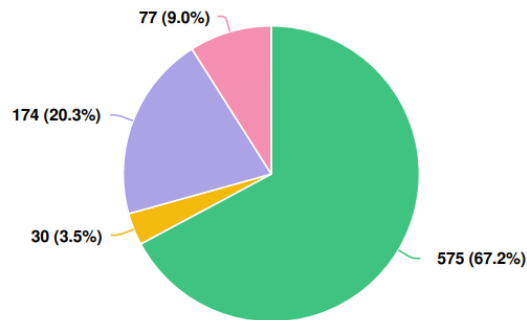


## **Appendix 4 – Responsible Dog Ownership PSPO Consultation Findings**

1. The public consultation took place for a period of 61 days, from the 16 November 2022 until 15 January 2023. The public consultation received 856 responses via the council’s official consultation platform ‘Have Your Say’. The council also received additional comments and feedback on the proposal via email, which have been incorporated into the qualitative analysis presented below.

2. Do you live or work in Hammersmith & Fulham?



### **Question options**

● I live in the area   ● I work in the area   ● I live and work in the area   ● I neither live nor work in the area

3. Are you a dog owner?

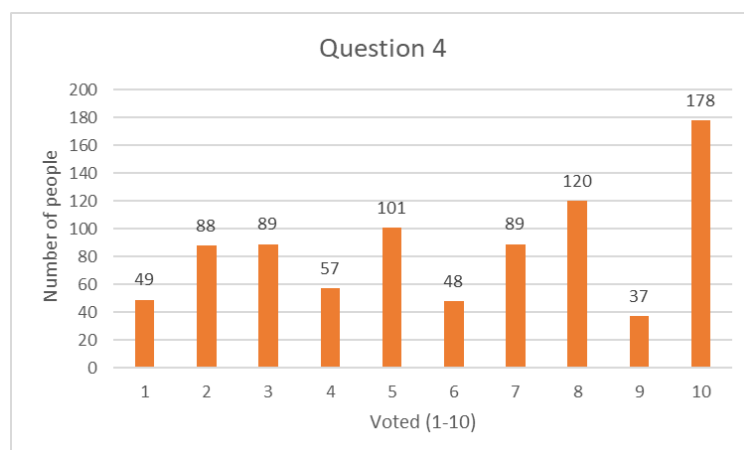
57.7% owned a dog, 33.4% didn’t own a dog, 7.5% previously owned a dog, and 1.4% were thinking of getting a dog.

4. Are you an assistance dog user? An assistance dog is trained to support Disabled people and people with medical conditions in a variety of ways.

Only 13 responses were assistance dog users (2.6%).

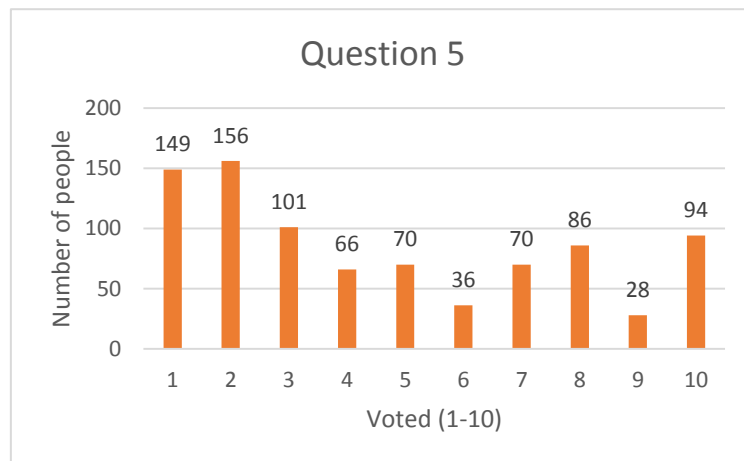
5. To what extent do you feel dog fouling is an issue in Hammersmith & Fulham? 10 being a large problem, 1 being not a problem at all

66.9% of people responded 5 or above to this question



6. To what extent do you feel dogs being out of control of their owners is a problem in Hammersmith & Fulham? 10 being a large problem, 1 being not a problem at all

44.9% of people responded 5 or above to this question.



*For all questions relating to "Why?" participants were able to select more than one option. The comments from the "other" selection were collated and analysed separately*

7. Do you support the introduction of a new order introducing 'dog exclusion' areas?

52.5% said yes, 32.2% said no, 11.7% maybe, 3.6% unsure.

If no, why?

247 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

2 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)

11 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)

4 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

46 – other

If maybe, why?

59 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

5 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)

12 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)

3 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

50 – other

If unsure, why?

- 18 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue
- 1 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)
- 2 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)
- 0 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue
- 14 – other

Themes from the comments:

- Questions regarding enforcement officers having the capacity to enforce and how will enforcement action be taken
- Comments on dog exclusion areas being fenced to ensure these areas are clearly demarcated
- Few notes on the uncertainty around forest school zones and how clearly these are marked
- Suggestion that: Hurlingham Park Rose Garden (14 commented responses, and multiple throughout the leads section) and Lindford Christie Stadium (4 responses) should be dogs on lead rather than an exclusion area.
- Suggestion that Gwendyr Memorial Garden (14 commented responses, in this section alone with a further 8 emails and 6 phone calls) should be clearly specified as an exclusion zone, comments made throughout the consultation in the Leads section and in the overall any other comments section. Concerns around this area came through to Councillor's and the Parks team via email.
- Few suggestions that picnic areas should be dogs on lead rather than an exclusion area.

8. *Do you support the introduction of a new order introducing 'dogs on leads only' areas?*

53.2% said yes, 33.4% said no, 10.3% maybe, 3.2% unsure.

If no, why?

- 248 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue
- 2 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)
- 18 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)
- 1 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue
- 47 – other

If maybe, why?

- 50 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue
- 1 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)
- 11 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)

2 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

34 – other

If unsure, why?

15 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

5 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)

0 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)

0 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

12 – other

Themes from the comments:

- Questions regarding enforcement officers having the capacity to enforce and how will enforcement action be taken
- Suggestion that: Hurlingham Park Rose Garden should be dogs on lead as opposed to dog exclusion area (4 responses).
- Suggestions that areas should be fenced and in areas where fencing is broken it should be fixed.
- Suggestion that the Central Corpe on Wormwood Scrubs should not be included as a 'dogs on lead' area (6 responses)
- Suggestion that the Moat Gardens in Bishops Park is not included as 'dogs on lead' area (4 responses).

9. Do you support the introduction of a new order regarding 'dogs on leads by direction'?

70.6% said yes, 17.5% said no, 10.5% maybe, 1.4% unsure.

If no, why?

125 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

2 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

26 – other

If maybe, why?

45 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

5 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

46 – other

If unsure, why?

7 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

0 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

6 - other

Themes from the comments:

- Questions regarding enforcement officers having the capacity to enforce and how will enforcement action be taken
- Comments on whether enforcement officers will be trained in dog handling
- Concerns raised regarding whether enforcement officers will use these powers appropriately and proportionally

10. Do you support the introduction of a new order regarding the specified maximum of dogs that someone is responsible for?

68.3% said yes, 16.1% said no, 12.3% maybe, 3.3% unsure.

If no, why?

114 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

0 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

28 – other

If maybe, why?

52 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

2 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

54 – other

If unsure, why?

12 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

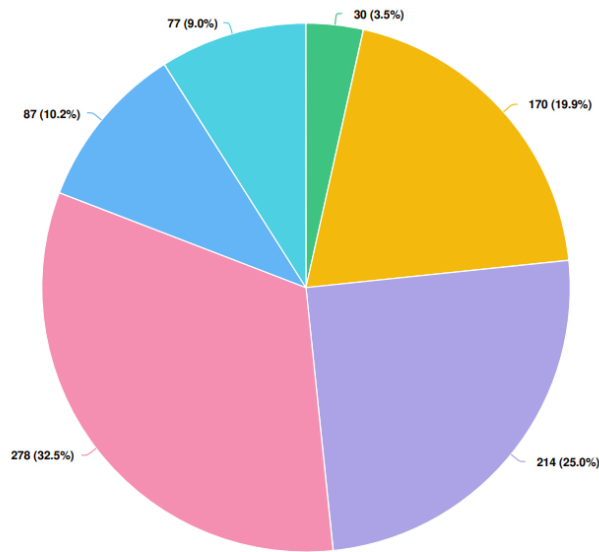
1 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

16 – other

Themes from the comments:

- Suggestion that different rules regarding a specified maximum should be applied to professional dog walkers compared to dog-owners; those professionals can manage more dogs at one time than dog owners.
- Confusion regarding what the current rules are regarding the specified maximum and whether there is already a specified maximum of four.
- Whether enforcement officers have capacity to enforce and how difficult will it be to enforce.
- Concerns about the differences in dog breeds and individuals makes it too hard to identify one specific number which can be safely walked and kept 'under control' (i.e., one dog can be badly behaved with a poor owner, but a good owner could have 3 dogs under complete control)
- Concerns on the potential impact of this order on professional dog walkers

11. How many dogs do you feel can be safely walked at any one time?



Question options  
● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● Other (please specify)

3.5% said one dog, 19.9% said two dogs, 25% said three dogs, 32.5% said four dogs, 10% said five dogs and 9% said 'Other'.

12. Do you support the introduction of the new order regarding dog fouling?

86.1% said yes, 7.7% said no, 5.5% maybe, 0.7% unsure.

If no, why?

47 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue (69.1%)

2 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue (2.9%)

19 - other (27.9%)

If maybe, why?

21 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue (44.7%)

0 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue (0%)

26 - other (55.3%)

If unsure, why?

1 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue (14.3%)

1 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue (14.3%)

5 - other (71.4%)

Themes from the comments:

- Lack of clarity over current rules/legislation in place to prohibit dog fouling and whether a PSPO is needed.
- Questions regarding enforcement officers having the capacity to enforce and how will enforcement action be taken.
- Concern around incidents of genuine oversight/accident sometimes from owners, difficult to tell whether leaving the dog poo was intentional.
- Suggestion that dog poo bags should be provided in parks to help promote responsible dog ownership and prevent dog fouling.
- Concerns raised regarding whether enforcement officers will use these powers appropriately and proportionally .

13. Do you support the introduction of the new order regarding poop scoop and/or disposable bags?

59.1% said yes, 28.9% said no, 9.0% maybe, 3.0% unsure.

If no, why?

183 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

3 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

82 – other

If maybe, why?

38 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

6 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

34 – other

If unsure, why?

10 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

1 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

16 – other

Themes from the comments:

- The measures that would be in place are too severe
- Responsible owners sometimes forget bags but take other measures i.e., asking for a bag from others.
- It would give officers too many powers
- Resources should be used elsewhere
- Poo bags should be provided by the council

14. Overall, do you support the responsible dog control PSPO proposal?

55.8% said yes, 26.5% said no, 13.0% maybe, 4.7% unsure.

If no, why?

193 - I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

1 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)

5 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)

0 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

49 – other

If maybe, why?

74 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

3 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)

7 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)

2 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

38 – other

If unsure, why?

18 – I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue

0 - I want somewhere else to be included (please write in "other" for elaboration)

0 - I want somewhere to be excluded (please write in "other" for elaboration)

1 - I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue

22 – other

Themes from the comments:

- Adequate staffing and training of officers is needed to properly enforce.
- Suggestions that the PSPO is too broad.
- That most dog owners in general are responsible.
- Support for responsible dog ownership PSPO.
- Some believe the current restrictions and powers in place is enough.

15. Do you have any other comments?

Themes from the comments:

- Clear signs are needed, and clear enforcement measures.
- Not all dog owners are irresponsible.
- Some dog breeds can be dangerous.
- Dogs fouling is across the borough and happens on the pavement as well as in parks.
- There needs to be a difference between dog owners and dog walkers.
- There needs to be restrictions of people that walk together in groups with multiple dogs.
- Throughout the consultation there were concerns expressed about large groups of dogs being walked together. Over 20 comments via have Your Say expressed concerns about groups of dog walkers each walking multiple dogs which can be intimidating and present dog control issues.



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16. Examples of comments:

- “Dogs should also be on the lead on all roads and pavements”
- “There should be fines for leaving the bags of poo on the pavements too. More dog poo bins (and bins generally) are needed. Can't see how this will work unless there's a whole team of people enforcing. A registration scheme would make more sense, perhaps, to discourage people from owning a dog if they're not prepared to keep it well controlled and pick up (and bin) the dog's poo.”
- “I full support these initiatives as a responsible dog owner we suffer the consequences of others for their irresponsible behaviour. As a citizen I also enjoy walking in a clean environment. We always carry appropriate bags with us and keep the dog on a lead. We do not visit public areas and we respect rules. Unfortunately I can see how not all owners are as careful as we are. Having a dog can support mental health, it's a positive change for our society. I would only ask if we can also provide a dog area where dog can run free as it's very much needed for the animal. We will need clear signs in the area so that people who don't appreciate dogs can easily avoid the area. Ideally we can all find a solution and share the beautiful green areas in a responsible way.”
- “As a responsible dog owner in the Bishops Park area none of these rules will actually affect me since I already live by them. I think, largely, they are a good idea. I can't comment on areas outside of my area of the borough though.”
- “I think the proposed controls could significantly improve people's enjoyment of local parks.”
- “Dogs Need to remain off leads to, so they can have their a proper run”
- “Overall I think this idea is v good BUT you are dealing with a tiny minority who aren't responsible or respectful so your Officers need to be very careful not to be disrespectful to people who have clearly made a mistake.”
- “This are very good proposals. They should be put in place as soon as possible.”
- “Dog fouling is the real issue. Owners tend to keep their dogs on leads and are quite respectful. Forcing owners to change their dog walking routine and restricting their freedom of choice is excessive and disproportionate. It does not address the real issue which is dog fouling.”
- “Increase visibility of officers in parks e.g. Ravenscourt Park to ensure owner's compliance to new rules. Or introduce cleaning staff where officers are unavailable.”
- Professional dog walker should NOT be allowed to walk together. It means 3 dog walkers could have 12 dogs in the pack (if 4 is hopefully the limit per person) and that's insane and very dangerous as they cannot control that amount at all. It's incredibly intimidating for someone walking their single dog

