

Code of conduct for professional dog walking licence holders

The purpose of the code of conduct is:

1. Ensure considerate use between those undertaking licensed professional multiple dog walking activities in the park and other park users.
2. To protect the parks and their wildlife.
3. To ensure access to and use of public open space is preserved for all visitors.
4. To work alongside a licence agreement to ensure that operators are complying with current health and safety regulations and best industry practice for the safety and enjoyment of all.

The Code

- The licensee shall not have exclusive rights over any area of the Authority's premises and due consideration is given to members of the general public visiting the Authority's premises.
- Licensee's shall leave the Authority's premises in a clean and tidy condition and be liable for any loss of or damage to any Authority's property through their direct improper use.
- The Licensee shall abide by Public Space Protection Orders.
- The Licensee must wear a Licensed Operator photo identity in a way that is clearly visible to the public and park management representatives at all times while in the park.
- Every dog while on a public highway or place of public resort must wear a collar with the name, phone number and address of the owner and /or dog walker inscribed on it or a plate or badge attached to it.
- Ensure you have a lead for each of your dogs.
- Pre-screen your dogs. Dogs without proper social skills must be kept under control at all times.
- Dog waste left in the park is unpleasant for other park users, unhygienic and causes serious ecological damage to plant and animal communities. It is an offence under the PSPO to fail to clean up after your dog. Dog waste should be placed in a tightly sealed bag and taken home or deposited in the bins marked for dog waste or in the general waste bins. Anyone failing to clean up after their dog may be issued with a fine by the police or face prosecution. Be prepared and bring more dog bags than you need.

Please be considerate about where you allow your dogs to urinate, when entering parks, where the entrance is adjacent to residential areas. Urine leaves bad smells in warm weather.

Park 'No Go' Zones

You are not permitted to use:

- Areas within the park where group dog walking activities have a negative impact on other park users, residents and Licensees;
- Areas clearly marked any formal garden areas and other park sensitive locations such as; conservation areas, etc.
- Areas closed for renovation or upgrading.

A list of areas of the park unsuitable locations for professional dog walking is available under the terms and conditions. There may be other areas that have restrictions and the Authority may issue seasonal instructions from time to time - please look out for notices and regularly check our website.

Park 'No Go' Activities

The following activities are not to be conducted by Licensees:

- Aggressive, intimidating or unruly activities that interfere with the comfort of other visitors.
- Corporal punishment towards dogs
- Dogs threatening or interfering with wildlife or the enjoyment of other park users. Permitting your dog to chase, injure or kill any form of wildlife is an offence under the Byelaws. You may face prosecution (Covered in the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991).

As a licence holder you agree to abide by these guidelines at all times. Non compliance to the above Code of Conduct, [Section I of the Dangerous Dogs Act 199](#) and the PSPO means you are at risk of losing your licence.

[1] <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1991/65/contents>

[2] <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dealing-with-irresponsible-dog-ownership-practitioners-manual>
