



**Brent Council**

**Jon Gardner**

Head of Mortuary & Bereavement Operations

Resident Services Department

Partnerships, Housing and Residents Services Directorate

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

**Public Space Protection Order Proposal Consultation – Dogs.**

Dear Jon Gardner,

Thank you for responding to Dogs Trust request to respond to the Public Spaces Protection Order related to dogs in Paddington Old Cemetery.

As the UK's largest dog welfare charity, we would like to make some comments for consideration.

**Dogs Trust's Comments**

**1. Re; Dogs on Leads Order:**

- Dogs Trust accept that there are some areas where it is desirable that dogs should be kept on a lead.
- Dogs Trust would urge the Council to consider the Animal Welfare Act 2006 section 9 requirements (the 'duty of care') that include the dog's need to exhibit normal behaviour patterns – this includes the need for sufficient exercise including the need to run off lead in appropriate areas. Dog Control Orders should not restrict the ability of dog keepers to comply with the requirements of this Act.

- The Council should ensure that there is an adequate number, and a variety of, well sign-posted areas locally for owners to exercise their dog off-lead.

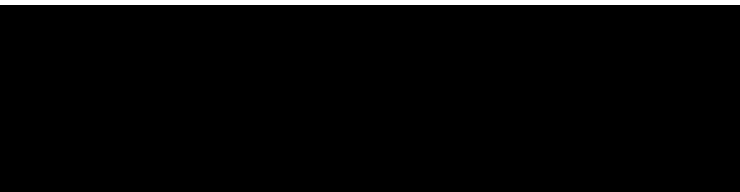
The PDSA's '[Paw Report 2018](#)' found that 89% of veterinary professionals believe that the welfare of dogs will suffer if owners are banned from walking their dogs in public spaces such as parks and beaches, or if dogs are required to be kept on leads in these spaces. Their report also states that 78% of owners rely on these types of spaces to walk their dog.

We believe that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and that the majority of dogs are well behaved. In recognition of this, we would encourage local authorities to exercise its power to issue Community Protection Notices, targeting irresponsible owners and proactively addressing anti-social behaviours.

Dogs Trust works with local authorities across the UK to help promote responsible dog ownership. Please do not hesitate to contact should you wish to discuss this matter.

We would be very grateful if you could inform us of the consultation outcome and subsequent decisions made in relation to the Public Space Protection Order.

Yours faithfully,



**Community Education & Engagement**