

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

(The Borough Council of Newcastle-under-Lyme) 2023 – No. 4 of 2023

The Borough Council of Newcastle-under-Lyme (in this Order called 'the Authority') in exercise of its powers under Section 59, 64 and 72 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ('the Act') hereby makes the following Order:

1. This Order comes into force on 21st November 2023 and shall have effect for a period of three years from the date thereof (unless it is extended pursuant to Section 60 of the Act).
2. This Order applies to the areas within the Borough of Newcastle as specified in the Schedule to this Order being public spaces in the Council's area to which the Act applies ('the Restricted Areas').

BY THIS ORDER

3. The effect of this Order is to impose the following prohibitions and/or requirements in the Restricted Areas at all times:

3.1 Alcohol

- Any person is prohibited from having an open alcohol container in their possession;
- Any person is required to surrender any open alcohol container in their possession when required to do so by an Authorised Officer of the Council or Staffordshire Police.

3.2 Dog Fouling – Failure to Remove Dog Faeces

If within the administrative area of the Authority a dog defecates at any time on land to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission and a person who is in charge of the dog at the time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless:

- he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so;

or

- the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

3.3 Dogs on Leads by Direction

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, within the administrative area of the Authority he does not comply with a direction given to him by an authorised officer of the authority to put and keep the dog on a lead unless:

(a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so;

or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

An authorised officer may only give a direction under this order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or another animal (including pets or wildlife).

3.4 Dogs on Leads

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, on land detailed in **Schedule 1** below, he does not keep the dog on a lead unless:

(a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so;

or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

3.5 Dog Exclusion Areas

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or to remain on, any land detailed in **Schedule 2** below, unless:

(a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so;

or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so

3.6 Maximum Six Dogs

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he takes more than six dogs onto, or permits more than six dogs to enter or to remain on, any land detailed in **Schedule 3** below unless:

(a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so;

or

- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his doing so.

3.7 Means to Pick up Dog Fouling

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, within the administrative area of the Authority he does not have with him an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog unless:

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so;

or

- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

The person shall not be guilty of an offence if, on request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.

Exemptions and Definitions

- i) Part 3.2 – 3.7 of this order shall not apply to a person who:
 - (a) is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
 - (b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he/she relies for assistance; or
 - (c) has a disability which affects his/her 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/she relies for assistance.
- ii) For the purpose of this Order:
 - (a) A person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
 - (b) Placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be sufficient removal from the land;
 - (c) Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces;
 - (d) 'an authorised officer of the Authority' means an employee, partner agency or contractor of Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council who is authorised in writing by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council for the purposes of giving directions under the Order.

(e) Each of the following is a 'prescribed charity' –

- Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454)
- Support Dogs Limited (registered charity number 1088281)
- Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number (803680)
- Dog A.I.D. (Registered Charity Number 1124533)
- Medical Detection Dogs (Registered Charity 1124533)

Restrictions and Penalty

- i) The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Sections 59, 64 and 72 of the Act have been satisfied and that it is in all the circumstances expedient to make this Order for the purposes of prohibiting the above activities. The effect or likely effect of this is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, such as to make this unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by this Order.
- ii) It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse to engage in activity which is prohibited by this Order.
- iii) No person shall:
- obstruct any authorised officer in the proper execution of their duties;
 - obstruct any other person carrying out an act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract associated with this order;
- iv) A person found to be in breach of this Order shall be liable on summary conviction to a maximum penalty of level 3 on the standard scale or a Fixed Penalty Notice of £100.

By resolution of the Borough Council of Newcastle-under-Lyme dated 16th November 2023

EXECUTED as a DEED by)
 affixing the COMMON SEAL)
 of THE BOROUGH COUNCIL)
 OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME)
 in the presence of:)



Councillor

Councillor Stephen Sweeney

Authorised Signatory

Anthony Hardd

SCHEDULE 1 (Dogs on Leads)

This order applies to all:

- Borough Council Crematorium, churchyards and cemeteries, and closed church yards.
- Formal gardens.
- Gated / enclosed public parks with wildlife pool.
- Marked out sports pitches.
- Unfenced children's play equipment and a portion of the surrounding area, extending 20 metres in all directions from it.
- Fenced / enclosed portions of Apedale Country Park which are designated for wildlife conservation.
- The northern portion of Bathpool Park, from its entrance and car park at Boathorse Road, along the main access path which runs from the car park at Boathorse Road, adjacent to the children's play area - and rugby pitches to its junction with footpath 146 which crosses the dam wall.
- Paths which adjoin Bathpool Reservoir Main Fishing Pool and continues on along the eastern side of Bathpool reservoir.
- Public Rights of Way: Kidsgrove 130 to the reservoir embankment 144, 146 & 182.
- Fishing Pools managed by angling clubs as per their signs.
- Open space owned by parish and town councils as per their signs.

SCHEDULE 2 (Dog Exclusions)

This order applies to:

- Fenced or enclosed children's play areas which are designated and marked for children's play.
- Fenced or enclosed games areas, such as. tennis and ball courts, multisport areas, skate parks.
- The grassed portion of all bowling greens.
- Fenced or enclosed portions of Apedale Country Park which are designated for wildlife conservation.
- Fenced or enclosed portions of Silverdale Country Park which are designated for wildlife conservation.
- Fishing Pools managed by angling clubs as per their signs.
- Open space owned by parish and town councils – as per their signs.

SCHEDULE 3 (Maximum Six Dogs)

This order applies to: Apedale Country Park, Bateswood Country Park, Bathpool Park, Clough Hall Park, Silverdale Country Park, Lyme Valley Parkway, Birchenwood Country Park

Explanatory Note

Further information in respect of this order is published at www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/dogcontrols