

# Rushcliffe Borough Council

## Equality impact assessment form

July 2024

Name and brief description of proposal/project / policy / service being assessed:

*Extension/amendment of the PSPO for control of dogs in the Borough.*

*The PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) for dog control has been in place for three years and is required to be renewed every three years by legislation.*

*Failing to renew the order will mean there is a much-diminished capability to be able to respond to complaints of dog fouling or other issues relating to dogs in the community on land to which the public have access.*

*The pspo has been subject to a public consultation and responses have been considered*

Information used to analyse the effects of equality:

*The order places a duty or restrictions on any individual in control of dogs ensure that they comply with the requirements or restrictions to protect the health and welfare of others in the area.*

*The order allows for reasonable excuse as a defence, and exemptions are placed in the order as below*

*Nothing in this Order shall apply to:*

- (a) a person who is registered as a blind person on a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or*
- (b) a person who is deaf and relies upon a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity 293358) for assistance.*
- (c) a person who has as a disability which affects their mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination, or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a Prescribed Charity and upon which he relies for assistance.*
- (d) dogs that are being used for work in connection with emergency search and rescue, herding or shepherding animals, law enforcement and the work of the armed forces.*

First stage assessment:

*As specified in the guidance note you need to answer the following questions to identify a full assessment is required.*

- 1. Could the policy affect one or more groups in a different way to others? We have allowed for certain disabilities as detailed above and in the order, who may be exempt in certain cases.**

2. Could different groups have different needs in relation to the policy? **The exemptions apply to legally defined groups to ensure the pspo can be applied in a fair manner.**
3. Does the policy actually or potentially hinder equality of opportunity? **No**
4. Does the policy actually or potentially contribute to equality of opportunity? **It will allow those with certain disabilities to continue to own, walk and exercise dogs without undue concern about fear of causing an unintentional offence.**
5. Does the policy offer opportunities to promote equality? **No**
6. Does the policy offer opportunities to promote positive relations? **No**

If a full application is not required, please send this form to [HR@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:HR@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

	Could particular benefit (X)	May adversely impact (X)	How different groups could be affected: Summary of impacts	Details of actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact (or why action not possible)
People from different ethnic groups			No impact on different groups	
Men, women (including maternity/pregnancy impact), transgender people			No impact on different groups	
Disabled people	X	X	Dogs may offend and the owner may not see the offence or be able to read the signage. It should be remember that many disabled groups also are more affected by dog fouling e.g. on wheel	Contains conditions that ensures certain legally defined groups are exempt from offences.



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			chairs, canes etc and this policy will assist in helping to prevent such fouling.	
Care leavers			No impact on different groups	
People from different faith groups			No impact on different groups	
LGBTQIA + e.g. heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, transgender.			No impact on different groups	
Older or younger people	x		No impact on purely on age	Dogs are prohibited in certain fenced play areas to protect young children from some issues with dogs, e.g. bites, trips, or fear of dogs at a young age. This policy ensures younger children in particular are protected at these locations.
Other (marriage/civil partnership, looked after children, cohesion/good relations, vulnerable children/adults, veteran of the armed forces)			No impact on different groups	



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**OUTCOME(S) OF EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT:** *(delete as appropriate)*

No major change need project/policy/proposal    ~~Adjust policy/proposal/project~~    ~~Adverse impact but continue~~    ~~Stop/remove~~

**Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this policy/proposal/project:**

*At renewal of the pspo in three years from 8 July 2025*

**Names of officers who conducted EIA and date**

Martin Hickey

**Approved by:**  
*(manager signature)*

**Date: 16/4/25**

Once the form is signed off by the Manager please send to [HR@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:HR@rushcliffe.gov.uk) for discussion by the Equality and Diversity Steering Group.