

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL (DOG CONTROL – ABERDARE PUBLIC PARK) PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2023

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council ('the Council') in exercise of its powers under Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the 'Act') hereby makes the following Public Spaces Protection Order:

1. This Order may be cited as the 'Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (Dog Control – Aberdare Public Park) Public Spaces Protection Order 2023' (the 'Order').
2. This Order comes into force on 1st October 2023 and shall have effect and remain in force for a period of three years from that date.

OFFENCES

3. The effect of this Order is to impose the following condition within Rhondda Cynon Taf:
 - (i) A requirement for a person in charge of a dog to keep that dog on a lead at all times in Aberdare Public Park.
4. For the purposes of this Order:
 - 4.1 'a person in charge of a dog' means a person who habitually has a dog in his/her possession at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.
 - 4.2 'Aberdare Public Park' means all land within the boundary of Aberdare Public Park as detailed in Schedule 1.
 - 4.3 'Authorised Officer' means a constable or a person authorised by the Council for the purposes of enforcing this Order.
5. It is an offence for a person, without reasonable excuse, to engage in activity, which they are prohibited from doing by effect of this Order or fail to comply with a requirement to which a person is subject by effect of this Order.
6. The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Section 59 of the Act have been satisfied and, that it is in all the circumstances expedient and reasonable to make this Order for the purpose of prohibiting the above activities and introducing the stated requirements. The effect or likely effect of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, such as to make them unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by this Order.

EXEMPTIONS

7. The provisions of this Order do not apply to a person who:
 - (i) is registered as partially sighted or blind, in a register compiled under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948;
 - (ii) is registered as “sight-impaired”, “severely sight impaired” or as “having sight and hearing impairments which, in combination, have a significant effect on their day to day lives”, in a register compiled under Section 18 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014;
 - (iii) has a disability which affects their mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination, or ability to lift, carry, or otherwise move everyday objects, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces; or
 - (iv) has some other disability, such that he reasonably cannot be expected to remove the faeces.
8. The provisions of this Order do not apply to a dog trained by a registered charity to assist a person with a disability and upon which a disabled person relies for assistance.
9. For the purposes of this Order, a ‘disability’ means a condition that qualifies as a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010 and upon which a disabled person relies for assistance.
10. Nothing in this Order shall apply to the normal activities of a working dog whilst the dog is working. This includes dogs that are being used for work in connection with emergency search and rescue, law enforcement and the work of HM Armed Forces and farm dogs that are being used to herd or drive animals.
11. Where a person in charge of a dog wishes to rely upon any of the exemptions set out in this Order the burden shall be on that person to prove they satisfy the requirements of the exemption being relied upon.

PENALTIES

12. A person who is guilty of an offence under this Order is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
13. A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued by an Authorised Officer to a person who breaches this Order, offering them the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence by payment of a fixed penalty.

THE COMMON SEAL OF RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Was hereto affixed in the presence of

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Andy Wilkins

Director, Legal & Democratic Services

DRAFT

SCHEDULE 1

DRAFT