The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order (Runnymede Borough Council) 2026

Runnymede Borough Council (in this Order called "the Council") hereby makes the following Order:

This Order comes into force on 14th June 2026 for a period of 3 years until 13th June 2029.

At any point before the expiry of this Order the Council can seek to either extend, discharge or vary the Order at any time, subject to their being reasonable grounds to support such a decision.

General Provisions:

1. This Order applies to all land in the administrative area of the Council to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as a right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

Obligations on persons with dogs:

2. *Fouling*

   If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Order applies, a person who is in charge of the dog at the time must remove the faeces from the land forthwith unless

   (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
   (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

3. *Leads by Order*

   A person in charge of a dog on land to which this Order applies must comply with a direction given to him by an authorised officer of the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead unless

   (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
   (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

   An authorised officer may only give a direction under this Order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or to a bird or another animal.

4. *Exclusions of dogs in specified areas*

   A person in charge of a dog must not take it into or keep it within a fenced/enclosed children's play area and signed at its entrance(s) as a "dog exclusion area" (whether the sign use those particular words or words and/or symbols having like effect) which is designated and marked for children's play unless:

   (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
   (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

5. *Exemptions*

The requirements and prohibitions imposed by this Order shall not apply to any person who:

(a) has a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010 and whose disability restricts their ability to comply with the Order where their guide dog or assistance dog, which they rely on, has been trained by an appropriate registered charity or

(b) is using a working dog for purposes of law enforcement, military duties or statutory emergency services (search and rescue).

6. Definitional terms

For the purpose of this Order —

- A person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
- Placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be sufficient removal from the land;
- Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces
- "An authorised officer " means an employee, partnership agency or contractor of the Council who is authorised in writing by the Council for the purposes of the enforcement of the Order,

7. Failure to comply with this Order.

A person who fails to comply with any obligation imposed by this Order is guilty of an offence under section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

A person who is believed to have engaged in a breach of this Order, is required to give their name and address to a Police Office or an authorised officer so designated by the Council

A Police Officer or an authorised officer may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice to anyone he or she believes has committed an offence. A person issued with a fixed penalty notice will have 14 days following the date of the fixed penalty notice to pay the fixed penalty of £I00 (If the fixed penalty is paid within 10 days the amount payable is £80).

Dated 21st April 2026

The Common Seal of
Runnymede Borough Council
is hereto affixed and authenticated by:

Signed.

Mario Leo, Corporate Head of Law & Governance.



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