



Northumberland County Council

The Northumberland County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Part 4

Northumberland County Council in exercise of its powers under section 59 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 hereby makes the following Order:

1 Citation

This Order may be cited as the ***Northumberland County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order*** and for the purposes of any enforcement proceedings, Notices, documents or correspondence, the short titles of "***Dog Control Order***" or "***Dog Control PSPO***" may also be used.

2 Interpretation

In this Order:

- (1) The expression "*the Authority*" shall mean Northumberland County Council, whose principal offices are at County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF;
- (2) Any reference to a numbered section is a reference to the section so numbered in the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (*the Act*);
- (3) A person who habitually has a dog in their possession shall be taken to be in charge of that dog at any time unless at that time some other person is shown to be in charge of the dog;
- (4) The term "*Assistance Dog*" shall mean a dog that mitigates a person's disability; and

- (5) The expression “*disability*” shall have the meaning prescribed in section 8 of the Equality Act 2010 or as may be defined in any subsequent amendment or re-enactment of that legislation.

3 Effect

- (1) This Order shall come into force on **31st January 2026**.
- (2) This Order is made because the Authority is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the two conditions prescribed by section 59(2) and (3) of the Act have been met, namely:
- (a) **The first condition:**
- (i) Activities carried on in a public place within the Authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality (“*the Activities*”); and
- (ii) It is likely that the Activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect; and the Activities are set out in the respective Schedules to this Order.
- (b) **The second condition:**
- The effect, or likely effect, of the Activities:
- (i) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
- (ii) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
- (iii) justifies the restrictions imposed by this Order.
- (3) The Order relates to each public place referred to in **the Schedules** to this Order (“*the Restricted Areas*”) together with such other Schedules as may be included under any variation of this Order made from time to time, and:
- (a) prohibits specified things from being done in the Restricted Area (“*the Restrictions*”) as may be set out in the Schedules,

- (b) requires specified things to be done by persons carrying on the activities in the Restricted Area (*"the Requirements"*), or
- (c) does both of those things.

4 Requirement to provide name and address

(1) For the purposes of enforcing the provisions of this Order, any person who appears to a duly authorised officer or agent of the Authority, or to a Police Officer, to be in charge of any dogs to which the provisions of this Order apply shall confirm:

- (i) their full name,
- (ii) their current address, and
- (iii) their date of birth,

upon any request having been made in that respect whether verbally or in writing by any such officer or agent and within such time as may be specified by that officer or agent.

(2) If any person, having been asked to confirm the details set out in paragraph 4(1) of this Order, knowingly gives false, inaccurate or misleading information to the officer or agent requesting that information or to the Council or to the Police, that person shall be deemed to have failed to comply with those requirements.

5 Offence of failing to comply with this Order

(1) Under section 67 of the Act, it is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse:

- (a) to do anything that a person is prohibited from doing by a Public Spaces Protection Order, or
- (b) to fail to comply with a requirement to which a person is subject to under a Public Spaces Protection Order.

(2) A person guilty of such an offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

- (3) A constable or authorised person may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice as an alternative to prosecution to anyone that they have reason to believe has committed such an offence as an opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction.

6 Duration of the Order

- (1) This Order will remain in force for the period of **3 years** from the date that it comes into force specified in paragraph 3(1).
- (2) Before the time when this Order is due to expire, the Authority may extend the period for which it has effect if satisfied on reasonable grounds that doing so is necessary to prevent:
 - (a) an occurrence or recurrence after that time of the Activities, or
 - (b) an increase in the frequency or seriousness after that time of the Activities.
- (3) The Order may be so extended more than once.

7 Variation and discharge of the Order

- (1) The Authority may vary this Order:
 - (a) by increasing or reducing the Restricted Areas; and/or
 - (b) by altering or removing a prohibition or requirement included in the Order or by adding a new one.
- (2) Where the authority considers it appropriate to do so, the Order may be discharged by the Authority before the end of the period that the Order may remain in force specified in paragraph 6(1).

8 Challenging the Order

- (1) Under the provisions of section 66 of the Act, an interested person may within 6 weeks of the making of the Order apply to the High Court to question its validity or the validity of any variation of this Order on the grounds specified in section 66(2) of the Act, namely:

- (a) That the authority did not have power to make the Order or variation, or to include particular prohibitions or requirements imposed by the Order (or by the Order as varied),
- (b) That a requirement under Chapter 2 of Part 4 of the act was not complied with in relation to the Order or variation.

Dated this 21st day of January 2026

The Common Seal of Northumberland County Council was hereunto affixed in the presence of:



Signature:	<i>NJ Masson</i>
Print name:	NJ MASSON
Job Title:	Head of Legal Services
Seal no.:	29186

SCHEDULE 1

The fouling of land by dogs

1 The Restricted Areas

Any land within the administrative county of Northumberland which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access to (with or without payment) including any land which is covered but which is open to the air on at least one side.

2 The Requirements

- (1) If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Schedule applies, the person who is in charge of that dog shall remove the faeces from the land **unless**:
 - (a) That person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or
 - (b) The owner, occupier or other person, body or authority having control of the land has consented (either generally or specifically) to their failing to do so.
- (2) Nothing in this Schedule shall apply to a person who has a disability and is in charge of an Assistance Dog.
- (3) For the purposes of this Schedule:
 - (a) Placing faeces in a waste receptacle on the land which is provided for that purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be deemed to be sufficient for the purposes of removal from the land, and
 - (b) Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity of the dog or otherwise) or not having a device or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove them.

SCHEDULE 2

The exclusion of dogs from land

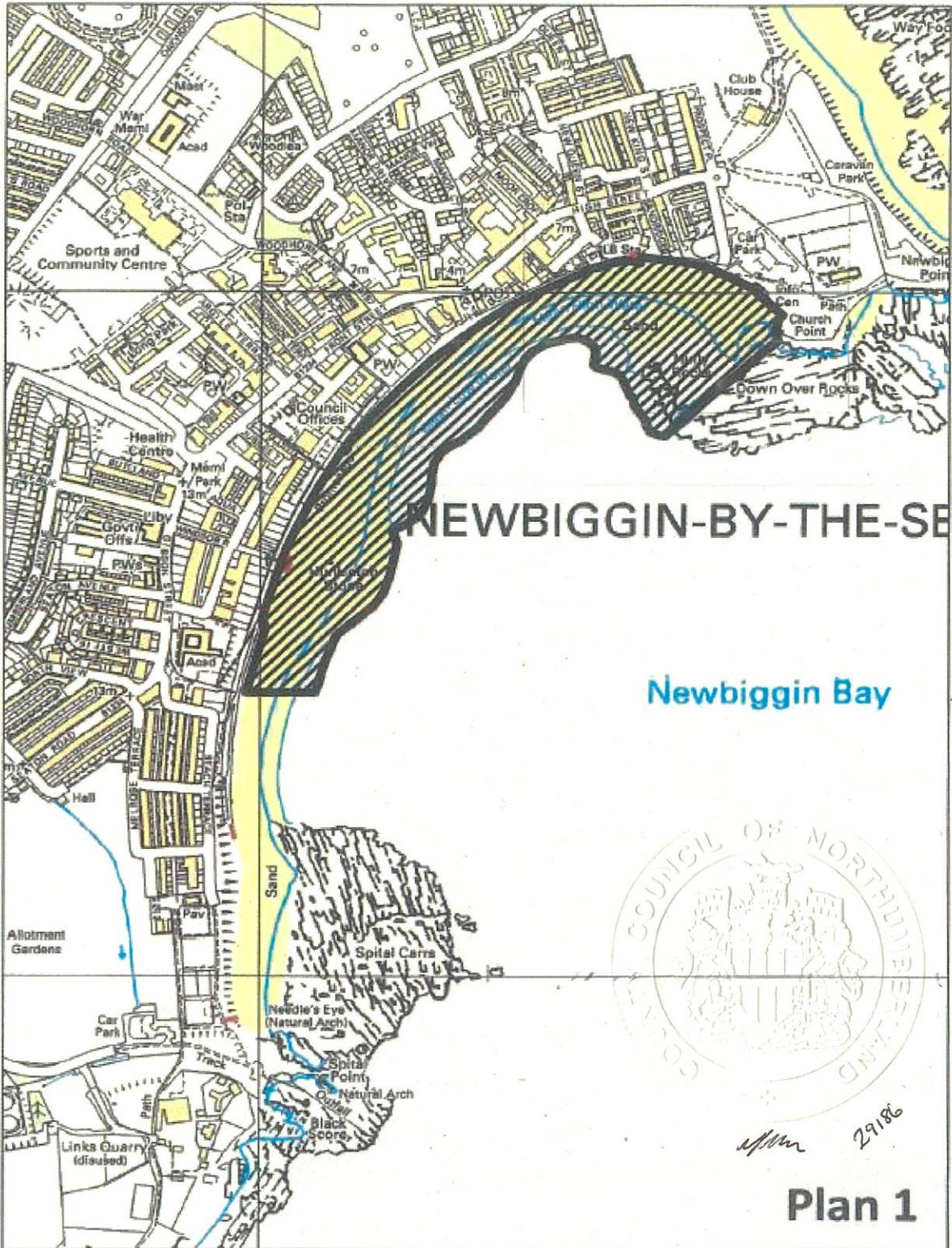
1 The Restricted Areas

- (1) All enclosed children's play areas within the administrative county of Northumberland.
- (2) Any multi-use games area or tennis court to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access to (with or without payment) including any such land which is covered but which is open to the air on at least one side.
- (3) The area of beach at **Newbiggin-by-the-Sea** as shown hatched black on **Plan 1** attached to this Schedule.
- (4) The area of beach at **Blyth** as shown hatched black on **Plan 2** attached to this Schedule.

2 The Restrictions

- (1) A person in charge of a dog shall not take or allow the dog to enter and to remain on:
 - (a) the Restricted Areas described in paragraphs 1(1) and 1(2) of this Schedule **at any time**, or
 - (b) the Restricted Areas described in paragraphs 1(3) and 1(4) of this Schedule at any time **from 1st May to 30th September** inclusive each year.
- (2) The restrictions under paragraphs 2(1)(a) and (b) of this Schedule shall not apply where:
 - (a) That person has a reasonable excuse for failing to comply with either of those Restrictions, or
 - (b) The owner, occupier or other person, body or authority having control of the land has consented (either generally or specifically) to a dog being on such land.

- (3) Nothing in this Schedule shall apply to a person who has a disability and is in charge of an Assistance Dog.



NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA

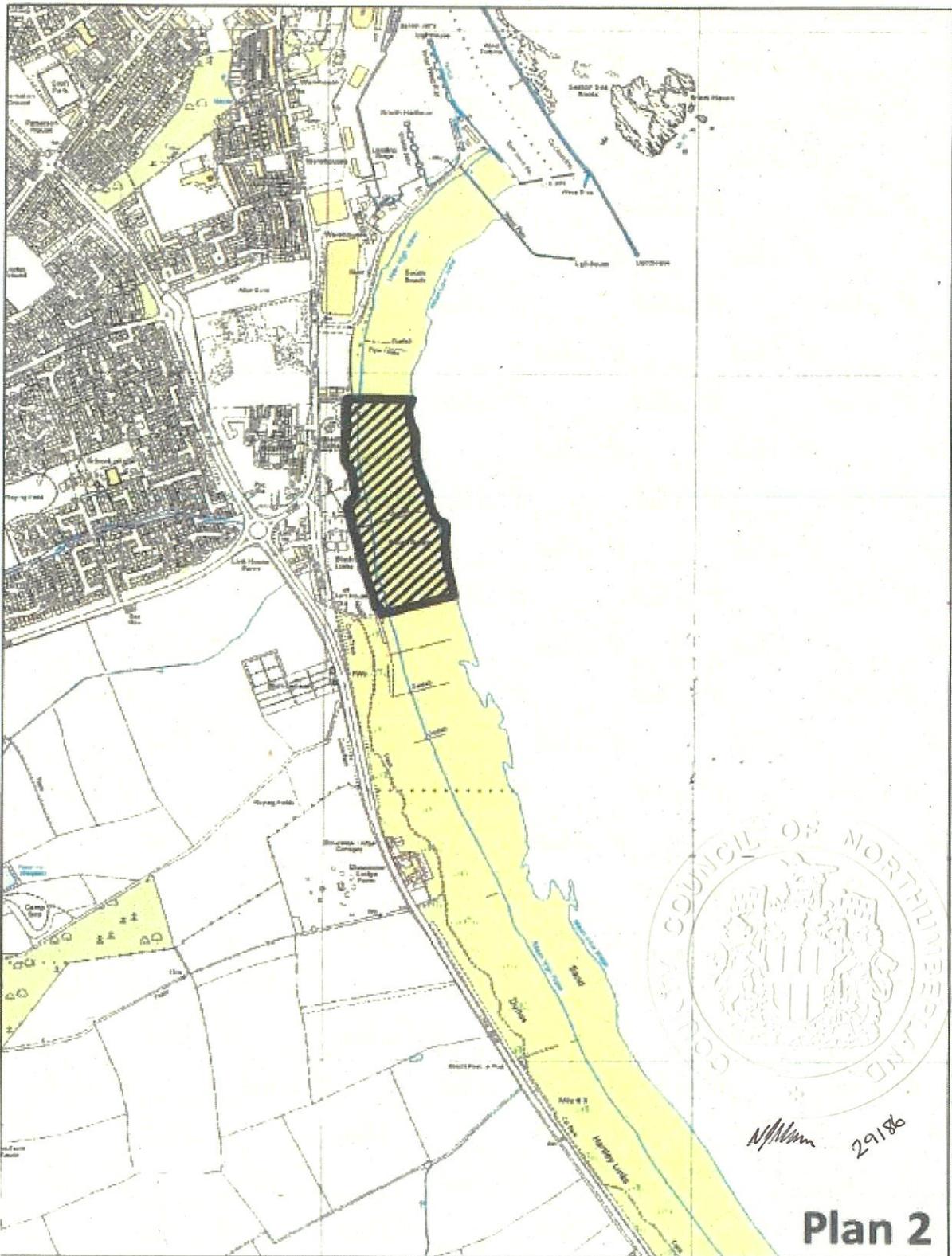
Newbiggin Bay



M/M 29/8/06

Plan 1

<p>Northumberland Northumberland County Council</p>	<p>DATE: 01/04/2011</p>	<p>SCALE 1:7 000</p>
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Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

DATE: 01/04/2011

SCALE 1:14,000

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Plan 2

SCHEDULE 3

Dogs on leads

1 The Restricted Areas

- (1) Any land within the administrative county of Northumberland which is used as a memorial, burial ground, cemetery or garden of remembrance, together with any forecourt terrace, yard or walkway providing access, and together with adjoining verges, landscaped areas and gardens.
- (2) Any land within the administrative county of Northumberland which is a designated carriageway (A or B classified roads) together with the adjoining footways and verges of such carriageways.

2 The Requirements

- (1) A person in charge of a dog shall at all times keep the dog on a lead of not more than 1.5 metres in length, unless:
 - (a) That person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or
 - (b) The owner, occupier or other person, body or authority having control of the land has consented (either generally or specifically) to their failing to do so.

SCHEDULE 4

Dogs on leads by direction

1 The Restricted Areas

Any land within the administrative county of Northumberland which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access to (with or without payment) including any land which is covered but which is open to the air on at least one side.

2 The Requirements

- (1) A person in charge of a dog shall comply with a direction given to them by a duly authorised officer or agent of the Authority or by a Police Officer to put and keep the dog on a lead of not more than 1.5 metres in length, unless:
 - (a) That person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or
 - (b) The owner, occupier or other person, body or authority having control of the land has consented (either generally or specifically) to their failing to do so.
- (2) An authorised person may only give a direction under paragraph 2(1) of this Schedule if such restraint is necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviours by the dog which is reasonably likely to cause annoyance, disturbance or danger to any other person on any land to which this Schedule applies, or the worrying of any animal or bird.

SCHEDULE 5

Maximum number of dogs

1 The Restricted Areas

Any land within the administrative county of Northumberland which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access to (with or without payment) including any land which is covered but which is open to the air on at least one side.

2 The Restrictions

A person shall have no more than **six dogs** in their sole charge at any time within the Restricted Areas under this Schedule, unless:

- (a) The dogs constitute a pack of hounds and/or are in the Restricted Areas for lawful sporting purposes,
- (b) The dogs are being lawfully used for the capture or destruction of vermin,
- (c) The dogs are being lawfully used for the driving or tending of cattle or sheep,
- (d) The dogs are being used on official duties by a member of His Majesty's Armed Forces or His Majesty's Customs and Excise or the Police, or
- (e) The dogs are being used in emergency rescue work.