

Appendix G - Time Restriction Suggestion for PSPO Aberavon Beach

1. Dogs should be allowed on the beach because when they are not allowed, majority of the time the weather is awful and no one attends the beach. This impacts local businesses. The beach is always busy when dogs are allowed. Also, humans leave more mess than dogs. How about a partial ban, between 10am and 6pm?
Responsible dog owners only walk dogs late at night or early morning when the weather is hot, and it's nice for dogs to be able to cool off in the sea
2. Wardens are more interested in giving a dog walker a ticket, than dealing with actual littering issues in the dunes and on the small beach. Just going after an easy target. There's no justification for any restrictions outside of school holidays. During the holidays, the beach should be free use for everyone in the evenings and early mornings.
3. I feel there is more rubbish, bbqs etc left on the beach during summer months. Most dog owners are responsible owners who pick up after their dogs. There is only a high demand for beach in hot sunny summer days, where dog walkers are out all weather. I feel the rules need to be changed and more relaxed. For example dogs allowed on the main beach early morning 6am-10am and in the evenings 8pm-midnight. On hot sunny days dogs are not walked during peak times. The rules need to be reviewed and more flexible as more people than ever now have dogs.
4. I live here in port talbot with 2 dogs. This is our home and the beach is their favourite walk (we live 5 minutes away). I understand that people that don't have dogs may not want dogs on the beach, but surely we can compromise? I'd be happy to keep my dogs on a short lead on the prom in high season. Maybe 8pm-8am us with dogs would be allowed to take the dogs on the beach in high season? I understand the small beach is available through high season but with the tide in it takes around 10 minutes to walk up and can be extremely busy when the tides in.
5. The beach is totally empty for more than half of the year in the mornings and evenings, yet the promenade is full of dog walkers. The dunes and small beach are always used. During the summer the promenade is unusable by most because it is

full of dogs on leads. Bikes can't pass. Opening up the beach to dogs in the morning/evenings will make the promenade usable by more people.

6. Allow dog walking on beach before 9 am and after 7 pm. Beach quiet and most walkers clean up after their dogs
7. Think generally it would be better to only restrict dogs during the main summer months during the school holidays ect. and only during the day, early morning and late evening when the beach is empty dogs should be allowed, most of the litter on the beach is caused by irresponsible individuals and not dogs, most dog owners do pick up the mess and allowing dogs on the beach allows the beach to be fully utilized all year round when it would otherwise be empty
8. I think it would be beneficial for dogs to be allowed on the beach before 8am during the summer months. I visit the beach daily and there are rarely people on the beach between 5am & 8am. When the weather is hot, most dog owners aim to be out between 5am & 8am when its cooler. I think keeping the rules for leads on promenade is a must to ensure small children are not knocked over by dogs running loose. But a complete ban on the beach, I completely disagree with.
9. Have more sensible restrictions. Allow certain times / weather / areas. Humans leave more mess than dogs!
10. Think dogs should be allowed early mornings and late evenings when there is less people on the beach.
11. During the summer months, many beachgoers, families, group etc visit the sections of the beach where dogs are not restricted. Having the large section restricted concentrates dogs to small area (E.g. the small side) which contributes to higher instances of issues involving dogs. We are very fortunate at Aberavon to have a large beach which should be enjoyed by all, including dog walkers during the summer months. If the council finds that restrictions should remain, please consider a time restriction, i.e. dogs are not permitted 10am to 6pm. This would be a huge positive for dog walkers in the area, and would have minimal disruption during the busiest hours on the beach. Thanks
12. Please consider revising the restriction to 1st June until 1st September. Many dog walkers are the only people on the promenade and small beach throughout

September particularly. There is no reason not to make the beach accessible from the 1st September.

13. I propose times of day dogs are allowed to use beach like in other European countries for example between 10-6pm no dogs allowed on beach.
14. It is my option that as long as dog owners are responsible that the restrictions could be relaxed. If dogs were to be allowed on the beach early in the morning and late in the evening it would have little to no impact on other beach users.
15. Rubbish, broken glass and used bbqs left on beach cause more damage than allowing dogs on the beach. Most walkers are there before 10 and before any families arrive.
16. I don't agree with dogs being allowed in the beach during peak times where it's busy with children and hot weather. However, I do feel strongly that dogs should be allowed on the beach between 6am-10am and 8pm-10pm
17. As long as dog owners are responsible at all times for their dogs we should be allowed access to the main beach early mornings & evenings when the beach is at it's quietest & temperatures are cooler.
18. If there needs to be restrictions, please consider school holiday periods and allow dogs on the beach between 8pm-8am as most dog owners would be happy to do that in the summer. The current situation is unfair to the majority of us that are considerate pet owners.
19. Dogs should be permitted on the big beach all year long. I'd understand time restrictions in peak summer - i.e early morning and late evenings. The smaller beach remains very popular despite dogs being permitted all year which demonstrates that people are unphased by dog presence. The current restrictions penalise local residents, if increased as proposed would be even more unfair.
20. There were many times I went past an empty beach to try and walk down the far end to get on a beach. I do not believe in a blanket ban but I do believe dogs shouldn't roam freely on a packed beach. I also believe the dogs should be allowed on a quiet beach. I suggest, as there are lifeguards in this season, they put a flag up that will either allow or disallow dogs on the beach depending on how many occupants are on it. Or someone else. Why can't I walk a dog on an empty beach which it usually is before my working day all year?

21. Dogs should be allowed on the beach at certain times, early morning, evening, during the night. That's no need to ban them from using the beach when no one else is on it. I do think that they should be kept on leads. A lot can't control their dogs, they let them off the lead, then spend 1/2 hour chasing them down the beach
22. I am a widowed 40 year old mother with 2 dogs and 3 children age ranging 6 to 13. I also suffer with bulging discs in my lower back. I live on Aberavon beach. I require accessible access to the community and want to keep people safe by walking my 2 dogs when the tide is out, my children can also join me. During summer months, I avoid the smaller beach. The grass area by the whale is extremely busy with children and other dog walkers. I do not let my dogs off the lead here due to the volume of people. But this aggravates my back pain. I have had disputes in summer months with people who previously asked me to keep my dogs on a lead on the grass (they did nothing wrong, just run around), as children played on the grass. But we can't access the beach! The children and families can. But they still choose to stay on grass as opposed to the beach. I do not intend to walk my dogs in very hot weather. I just require easy access to an open space to walk my dog close to my home. Early mornings and evenings would be fine during summer months.
23. During high season. Dogs should be allowed on the beach. If not then restrictions should start at 10am – 6pm
24. Occasionally walk with a friend and her dog on Aberafan prom, we see others breaking the no dogs on beach rule. But, often the beach is all but empty. Would a school holiday restriction or allowing dogs after 7pm for instance give more people an opportunity to enjoy the beach during the summer months.
25. I think there should be a time limit when the exclusion of dogs on beaches is on situ. I think for locals and visitors if the exclusion was between 8am-6pm it would enable everybody to enjoy the whole beach at some point in the day. Most dog walkers professional or otherwise do walk early and late to ensure the rest of the day is clear for either work or other plans. It gives everyone the best of both.
26. Don't agree with banning dogs in the beach between May and Sept. I don't visit Aberavon during these months for this reason. A better approach may be dogs on leads during this time or during a specific time period eg 10-4. Another option may be a ban during the summer holidays if necessary.

27. Dogs should be allowed on the beach during May to September in the early mornings and evenings
28. There should be a relaxation of the rules during peak season to allow dogs on the beach/prom in the early and late hours of the day. Restricting them from the beach and prom altogether is unfair on local residents
29. Dogs should be on a lead on the promenade at all times all year round. Dogs should be allowed on the beach during summer months before 9am and after 8pm and off lead, the rest of the year dogs should be allowed on the beach off lead
30. Compromise - allow dogs on beach before 8am and after 7pm ish, this may also help with the nuisance behaviour from partying youngsters. Responsible dog owners are more likely to pick up litter because we don't want our dogs harmed
31. I personally would like to see a curfew through summer months on dog walking on main beach like no dogs on main beach between the hours of say 8am to 8pm more dog bins and more wardens to fine the irresponsible dog owners who don't pick up after their dog and same goes for the waste that humans leave behind on the beach.
32. As a dog walker who uses the beach twice a day and night I think there should be a time restriction on the beach . Dogs allowed up until 9/10am and the same after 9pm and this only up to the 1st September when the lifeguards leave the beach end of summer
33. Let dogs go on the beach- all year but between limited hours during high season
34. As a dog owner and a responsible one , I believe dogs should be on a lead on the prom area. However good your dog is , there is a small chance the dog could be agitated, so can control a dog on a lead. On the big beach , believe good to have free reign at certain times , good perhaps before 10 am and after 7pm, but again can't see issues to use big beach with dogs but just restrict in actual school holidays including May half term. As for prom, due to footfall including older people and people with disabilities, think dogs should be on a lead at all times.
35. I support allowing dog access to the main beach during May to Sept up to 9am (early morning) and from 8pm (late evening)
36. Although I believe there should be restrictions, these should have a time limit. IE between the hours of 09:00 and 20:00.

37. I am a dog owner and have been for 5 years. My boys are taken to the beach every morning early so they can be walked on their leads along the prom and grass verge On LEADS. Yes they should be kept under control (all dogs)! There are a few who do what they like especially not picking up faeces. This disgusts me. We are all responsible including rubbish not put in bins. Early morning and later in the evening is a very good idea during May through September .
38. While I agree about the Summer time ban to some extent but why not have staggered times such as early morning and evening a disagree about a blanket ban. That would be unfair on dog owners who also spend money in the cafes along the sea front. I agree with dogs having to be on leads on the prom. Walkers and cyclist have been injured by dogs running loose
39. I understand banning dogs on the beach in summer during peak hours but before 10 am and say after 7 pm when beach is quieter wouldn't impact visitors
40. I would be good to allow dogs on the beach before 9am and after 7pm in the summer.
41. I think there should be time restrictions in the time period . I also think that it should be policed as there are people who do not pick up after their dogs
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43. Dogs should be allowed on the beach during off peak times 1/5-30/9. It's far easier to clean dog mess from the sand firstly and secondly the prom becomes overly crowded with big walkers and cyclists
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46. Dog walkers should have specified times on the main beach during the summer months

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54. You could leave the end of the beach from the pier to the RNLI as a available for dog walkers and then the Reno's end for no dogs. Most people use this end of the beach anyway because of the splash park, Francos, etc. you could even consider saying the pier to RNLI area can be used for dog walkers between the hours of.....
55. I strongly agree with dogs being kept on a SHORT lead and under control on the Promenade thus avoiding accidents with other promenade users. However, I DO believe that some flexibility could and should be made regarding the TOTAL exclusion of dogs from the beach between May and October. Most dog walkers would choose to walk their animals either early or late in the day thereby avoiding hot sand/pavements etc. A possible trial period would be sensible to monitor if said dog walkers are responsible enough to pick up after their pets. Most do but there are always going to be the infuriating, irresponsible, dirty beggars who don't. Whether sensible dog owners can or

would be willing to call them into account is at this point an unknown. Hence the trial period. On saying that, irresponsible beach users abound across all age groups. The Little beach is a crazy hazard for parents of small children, due to the irresponsible teenagers (and older) who leave litter including glass and BBQ paraphernalia. A MASSIVE hazard and one that can be quite costly to dog owners who have to pay vets bills if their dog gets injured.

56. Dogs could at least be allowed on the beach before 10 am .
57. I am a dog owner and use the beach to exercise my dog, I see no problem in using the beach and prom between October and May but would also like to use the beach at other times through May to Sept on days it is too cold or wet for sun bathing or for children to be on the beach (in quieter times). I think more needs to be done to dog owners who do not pick up their dog mess, I have answered the questions as a responsible dog owner who always cleans up after my dog, but I know there is a problem along the prom with dog mess, that is more of an issue than dogs using the beach.
58. Many places offer dog friendly hours during the summer i.e before 10am and after 6pm.
59. I think that the dogs should have access to the beach in the morning and late evening after 6-7 and when the weather is poor
60. Could the dog ban be implemented between 9am to 6pm throughout summer, or during high tide only. Research Cornwall beaches as to what they do
61. Allowing dogs on the beach all year would bring the beach in line with other dog friendly venues in other parts of the country ie Cornwall. This would bring in additional revenue for local business if dogs were allowed all year. However if this is not accepted then could a compromise be made ie dogs allowed before 10am and after 6pm again in line with other beaches in Cornwall.
62. If you really wish to keep dogs banned from the beach in summer try a time frame like many beaches in Cornwall. No dogs between 9am and 6pm for example. Humans are doing more damage to our beaches than dogs are.
63. I think during high season that dogs be allowed on the beach before 9am. This would allow dogs to have a run before the beach gets busy. I also think the dogs on lead on the promenade rule should be all year. It is safer for the dogs.

64. Times have changed. So many families have dogs now and are part of the family. Take a look at Cornwall where sensible access is allowed at beaches cafes pubs and shops
65. Dogs should be allowed in the exclusion zone in early mornings and late nights at all times of the year. I do agree that dogs should be on the lead on the prom, but this should not be enforced. As a dog owner, I wouldn't leave my dog off the lead on a busy beach because he would try to get the attention of everyone he met and that may be unwanted by the other people. I disagree with the proposed order, but if it does go ahead then families should be encouraged not to use the small beach during the enforcement dates to allow dogs the free space they need to run around freely.
66. If the restriction is to stay, amend it to allow dog walkers before 7am and after 7pm during the high season
67. I agree that having dogs running loose during busy periods can be unsettling for some users. As a resident I feel there should be allocated times for dog walkers, for example, dogs are allowed on beach between 9pm and 9am.
68. Consider a timed use of the beach. EG early morning when the beach is quiet dogs should be able to use the whole beach.
69. Why not allow dogs on the main beach early morning (before 9am) and later evening (after 6/7pm) as a regular dog walker and dipper down at Aberavon beach the main problem is rubbish left by people after being at the beach and not the dog walkers. I do agree with dogs on leads on the prom. Being down there everyday i have seen dogs on the main beach many times when they shouldn't be and have never seen a warden down there policing it.
70. I think that dogs walkers and dog owners should be allowed in this part of the beach maybe before 9am. There is rarely anyone on it at that time. It is important that people have somewhere to walk their dogs and easy access for young families, older people and people with visual impairments.
71. I think dogs should be allowed on the beach during the period May - Sept even if it's just a small window in the early hours of the morning
72. Banning dogs completely results in limitation of tourism. Will also result in dogs getting left in hot cars. Dogs on promenade on leads is fine but with requirement for them being fully under control. The beach is big enough for dogs and families. Can have zones that

are no dogs and zones that are dog friendly. Walking on whole beach could be allowed before 10am and after 6pm.

73. Perhaps consider permitting dogs on beach from 7pm-7am to give locals the chance to walk their dogs. Also, very little evidence of enforcement officers in relation to dog fouling, deterrents needed, especially on prom/ lower prom.
74. Why can't you look at allowing dog walkers to walk their dogs between certain times from May to September. Early morning and late afternoon.
75. I think, unfortunately the issue lies with people. Some people don't pick up after their dogs just as some don't think twice about leaving litter. I think most dog walkers would choose to avoid the beach during peak season anyway if the beach is busy or the weather is too warm for their dogs. They would most likely come later when it's quiet or cooler so it won't impact other beach users. It's a shame some owners ruin it for the majority. I think rather than a continued ban, a set of specific times people can go on the beach with dogs would be a good compromise.
76. While I agree excluding dogs on the beach during peak season is ok. I think there should be some flexibility here. Being able to walk dogs on the beach in the evening (Dark hours) when the beach is empty shouldn't be an issue and should be allowed.