

DOPOC  
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Brent Community Safety and Prevention  
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3 October 2025

**1. Please tell us who you are?**

I am submitting this response as Secretary of the DOPOC (Dogs of Paddington Old Cemetery) Community Group established in 2024.

**2) To what extent do you agree with or oppose the Council introducing /renewing each of the following prohibitions to be included again in the new borough-wide PSPO for 2026?**

**Section One -Renewal and introduction of further prohibitions to the entire Borough of Brent**

Consume of alcohol in a public place to commit Alcohol Relates nuisance (Person Street drinking in public places)

No DOPOC opinion [neither agree nor disagree]

Urinate / defecate; spit or litter in a public place (Persons not using a “public convenience”, Persons spitting including paan in public places to cause alarm and health concerns and persons littering in public spaces).

No DOPOC opinion

Dog Fouling (You must pick up all dog fouling belonging to your dog and dispose appropriately)

DOPOC agree strongly

Use of megaphone or microphone with speaker without prior consent around Town centres where there is a transport hub within 500metres

No DOPOC opinion

To beg in an intimidating or aggressive manner around Town centres / High Street within 500metres

No DOPOC opinion

**Other (please tell us about any other prohibition on this questions)  
(optional)**

**Section One -Renewal and introduction of further prohibitions to the entire Borough of Brent**

**To what extent do you agree or oppose with the Council introducing /renewing each of the following prohibition to be included again in parks, open spaces, cemeteries, and graveyards PSPO for 2026?**

**Section Two-Renewal and introduction of prohibition in Parks, Open Spaces, Cemeteries & Graveyards**

Consume of alcohol in a public place to commit Alcohol Relates nuisance (Person Street drinking in public places)

DOPOC agree strongly

Urinate / defecate; spit or litter in a public place (Persons not using a “public convenience”, Persons spitting including paan in public places to cause alarm and health concerns and persons littering in public spaces).

DOPOC agree strongly

Dog Fouling (You must pick up all dog fouling belonging to your dog and dispose appropriately)

DOPOC agree strongly

Loss of control of dogs (dog not within eyesight of owner and/or do not respond to recall)

DOPOC agree strongly

Dogs that are in a banned area in parks (such as playgrounds, outdoor gyms, multi-use games areas, tennis courts, walled gardens, etc.)

DOPOC agree strongly

Prevent more than four dogs being walked at the same time

DOPOC agree strongly

Flying drones and other model aircrafts

No DOPOC opinion

Lighting of fires or use of barbeques

DOPOC agree strongly

Use of fireworks

DOPOC agree strongly

Defacing or damaging fixtures, furniture or other items

DOPOC agree strongly

Feeding wild animals inclusive of birds

DOPOC agree strongly

Promote or deliver any unauthorised or unlicensed events

No DOPOC opinion

Unauthorised Structures in park without permission

No DOPOC opinion

**Do you visit any Brent cemeteries?**

**Section Two-Renewal and introduction of prohibition in Parks, Open Spaces, Cemeteries & Graveyards**

**If yes, which cemeteries do you visit most often?**

(optional)

I am submitting this response on behalf of DOPOC; Paddington Old Cemetery is the cemetery most often visited by our members. The other cemeteries seem to receive few if any visitors for any purpose.

**Section Two-Renewal and introduction of prohibition in Parks, Open Spaces, Cemeteries & Graveyards**

**What is your main reason for visiting?**

(optional)

**Section Two-Renewal and introduction of prohibition in Parks, Open Spaces, Cemeteries & Graveyards**

Dog walking

Exercise

Going for a walk

Many of our members, including me, combine visiting a grave with dog walking and exercise. But the primary reason for most people is to walk their dogs. The presence of dog walkers, as we noted in our previous response to the PSPO consultation, is welcomed by the majority of local residents and those who use POC for exercise. Lone women and those with disabilities feel much safer with dog walkers nearby. The anti-dog vigilantes operating in POC prefer to target women on their own - the safe environment of POC had been greatly valued by the high proportion of dog walkers who are women who have been in the habit of visiting alone. The vast majority of those who walk their dogs are respectable and responsible people. We are aware of a few irresponsible visitors, whom we have determined are not members of DOPOC.

**Are you aware that dogs must be kept on a lead in all Brent cemeteries?**

**Section Two-Renewal and introduction of prohibition in Parks, Open Spaces, Cemeteries & Graveyards**

Yes, we are aware that the decision to withdraw the exemption for POC was made this spring, despite the response to Brent's consultation. The consultation showed that local support to ban off-lead walking was lacking (61% of respondents to the 2024 Brent consultation supported off-lead dog walking) and the decision was not proportionate as other options were not evaluated.

**Have you ever experienced or observed any issues involving dogs being off-lead in a Brent cemetery?**

**Section Two-Renewal and introduction of prohibition in Parks, Open Spaces, Cemeteries & Graveyards**

No

If yes, describe briefly (optional)

**Have you ever noticed dog fouling (mess not picked up) in a Brent cemetery?  
Section Two-Renewal and introduction of prohibition in Parks, Open Spaces,  
Cemeteries & Graveyards**

Yes/no/not sure

DOPOC members adhere to a Code of Conduct. Because all members pick up dog fouling whatever its origin, and dispose of it in the dedicated dog waste bins, we can honestly say we have not seen any that is not picked up. We note that foxes defaecate preferentially on well-visited graves, to establish their territory.

**Other (please tell us about any other prohibition on this questions)  
(optional)**

[the next questions are about Wembley, psychoactive substances; sky lanterns, etc]

No DOPOC opinions on these matters

**Overall, to what extent do you support or oppose Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) being used as a tool to support enforcement and control of anti-social behaviour across the borough? (Please tick one option only)**  
**Section Five -Optional questions about you**

DOPOC agree that PSPOs, if used appropriately, can be a valuable tool. However, the approach taken by Brent to off-lead dog walking in POC does not seem to be in the spirit of the Local Government Association's Public Spaces Protection Orders Guidance for councils that "when used appropriately, proportionately and **with local support**, PSPOs can be a positive device that helps to prevent anti-social behaviour". We reiterate that local support was lacking (61% of respondents to the 2024 Brent consultation supported off-lead dog walking) and the decision was not proportionate as other options were not evaluated.

Your faithfully



Christine A. Maggs, MA (Oxon.), PhD  
Secretary, DOPOC