

Extract from the Joint Strategic Committee - 7 October 2019

JSC/41/19-20 Consultation response and recommendations on the extension and amendment of Public Space Protection Orders (Dog Control) for Adur and Worthing Councils

Purpose:

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Communities, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 5.

The Committee was informed that on the 17 December 2019, two Public Space Protection Orders for dogs (one in Adur and one in Worthing) would expire.

On the 5 March 2019 a report had been brought to the Committee recommending:

- the approval, in principle, of proposed amendments to the orders outlined in paragraphs 4.5 and 4.8 of that report (contained as Appendix A to this report);
- the approval for the undertaking of a public consultation survey as outlined in that report;
- that a further report be brought to JSC in September 2019 with the results of the public consultation and options for consideration.

This report provided the results of the public consultation carried out between Monday 15 July to Friday 6 September 2019 and included a number of recommendations that Members of the Joint Strategic Committee were asked to consider

Summary of discussion:

During consideration of the item Members raised the following points:-

- thanked the public for their responses to the consultation;
- that the maximum number of dogs being walked by an individual should remain as 6. However, it was noted that the response to this issue was not clear cut (52:48) with a number of people responding to say that the maximum number of dogs should be reduced from 6 to 4;
- requested that the public report any issues as they arise;

- requested that Officers make it as easy as possible for the public to report any concerns; and
- that there was an important role for responsible dog owners in the reporting of irresponsible dog owners.

The Committee stated that there was no excuse for not cleaning up after dogs, as it created a health risk and the Councils would take a zero tolerance on this issue whenever it could.

Decision

That the Joint Strategic Committee recommended to Adur and Worthing Councils:-

1. that both current PSPO's be extended for a period of 3 years;
2. that the fixed penalty fine be increased to £100;
3. that the existing exclusion zone be retained along Worthing Beach;
4. that the number of dogs that can be walked by dog walkers should remain at 6.