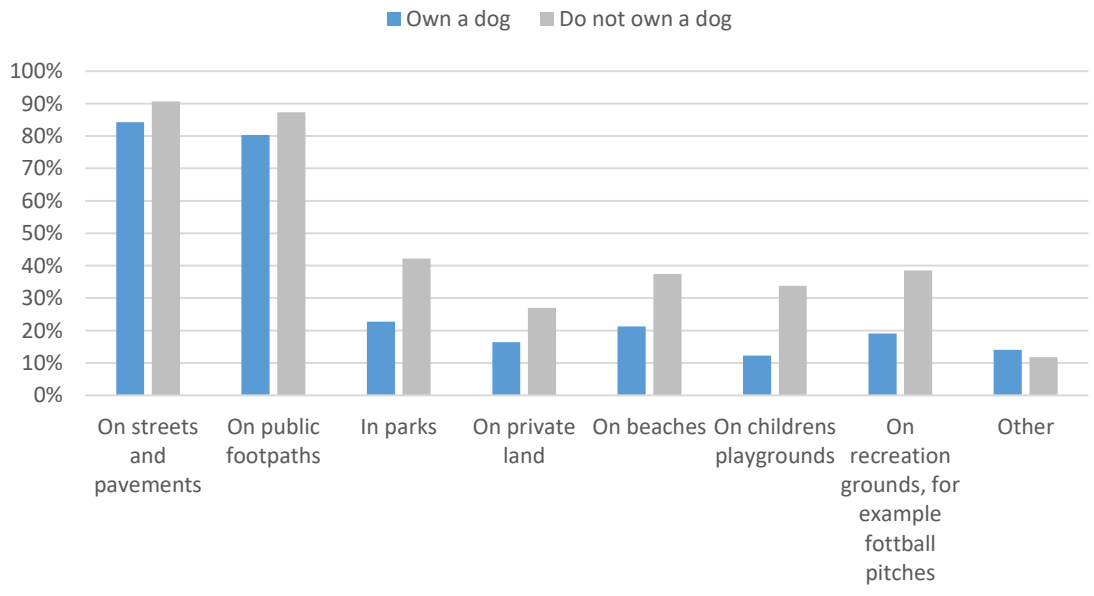
	Number	Percentage
On streets and pavements	831	88%
On public footpaths	795	84%
In parks	314	33%
On private land	208	22%
On beaches	285	30%
On children's playing fields	227	24%
On recreation grounds e.g. football field	279	29%
Other	128	13%

The 'other' locations included places such as:-

- Car parks
- Common land
- Mountains
- Cycling Routes
- Private gardens
- Golf courses
- Agricultural land
- Hanging in bags on tree branches/fencing
- School grounds
- Woodland
- Cemeteries

The results of Table 14 can be seen in **Figure 3** below with the responses divided between dog owners and non-dog owners.

Figure 3: Areas where dog fouling is a problem



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Of the 949 who answered that dog fouling was a problem in their area they were asked: 'what do you think would encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets?'. Note that it was possible for respondents to select more than one option. **Table 15** shows the response according to dog owners and non-dog owners.

Table 15: What do you think would encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets?

	Dog owner		Non-dog owner		Total*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Educate and raise awareness	138	30%	107	24%	259	27%
Pressure from others	81	18%	84	19%	178	19%
More warning signs	102	22%	112	25%	231	24%
More bins	345	75%	237	54%	610	64%
Wardens on patrol	274	60%	324	73%	632	67%
Fines	275	60%	357	81%	671	71%
Other	38	8%	29	7%	75	8%

**including those who did answer but did not note whether or not they were dog owners*

The 'other' ways included:-

- CCTV
- Free dog waste bags
- Empty dog waste bins more often
- "Name & shame"
- Dog permit
- Ensure that every dog is registered
- Screen dog waste for DNA
- Campaign by vets

The figures of Table 15 can be seen in **Figure 4** below with the respondents divided according to dog owners and non-dog owners.

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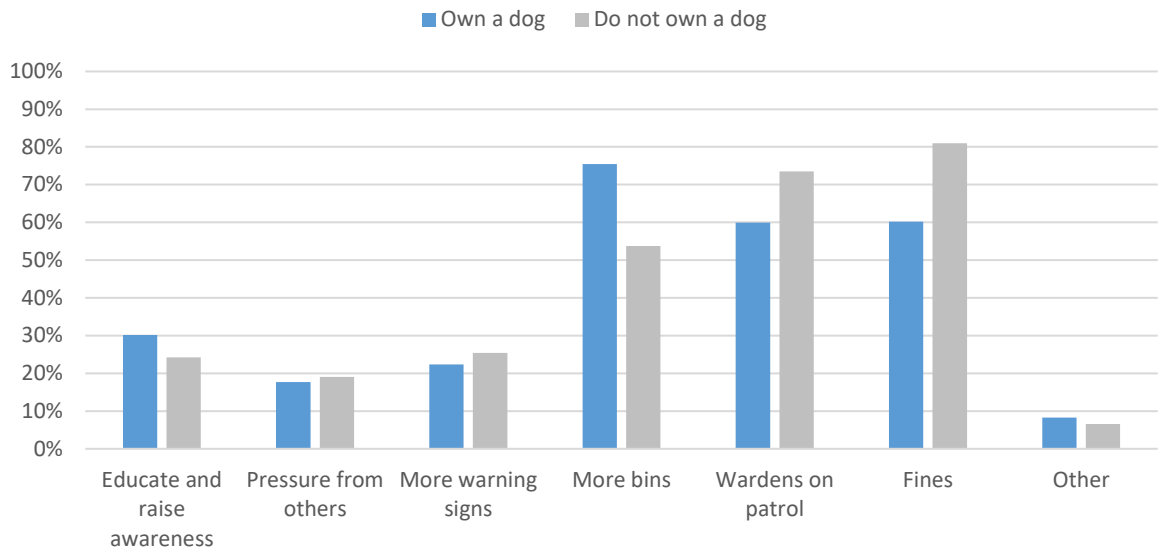
Figure 4: What do you think would encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets?



According to the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Order (Gwynedd Council) 2013 any person responsible for a dog in a public outdoor area was required to clean up after the dog had fouled. If they did not, they would be in breach of the order and therefore would be committing a criminal offence, facing a fine. The Council's intends to keep the same arrangement in the new PSPO.

The respondents were asked whether they supported or opposed a rule that people must clean up after their dogs in public areas. 142 of the responders did not answer the question. **Table 16** demonstrates the response according to dog owners and non-dog owners.

Table 16: Do you support or oppose a rule that people must clean up after their dogs in public areas?

	Dog owner		**Non-dog owner**		**Total***	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Support	607	99%	501	99%	1,170	99%
Oppose	8	1%	4	1%	12	1%
Total	**615**	**100%**	**505**	**100%**	**1,182**	**100%**

**including those who did answer but did not note whether or not they were dog owners*

The respondents were asked to provide further comments on the rule that people must clean up after their dogs in public areas. **Table 17** contains a summary of the comments made by 468 of those who responded to this question.

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Table 17: Further comments on the rule that people must clean up after their dogs in public areas

Comment	Number
Agree that every dog owner should clean up after their dog	165
Need more dog wardens in every area to enforce the orders	123
Need more dog waste bins/dog waste bags and empty the bins regularly	119
Need to use more fines	74
Make it illegal to leave dog waste anywhere (with the exceptions of bins)	65
Need a campaign/use of social media to seek to tackle the problem	38
Pavements and streets full of dog mess	28
Dogs should be on a lead at all times to enable the owner to see where the dog is fouling	23
It happens early in the morning or late at night when there is no one about	18
Need "Name and Shame"	16
There is no need to pick up dog waste every time - it will decompose naturally e.g. the stick and flick rule	15
People leave rubbish/mess also e.g. glass bottles that can be dangerous to dogs	14
Need to make more use of clear signs	13
The use of biodegradable dog waste bags should be encouraged	10
Need to use CCTV in the areas that are badly affected	9
All dog owners should carry dog waste bags with them at all times	9
Every dog should have a permit - use the income to tackle the problem	7
It is not possible to monitor this - waste of time	4
There may be a reason why dog owners are not able to pick up the dog waste e.g. disability	4
Horse owners should clean up after their horses also	4
Excluding dogs from some areas will not address the dog fouling problem	3
Volunteers should be recruited who would be able to issue fines to dog owners	1

According to the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Order (Gwynedd Council) 2013 any person responsible for a dog in a public outdoor area was required to put the dog on a lead if they were instructed by an authorised officer to do so. The officer would be able to give such instruction if he was of the opinion that the dog was causing a nuisance or concern. The Council's intends to keep the same arrangement in the new PSPO.

The respondents were asked whether they supported or opposed a rule that would enable an authorised officer to ask any person responsible for the dog to be put on a lead. 154 of the respondents did not answer the question. Table 18 demonstrates the response.

Table 18: Do you support or oppose a rule that would enable an authorised officer to ask any person responsible to put their dog on a lead?

	Dog owner		Non-dog owner		Total*	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Support	574	94%	488	97%	1,116	95%
Oppose	36	6%	13	3%	54	5%
Total	**610**	**100%**	**501**	**100%**	**1,170**	**100%**

**including those who did answer but did not note whether or not they were dog owners*

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The respondents were asked to make a further comment on the rule that would enable an authorised officer to ask any person responsible to put their dog on a lead.
Table 19 below provides a summary of the comments made by 426 of the respondents to this question.

Table 19: Further comments about the rule enabling an authorised officer to ask a person who is responsible for a dog to put it on a lead

Comment	Number
Acceptable to ask the owner to put the dog on a lead if they have no control over the dog when they are instructed to do this by an authorised officer	214
Dogs should be on leads at all times in public areas without an authorised officer instructing them to do so - not everyone can control their dogs.	117
It must be ensured that any authorised officer is objective/trained/following clear guidance on what constitutes out of control behaviour and must also have proof of it.	62
Some owners are able to control their dogs without leads - the authorised officer should be able to identify this	51
It should be ensured that wardens are available to enforce the rule	40
Do not think that a rule is needed to force dogs to be on a lead when an authorised officer instructs this	14
Authorised officers should wear an identity badge	12
Need to create a park specifically for dogs to be off leads	11
Long leads should not be permitted	9
Authorised staff should include the National Park wardens and volunteers/farmers	6

The respondents were asked whether they felt that any other rules should be introduced under the order 161 of the respondents did not answer the question. Table 20 shows the response.

Table 20: Do you feel there is a need to introduce any other rule or rules to the PSPO in terms of dog control?

	Dog owner		Non-dog owner		Total*	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Yes	175	29%	245	49%	450	39%
No	430	71%	254	51%	713	61%
Total	**605**	**100%**	**499**	**100%**	**1,163**	**100%**

**including those who did answer but did not note whether or not they were dog owners*

Of the 450 who responded that there was a need to introduce more rules, these were the ones they noted they wished to see, regardless of being dog owners or not. **Table 21** shows the response.

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Table 21: Additional rules that should be introduced

	Number	Percentage
A rule that dogs need to be kept on leads at all times (not just when an officer instructs so)	317	70%
A rule setting the maximum number of dogs permitted in the care of one person at any given time	267	59%
Any other rules in terms of dog control	193	43%

The respondents were asked to provide more details about the additional rules they wished to see. 251 of the respondents answered the question. Their response is shown in **Table 22**. Note that some respondents had more than one comment to make.

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Table 22: Additional rules that should be introduced - more details

	Number
Ensure that dogs are on leads in every public space	99
There should be a dog:owner ratio	34
Rule for dogs off lead on agricultural land where there are other animals/wildlife	27
Need to educate dog owners about the rules	17
It the intention is to exclude dogs from the identified areas, there should be better provision for areas that permit dogs	16
Exclude dogs from beaches throughout the year	16
Exclude dogs from all public places	16
Gwynedd Council needs more dog wardens/powers	15
Improve control over dangerous/big dogs	14
Ensure that dogs cannot escape from their private gardens/wander the streets alone	13
All dogs to wear a muzzle in public areas	12
Dog permits/passports	11
More fines	9
Make it illegal to leave dog waste anywhere (apart from bins)	9
Rules that look at how dog owners treat their animals	7
Prohibit the use of long leads	7
A rule for loud/constant barking noise	6
Every dog should be micro-chipped	6
Simple system to be able to report people for breaking the rules	5
It should be mandatory for all dog owners to carry dog waste bags	5
Dogs should be removed from owners who have been caught in breach of the order multiple times	3
People who breed dogs should attend mandatory training	3
Dogs should not be left in cars during the summer	3
Dog owners should pay for third party insurance to cover dog attacks	2
Every dog should wear a collar with owner's details on it	2
Nappies for dogs should be introduced in public areas	2
Dog attacks should be made a criminal offence	1
Dogs should be banned from sites where food is served	1
Should start screening dog waste for DNA	1
A tax should be introduced for owning a dog	1
“Name & shame”	1
No dog should be allowed to foul in public	1
Stop people from carrying dog waste bags from their homes to the public dog waste bins	1
Dogs should be on a lead when travelling in a car	1

We asked "Do you feel that the proposed rules in the draft PSPO affect you as an individual because of the following age, gender, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation?"

393 answered this question, noting the following comments **seen in Table 23**. Again they were able to note more than one comment.

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Table 23: The impact of the proposed rules in the draft PSPO on equality characteristics

	Number
No - do not think it will affect specific groups	309
Disability	37
Age - young family	28
Age - older people	17
Dog owner	13
Yes - but have not noted why	4
People who cannot drive	3
Gender - women	2
Vegans	1

Lastly, it was asked if they had any further comment to make about the consultation. 266 noted at least one comment. See the responses in **Table 24**.

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Table 24: Any further comments about the consultation

	Number
The order is a good idea - if people comply and if the rules are enforced	70
Need more dog waste bins/emptied more often/signs to show the locations of the bins, and free dog waste bags	40
Oppose the order as it stands - need to amend the time period/hours/exceptions	39
Dog wardens need to be much more visible	37
Need dog control courses/educate people about the dangers of not picking up dog waste/allowing dogs off lead	36
Need to prosecute/fine those who breach the order rules	35
It the intention is to exclude dogs from the identified areas, there should be better provision for areas that permit dogs	17
The problem will intensify with so many people buying dogs nowadays	13
Will anything be done to control people who pollute/drop litter on beaches?	10
The Council needs to be much more proactive	10
The dogs are the owners' responsibility - they must accept responsibility	10
Dogs that are off lead are a major problem in terms of the safety of others	7
This order will have a negative impact on tourism	7
Need to meet directly in communities to discuss the order and not through a questionnaire - different communities need different orders	6
Feel that the consultation questions are "leading" and tend to favour those who want to exclude dogs from all areas	6
Need to reintroduce the need to hold a permit to be a dog owner	6
Need to tackle the problem of dog owners leaving dog waste on private/agricultural land	3
Why does the order not deal with the problem of dog waste on pavements	3
Need to include more locations in the order e.g. Nature Reserves, Sites of Special Scientific Interest	3
There should be an exception for assistance dogs/therapy dogs/educational dogs	3
Will there be an order for horses too?	2
Need to make use of CCTV	2
Is there a simplified version of the order available for children?	1
How many dog waste bins are there in Gwynedd at the moment?	1
Every dog should be micro-chipped	1
I don't like dogs being left tied up outside shop doors	1
The Council to ask all dog owners to register their dogs with the Council and pay an annual fee to compensate the Council for the provision of bags/bins/clearing work	1

The results of those who have responded as Councillors, Town/Community Councils or organisations, groups or businesses

The next section of the analysis will look specifically at the response of those who responded to the consultation as Councillors, Town/Community Councils or organisations, groups or businesses.

Table 25 demonstrates the response to the various proposals in the Order.

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Table 25: Response to the various Order proposals

	Councillors and Town/Community Councils*		Organisation, group or business*	
	Support	**Oppose**	**Support**	**Oppose**
Public outdoor spaces with a 'Dog Exclusion Zone' sign	18 (95%)	1 (5%)	16 (94%)	1 (6%)
Children's play areas	19 (100%)	0 (0%)	16 (94%)	1 (6%)
Grounds of schools, further education institutions and higher education institutions	18 (95%)	1 (5%)	15 (88%)	2 (12%)
Playing Fields	19 (100%)	0 (0%)	15 (88%)	2 (12%)
Other sports facilities	18 (95%)	1 (5%)	16 (94%)	1 (6%)

**1 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils did not answer and 3 of the 20 organisations/groups/businesses did not answer*

The respondents were asked to provide further comments on banning dogs from the above-mentioned areas and 10 of the Councillors / Town/Community Councils made a comment. The most popular comment was the need to exclude dogs from sports areas and locations that are frequented by children and young people as dog waste and dogs' behaviour can be very dangerous. Another comment was that dogs should be on leads in public areas.

The organisations/groups/businesses that responded (12) agreed with this and also suggested there should be better signs to show the exact location of the exclusion areas along with the need to provide more dog waste bins and free dog waste bags.

They were asked whether they supported or opposed the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the beaches identified in the Order. **Table 26** shows the responses according to Councillors, Community/Town Councils or organisations, groups or businesses.

Table 26: Do you support or oppose the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the identified beaches between 1 April and 30 September?

	Councillors and Town/Community Councils*		Organisation, group or business*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Support	18	100%	15	94%
Oppose	0	0%	1	6%
Total	**18**	**100%**	**16**	**100%**

**2 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils did not answer and 4 of the 20 organisations/groups/businesses did not answer*

The main comments made in relation to the exclusion of dogs from designated areas on the identified beaches between 1 April and 30 September by 8 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils were that it should be ensured that the Order is enforced and that there are enough wardens to do

this. 2 of the 8 who made comments believed that dogs should not be allowed on beaches where children play and another 2 said that dogs (if permitted) should be on lead at all times on beaches.

The 3 out of the 20 who made comments as an organisation/group/business noted that dog owners who leave dog mess on beaches are disgusting, with one of them believing that dogs should be excluded from beaches throughout the year.

There was an opportunity for them to note whether they believed that dog fouling was a problem in their area. **Table 27** shows the responses according to Councillors, Town/Community Councils, organisations, groups or businesses.

Table 27: Is dog fouling a problem in your area?

	Councillors and Town/Community Councils*		Organisation, group or business*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Yes	16	89%	15	94%
No	2	11%	1	6%
Total	**18**	**100%**	**16**	**100%**

**2 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils did not answer and 4 of the 20 organisations/groups/businesses did not answer*

They were asked whether they supported or opposed a rule that people must clean up after their dogs in public areas.
Table 28 shows the response according to Councillors, Town/Community Council or organisation, group or business.

Table 28: Do you support or oppose a rule that people must clean up after their dogs in public areas?

	Councillors and Town/Community Councils*		Organisation, group or business*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Support	18	100%	16	100%
Oppose	0	0%	0	0%
Total	**18**	**100%**	**16**	**100%**

**2 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils did not answer and 4 of the 20 organisations/groups/businesses did not answer*

The main comments made in relation to cleaning up after dogs by 11 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils were that there was a need to provide more dog waste bins and to empty them regularly, to provide free dog waste bags and that there is a need to more wardens to enforce the rules and that a campaign is needed to seek to tackle the problem.

The 8 out of the 20 who made comments as an organisation/group/business agreed with the comment on bins and dog waste bags and also highlighted the need to make it illegal to leave dog waste anywhere apart from a bin.

They were asked whether they supported or opposed a rule that would enable an authorised officer to ask any person who is responsible for a dog to put it on a lead. **Table 29** shows the response.

Table 29: Do you support or oppose a rule that would enable an authorised officer to ask any person who is responsible for a dog to put it on a lead?

	Councillors and Town/Community Councils*		Organisation, group or business*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Support	18	100%	14	100%
Oppose	0	0%	0	0%
Total	**18**	**100%**	**14**	**100%**

**2 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils did not answer and 60 of the 20 organisations/groups/businesses did not answer*

The main comments made in relation to cleaning up after dogs by 7 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils were that dogs should be on leads at all times in public areas without an authorised officer instructing them to do so - as not everyone can control their dogs.

The 5 out of the 20 who made comments as an organisation/group/business also agreed with the above-mentioned comment noting that all wardens should be trained and unbiased.

They were asked whether they felt that any other rules should be introduced under the order. **Table 30** shows the response.

Table 30: Do you feel there is a need to introduce any other rule or rules to the PSPO in terms of dog control?

	Councillors and Town/Community Councils*		Organisation, group or business*	
	Number	**Percentage**	**Number**	**Percentage**
Yes	11	61%	4	29%
No	7	39%	10	71%
Total	**18**	**100%**	**14**	**100%**

**2 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils did not answer and 60 of the 20 organisations/groups/businesses did not answer*

Additional rules mentioned by 5 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils were:

- Ensure that dogs are on leads in every public space
- A rule for controlling loud/constant barking noise
- Exclude dogs from beaches throughout the year
- There should be an owner:dog ratio
- A rule for dogs wandering the streets alone

Additional rules mentioned by 2 of the 20 Councillors / Town/Community Councils were:

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- A rule to exclude dogs from agricultural land
- Ensure that dogs are on leads in every public space
- All dogs to wear a muzzle in public areas

There was an opportunity to make any further comments, and apart from what has already been noted as comments one organisation/group/business noted that the Order would have a negative impact on tourism.

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Appendix A: List of stakeholders

1. Police:
    a. Chief Officer of North Wales Police:
    b. North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
2. The Council's relevant departments and companies:
    a. Education
    b. Environment
    c. Economy and Community (specifically Maritime, Parks)
    d. Housing and Property
    e. Byw'n Iach Cyf.
3. Council Members
4. Gwynedd City/Town and Community Councils (via the Clerk)
5. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
6. Education sector:
    a. The county's headteachers
    b. Llandrillo Menai Group
    c. Bangor University
7. Snowdonia National Park Authority
8. Prominent land owners:
    a. National Trust
    b. CADW
    c. ADRA
    d. Welsh Water
    e. First Hydro
    f. Natural Resources Wales
    g. The Crown Estate
9. Dog owners' organisations:
    a. Kennel Club
    b. Dogs for the Disabled
    c. Support Dogs
    d. Canine Pets for Independence
    e. Dogs Trust
10. Outdoors organisations:
    a. The Ramblers
    b. Clwb Mynydda Cymru
11. Civic/community organisations e.g. Bangor Civic Society
12. Bangor and St.Asaph dioceses, The Church in Wales (cemeteries etc.)
13. Wales National Access Forum
14. Local Access Forums
15. Keep Wales Tidy

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Appendix B: E-mails received

Dogs Trust

Thank you for making Dogs Trust aware that Gwynedd Council is planning to introduce a series of Public Space Protection Orders. As the UK's largest dog welfare charity, we would like to make some comments for consideration.

Dogs Trust's Comments

1. Re; Fouling of Land by Dogs Order:

- *Dogs Trust consider 'scooping the poop' to be an integral element of responsible dog ownership and would fully support a well-implemented order on fouling. We urge the Council to enforce any such order rigorously. In order to maximise compliance we urge the Council to consider whether an adequate number of disposal points have been provided for responsible owners to use, to consider providing free disposal bags and to ensure that there is sufficient signage in place.*

2. Re; Dog Exclusion Order:

- *Dogs Trust accepts that there are some areas where it is desirable that dogs should be excluded, such as children's play areas, however we would recommend that exclusion areas are kept to a minimum and that, for enforcement reasons, they are restricted to enclosed areas. We would consider it more difficult to enforce an exclusion order in areas that lack clear boundaries.*
- *Dogs Trust would highlight the need to provide plenty of signage to direct owners to alternative areas nearby in which to exercise dogs.*

3. Re; Dog Exclusion Order and beaches:

- *With phone calls often being made to the RSPCA and Police alerting to dogs being left in hot cars in coastal areas, we would urge you to consider the danger animals may be put in, and the difficult decisions owners have to make, by not being allowed to take their dogs onto the beach.*
- *If the Council does choose to implement this order, Dogs Trust would encourage looking into a compromise between beach goers and dog owners, e.g. allowing dogs onto the beach in the evenings or early mornings, or having dog friendly sections on the beaches.*
- *Strict dog exclusion restrictions can also lead to a decrease in dog friendly tourism for businesses along the coast, which in turn could have a negative impact on the local economy.*

4. Re; Dog Exclusion and sport pitches

- *Excluding dogs from areas that are not enclosed could pose enforcement problems - we would consider it more difficult to enforce an exclusion order in areas that lack clear boundaries.*
- *We feel that exclusion zones should be kept to a minimum, and that excluding dogs from all sports pitches for long stretches of the year is unnecessary. In some cases sports pitches may account for a large part of the open space available in a public park, and therefore excluding dogs could significantly reduce available dog walking space for owners.*
- *We would urge the Council to consider focusing its efforts on reducing dog fouling in these areas, rather than excluding dogs entirely, with adequate provision of bins and provision of free disposal bags*

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5. Re; Dogs on Lead by Direction Order:

- *Dogs Trust enthusiastically support Dogs on Leads by Direction orders (for dogs that are considered to be out of control or causing alarm or distress to members of the public to be put on and kept on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised official).*
- *We consider that this order is by far the most useful, other than the fouling order, because it allows enforcement officers to target the owners of dogs that are allowing them to cause a nuisance without restricting the responsible owner and their dog. As none of the other orders, less fouling, are likely to be effective without proper enforcement we would be content if the others were dropped in favour of this order.*

The PDSA's 'Paw Report 2018' found that 89% of veterinary professionals believe that the welfare of dogs will suffer if owners are banned from walking their dogs in public spaces such as parks and beaches, or if dogs are required to be kept on leads in these spaces. Their report also states that 78% of owners rely on these types of spaces to walk their dog.

I would also like to bring your attention to the similar recommendations stated in the Government's 'Anti-social behaviour powers -Statutory guidance for frontline professionals' document, pages 52/53.

We believe that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and that the majority of dogs are well behaved. In recognition of this, we would encourage local authorities to exercise its power to issue Community Protection Notices, targeting irresponsible owners and proactively addressing anti-social behaviours.

Dogs Trust works with local authorities across the UK to help promote responsible dog ownership. Please do not hesitate to contact should you wish to discuss this matter.

We would be very grateful if you could inform us of the consultation outcome and subsequent decisions made in relation to the Public Space Protection Order.

****

Cemetry of Capel MC Caeathro

Further to my response to the consultation I wish to add cemeteries to the list of exclusion areas for dogs.

****

Individual

Can you help, why are dogs banned from buses in your council, this is appalling.

****

Individual

I have filled out the questionnaire on the dog control orders but I have a query concerning Tywyn beach.

The majority of the maps included have a time period i.e. 1st April to 30th of September where dogs are excluded from part of the beach.

The Tywyn map does not have this data, please can you clarify that the exclusion will only be in the summer month?

****

Individual

I have been given to understand that you are reviewing the dog control order and asking for comments from the public. I wish to make comments on one area in particular in Pwllheli that may be relevant to many other locations within the county. Firstly, I wish to explain that I am myself a dog owner and have been for many years and I consider myself to be a responsible owner through experience. I have lived on the prom in Pwllheli for over fifty years and am therefore aware of what takes place here. Over the years, only a small amount of dogs were walked here, maybe three of four a day, but in the last four or five years this has increased greatly. Dogs are now very popular pets, which is of course a very good thing, and because of this increase I feel there is a need to change the orders in the original plan. I haven't counted in detail but I would assume there are around fifty dogs walking this area every day and the number increases significantly during the tourist season. The Prom has developed into a very popular area in Pwllheli, if not the most popular for pedestrians, runners, cyclists let alone the vehicles and it is only fair to seek to ensure that everyone's needs receive the same attention and benefits. Therefore is it extremely important that the area is kept clean of dog waste, and to ensure that the dogs to not affect the enjoyment of the remainder of the public especially the elderly and the frail. The most suitable way to ensure this is to insist that dogs that are walked along the pavements in this area are on leads, which is something that responsible owners are already doing, but unfortunately there are people who don't see the need, those who allow their dogs to run freely after balls etc., some also attack other dogs, and we must consider people who have a fear of dogs and those who are maybe not agile enough to move out of the way. Also, in relation to the problem of dog fouling, the majority are responsible, however there is a problem that is caused by the minority, and this is what causes the concern. I have noticed that it is the dogs who are off lead that are causing the problem, these owners walk metres in front of them without bothering to notice what is happening behind them they are indifferent and therefore do not pick up the mess. If it were mandatory for all dogs to be on leads I believe that the problem would be solved and it would be safer and healthier for everyone who comes to this part of the town. Due to a significant increase in dogs the current rules of the of the officer's instruction to place a dog on a lead is far from enough and no responsible dog owner would oppose changing such a rule and would keep their dog(s) on a lead at all times. This may be long-winded, but I certainly know what the problem having witnessed it on a daily basis.

****

Individual

A few comments on the draft.

1. "Public outdoor spaces with a 'Dog Exclusion Zone' sign near the access"

This seems to be very vague. Will signs be placed in areas that are not be listed in the draft? If so, who will determine what areas will be closed to dogs and their owners?

2. "School, college and university grounds"

In my opinion this is extreme and excessive. The University and Grŵp Llandrillo own a LOT of land, and this could have significant unintended consequences. For instance, some of the potential side-effects of this wording will be excluding dogs from e.g. The University Park, Coast Path (Treborth) and Parc Glynllifon (crosses College land)! Is this the intention?

3. "Other sports facilities"

Once again I feel the wording is very vague and open to be interpreted in many ways.

I have no objection at all to the intention of updating the Order, but I am very doubtful of the wording and the possible "over reach". It must be borne in mind that a number of Gwynedd's footpaths often run in part adjacent to "sports facilities" and a strict order could lead to unintended consequences. I am also concerned about the impact this could have on the elderly and the disabled. If we are creating a situation that only allows "strong and healthy" people to take their dogs for walks to a specific place it is possible that this will be in breach of the Equality Act 2010. It is something to consider in any case.

****

Individual

Thank you for sending the information. I think there is a spelling error on the Consultation Document, 3 (b) states "receptable" I don't think there is such a word? Do you mean receptacle?