

APPENDIX 2

RESULTS OF DOG CONTROL ORDER CONSULTATION 2024

Public Consultation:

As part of the proposed extension of the current order, a public consultation was held. The responses to the public consultation support and justify a continuation of the dog control powers, which include the control of dog fouling, exclusions and dogs on leads.

The consultation was live on the Council's website for a period of two weeks from the 22/07/24 until the 05/08/24. Details were shared on the Council's social media as well as a press release to ensure a wide range of people were aware of the opportunity to share their views.

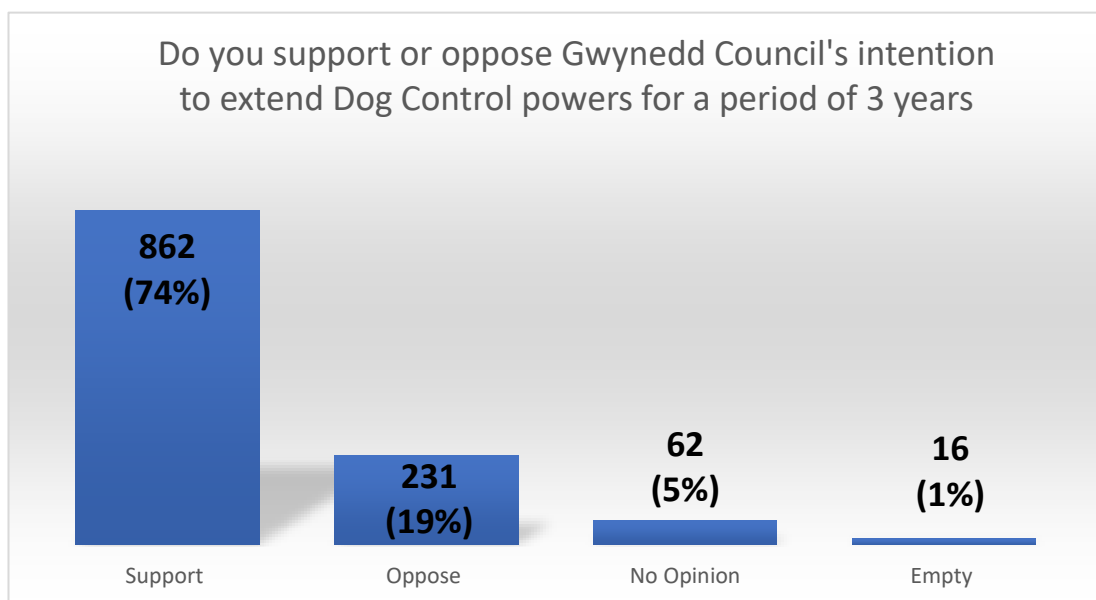
An email was sent directly to Community Council Clerks, members of the Police, other Council departments and various organisations related to Dog Control issues who would be affected by the decision to extend the order.

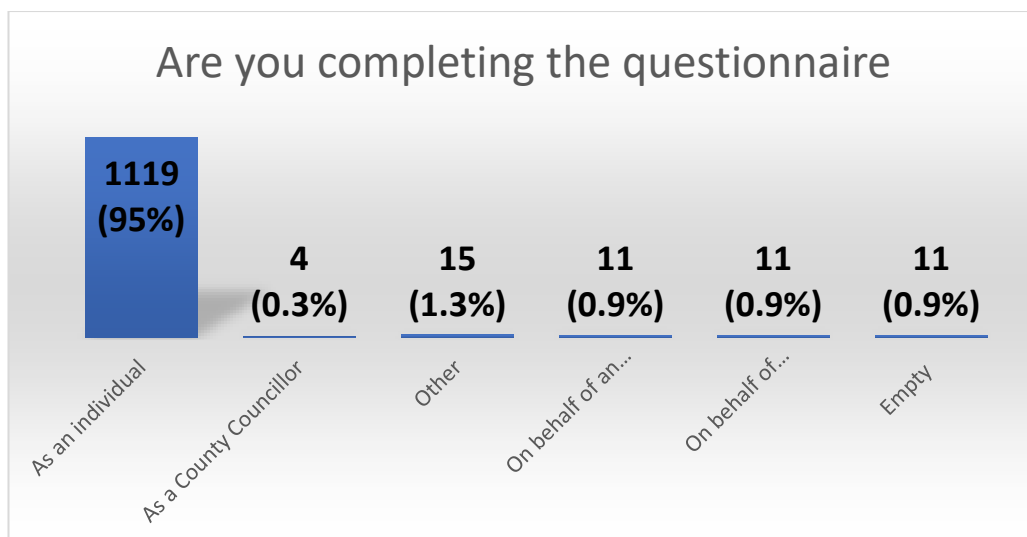
Paper questionnaires were also shared for those unable to respond online.

Main issues highlighted:

See below a summary of the main results of the consultation.

Number of consultation responses – **1171**





Opponents:

Of the 231 who opposed, 51 (of whom shared comments) specifically cited beaches as the main reason for opposing. The percentage of oppositions were very similar to the consultation held in 2021.

Cricieth "Marine" Beach:

The Maritime Service had reported that a number of Cricieth residents and visitors were complaining of a lack of space to take dogs due to an exclusion zone along the two main beaches - Promenade and "Marine". Based on this, the "Marine" Beach exclusion zone was removed in 2021.

In 2024, 13 objected to the extension on the grounds that they wanted to see the Council re-establish an exclusion zone on "Marine" beach.

Kennel Club a Dog's Trust:

Responses from these two groups, which represent dog owners, were supportive to the aim of extending the length of the current order.

Collections:

A clear majority of responses received through the questionnaire were supportive of the content of the order as it stands, i.e. based on the view that the current order is a fair one. This reflected the aspirations of the public at large, to see public spaces free of dog fouling and also considered the needs of those who need to exercise their dogs. There was no consensus for expanding the scope of the order to include additional rules.

It can therefore be concluded that the criteria under Section 59 of the 2014 Act has been achieved and that we can justify proceeding with the order.