

Public Space Protection Order Video Transcript

Ian Hoult: Neighbourhood Protection Manager: From the 1st of June we're introducing a Public Space Protection Order that responds really to quality of life issues here in County Durham. Our residents have been really supportive with the consultation and we want everybody to be behind this campaign and look to follow our lead.

Denise Kelly: Campaigns Manager - North of England, Dogs Trust: We're in full support of the council because not only have they cleaned up the environment for children - and we all want to be safe and clean environment - but they've also looked after the dog's well-being and keeping the dogs safe, so it's a win win for us.

Ian Hoult: Neighbourhood Protection Manager: We're introducing a number of offences. Firstly, we're continuing with it to be an offence to allow your dog to foul but without picking it up. It will be an offence for you also to allow your dog to stray. It'll also be an offence to fail to put your dog on a lead when you're asked by an authorised officer and that could be a police officer, or it could be a neighbourhood warden as an example.

Kendra Milne: Neighbourhood Warden: If do not comply with the Public Space Protection Order, there will be a fixed penalty given. If the fixed penalty notice isn't paid within the time scale given, they will be taken to court which lead to a fine of up to £1,000.

Ian Hoult: Neighbourhood Protection Manager: We're introducing from the 1st of June, a ban from certain play areas that are fenced off. They'll be signposted at each of the sites. The Public Space Protection Order will mean that it'll be an offence to let your dog be in one of these play areas and that'll mean a £100 fine, a fixed penalty notice that could be issued to you.

Denise Kelly: Campaigns Manager - North of England, Dogs Trust: At all our events we get across that the five freedoms which is your Animal Welfare Act, telling people what they're supposed to do if they've got a dog and one of them will be to check on websites to make sure where they can exercise the dog and where they can exercise the dog off a lead.

I'm here at Hardwick Park. We already have a dog exercise area where dogs can enjoy themselves, for the rest of the park they'll need to be on a lead. But it's good that the dogs have time to enjoy themselves free of that lead sometimes. And we are introducing two new dog exercise areas - one at Riverside Park in Chester-le-Street, and the second one on Waldrige Fell.