



Peter Brown
Head of Regulatory Services
Conwy County Borough Council
Via Email

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Ref: SM/JFS
07 September 2023

Dear Head of Regulatory Services, Peter,

I am writing with regards to concerns that have been raised by a number of residents in response to Conwy County Borough Council's (CCBC) Proposed Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) 2023 consultation, Specifically, those concerns relate to the proposed extension of the current Dog Control PSPO to exclude dogs all year round on the entire Colwyn Bay beach from Porth Eirias to Rhos point.

I am shocked to see such a draconian proposal come forward from CCBC, as I understand that the request has been made by the Environment Roads and Facilities Department (ERF). This amounts to a huge erosion of the current rights of residents in my constituency to be able to enjoy their local amenities, which, following on the heels of the lack of paddling pool provision this summer, and the 9.9% increase in council tax, is just a further example of CCBC letting down residents. Now more than ever, when household budgets are being squeezed, residents need a council who can provide them with amenity value for their taxes, not deprive them of existing facilities.

When the coastal defence works in Colwyn Bay commenced, CCBC announced that it had "identified an opportunity to combine improving vital coastal defences with contributing to wider, ongoing regeneration within the town.... offering modern, robust, sustainable and attractive public spaces for local residents and to draw new visitors to the area." *CCBC website*. Forgive me for wondering how you are planning to deliver this aim, when you are effectively saying that a huge swathe of the population are now unwelcome to come and enjoy this beautiful beach.

Of course I understand the fundamental concern to ensure that dog owners clean up after their pets. But what we have here is such a draconian and excessive proposal, where typically the majority are being penalised for the actions of a few. If it is considered to be such a problem, an investment in enforcement officers to fine offenders would surely be the more appropriate solution.

I would be grateful if consideration could be given to amending this consultation to exclude this ill-judged request by ERF. In the meantime, I have made my personal views clear by completing the consultation as a resident of Conwy and will be encouraging those who contact me to do the same.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Finch-Saunders MS/AS

cc Geraint Edwards, Head of Environment, Roads and Facilities, Cllr Charlie McCoubrey – Leader