

West Suffolk's Consultation on Public Spaces Protection Order Renewal

West Suffolk Council has written to all Parish and Town Council's consulting on the proposed renewal of its Public Spaces Protection Order this September (Appendix A refers).

There is currently one PSPOs in place and both of these orders are subject to review this year.

- 1) West Suffolk Council (Dogs) 2020 PSPO with conditions relating to dog fouling and exclusion areas. This PSPO covers the whole of the council area. [Public Spaces Protection Orders \(PSPOs\) for dog walkers](#)

A link to the on-line consultation closes on 9th March 2026.

Currently, Wickhambrook's enclosed Children's play areas are not included in the PSPO.

Over the past few years there have been a number of complaints about dog fouling in the children's play areas, and this has also been recorded on West Suffolk's Play area inspection reports. Additional signage and messaging has been effective in recent months, but the problem is often a seasonal one which recurs in fairer weather.

Inclusion of the two Children's play areas (at the Recreation Ground and Bury Road), where there are self closing gates and dogs running free would not have access into the areas could help with enforcement of excluding dogs from these areas.

Action:

That Wickhambrook Parish Council consider the consultation and determine whether it wishes to seek for its two Children's play areas to be included under the PSPO in future.

Our ref: LAK/PSPO/Stakeholder
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11 February 2026

Dear Stakeholder

Review of West Suffolk Council (Dogs) 2020.

I am writing to you in relation to the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) currently affecting your Parish/Town and the review that West Suffolk Council must undertake by September 2026.

The PSPO was originally granted in September 2017 and subsequently reviewed and extended in 2020 and 2023. The order is designed to deal with particular nuisance or problems in an area that are detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on use of that area which apply to everyone.

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The PSPO was granted for a maximum of three years and West Suffolk Council is now required to review the order and apply for a further PSPO in order to keep it in place. It can be extended if certain criteria under Section 60 of the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 is met. This being:

S.60 (2) Before the time when a public spaces protection order is due to expire, the local authority that made the order may extend the period for which it has effect if satisfied on reasonable grounds that doing so is necessary to prevent—

(a) occurrence or recurrence after that time of the activities identified in the order, or

(b) an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

Effective evaluation of the existing order is important when we are determining whether any extensions or variations would be appropriate. Therefore, as the Parish/Town Council for the area concerned, we are asking for your initial views on the existing PSPO prior to public consultation taking place in May 2026.

We would welcome your comments, along with any submissions to changes of the existing PSPO or additional areas to be covered along with any evidential information you hold that would help us to determine an appropriate recommendation.

Once we have received your comments and feedback, we will begin a period of consultation with wider stakeholders and effected parties.

Due to the need to consult and review the current order by September 2026 we ask that your comments are fed back to me by **Monday 9 March 2026**. If you could email me on lesley-ann.keogh@westsuffolk.gov.uk it would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Donna Higgins
Cabinet Member for Families and Communities