

Appendix C - Comments in Favour of PSPO Aberavon Beach

1. Prefer not to have dogs running around on the beach or prom, off leads. Because have small grandad children down there with me
2. I have an elderly parent who has mobility issues, she feels unsafe when dogs are running around if their leads!
3. Make my visit safer
4. My son has been chased by dogs on the beach without leads. I don't feel safe leaving my son play with a dog close by. There has also been an increase in dog attacks in the news.
5. i agree that on hot days when the beach is packed (between may and september)that dogs shouldnt be allowed in the beach , BUT when its raining and empty i cant see why not !
6. I have trouble walking, dogs off leads cause me distress.
7. Best thing that could happen not everyone is a dog lover and there is always dog mess around to avoid as well
8. Keeping the current regulations of no dogs on the beach, and dogs on leads on the promenade will help make the beach area a safer place. I would like to see a law introduced that makes it law that dogs should be muzzled in ANY public place.
9. We need to keep the beach as clean as possible. Through the winter months it's disgusting how much dog foul is there, let's not have the beach become a beacon of dog mess
10. Loose dogs scare people and make the area uncomfortable for thosnewirh disabilities or with young children, especially those with additional needs or fear of dogs. Extendable leads are just as bad if not worse as then owners feel the dogs are under control when they're really not
11. I have been bothered by dogs on the beach and on the promenade on several occasions. I've had dogs running and barking at me, and jumping up onto me. I am a disabled person (largely invisible condition), these incidents have caused me great anxiety and over the last year I have actively avoided walking on the beach when dogs are allowed on it. The majority of dog owners are responsible and keep their dogs under control, however I continue to suffer repeated incidents from dogs not under proper control, and victim blaming from irresponsible dog owners. I have

reported concerns to the council in the past and have spoken to the officer who patrols the beach. On several occasions I have noticed dog faeces on the beach also. I feel very strongly that restrictions should remain place and be better unforced. Dog mess is a constant problem on the promenade and spoils the area for the whole community and any visitors to it.

12. Dogs should be on leads both on the beach and on the promenade at all times regardless of the season. Dogs should be permitted to be off lead at all times of the year on the small beach the other side of the pier. As a person with a phobia of dogs I find I cannot enjoy the beach fully knowing dogs may be off the lead.
13. The current ban of dogs on the beach (May 1st - September 30th) works well with dog walkers/local residents. A change to include both March and April to the ban seems futile.
14. a lot of dog owners do not follow the rules now!! nevermind if the order was lifted. Im scared of bigger dogs and its bad enough having one or two on the main beach in winter never mind the suer. The have the other two beaches the dogs can run wild on and people can chose to stay away from those like me if they scared of dogs.
15. People already flout the ban so giving free rein will exacerbate the current issues
16. I believe it is important that dogs are kept on. Leads on the promenade as there is so much traffic on there, walkers, runners, cyclists etc, but I believe the beach should be open to dogs all year
17. I have grandchildren who are Autistic and do not go on beaches where dogs are allowed.
18. The current rules are appropriate, the summer is too hot for dog to be on the Mai. beach and it stops risk of overheating for them. And it stop the unpleasantness of people stepping in or coming across dog waste in the summer when there are More people and the beach is busier. However, in the winder and cold month I think dogs should be allowed because the beach is used less due to weather condition, so allowing dogs and thier owners to enjoy it will be more beneficial. However, I do believe more strict patrolling of the beach and promenade in terms of people not picking up dog waste is needed. I visit the beach several times every week and the amount of dog waste on the prom is disgusting but do not punish the mass of good owners due to the lack of care or consideration of the bad ones. My dogs love the

beach and it would be a tel shame if me and my whole family could not enjoy an afternoon out.

19. The questions 13 and 14 are proposing to have the ban on dogs on the beach and dogs on leads on promenard as from March this is not correct therefore have answered don't know with it. If amended to May to September I would agree.
20. Dogs being allowed on certain parts of the beach between May and Sept would be positive.
21. Dog fouling and owners not cleaning up
22. I am in agreement with the current seasonsl restrictions in situ to continue.
23. Dogs should be kept on a lead at all times in the promenade and only be allowed off lead on the beach during off peak season.
24. Please don't allow dogs during summer season. My daughter is petrified of dogs and would mean no more beach days for us. Recent bans of certain breeds have happened for a reason. Would be completely wrong during high season and a risk to young children
25. Please continue with current restrictions. I am afraid of dogs. I would not visit if the beach was busy with dogs.
26. Safety of children should be paramount
27. I take my young son daily. He gets upset when dogs come near. With recent incidents resulting in bans on certain breeds, I think current restrictions should remain
28. I think restrictions should continue
29. My grandson is nervous of Dogs other than his own
30. The beach area by the dunes and the old bo should be allowed to have dogs on leads as this area is far away from the main Aberavon beach
31. All dogs should be on leads in public spaces (even friendly ones) except in specific designated areas. Off lead dogs are often not in their owners control and are allowed to run up to and interact with other peoples dogs and children with no owner intervention often because the owner is either oblivious of the risk or too far away to do anything. "It's ok they are friendly" is too often heard even when other owners with on lead dogs are telling them "mine isn't" or children who are nervous of dogs suddenly find their play interrupted by out of control "friendly" dogs

32. In the winter I don't use the beach much and rarely walk my dogs there. though I use the beach regularly without my dogs. Too many other dogs there and I don't feel comfortable walking mine there
33. My Autistic son cannot use the main beach cos of his fear of lose dogs ,
34. Dog should not be allowed on the beach at all in my opinion, especially with the amount of do attacks on children and adults.
35. I would live to walk on the prom more however playing hopscotch over the dog mess is no fun it really is a health hazard and deters me from using the prom. People also have a blatant disregard for the summer ban on dogs on the beach. This again poses a health hazard as when I do use the beach im very aware of watching where im stepping and reluctant to let my children play in the sand. It's also very intimidating for people who don't like dogs to have them bound towards you with out a lead. Even if these dogs are 'Friendly' a large number of people are scared by them and would like to enjoy the beach without fear.
36. The ban of dogs on the beach during high season is correct however, the promenade in turn has high flows of dog walkers which has caused a noticable amount of dog mess on the promenade. So much and so consistently, we avoid walking the promenade often because of the level of dog mess end to end. Removing this order would aid that, but spreading the mess out isn't the answer either. I cannot take my children/pram along a promenade comfortable without dodging and keeping aware of the mess on the floor. This only takes one walk end to end for this issue to be evident. In my opinion, this is what needs to be addressed when considering this order.
37. You should allow people to walk their dog on other part of the beach I.e small side beach and naval end when the promenade finish because dogs need exercise .like it is now no change is good . But a very big but is the speed of the cycling crew that think the promenade is a race track .People allowed to walk the promenade. With the slower speed limits now maybe adult cycling could go only on the road .safety first .some people on cycles go to fast and should be spoken to by a warden about safety of people. The idea of no dogs on the promenade is not a good idea .
38. Don't feel safe around untethered dogs,especially on crutches

39. I walk the promenade on a daily basis, some irresponsible dog owners do not control their dogs and do not address fouling by their own owners, this is a fact and common place, I have reported this on numerous occasions to NPTBC, their is insufficient enforcement and a lack of clear sign posts, many owners simply disregard the signs and/or become abusive if challenged. More visible patrols are required and action taken against offenders as a deterrent. Local residents deserve to be able to enjoy this natural resource without fear of being attacked or stepping in dog excrement
40. I don't think allowing dogs on the beach is a problem but I can appreciate families with children using the beach to play/paddle/picnic find it easier and more relaxing when there are no dogs. However I look forward to the Autumn when we can once again walk the dogs on the long stretch of the beach because the parking is quite limited when we are only using the dunes/fair ends. However I strongly believe all dogs should be on leads on the promenade at all times and more patrols should be enforcing cleaning up after toileting. Thank you for giving us responsible dog lovers a voice
41. Keep the Tata steel beach as dogs allowed all year round. They're not on the main section, so doesn't effect any non dog walking people.
42. Sadly a lot of dog mess is left behind. Dogs running around wildly are frightening
43. I think there should be a permenat ban on dogs of lead on the promenade. I am a responsible dog owner, there are to many irresponsible dog owners
44. I would live to walk on the prom more however playing hopscotch over the dog mess is no fun it really is a health hazard and deters me from using the prom. People also have a blatant disregard for the summer ban on dogs on the beach. This again poses a health hazard as when I do use the beach im very aware of watching where im stepping and reluctant to let my children play in the sand. It's also very intimidating for people who don't like dogs to have them bound towards you with out a lead. Even if these dogs are 'Friendly' a large number of people are scared by them and would like to enjoy the beach without fear.
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47. Don't feel safe around untethered dogs,especially on crutches
48. Keep the Tata steel beach as dogs allowed all year round. They're not on the main section, so doesn't effect any non dog walking people.
49. Sadly a lot of dog mess is left behind. Dogs running around wildly are frightening
50. I firmly believe dogs should never be allowed on the beach. The bacteria in their faeces takes years to break down and is harmful to humans. Dogs should always be kept on a lead at all times in public areas.
51. We have children who are terrified of dogs having been chased by them in the past..inc Aberavon beach so allows them to enjoy the beach without fear. Loose dogs esp come to people who dont want them jump, chase, walk over your things.the mess left bwhind is also a serious health hazard as many do not clear up after themselves. Please keep the ban!!
52. My elderly father could get knocked over by dogs running off the lead.
53. Because of the high numbers of dog owners who refuse to pick up their dog mess in Aberavon, dogs should be kept off the beach at all times in order to minimize the danger and offence to beach users. It was shocking to see the amount of dog mess on the promenade during the summer.
54. You don't police the situation. Dogs are everywhere even on the tables outside Franco s cafe. Right now there are at least 30 piles of dog sh1t on promenade, steps and sand. It is filthy. Some people are terrified of dogs. Two children got knocked over by an Alsation playing. Dogs can use other beach and sand dunes.
55. As a responsible dog owner who goes to the beach around once a week, I have no issues with these proposals

56. Keep the use of the beach for dogs exactly as it is now. Enforcement of people not clearing up their dog mess needs to be improved also human mess
57. Although being a dog owner. Our daughter got bitten by a dog off the lead trying to get at our dog at the age of 7 years old. Needless to say she's frightened of dogs still at 11 years old. Our eldest has autism and can stand dogs jumping up on him. No dog should be off the lead or on extendable leads as owner does not have control of the dog. All too often the owner will say it's ok he/she is friendly maybe to them but other dogs and people probably not.
58. If you could control a dog going to the toilet then the above wouldn't matter. Imagine residue left from the dog going to the toilet getting in a humans eye and blinding them or getting into a cut and causing serious damage. That's without irresponsible dog owners not cleaning up the mess in the first place
59. Dogs on the promenade should be on a lead all year
60. please just leave it as it is. between may and september it is too hot for dogs to run around on the sand so us dog walkers prefer the restriction where we can take them down warren or sand dunes straight to the sea for a dip. As u can see its now october and the weather has changed dramatically there will be only dog walkers from now till april using the beach
61. The beach is cleaner when dogs are kept off the sand and walked on a lead on the prom.
62. I believe dogs should be excluded from the main beach all year round, with dogs only being allowed on the separate section. I believe dogs should be on short leads all year round on the prom and grass areas along the beach (and in public places generally) to protect children and adults.
63. ban dogs they are regularly used to intimidate from their looser owners half of them cant look after their kids
64. Animals are unpredictable no matter how they are brought up by the owner. Personally I think they should be kept on leads at all times.
65. Leads should still be required on the beach and promenade however.
66. My daughter has had balls taken by dogs off leads, and burst, we've had dogs sniffing in our picnic, we've witnessed dog mess on the beach. It's disgusting and impacts our enjoyment of the beach. Just a blanket ban would be welcomed.

67. While I agree to the restriction, I would like the access to the beach (currently unofficial? via the last set of steps), to include the last 2 sets of steps (coffee kiosk and toilets). This would give dog owners, and non dog owners better access to the toilet and coffee kiosk. It would also allow families with children and a dog, to be on the beach, and have access to facilities. #
68. I think the current arrangements work well and I would support their continuation. I don't think dogs should be off lead on the promenade at any time of year. On the beach, in high season when it is busy, it is reasonable that that the area highlighted be 'dog free'. There's plenty of space down the dunes end for those of us with dogs.
69. Young children who don't like dogs or scared should be allowed safety along beach. People let their dogs do what they like leads trip people up get in way of scooters etc. dogs under elderly feet. Many dog owners don't stay with their pet leave them run off you might have a picnic on beach and you have dogs running up to you. They also are then unaware of dog soils and they don't pick it up.
I disagree with having them in cafes too some people have allergies
70. I think it is very important for the restrictions to remain in place and be actually enforced. Dogs off the lead and on the beach is still a daily occurrence even when ban is in force. I have had issues with dogs every time I have been down to the beach in the last year. A dog defecated over our belongings, while on the beach and another took my daughter out and stole her ear muffs. She is only 8 and was terrified. Owners have no control. It is most frustrating when the beach is there for all to enjoy.
71. Keeping the "small beach" dog friendly all year round is a must for dog walkers, but keeping the big beach dog ban during high season is a must for families. Keeping dogs on a lead all year round on the promenade all year round would be much better and safer for all
72. Responsible dog owners are being penalised, because of the minority. I agree that rules should be in place for safety reasons and would happily use a lead during busy summer months when walking my dog.
73. All dogs should be on leads at all times whether on the promenade or the beach. This would safeguard the public plus the dog themselves. It's irresponsible pet owners that leave their pets down & spoil it for everyone. A regular patrol to enforce loose dogs or owners that do not pick up after their dogs would be a sensible option. It's a shame we

can't all enjoy our beautiful coastline all year round. It's the minority that spoils it for all other responsible dog owners.

74. Keeping a small section of beach as it is now is perfect
75. The current situation allowing dogs at the dunes end of the beach or little warren during the summer is fine for responsible dog owners. More needs to be done to police the irresponsible owners that ignore the rule and generally don't pick up dog mess on the beach. When families are on the beach there should be areas which are dog free and conversely there should be areas where families can be together with their dog on the beach
76. Dogs should not be allowed on the beach in the summer leave it has it is please we young son does not like dogs when he is on the beach in the summer enjoying and playing this would effect him a lot.
77. The beach is a great place to walk your dog while breathing in the sea air and taking exercise yourself. Some parts of it should be available for dog walkers all year round.
78. It is unacceptable to have dogs running free when there are children and elderly people using the beach and promenade. It is unsafe due to dogs posing an aggression risk and trip hazard. I have witnessed dogs running free urinating on peoples towels and property and dogs defecating with owners walking away from a distance
79. Dogs on the beach during the summer months are a menace but I have yet to see the ban enforced
80. Dogs can be a nuisance both on and off a lead in public areas. Adults and children do not always want attention from dogs sniffing, licking, or jumping up on them. Sometimes it can be intimidating and lead to aggressive behaviour from the dog and even the owner. Personally I would like to see all dogs having to be on a lead and wearing a muzzle when in ANY public place.
81. Dogs can be quite frightening to some when thier not on a lead especially the larger breeds.
82. Please ensure that when dogs are on the beach during low season, that owners keep them on a lead. I have lost count of the times when dogs that are not controlled by owners jump on me. I am terrified of dogs & would like to walk on the beach safely. I walk daily and this has an affect of my quality of life. Please NEVER allow dogs on the beach or prom during high season also. I would go as far as banning dogs full stop

83. 2 1/2 year old grandchild finding it frightening. I would also ban them from the east beach (little side) as that's where most of the very young families swim.
84. Keep dogs off the beach in summer and on a leash in summer.
85. I frequently get tripped up whilst running by extension dog leads, have to dodge dog excrement on the prom and top of steps and also get chased by dogs at least twice weekly resulting in confrontation with owners who seem oblivious to the threat.
86. DOGS SHOULD NOT BE ON BEACH BECAUSE THEY COULD POSE A DANGER AND HEALTH HAZARD TO PEOPLE.
87. Myself and my daughter and my partner are Autistic and many dog owners have no regard for our anxieties and fears and allow dogs to bark at, jump up at and disturb and distress us very often. I find that many dog owners get very defensive if you show distress, not caring that we are all different and that we are equally as allowed not to want dogs near us as they are to own them. It stops all three of us from feeling able to go near public spaces like the beach, which we otherwise very much enjoy, yet feel alienated from due to dogs being around.
88. dogs running loose are tripping hazard.
89. I am an older carer for my elderly, disabled husband. Dogs running or jumping up at us would take us off balance. My husband is in a wheelchair at some dog height and could be injured. Not everyone adheres to the rules of keeping dogs on a leash, on the promenade which brings fear for us, fights between dogs even with their dogs on a leash. Dog excrement is a disgusting mess because not everyone picks up after their dogs, especially in the underneath section of the promenade. We actually had a fairly large unleashed dog circling us with his head down as if ready to attack, then the owner whom I couldn't see at first (in the cafe) called it, but she had to yell and run towards it to get it to obey. My heart was in my mouth as I considered how to protect my husband whom the dog could easily reach without jumping up at him. It's made us quite afraid when out and are confronted by a dog. To be honest I saw a very small child, run up to a dog the same size as her. She put her arms around its neck and for that split second, I stopped walking and prepared to rush towards her, I definitely felt fear for her. Children and others should be able to use public spaces without fear of dog attacks, excrement etc. Unfortunately dogs can't read the signs.

90. I completely understand why dogs are kept off the beach in high season. Unfortunately not all dogs (the majority in fact) are well trained and mix well with other dogs and people. When I visit the beach with my daughter and without the dogs I feel safer that it is a dog free area.