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Consultation relating to Public Space Protection Orders at Burnham Beeches

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Summary

This report, commissioned by the Corporation of London, presents the results of a face-face visitor survey at Burnham Beeches. The survey forms part of a consultation to gather views and determine the level of support among visitors to extend the duration of current powers provided by Dog Control Orders (DCOs).

The DCOs at Burnham Beeches cover the following:

- Dogs can be walked anywhere at Burnham Beeches apart from a small exclusion area at the café;
- In certain areas dogs must be on leads at all times;
- In the remaining areas, dogs can be walked off lead but must be put on a lead when requested by an authorised officer. Such requests are made when the dog is deemed to not be under effective control. Leads can be up to a maximum length of 5m.
- Dog walkers must clear up after their dog at all times;
- Each dog walker can only bring a maximum of four dogs on to the site at any one time.

Legislation relating to DCOs has been repealed by the government and replaced with Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs). The DCOs at Burnham Beeches run until October 2017, at which point they must be converted to PSPOs. They will lapse by 1st December 2017 and therefore the Corporation of London must either renew the powers or let them lapse.

A total of 369 interviews were conducted with interviewees selected at random to ensure a range of different types of visitors were interviewed. Surveys took place during April 2017 and covered the school holiday period (including the Easter weekend) and times outside the school holidays. One hundred and sixteen hours of survey work were conducted, a range of survey locations were included, but survey effort was focussed around the main car-park area on Lord Mayor's Drive.

95% of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of current powers relating to dog fouling. Just 2% of interviewees disagreed with the proposal. Comments raised the issue of a need for more bins and there were a number of concerns relating to poo bags creating litter and being left (full) hanging on trees.

57% of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of current powers relating to the area with dogs on leads (32% disagreed and 10% didn't have a strong opinion or didn't know). There were clear differences between activities, only a third (32%) of dog walkers agreed with the proposal whereas 81% of those who were not dog walking agreed with the proposal. Comments reflected a lack of understanding as to why the off-lead area was required and the rationale behind it. At least 50 interviewees suggested that they would

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prefer a different boundary, with a wide range of different (i.e. inconsistent) suggestions made.

91% of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of current powers relating to the requirement to put a dog on a lead on request. There were some differences between activities, with 89% of dog walkers agreeing compared to 93% for those not dog-walking. Twelve interviewees commented that the current powers were not enforced sufficiently.

80% of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of current powers relating to the maximum number of dogs allowed to be walked per person. Around 12% of interviewees didn't have a strong opinion or answer, meaning that only 9% of interviewees disagreed. A total of 27 interviewees (7%) indicated that they thought the maximum number should be different to four, with 22 of those interviewees suggesting it should be lower than four.

91% of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of current powers relating to an exclusion area for dogs around the café. There were just nine interviewees (2%) that disagreed.

To provide context, a wider range of questions covered general access patterns, reasons for visiting, home postcode etc. The above results are considered in context and checks made to consider the extent to which survey bias may reflect the consultation responses. These results provide the Corporation of London with information to decide on next steps. It is clear that the majority of visitors to Burnham Beeches agree with the proposals to extend all five powers relating to dogs and dog control.

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Survey work was undertaken by the following Footprint Ecology surveyors: Emma Foulger, Caroline Kelly, Sharon Lowen, Sue Powner and Chris Sadler. Fenella Lewin (Footprint Ecology) entered the tally data and proofread an early draft.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report has been commissioned by the Corporation of London to gather the views of visitors to Burnham Beeches with respect to the management of access and dogs at the site. Face-face survey work, involving interviews with a random sample of visitors, was undertaken and the focus was to determine the level of support among visitors to extend the duration of current Dog Control Orders (DCOs).

Burnham Beeches

- 1.2 Burnham Beeches is considered to be one of the most outstanding areas of acidic beech forest/beechn wood pasture in the UK, and its importance for biodiversity is internationally recognised by its wildlife designations. The site is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the provisions of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the Habitats Regulations). Burnham Beeches is also a National Nature Reserve, in recognition of its outstanding combined value to people, biodiversity and scientific research.
- 1.3 Burnham Beeches is in South Bucks and lies between the M40 to the north, and the M4 to the south, and the associated urban areas of Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross on the northern M40 corridor, and Slough and Burnham on the southern M4 corridor. The site is mostly owned by the City of London Corporation.

Access Levels and Recreational Use

- 1.4 Approximately 220ha of the site is managed as a freely accessible public open space. It is a very attractive and well known greenspace, providing high quality visitor facilities, beautiful scenery and a 'close to nature' visitor experience. Visitor counts are undertaken regularly and used to produce annual estimates of visits to the site: the most recent estimate is 551,400 visits per year (plus 142,751 dogs) in 2015/16, a 1.9% increase on the previous estimate from 2012/13 (Wheater & Cook 2016). Wheater & Cook's figures indicate that around 52% of visitors arrive by car, 42% arrive on foot, 5% arrive on a bicycle and less than 0.5% arrive on horseback¹. Approximately 41% of individuals/groups visiting the site have one or more dogs with them.
- 1.5 Visitor surveys involving face-face interviews were conducted in 2012 and 2016 (Liley, Floyd & Fearnley 2014; Panter & Liley 2016). The 2012 survey focussed on

¹ See Table 6 in Wheater & Cook (2016)

gathering information relating to access patterns, including home postcodes of visitors. The 2016 survey was focussed on capturing information on visitor routes, allowing maps of visitor density/footfall within the site to be generated.

Dog Control Orders (DCOs) at Burnham Beeches

1.6 DCOs were introduced at Burnham Beeches in December 2014, in line with a Dog Management Strategy produced for the site in that year. The DCOs were introduced to:

- Ensure a fair and proportionate balance between the needs of visitors so that all can enjoy the NNR
- Reduce the number of dog related incidents and complaints recorded each year
- Reduce the impact of dog control management on the resources available to manage the NNR
- Improve the welfare of wildlife and habitats, meeting the City of London's obligations under various legislations.

1.7 The DCOs at Burnham Beeches cover the following:

- Dogs can be walked anywhere at Burnham Beeches apart from a small exclusion area at the café;
- In certain areas dogs must be on leads at all times;
- In the remaining areas, dogs can be walked off lead but must be put on a lead when requested by an authorised officer. Such requests are made when the dog is deemed to not be under effective control. Leads can be up to a maximum length of 5m.
- Dog walkers must clear up after their dog at all times;
- Each dog walker can only bring a maximum of four dogs onto the site at any one time.

1.8 Legislation relating to Dog Control Orders has been repealed by the government and replaced with Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs). PSPOs can be used to address a wider range of anti-social behaviour besides issues relating to dogs, but include many of the matters previously covered with Dog Control Orders. PSPOs must also be reviewed every three years to ensure they are still necessary. The DCOs at Burnham Beeches run until October 2017, at which point they must be converted to PSPOs. They will lapse by 1st December 2017 by which time the Corporation of London must either renew the powers or let them lapse.

Aims of the Survey

- 1.9 In order to inform the decision to extend the duration of the current powers relating to the management of dogs- as PSPOs - the Corporation of London commissioned this visitor survey.
- 1.10 The survey was intended to gather views of people visiting Burnham Beeches as to whether the powers should be extended or not. The survey needed to be representative, capturing the views of a range of visitors and designed to allow the views of different groups and types of visitor to be extracted.

2. Methods

- 2.1 Survey work involved face-face interviews with a random sample of visitors. Interviews followed a questionnaire (Appendix 1) which was hosted on tablets running SNAP survey software. Surveyors followed the predetermined script and recorded responses on the tablets. Random selection of interviewees was achieved by the surveyor selecting the next person visible (if not already interviewing) and surveyors roamed slightly at each location to ensure a range of visitors were interviewed. Only one person was interviewed per party/group.
- 2.2 The questionnaire was carefully designed in consultation with Burnham Beeches staff. It contains a range of questions (Q1-11 and Q21-22) relating to activity, frequency of visit, mode of transport etc. that are relatively standard visitor survey questions. The collection of this information provides context to the survey and provides the potential to check who has responded. The design of the questions also follows the previous survey (Liley, Floyd & Fearnley 2014) allowing some checks on how access might have changed.
- 2.3 Questions 13-21 focus on the PSPOs. As the aim of the survey was to gather people's views on whether the current powers should be extended in duration, the questions specifically ask whether interviewees agreed or disagreed with extending the duration of each of the powers. Free text responses were also recorded to allow additional comments to be recorded.
- 2.4 Surveyors wore high-visibility jackets and were located at or close to main entry points or path junctions around the site. The survey was advertised in advance as taking place on the site within a broad time window, but the precise dates and locations were not provided to the public to minimise the risk of visitors changing their access patterns to ensure they were interviewed (or not). Where someone approached the surveyor directly to be interviewed, perhaps queuing to be interviewed (i.e. rather than being selected at random by the surveyor) then the interview was conducted but the surveyor recorded that the interviewee was not selected at random. The data were then included in the survey results and analysis, but it allowed the potential for checks in the analysis to ensure no bias from such interviews.
- 2.5 Survey locations were selected to encompass main access points, and the level of time spent at each was broadly weighted according to visitor volume (based on the figures in Wheater & Cook 2016). Survey effort was also roughly split so that a third took place at weekends, again reflecting the most recent count data in the Wheater & Cook report. Survey effort was split into two-hour sessions, to provide breaks for the surveyor, and surveyors moved between locations so that each surveyor covered two locations on each survey day. A rough tally was

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maintained of all the people seen by each surveyor for each session. Survey periods were stratified to ensure good temporal coverage within the day, with daylight hours broadly covered. Survey effort included the Easter weekend and Easter school holidays², but also included a range of non-holiday dates. Only one surveyor was present on site on any one day and anyone who had already been interviewed was not interviewed again.

- 2.6 Survey work was intended to cover fifteen person days (120 hours) of surveys, spread over 8 locations, however two survey sessions (totalling 4 hours) were missed due to surveyor illness. Two locations (at Lord Mayor's Drive) are essentially the same car-park/entry point, but due to the length of the car-park these were treated as two survey locations.
- 2.7 Survey points are summarised in Table 1 and Map 1. Table 1 also summarises the level of survey effort at each location. Map 1 shows the overall layout of the site and its location, shading reflects the area where the requirement for dogs to be on leads applies.
- 2.8 Following discussion with the surveyors it was apparent that some horse riders/carriage riders had been seen during the survey but none had been interviewed: this group is difficult to interview due to the challenge of safely intercepting the rider. In order to ensure the views of some horse riders were captured in the survey, a brief visit was made to the local stables and additional interviews conducted with those present.
- 2.9 We structure the results to provide an overview of the more standard visitor survey results, for example summarising the proportions of interviewees undertaking different activities, frequency of visit etc. We then focus on the particular questions (questions 13-20) that relate to the PSPOs. All errors, where given, are standard errors.

² Note that the school holiday period was staggered for different schools in the area so our definition of school holidays does not apply to all schools

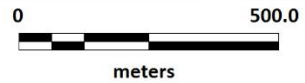
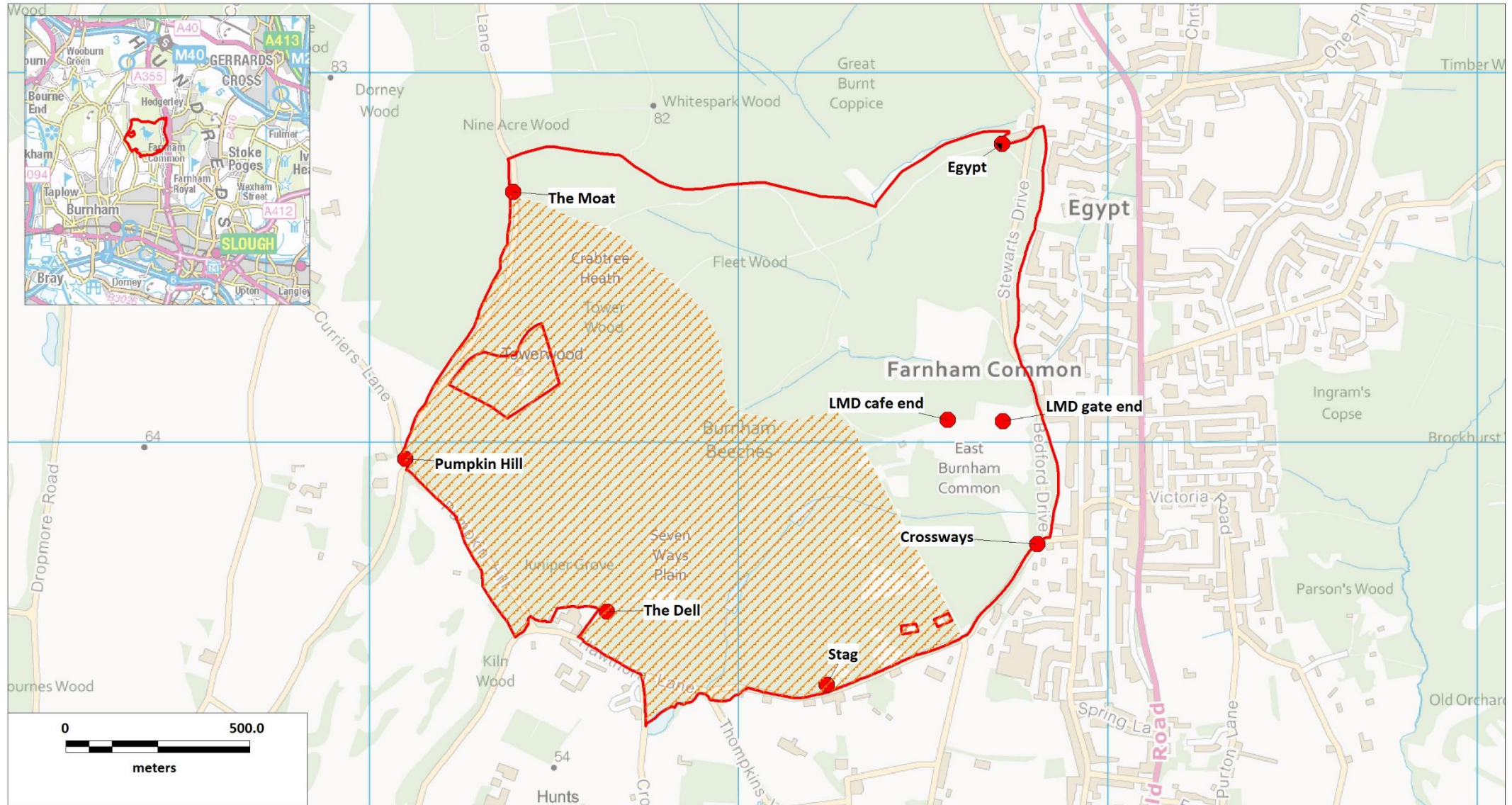
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Table 1: Survey dates and times. * are dates within the school holidays. Grey shading indicates weekend days or bank holidays. The different green shading (session A on 12/4/17) indicates the sessions missed due to surveyor illness.

Date (April 2017)	Day	Lord Mayor's Drive, gate end	Lord Mayor's Drive, café end	Crossways	The Dell	Stag	Egypt	The Moat	Pumpkin Hill
1	Sat	A			B				
2	Sun		C			D			
3	Mon	A	B						
4	Tues		C		D				
9*	Sun		B					A	
10*	Mon		A	B					
11*	Tues		D	C					
12*	Weds	B							A
13*	Thurs		D				C		
14*	Good Fri	B	A						
15*	Sat	D							C
18*	Tues	D				C			
19*	Weds	C		D					
20*	Thurs				A			B	
21*	Fri	C					D		
	TOTAL HOURS	48	48	12	12	8	8	8	8

A = 0800-1000; 1100-1300; B=1400-1600; 1700-1900; C = 0730-0930; 1030-1230; D=1330-1530; 1630-1830

Map 1: Survey Locations & overview of site



- Corporation of London BB boundary
- Survey Locations (labelled)
- Dogs on leads area (schedule 2)

3. Results: general overview

3.1 In this section of the results we summarise the broad data from the survey in terms of number of interviews, activities, temporal visiting patterns, mode of transport, choice of site and distance from home. These results provide the context to the main results section which addresses the results of the questions about the extension of the current powers relating to dogs. This section of the results therefore covers responses to questions 1-10 and question 21 onwards.

Visitor numbers from tally data

3.2 A total of 1,288 people was estimated as 'entering' the site (by 'entering' we mean passing the surveyor and walking onto the site, including those leaving the car-park to go into the woods or onto the Common) during the survey periods. A total of 598 groups were estimated entering, 46% of which had a dog with them. The tallies also recorded 87 bicycles (i.e. roughly one in fifteen people entering was on a bicycle) and 8 horses (i.e. one in every 161 people entering was on a horse). These totals are very approximate as it was often difficult for surveyors to be interviewing and confident all people were counted, particularly at the large car-parks, however the figures give a rough estimate of the visitor volume during the survey period.

Numbers of interviews and overview of questionnaire data

3.3 A total of 369 interviews were conducted, with the majority (72%) at Lord Mayor's Drive (Table 2). A total of 91 people refused to be interviewed and 89 people had already been interviewed (and were not interviewed again).

3.4 The total of 369 included two interviews conducted with horse riders at the stables. Virtually all (363 interviewees, 98%) indicated they were visiting on a short visit directly from their home, this included the two horse riders. The remaining interviewees included four (1%) that were staying away from home with friends/family and one interviewee who was on holiday.

3.5 Around 65% of interviews were conducted during the school holidays (but note school holidays were staggered for different schools) and around 35% during term time. A slightly higher number of interviewees (224, 61%) were female compared to male (145 interviewees, 39%). The average group size (i.e. number of people in party, including the interviewee) was 2.1 (± 0.08), including an average of 0.6 children (± 0.06). The interviewees were accompanied by a total of 220 dogs, giving an average of 0.8 ($+0.05$) per group (roughly 1 dog for every 2.9 people); 169 of these dogs (63%) were observed off-lead by the surveyors.

3.6 Each interview averaged around 7.5 minutes.

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Table 2: Numbers (%) of interviews by location and whether in school holidays or not

Interview location	School term time	School holidays	Total
LMD gate	48 (37)	89 (37)	137 (37)
LMD café	57 (44)	72 (30)	129 (35)
The Dell	21 (16)	10 (4)	31 (8)
Crossways	0 (0)	21 (9)	21 (6)
Moat	0 (0)	19 (8)	19 (5)
Egypt	0 (0)	16 (7)	16 (4)
Stag	4 (3)	4 (2)	8 (2)
Pumpkin Hill	0 (0)	6 (3)	6 (2)
Stables	0 (0)	2 (1)	2 (1)
Total	130 (100)	239 (100)	369 (100)

Activities undertaken

3.7 Dog walking was the most frequently recorded activity (47% of interviewees), with walking (29% of interviewees) the second most common activity (Figure 1, Table 3). Dog walkers accounted for a particularly high proportion of interviewees at Lord Mayor's Drive (gate end), Pumpkin Hill and the Stag. Eleven (3% of interviewees) did not fit with the pre-determined categories, and were undertaking 'other' activities. These included a diverse range of activities included volunteering, photography, playing rounders, feeding the ducks, meeting friends for coffee and baby-sitting.

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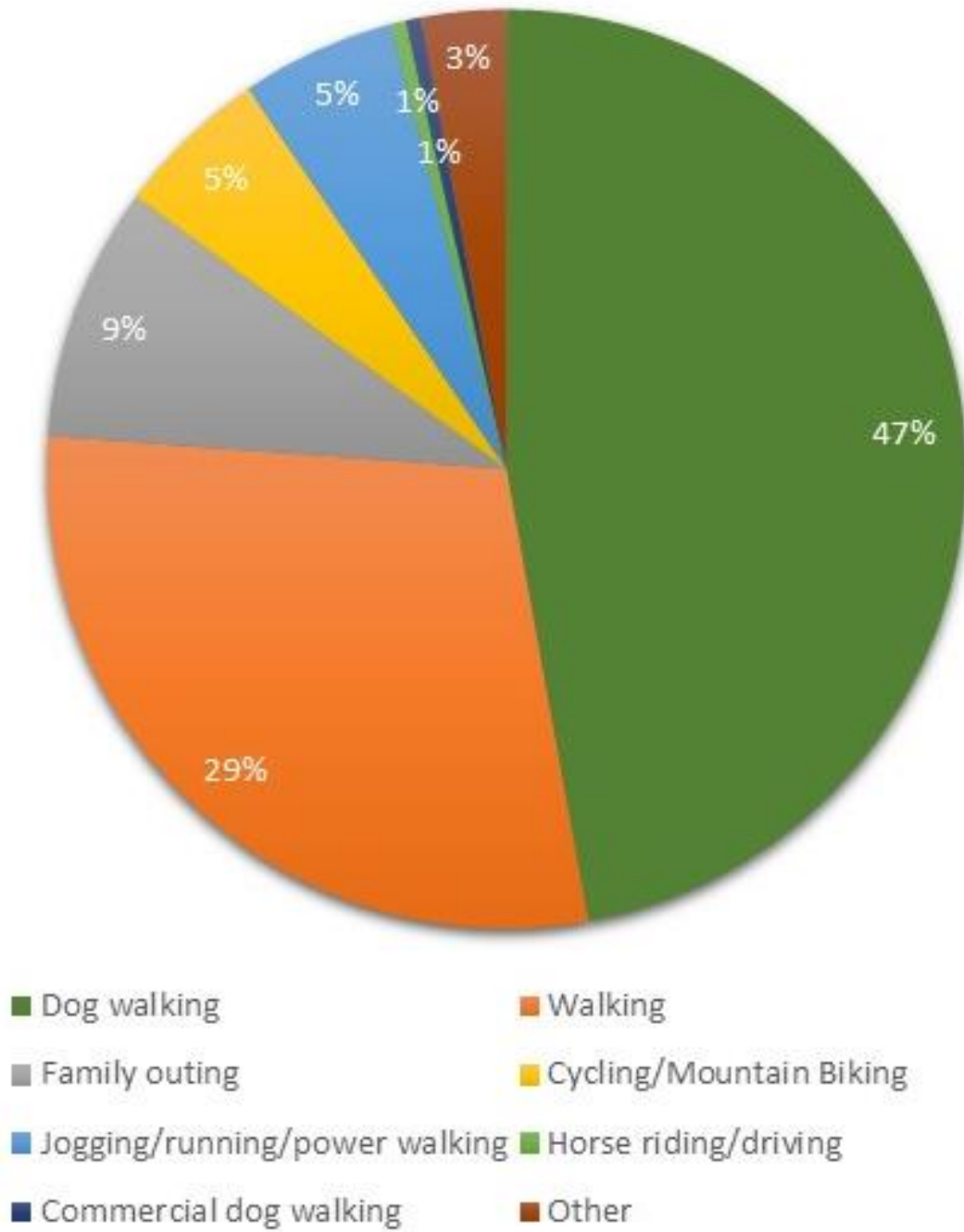


Figure 1: Breakdown of activities undertaken by interviewees, all data combined.

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Table 3: Number (column %) of interviewees by activity and survey location

Activity	LMD gate	LMD café	The Dell	Crossways	Moat	Egypt	Stag	Pumpkin Hill	Stables	Total
Dog walking	84 (61)	48 (37)	10 (32)	10 (48)	6 (32)	6 (38)	6 (75)	4 (67)	0 (0)	174 (47)
Walking	27 (20)	47 (36)	13 (42)	9 (43)	5 (26)	5 (31)	0 (0)	1 (17)	0 (0)	107 (29)
Family outing	12 (9)	18 (14)	2 (6)	1 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	33 (9)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	2 (1)	6 (5)	4 (13)	0 (0)	5 (26)	3 (19)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (5)
Jogging/running/power walking	6 (4)	7 (5)	1 (3)	0 (0)	2 (11)	2 (13)	1 (13)	1 (17)	0 (0)	20 (5)
Other	6 (4)	1 (1)	1 (3)	1 (5)	1 (5)	0 (0)	1 (13)	0 (0)	0 (0)	11 (3)
Horse riding/driving	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)	2 (1)
Commercial dog walking	0 (0)	2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (1)
Total	137 (100)	129 (100)	31 (100)	21 (100)	19 (100)	16 (100)	8 (100)	6 (100)	2 (100)	369 (100)

Temporal visiting patterns

3.8 The most common visit duration (44% interviewees) was 1-2 hours (Table 4). For both dog walkers and joggers, the most frequently given visit duration was 30mins-1 hour (44% of dog walkers and 75% of joggers).

Table 4: Number (row %) of interviewees by duration of visit (Q3) and activity. Grey shading indicates the most commonly given response for each activity.

Activity	<30mins	30mins – 1hr	1-2 hrs	2-3 hrs	3-4 hrs	4 hrs +	Not sure/don't know	Total
Dog walking	18 (10)	77 (44)	73 (42)	6 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	174 (100)
Walking	5 (5)	24 (22)	58 (54)	14 (13)	5 (5)	1 (1)	0 (0)	107 (100)
Family outing	0 (0)	4 (12)	13 (39)	14 (42)	0 (0)	1 (3)	1 (3)	33 (100)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	4 (20)	4 (20)	11 (55)	1 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (100)
Jogging/running/power walk	1 (5)	15 (75)	2 (10)	1 (5)	1 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (100)
Other	1 (9)	1 (9)	2 (18)	4 (36)	1 (9)	2 (18)	0 (0)	11 (100)
Horse riding/driving	0 (0)	1 (50)	1 (50)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)
Commercial dog walking	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)
Total	29 (8)	126 (34)	162 (44)	40 (11)	7 (2)	4 (1)	1 (0)	369 (100)

3.9 Many interviewees were frequent visitors to the site, with 44% visiting Burnham Beeches at least three times per week (Table 5). Dog walkers were the group with the highest proportion of interviewees (65%) visiting three or more times per week. Those on family outings and those cycling were less frequent visitors.

Table 5: Number (row %) of interviewees by frequency of visit (Q4) and activity. Grey shading indicates the most commonly given response for each activity.

Activity	3 or more times per week	About twice a week	About once a week	About once per month	Less than once per month	Other/first visit/unsure	Total
Dog walking	113 (65)	11 (6)	13 (7)	7 (4)	8 (5)	22 (13)	174 (100)
Walking	30 (28)	14 (13)	18 (17)	16 (15)	11 (10)	18 (17)	107 (100)
Family outing	3 (9)	1 (3)	6 (18)	12 (36)	7 (21)	4 (12)	33 (100)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	2 (10)	5 (25)	3 (15)	5 (25)	2 (10)	3 (15)	20 (100)
Jogging/running/power walking	11 (55)	6 (30)	2 (10)	1 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (100)
Other	3 (27)	1 (9)	2 (18)	1 (9)	3 (27)	1 (9)	11 (100)
Horse riding/driving	1 (50)	1 (50)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)
Commercial dog walking	1 (50)	1 (50)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)
Total	164 (44)	40 (11)	44 (12)	42 (11)	31 (8)	48 (13)	369 (100)

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3.10 Most (58%) interviewees had been visiting Burnham Beeches for more than 10 years (Table 6), and this was the case for most individual activities. This would suggest that a high proportion of visitors have continued to visit the site since the Dog Control Orders were established just over two years previously. A total 20% of interviewees have been visiting for less than three years.

Table 6: Number (row %) of interviewees by length of time visiting Burnham Beeches (Q5) and activity. Grey shading indicates the most commonly given response for each activity.

Activity	first visit	less than / approx. 1 year	less than or approx. 3 years	less than or approx. 5 years	less than or approx. 10 years	more than 10 years	Total
Dog walking	3 (2)	4 (2)	13 (7)	25 (14)	14 (8)	115 (66)	174 (100)
Walking	11 (10)	8 (7)	12 (11)	11 (10)	7 (7)	58 (54)	107 (100)
Family outing	1 (3)	2 (6)	7 (21)	11 (33)	3 (9)	9 (27)	33 (100)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	1 (5)	1 (5)	1 (5)	1 (5)	3 (15)	13 (65)	20 (100)
Jogging/running/power walking	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (25)	5 (25)	1 (5)	9 (45)	20 (100)
Other	1 (9)	1 (9)	1 (9)	0 (0)	0 (0)	8 (73)	11 (100)
Horse riding/driving	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)	2 (100)
Commercial dog walking	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (50)	1 (50)	2 (100)
Total	17 (5)	16 (4)	39 (11)	53 (14)	29 (8)	215 (58)	369 (100)

3.11 Some 45% of interviewees did not have a particular time of day they tended to visit; for those that did tend to visit at a particular time of day early morning (20% of interviewees) and late morning (23% of interviewees) were preferred. Those dog walking (including the two commercial dog walkers) and those jogging showed the strongest preference to visit in the mornings.

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Table 7: Number (row %) of interviewees and time of day that they tend to visit (Q6). Interviewees could give multiple responses and the percentages do not therefore add up to 100% but reflect the percentage of interviewees undertaking each activity that gave a particular time of day. Grey shading reflects values above 25%.

Activity	Early am (before 9am)	Late am (9am - 12)	Early pm (12 - 2)	Late pm (between 2 - 4pm)	Evening (after 4pm)	Varies / don't know/ first visit
Dog walking	45 (26)	46 (26)	7 (4)	13 (7)	26 (15)	72 (40)
Walking	11 (10)	20 (19)	10 (9)	14 (13)	6 (6)	58 (45)
Family outing	1 (3)	4 (12)	2 (6)	3 (9)	1 (3)	24 (73)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	2 (10)	5 (25)	2 (10)	4 (20)	0 (0)	12 (55)
Jogging/running/power walking	9 (45)	6 (30)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (25)	7 (35)
Other	2 (18)	1 (9)	1 (9)	1 (9)	0 (0)	8 (64)
Horse riding/driving	0 (0)	1 (50)	0 (0)	1 (50)	0 (0)	1 (50)
Commercial dog walking	2 (100)	1 (50)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Total	72 (20)	84 (23)	22 (6)	36 (10)	38 (10)	182 (45)

3.12 The majority (79%) of interviewees tended to visit all year round (Table 8), this was especially the case for dog walkers (94% visiting equally all year round) and those horse riding/driving (both interviewees, 100%, visiting all year round). None of the interviewees indicated that they tended to visit more in the winter, while reasonably high proportions of cyclists and those undertaking family outings tended to visit more in the spring and summer.

Table 8: Number (row %) of interviewees and time of year that they tend to visit (Q7). Interviewees could give multiple responses and the percentages do not therefore add up to 100% but reflect the percentage of interviewees undertaking each activity that gave a particular time of day. Grey shading reflects values above 25%.

Activity	Spring (Mar-May)	Summer (Jun-Aug)	Autumn (Sept-Nov)	Winter (Dec-Feb)	Equally all year	Don't know/first visit
Dog walking	2 (1)	4 (2)	2 (1)	0 (0)	163 (94)	5 (3)
Walking	20 (19)	17 (16)	8 (7)	0 (0)	71 (66)	12 (11)
Family outing	13 (39)	14 (42)	1 (3)	0 (0)	18 (55)	1 (3)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	6 (30)	6 (30)	3 (15)	0 (0)	12 (60)	1 (5)
Jogging/running/power walking	3 (15)	3 (15)	1 (5)	0 (0)	17 (85)	0 (0)
Other	2 (18)	2 (18)	1 (9)	0 (0)	7 (64)	1 (9)
Horse riding/driving	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)	0 (0)
Commercial dog walking	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)	0 (0)
Total	46 (12)	46 (12)	16 (4)	0 (0)	292 (79)	20 (5)

Mode of Transport

- 3.13 Most (70%) interviewees arrived at Burnham Beeches by car, and around a quarter (26%) had arrived on foot (Table 9). Just over a third (35%) of cyclists had travelled by car and brought their bike with them and joggers (also 35% arriving by car) were the other activity with a notably low proportion of interviewees travelling by car.
- 3.14 Interviewees had arrived by car at all the survey points, but the Stag was the only location where all interviewees had travelled by car (Figure 2). Lord Mayor's Drive gate end was the survey location with the highest number of interviewees who had arrived by foot and foot visitors accounted for virtually all those interviewed at Crossways. Interviewees had arrived by bike at four survey points (Lord Mayor's Drive café, the Dell, Moat and Egypt).

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Table 9: Number (row %) of interviewees and mode of transport (Q8). Grey shading highlights values above 25%.

Activity	Bicycle	Car / van	On foot	No response recorded	Total
Dog walking	0 (0)	132 (76)	42 (24)	0 (0)	174 (100)
Walking	0 (0)	72 (67)	35 (33)	0 (0)	107 (100)
Family outing	0 (0)	31 (94)	2 (6)	0 (0)	33 (100)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	12 (60)	7 (35)	1 (5)	0 (0)	20 (100)
Jogging/running/power walking	0 (0)	7 (35)	13 (65)	0 (0)	20 (100)
Other	0 (0)	7 (64)	4 (36)	0 (0)	11 (100)
Horse riding/driving	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)	2 (100)
Commercial dog walking	0 (0)	2 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)
Total	12 (3)	258 (70)	97 (26)	2 (1)	369 (100)

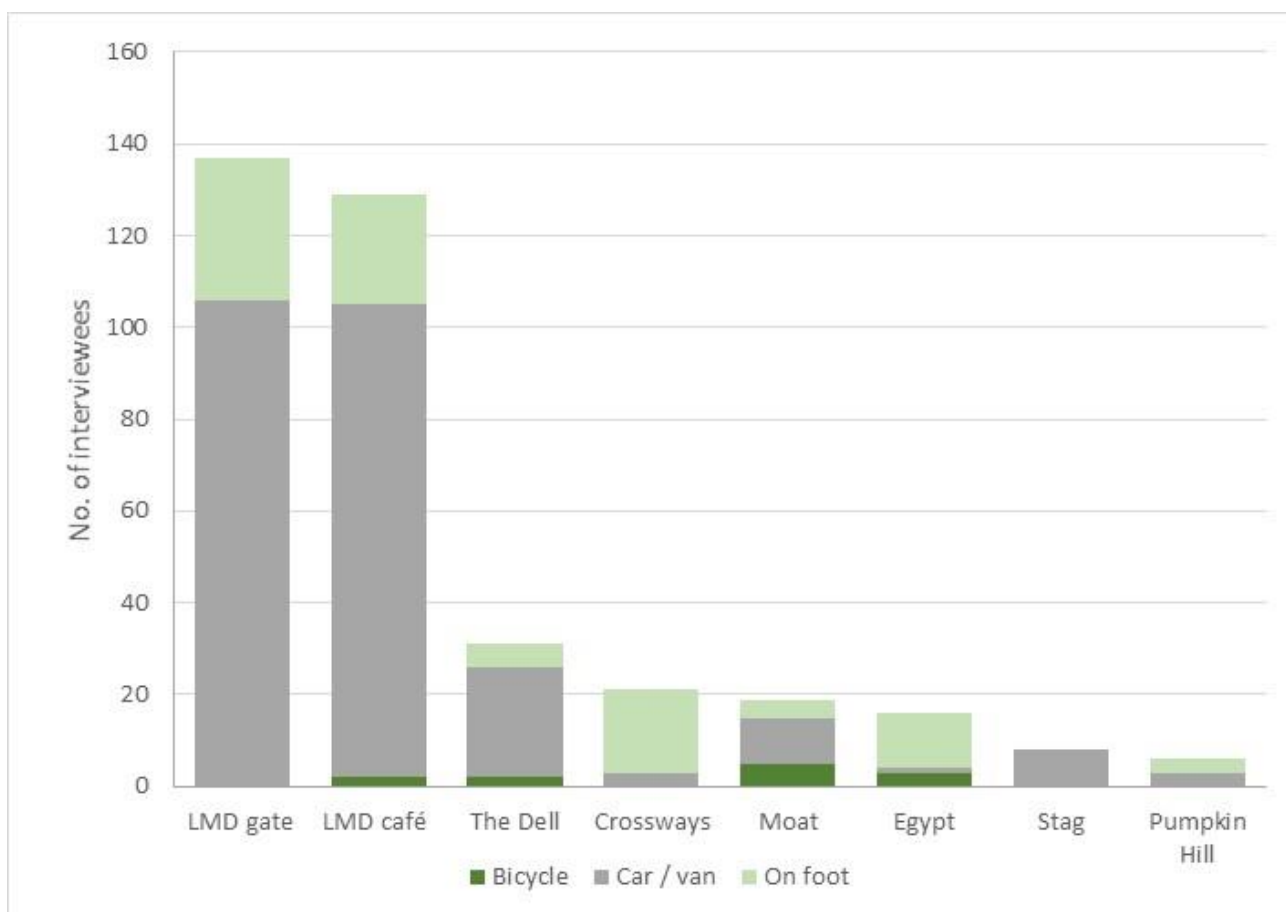


Figure 2: Numbers of interviewees by mode of transport (Q8) and survey location

Reasons for site choice

3.15 Reasons for site choice are summarised in Figure 3. Close to home was the main reason interviewees chose to visit Burnham Beeches, cited by 47% of interviewees. Other frequently cited reasons included scenery/variety of views (37% of interviewees) and good for the dog/dog enjoys it (15%).

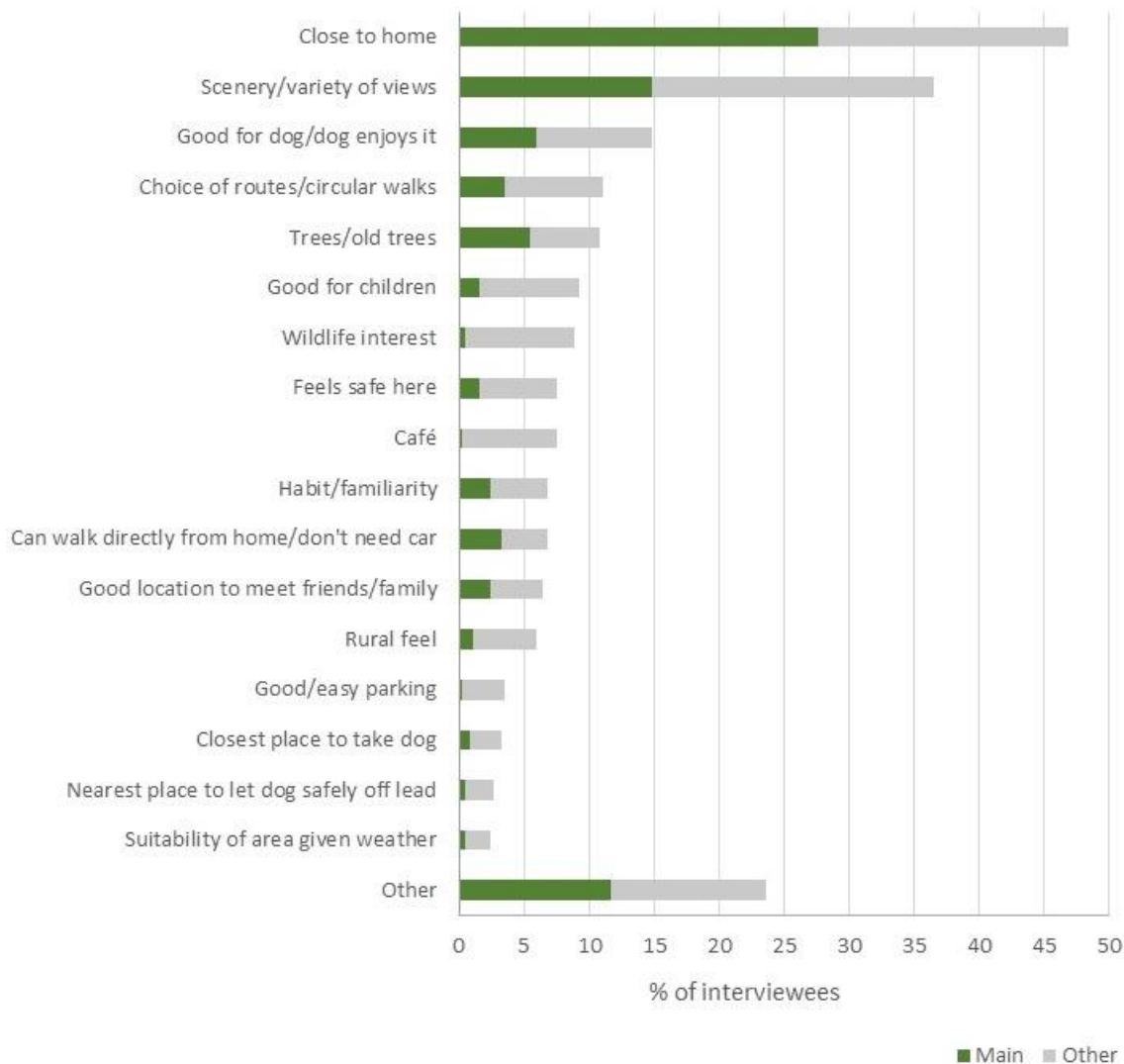


Figure 3: Reasons for site choice (Q9). Responses were coded by the surveyors using the categories shown. Multiple reasons could be coded for each interviewee, although only one 'main' reason (shown in green) was recorded for each interview.

Choice of Route

3.16 Factors influencing interviewee's choice of route are summarised in Figure 4. Interviewees categorised responses according to a pre-determined list and reasons that did not fit the standard categories were recorded as 'other' and further details

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(free text) logged on the tablets. Across all interviewees, the most common single factor influencing choice of route was previous experience/familiarity. The areas where dogs are allowed off lead was the second most commonly given factor. Reasons are broken down by activity in Table 10. It can be seen that the dogs off lead area was virtually only cited by dog walkers, who tended to choose a route where their dog could be off lead; however, it should be noted at least one dog walker had positively selected the area where dogs were required to be on leads as their dog was scared of other dogs.

3.17 The 'other' reasons were very varied. Access for scooters/use of paved paths for those with limited mobility or pushing prams was a factor for ten interviewees. At least nine interviewees indicated that their route was random or they simply wandered with no predetermined idea of a route. At least eight interviewees mentioned their route had been selected to take in the café or refreshment facilities. At least two interviewees mentioned pokemon as influencing where they went.

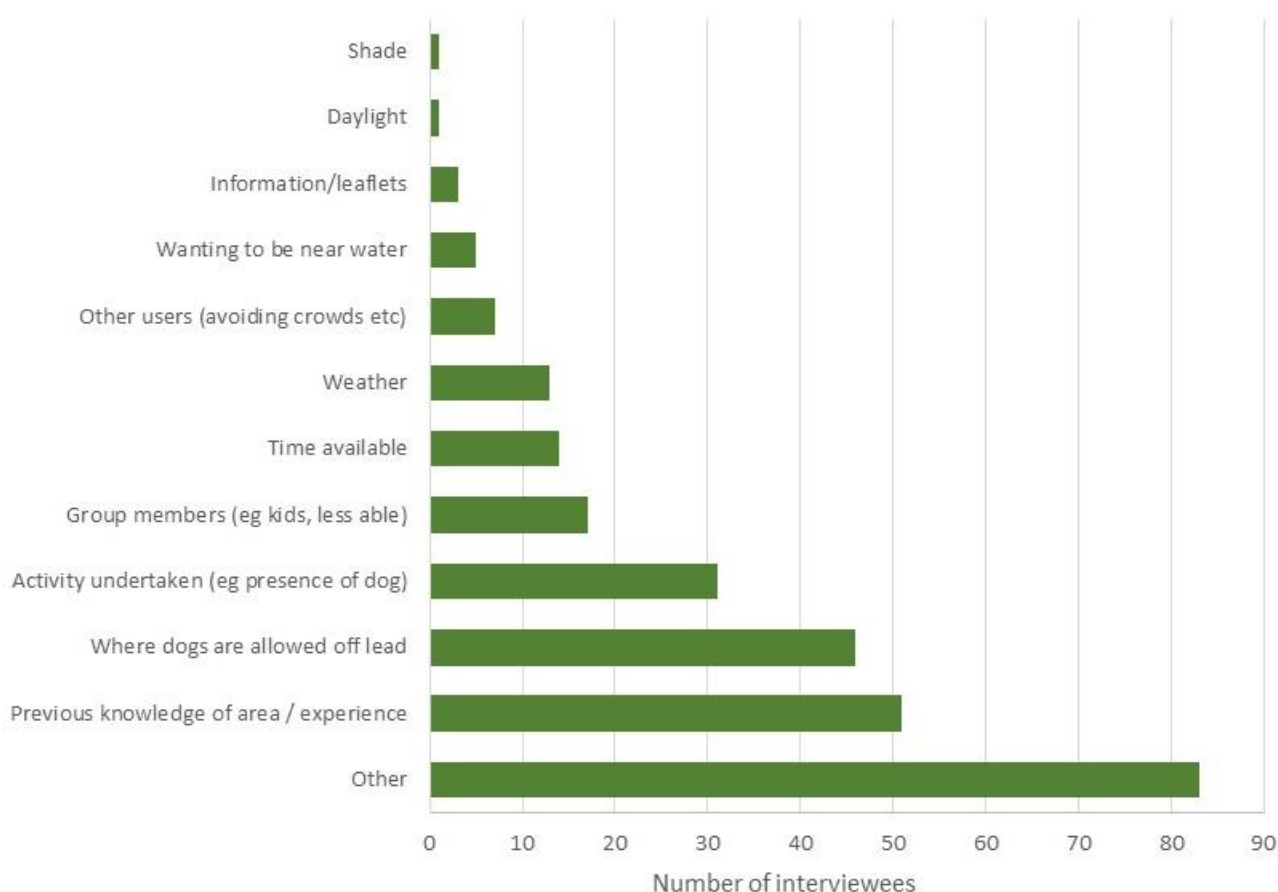


Figure 4: Factors influencing choice of route for all interviewees combined. Interviewees could give multiple responses.

Table 10: Number (%) interviewees and factors influencing choice of route (Q10). Interviewees could give multiple responses and the percentages do not therefore add up to 100% but reflect the percentage of interviewees undertaking each activity that gave a particular reason. Grey shading reflects the three most commonly given reasons for each activity.

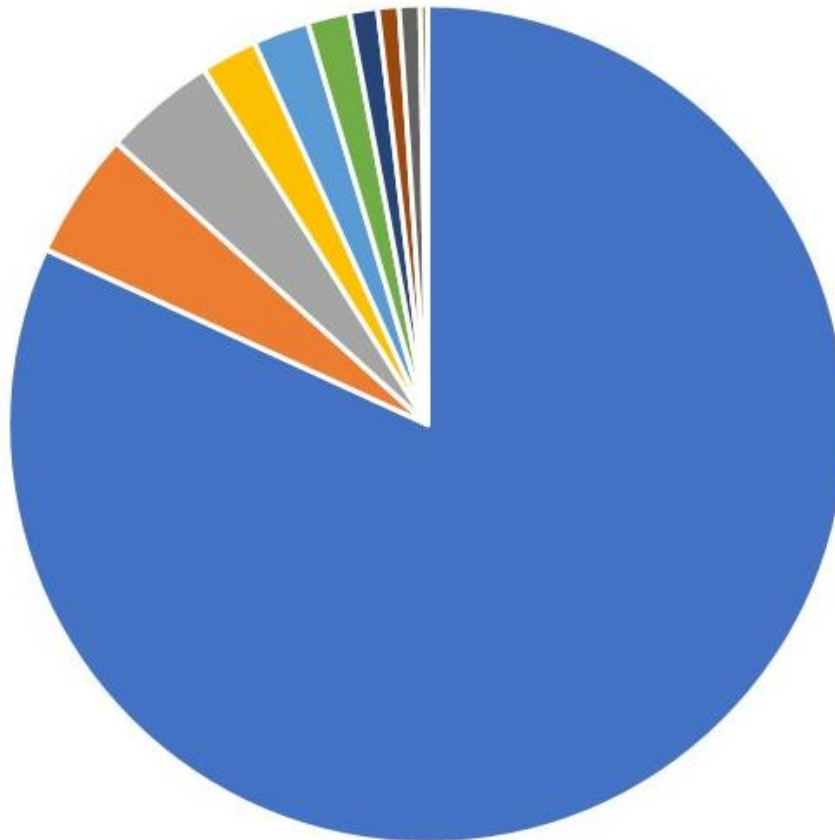
Activity	Weather	Daylight	Time available	Other users (avoiding crowds etc)	Group members (eg kids, less able)	Previous knowledge of area / experience	Activity undertaken (eg presence of dog)	Information /leaflets	Wanting to be near water	Shade	Where dogs are allowed off lead	Other
Dog walking	6 (3)	0 (0)	8 (5)	4 (2)	3 (2)	18 (10)	17 (10)	0 (0)	2 (1)	0 (0)	45 (26)	22 (13)
Walking	4 (4)	0 (0)	3 (3)	3 (3)	5 (5)	22 (21)	5 (5)	3 (3)	2 (2)	1 (1)	0 (0)	36 (34)
Family outing	1 (3)	1 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	6 (18)	3 (9)	3 (9)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	8 (24)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	2 (10)	0 (0)	2 (10)	0 (0)	3 (15)	2 (10)	1 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	9 (45)
Jogging/running/power walk	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (25)	2 (10)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4 (20)
Other	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (9)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (9)	3 (27)	0 (0)	1 (9)	0 (0)	1 (9)	4 (36)
Horse riding/driving	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Commercial dog walking	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Total	13 (4)	1 (0)	14 (4)	7 (2)	17 (5)	51 (14)	31 (8)	3 (1)	5 (1)	1 (0)	46 (12)	83 (22)

Table 11: Number (row %) of interviewees by activity and ethnic background (Q24).

Activity	1 English/Welsh/Scottish/Nl/British	2 Irish	4 Any other white background	5 White & Black Caribbean	7 White & Asian	9 Indian	10 Pakistani	11 Bangladeshi	13 Any other Asian background	No answer	Total
Dog walking	155 (89)	4 (2)	5 (3)	1 (1)	2 (1)	2 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)	4 (2)	174 (100)
Walking	80 (75)	2 (2)	5 (5)	1 (1)	0 (0)	12 (11)	3 (3)	1 (1)	2 (2)	1 (1)	107 (100)
Family outing	21 (64)	2 (6)	5 (15)	3 (9)	2 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	33 (100)
Cycling/Mountain Biking	16 (80)	0 (0)	2 (10)	1 (5)	0 (0)	1 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (100)
Jogging/running/power walk.	18 (90)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (5)	0 (0)	1 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (100)
Other	8 (73)	0 (0)	1 (9)	1 (9)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (9)	11 (100)
Horse riding/driving	2 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)
Commercial dog walking	2 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (100)
Total	302 (82)	8 (2)	18 (5)	8 (2)	4 (1)	16 (4)	3 (1)	1 (0)	3 (1)	6 (2)	369 (100)

Ethnic Background

3.18 The ethnic background of interviewees is summarised by activity in Table 11 and overall proportions of the different ethnic backgrounds among interviewees are summarised in Figure 5. Most interviewees (82%) gave their ethnic background as “English/Welsh/Scottish/NI/British”.



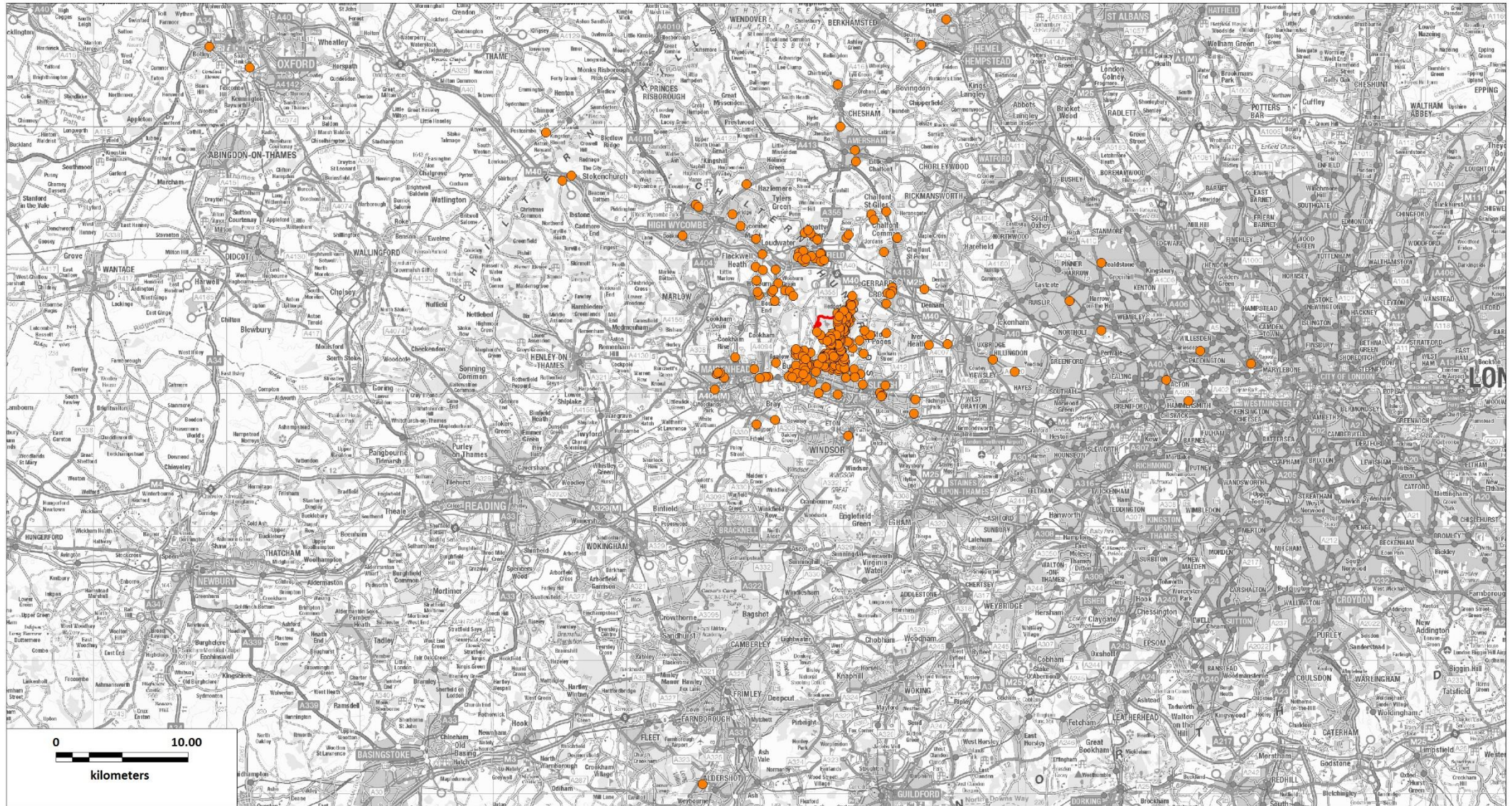
- 1 English/Welsh/Scottish/NI/British (82%)
- 4 Any other white background (5%)
- 9 Indian (4%)
- 2 Irish (2%)
- 5 White & Black Caribbean (2%)
- No Answer (2%)
- 7 White & Asian (1%)
- 10 Pakistani (1%)
- 13 Any other Asian background (1%)
- 11 Bangladeshi (0%)

Figure 5: Ethnic background of interviewees. All categories with at least one interviewee are shown.

Distance from home postcode

- 3.19 A total of 354 interviewees gave valid full postcodes that could be accurately plotted in the GIS. For those interviewed at Burnham Beeches we calculated the linear distance between the home postcode and the survey location, to give a measurement of how far away people lived. The median distance was 2.52km and most (75th percentile) interviewees lived within 5.3km of the location where interviewed. Dog walkers (median 2.14km) and joggers (median 1.95km) were the most local whereas those on family outings (median 3.69km), commercial dog walkers (median 3.76km, but note just two interviewees) and those undertaking “other” activities lived further away from the interview location. Differences between activities were significant (Kruskal-Wallis $H=12.55$, 5d.f., $p=0.028$; commercial dog walking excluded due to small sample size).
- 3.20 The two horse riders were both interviewed at the stables rather than at Burnham Beeches and therefore we did not calculate a distance from home postcode to the survey point. Both these interviewees were relatively local, the furthest of the two postcodes was 2.12km from the Burnham Beeches boundary.
- 3.21 In Map 2 we provide an overview of the home postcodes, all but four of the 354 postcodes are shown on the map. Four postcodes (all interviewees who were staying away from home when visiting) that are not shown were from much further afield, including one near Sheffield, two near Bristol and one near Taunton.

Map 2: Home postcodes of interviewees



Corporation of London BB boundary



Interviewee postcodes (note 4 points beyond area shown on map)

4. Results: Response to questions relating to PSPOs

4.1 In this section, we consider the responses to the questions relating to extending the duration of the powers covered by the Dog Control Orders (questions 13-21). We summarise the headline figures and then consider each of the five powers separately. We consider the variation in responses, checking for differences between groups based on other questions such as activity type, frequency of visit, length of time visiting Burnham Beeches etc.

Headline figures

4.2 Headline figures for the responses to the five questions relating to extending the powers of the current dog control orders (as PSPOs) are summarised in Table 12 and Figure 6. For all the five questions, at least 50% of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of the powers. In the case of extending the powers relating to dog fouling, dogs on leads on request and the area with no dogs at all, over 90% of those interviewed agreed with the proposal to extend the current powers. The most contentious issue related to the area with dogs on leads, where 57% of interviews agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of the current powers and roughly a third (32%) of interviewees disagreed.

Table 12: Number (row %) of interviewees and responses to the five questions relating to extending the duration of existing powers of the current dog control orders.

Proposal to extend duration of powers relating to....:	Agree	No strong opinion/Don't know/No answer	Disagree	Total
Dog fouling (Q11)	352 (95)	9 (2)	8 (2)	369 (100)
Area with dogs on leads (Q13)	212 (57)	38 (10)	119 (32)	369 (100)
Dogs on leads on request (Q15)	336 (91)	17 (5)	16 (4)	369 (100)
Maximum number of dogs (Q17)	295 (80)	40 (11)	34 (9)	369 (100)
Area with no dogs at café (Q19)	337 (91)	23 (6)	9 (2)	369 (100)

Consultation relating to Public Space Protection Orders at Burnham Beeches

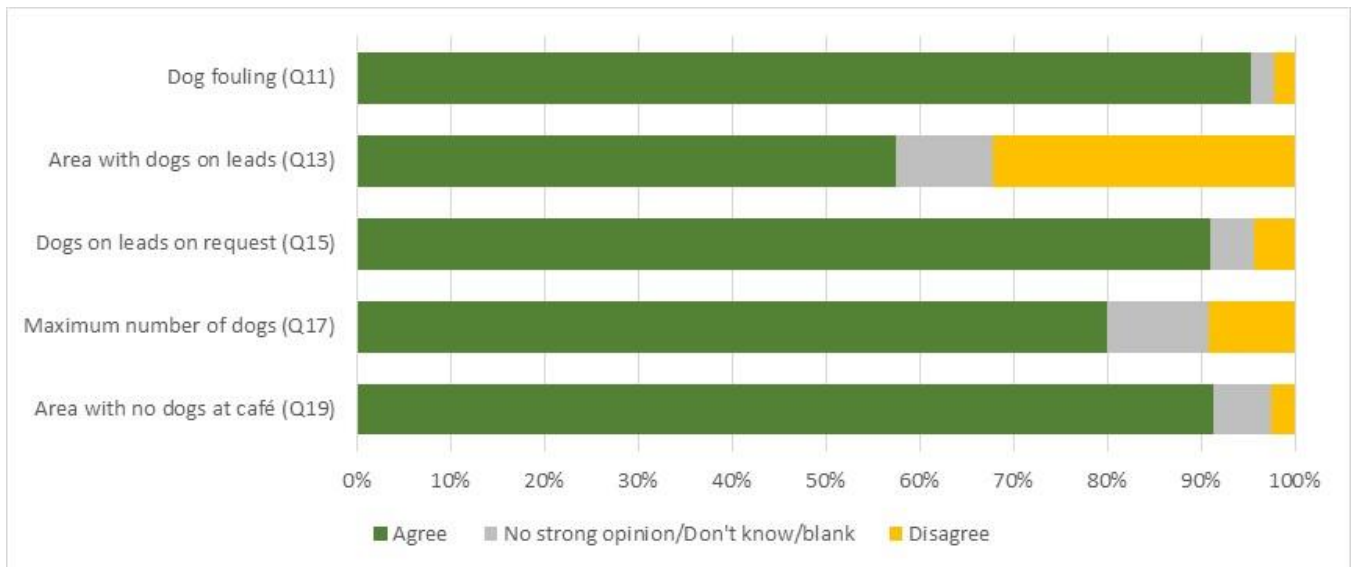


Figure 6: Graphic summary of overall responses to the five questions relating to extension of the PSPOs.

Dog fouling

- 4.3 Virtually all interviewees (352 interviewees, 95%) agreed that the current powers relating to dog fouling should be extended for a further three years. There were just eight interviewees (2%) that disagreed.
- 4.4 There was no evidence of differences between dog walkers and non-dog walkers, with 95% of both groups indicating they agreed with the proposals to extend the duration of current powers. Similarly, the proportions that agreed/disagreed were similar when the data were filtered (e.g. by ethnic group, by frequency of visit or by length of time visiting Burnham Beeches).
- 4.5 A total of 104 interviewees gave further comment and comments were varied. A common theme (at least 15 interviewees) was a need for more bins. Ten interviewees raised concerns with poo bags and bags being left around Burnham Beeches, for example hanging on trees, and this was often felt to be a greater issue than if the mess had not been picked up. Three interviewees indicated it was essential that the powers were enforced. At least two interviewees mentioned horse mess and indicated that horse riders should also be required to pick-up.

Area with dogs on leads

- 4.6 The majority of interviewees (212 interviewees, 57%) agreed that the current powers relating to the dogs on leads area should be extended for a further three years.
- 4.7 There were clear differences between activities (Figure 7). Roughly a third (55 interviewees, 32%) of dog walkers agreed with the proposal and over half (98 interviewees, 56%) disagreed. Both commercial dog walkers disagreed with the proposal. Among other activity types, the percentage of respondents agreeing ranged from 73% for those undertaking 'other' activities (8 interviewees) and 100% for horse riders (two interviewees).
- 4.8 Comparing all non-dog walkers to dog walkers (Figure 7), there are significant differences ($\chi^2_2 = 98.44$, $p < 0.001$), with 81% of non-dog walkers agreeing compared to 32% of dog walkers.

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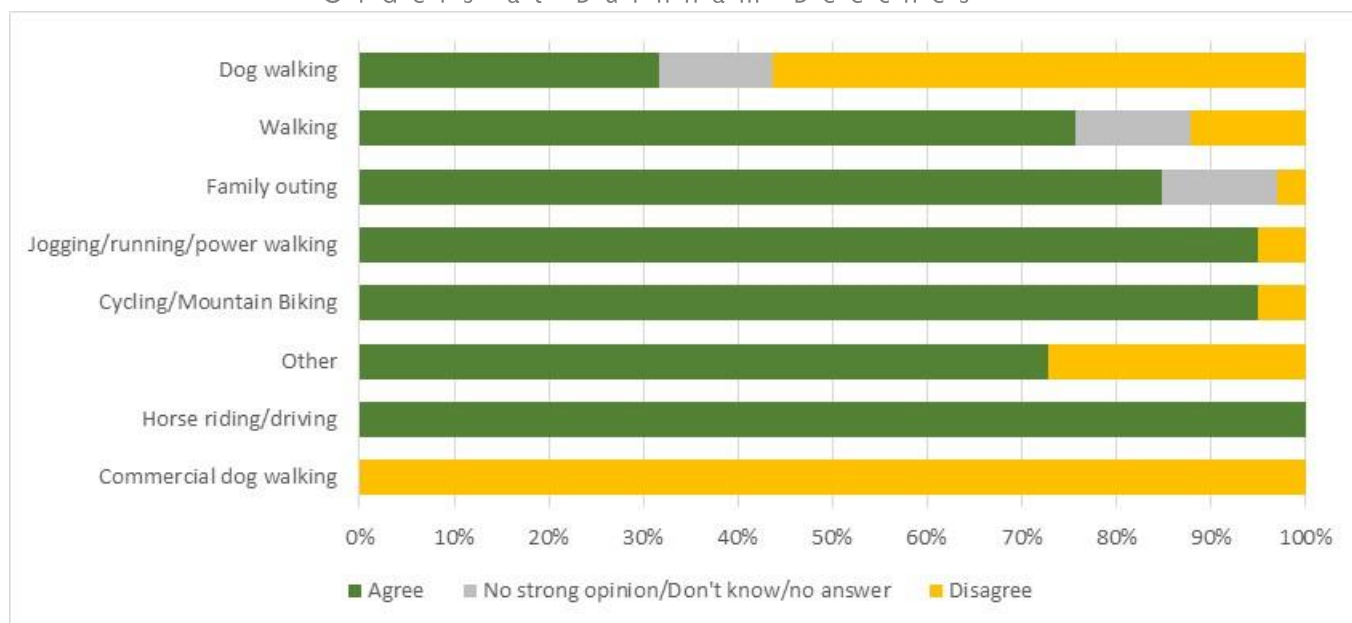


Figure 7: Responses to Q13 relating to extending duration of current powers and dogs on leads area, by activity. Activities are listed by order of frequency.

Table 13: Number (%) of interviewees and responses to Q13 relating to extending duration of current powers and dogs on leads area, split between dog walkers and non-dog walkers.

	Agree	No strong opinion/don't know/no answer	Disagree	Total
Dog walkers	55 (32)	21 (12)	98 (56)	174 (100)
All others	157 (81)	17 (9)	21 (11)	195 (100)

- 4.9 There were also significant differences between those who visit the site regularly compared to less frequent visitors, with a higher proportion of less frequent visitors in agreement. For those who visited at least weekly (248 interviewees), 133 (54%) agreed with the proposal, 94 interviewees (38%) disagreed and 21 (8%) had no strong opinion or didn't answer. For those visiting less than weekly (a total of 121 interviewees), 79 (65%) agreed with the proposal, 25 (21%) disagreed and 17 (14%) had no strong opinion or didn't answer ($\chi^2=11.82, p=0.003$).
- 4.10 There was no significant difference in the proportions agreeing/disagreeing/no strong opinion when comparing between the 298 interviewees whose ethnic background was English/White and the 67 interviewees who gave a different background ($\chi^2=1.241, p=0.538$).
- 4.11 Interviewees who agreed with the proposal lived significantly further from Burnham Beeches (median distance home postcode to survey point =3.06km, 201 interviewees)

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compared to those who disagreed (median distance = 1.91km, 116 interviewees), Mann-Whitney W=15905, p<0.001.

- 4.12 At least eight interviewees indicated the area for dogs to be off leads should be extended to cover more of the site. At least two dog walkers were positive and agreed with the on-lead area as it worked better for their nervous dogs not to be in areas with dogs off lead. A range of comments from non-dog walkers were also positive, referring to being afraid of dogs for example, or appreciative of not being jumped on.
- 4.13 One theme (at least 16 interviewees) was a lack of understanding as to why the off-lead area was necessary and the rationale behind it, indicating that interviewees wanted more information relating to both the need for it, and the reasons for the choice of boundary. At least 50 interviewees suggested they thought the boundary should be different, and there were a range of suggestions, for example some interviewees suggested that the Common should be on-lead only, or that the off-lead area should include the flatter, more accessible terrain. Three interviewees specifically mentioned dog bins, with some suggestions that the off-lead area did not coincide with where the dog bins were. At least 11 interviewees suggested temporal changes, either relating to change of day (e.g. dogs off-lead over the whole site in the early morning) or time of year (e.g. dogs off-lead across the whole site outside school holidays). Enforcement was a consideration for some, with at least nine interviewees suggesting that there should be better enforcement or that they hadn't noticed a change in people's behaviour.

Dogs on lead on request

- 4.14 Most interviewees (336 interviewees, 91%) agreed that the current powers relating to dogs on lead when requested should be extended for a further three years.
- 4.15 Dog walkers were the main activity group that disagreed with the proposal, with 14 (8%) out of the 174 dog walkers interviewed indicating they disagreed (89% of dog walkers agreed). Apart from the 14 dog walkers, 1 cyclist and 1 interviewee who was undertaking an 'other' activity were the only other interviewees who disagreed, giving a total of 16 interviewees (4%) that disagreed.
- 4.16 Eleven of these 16 interviewees visited Burnham Beeches at least three times a week and were therefore very frequent visitors. Of those who visited this frequently (164 interviewees in total), those who disagreed accounted for 7% of the interviews. Three quarters of those who disagreed (12 interviewees) had also been visiting Burnham Beeches for at least 10 years, and they accounted for 6% of the 215 interviewees who had been visiting the site for this long. There was no significant difference in the median distances from survey location to home postcode when comparing those who agreed and those who disagreed (Mann-Whitney W=55629, p>0.05).

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4.17 Fourteen interviewees made comments relating to enforcement, but views differed. Two of these interviewees indicated they thought the enforcement was over zealous whereas twelve comments indicated that the interviewee didn't think it was sufficiently enforced. Another common theme among the comments was the definition of control, with at least eight people commenting on how this was defined and what under effective control meant or should mean.

Maximum number of dogs per person

4.18 The Dog Control Orders have set a maximum number of dogs to be walked per person as 4. Most interviewees (295 interviewees, 80%) agreed that these powers should be extended for a further three years.

4.19 For all activity-types, most interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of the powers relating to the maximum number of dogs (Figure 8). Dog walkers were the group with the lowest percentage (75%, 130 interviewees) that agreed with the proposal to extend the duration of the powers.

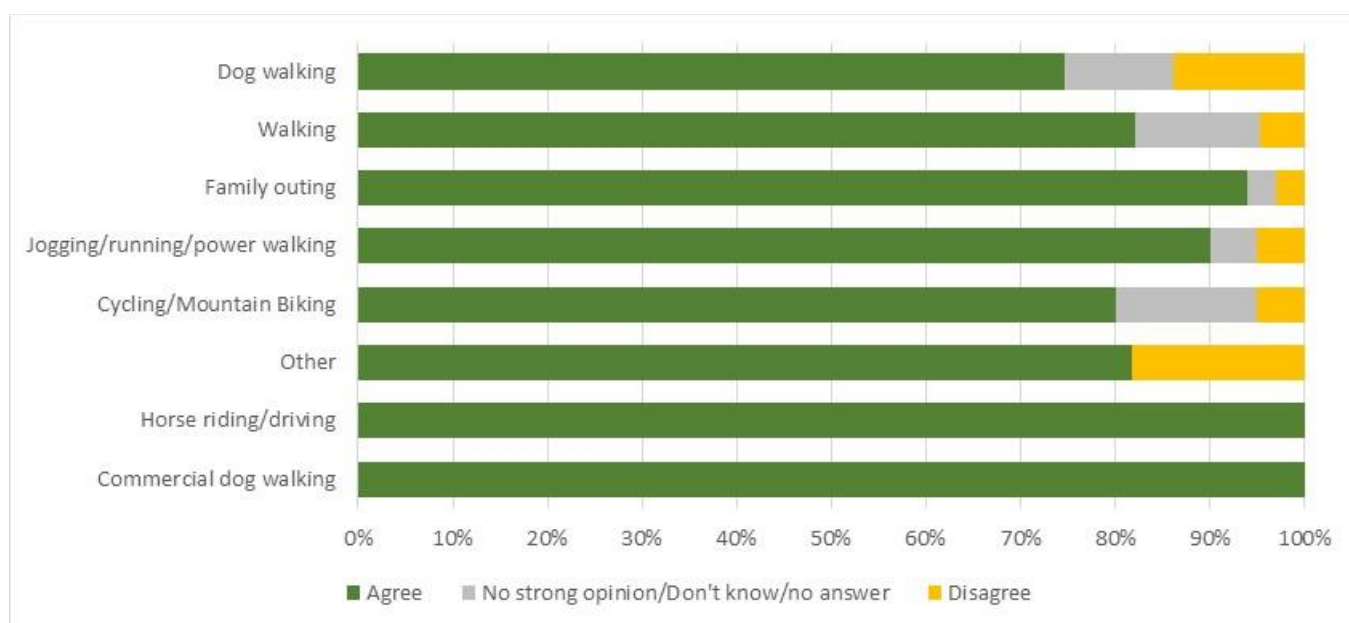


Figure 8: Responses to Q17 relating to extending duration of current powers and the maximum number of dogs, by activity. Activities are listed by order of frequency.

4.20 There were no significant differences in the proportions of interviewees that agreed with the proposals when comparing between frequent and less frequent visitors or between those who had been visiting the site for a long time (more than 10 years) compared to a shorter period. Similarly, there were no strong patterns between ethnic groups.

4.21 A range of comments were given, many (27 interviewees) suggesting a different number as opposed to four. Fifteen of these 27 interviewees had disagreed with the

proposal to extend the duration as they felt the number wasn't right. Across all interviewees, 22 suggested that the limit should be lower, while five interviewees suggested it should be higher than 4. Other comments referenced the challenge of group size (i.e. the number of people), some of these interviewees clearly felt intimidated by large groups of dogs.

Dog exclusion area at café

- 4.22 Virtually all interviewees (337 interviewees, 91%) agreed that the current powers relating to the exclusion area around the café should be extended for a further three years. There were just nine interviewees (2%) that disagreed and a relatively high number of interviewees (23 interviewees, 6%) who had no strong opinion or gave no response.
- 4.23 Seven of the nine interviewees who disagreed were dog walkers; there were 174 dog walkers interviewed and 89% (154 interviewees) agreed, while 4% disagreed and a further 13 interviewees (7%) had no strong opinion or didn't give an answer. There were no significant differences in the proportions of interviewees that agreed with the proposals when comparing frequent and less frequent visitors, or those who had been visiting the site for a long time (more than 10 years) compared to a shorter period. Similarly, there were no strong patterns between ethnic groups.
- 4.24 There were relatively few comments, many of which were positive relating to hygiene, safety etc. One interviewee commented that it would be good to have some shelter in the area where dogs are allowed and another commented on the need for better catches on the gates. One person commented that they were put off visiting the café by the number of dogs barking and another commented that dogs had been there when they last visited the café, while at least two other interviewees commented that better signage was required to indicate where dogs were excluded.

Check of Respondents that queued to be interviewed

- 4.25 In total 19 interviewees (5%) directly approached the surveyor and asked to be interviewed. Sixteen of these were dog walkers, one was walking and two were cycling/mountain biking as their main activity. People may have queued up because they wanted their views to be heard and were keen to participate, but there is also the possibility that people who queue may overly influence the results as they are not a random sample, and they may queue because they have particularly strong views. People that queued were still interviewed and their responses have been included in the analysis. Overall, they make up a small proportion of the interviewees, such that they have no major influence on the results. As a check, we summarise the responses to the PSPO questions for the 19 interviewees who queued in Table 14. Their responses are compared to the 350 interviewees who did not queue.

C o n s u l t a t i o n r e l a t i n g t o P u b l i c S p a c e P r o t e c t i o n
O r d e r s a t B u r n h a m B e e c h e s

4.26 For most questions, there was little difference between the two groups. Interviewees who had queued did however appear to have particularly strong views on the dogs on lead area, with 58% of them disagreeing the powers being continued, this compares with 29% across interviewees who did not queue.

Table 14: Number (%) interviewees and response to PSPO related questions, with results split according to those who had queued to be interviewed.

	Queued to be interviewed			Didn't queue to be interviewed		
	Agree	No strong opinion/ Don't know/no answer	Disagree	Agree	No strong opinion/ Don't know/no answer	Disagree
Dog fouling (Q11)	19 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	333 (90)	9 (2)	8 (2)
Area with dogs on leads (Q13)	5 (26)	3 (16)	11 (58)	207 (56)	35 (9)	108 (29)
Dogs on leads on request (Q15)	17 (89)	1 (5)	1 (5)	319 (86)	16 (4)	15 (4)
Maximum number of dogs (Q17)	13 (68)	3 (16)	3 (16)	282 (76)	37 (10)	31 (8)
Area with no dogs at café (Q19)	18 (95)	(0)	1 (5)	319 (86)	23 (6)	8 (2)

General Comments

4.27 Responses to question 25, where interviewees could provide any additional comments and general feedback are all listed in Appendix 2.

5. Discussion

- 5.1 The survey results indicate that, for each of the different powers currently covered by the Dog Control Orders, the majority of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration. The results are clear and provide the Corporation of London with the information to help with their decision making. In this section of the report we consider the validity of the findings and also compare the results with the previous survey in 2013.

Limitations of the findings

- 5.2 The survey covered school holiday and non-holiday periods in the spring, around Easter. The weather for the period was good. Of the 58 survey sessions (each of two hours), 51 had no rainfall at all and none of the sessions had continuous rainfall for the whole two hours.
- 5.3 The figures given in the tables, for example the percentage of interviewees that agreed/disagreed with extending the duration of current powers, are based on the raw survey data. While every attempt was made to ensure a random sample of interviewees, there are elements of caution required in interpretation.
- 5.4 Our survey approach, with surveyors based around entry points and interviewing the next person seen, is likely to over-sample people who linger around those survey points and may not necessarily pick up as many people who pass through quickly. Runners and cyclists are perhaps therefore likely to be under-sampled and are also difficult to intercept.
- 5.5 Survey effort was also evenly weighted across day-light. Any activity that is focussed around narrow time windows (perhaps people coming for lunch at the café for example) are also likely to be under-sampled.
- 5.6 Survey effort was spread across weekdays and weekends, included some of the Easter weekend as well as school holiday dates away from the Easter weekend and non-school holiday days in early April. As such, a range of interviewees are likely to have been included. The results are however not necessarily representative of other times of year, as, for example, different visitors may be expected during the summer holidays and Burnham Beeches also experiences peak visitor numbers in the autumn when the leaves are turning.
- 5.7 The level of survey effort influences the range of interviewees, as people were only interviewed once. The more time spent surveying, the greater the proportion of infrequent visitors that are likely to be interviewed. If we had continued interviewing throughout the year more interviews would have been conducted with people who only visit Burnham Beeches occasionally.

C o n s u l t a t i o n r e l a t i n g t o P u b l i c S p a c e P r o t e c t i o n
O r d e r s a t B u r n h a m B e e c h e s

- 5.8 It is by activity that the clearest differences are apparent in the data, and activity is potentially the best way to categorise interviewees. The latest visitor count data for Burnham Beeches (see Wheater & Cook 2016) provide a means to check the samples in this survey. Wheater and Cook recorded the number of individuals/groups accompanied by one or more dogs as 41% (Wheater *pers. comm.*). In our survey, 50% of interviewees were accompanied by a dog and 47% indicated that dog walking was their main activity. It would therefore seem apparent that we have conducted more interviews with dog walkers than would be expected purely based on the volume of visits they make to the site compared to other activities.
- 5.9 If we were to account for frequency of visit – i.e. the number of individual people that visit Burnham Beeches – then our over-sampling would be more apparent, as dog walkers visit the site much more frequently than other users (see Table 5). For example, Wheater (*pers. comm.*) has used frequency of visit data from interviews, combined with the total counts of visits to Burnham Beeches, to estimate how many individual people visit the site in a year. This estimate is 32,764 people, of which 23,138 are adults. The number of individual dog walkers is estimated at 7,625. Assuming dog walkers are adults then the proportion of individuals who are dog walkers is around 33%.
- 5.10 Based on the above figures, it would be possible to derive weightings to reflect the potential sampling biases. In Table 15, we show the percentage of responses to the different PSPO questions, weighted such that dog walkers are 33% of the visitor total. The figures are, in most cases, relatively similar, however for the area with dogs on leads (question 13) there was the clearest difference between dog walkers and non-dog walkers, and after applying the weighting the overall percentage of people agreeing increases from 57 to 64. These weightings provide a further check of the data, but essentially, they do not change the results in that for all the PSPO questions, over 50% of interviewees agreed with the proposal to extend the duration.

Table 15: Percentage of interviewees and answers to questions relating to PSPOs. Right hand columns are weighted based on the assumption that dog walkers account for 33% of interviewees.

	Unweighted, raw percentages			Weighted such that dog walkers account for 33% of visitors		
	Agree	No strong opinion/ Don't know/blank	Disagree	Agree	No strong opinion/ Don't know/blank	Disagree
Dog fouling (Q11)	95	2	2	95	3	2
Area with dogs on leads (Q13)	57	10	32	64	10	26
Dogs on leads on request (Q15)	91	5	4	92	5	3
Maximum number of dogs (Q17)	80	11	9	81	11	8
Area with no dogs at café (Q19)	91	6	2	92	6	2

Comparison with previous survey

- 5.11 The current survey approach is broadly similar to that conducted in 2013, prior to the introduction of the Dog Control Orders. It is therefore of interest to compare results from the two surveys. It should be noted that the two surveys involved slightly different survey locations, the 2013 survey also included surveys in the autumn and the weather was different between the two surveys. As such some caution is necessary when directly comparing the two. We suggest that the comparison is useful simply to give an indication of any major changes and potentially highlight areas warranting further checks.
- 5.12 A selection of key metrics from the 2013 and current surveys are summarised in Table 16. A similar number of interviews were conducted in each survey. There is some indication that dog walkers account for a smaller proportion of those interviewed in 2017, that people visited for longer in 2017, the percentage of interviewees arriving by car was higher in 2013 and (potentially linked) the median distance from home postcode to survey point was higher in 2013.

Table 16: comparison of selected metrics for the 2013 survey data and 2017 survey. Note the surveys were undertaken at different times of year and survey effort in terms of different survey locations was also different between the two surveys. Grey shading indicates cells where there is a difference of at least 10%, with the higher value shaded.

	2013	2017
Total interviews	359	369
% of groups interviewed with 1+ dog	62	50
% of interviewees dog walking	56	47
% of interviewees walking	28	29
% of interviewees jogging	3	5
% interviewees on family outing	9	9
% visiting less than 1 hour	60	42
% visiting at least weekly	65	67
% of visitors tending to visit in am, before 12	36	43
% arriving by car	85	70
% visiting because close to home	53	47
% visiting for choice of routes	29	41
% visiting because good for children	8	9
% visiting as nearest place to let dog safely off lead	8	3
Median distance home postcode to survey point, all interviewees	3.2km	2.5km
Median distance home postcode to survey point, dog walkers only	2.9km	2.1km

Appendix 1: Survey Questionnaire



Good morning/afternoon. Please could you spare me a few minutes to take part in a short survey. The survey is intended to gather information on people's views regarding management of access and dogs at Burnham Beeches and will help to inform how Burnham Beeches may be managed in future.

Q1 ...

- Are you on a day trip/short visit and travelled directly from your home ... *if no*
- Are you on a day trip/short visit & staying away from home with friends or family ... *if no*
- Staying away from home, e.g. second home, mobile home or on holiday
- If none of the above, How would you describe your visit today?

Further details

Q2 **What is the main activity you are undertaking today?** *Tick closest answer. Do not prompt. Single response only.*

- Dog walking
- Commercial dog walking
- Walking
- Jogging/running/power walking
- Cycling/Mountain Biking
- Family outing
- Other, please detail:

Further details

Q3 **How long have you spent / will you spend in the area today?** *Single response only.*

- Less than 30 minutes
- Between 30 minutes and 1 hour
- 1-2 hours
- 2-3 hours
- 3-4 hours
- 4 hours +

Q4 **How frequently do you tend to visit Burnham Beeches?** *Tick closest answer, single response only. Only prompt if interviewee struggles.*

- Three or more times per week
- About twice a week
- About once a week
- About once per month
- Less than once per month
- Don't know
- First visit
- Other, please detail

Further details:

Q5 **Roughly how long have you been visiting Burnham Beeches?** *Single response only. Tick closest answer. Do not prompt.*

- first visit
- less than or approximately 1 year
- less than or approximately 3 years
- less than or approximately 5 years
- less than or approximately 10 years
- more than 10 years
- Don't know/unsure/can't answer

Q6 **Do you tend to visit Burnham Beeches at a certain time of day?** *Tick closest answers. Multiple answers ok. Do not prompt.*

- Early morning (before 9am)
- Late morning (between 9am and 12)
- Early afternoon (between 12 and 2)
- Late afternoon (between 2 and 4pm)
- Evening (after 4pm)
- Varies / Don't know
- First visit

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Q7 Do you tend to visit Burnham Beeches more at a particular time of year for [insert given activity]? Tick closest answer. Do not prompt. Multiple answers ok.

- Spring (Mar-May)
- Summer (Jun-Aug)
- Autumn (Sept-Nov)
- Winter (Dec-Feb)
- Equally all year
- Don't know
- First visit

Q8 How did you get here today? What form of transport did you use? Do not prompt. Single response only.

- Car / van
- On foot
- Public transport
- Bicycle
- Other, please detail

Further details:

Q9 Why did you choose to specifically visit Burnham Beeches today, rather than another local site? Tick all responses given by visitor in the 'other' column. Do not prompt, tick closest answers. Then ask **Which single reason would you say had the most influence over your choice of site to visit today?** Tick only one main reason. Use text box for answers that cannot be categorised and for further information.

	Other	Main
Close to home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Can walk from home/don't need car	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Good / easy parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cafe	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Choice of routes/circular routes/length	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feels safe here	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scenery / variety of views	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rural feel	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife interest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trees / old trees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habit/familiarity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Good for dog / dog enjoys it	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Closest place to take dog	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nearest place to let dog safely off lead	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Good for children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Good location to meet friends/family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Suitability of area given weather	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, please detail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Further details:

Q10 What, if anything, influenced your choice of route here today? Tick closest answers, do not prompt. Multiple responses ok.

- Weather
- Daylight
- Time available
- Other users (avoiding crowds etc)
- Group members (eg kids, less able)
- Previous knowledge of area / experience
- Activity undertaken (eg presence of dog)
- Information/leaflets
- Wanting to be near water
- Shade
- Where dogs are allowed off lead
- Other, please detail

Further details:

I'd now like to ask you about current measures in place here relating to dogs, and I'd like to start by asking you about dog fouling.

Q11 Dog Control Orders relating to dog fouling have been in place at Burnham Beeches since December 2014, across the whole site. This means the City of London can enforce the need to pick up after a dog. The City of London is proposing to extend the duration of this condition from the 1st December 2017 for a further three years. Do you agree, disagree or have no strong opinion with the proposal to extend the duration?

- Agree
- Disagree
- No strong opinion/Don't know

Q12 Do you have any comments relating to the requirement for people in charge of a dog to clear up after the dog immediately?

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Areas with dogs on leads

Q13 Since December 2014, part of Burnham Beeches has been established as an area where all dogs must be on a short-lead. The City of London is proposing to extend the duration of this condition from 1st December 2017 for a further three years. Do you agree, disagree or have no strong opinion with this proposal to extend the duration?

- Agree
 Disagree
 No strong opinion/Don't know

Q14 Do you have any comments relating to maintaining part of Burnham Beeches with dogs on leads only?

Dogs on leads on request

Q15 Since December 2014, in the areas where dogs can be let off the lead, the City of London has powers to request owners to put their dog on a lead. Authorised staff ask dog owners to put their dog on a lead only when the dog is not under effective control. The City of London is proposing to extend the duration of this condition from 1st December 2017 for a further three years. Do you agree, disagree or have no strong opinion with this proposal to extend the duration?

- Agree
 Disagree
 No strong opinion/Don't know

Q16 Do you have any comments relating to maintaining part of Burnham Beeches where owners must put dogs on a lead when asked?

Maximum number of dogs

Q17 Since December 2014, the City of London has powers to restrict the number of dogs per person to a maximum of four. The City of London is proposing to extend the duration of this condition from 1st December 2017 for a further three years. Do you agree, disagree or have no strong opinion relating to this proposal to extend the duration?

- Agree
 Disagree
 No strong opinion/Don't know

Q18 Do you have any additional comments relating to limiting the maximum number of dogs per person?

Areas with no dogs

Q19 Since December 2014, the City of London has excluded dogs from the cafe and part of the outside seating area around the cafe. The City of London is proposing to extend the duration of this condition from 1st December 2017 for a further three years. Do you agree, disagree or have no strong opinion relating to this proposal to extend the duration?

- Agree
 Disagree
 No strong opinion/Don't know

Q20 Do you have any additional comments relating to the exclusion of dogs from the cafe area?

Q21 What is your full home postcode? This is an important piece of information, please make every effort to record correctly.

Q22 If visitor is unable or refuses to give postcode: What is the name of the town or village where you live?

Q23 If visitor is on holiday ask: Which town / village are you staying in?

Q24 What is your ethnic group? Please choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background. Show card.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> 1 English/Welsh/Scottish/NI/British | <input type="radio"/> 10 Pakistani |
| <input type="radio"/> 2 Irish | <input type="radio"/> 11 Bangladeshi |
| <input type="radio"/> 3 Gypsy or Irish Traveller | <input type="radio"/> 12 Chinese |
| <input type="radio"/> 4 Any other white background | <input type="radio"/> 13 Any other Asian background |
| <input type="radio"/> 5 White & Black Caribbean | <input type="radio"/> 14 African |
| <input type="radio"/> 6 White & Black African | <input type="radio"/> 15 Caribbean |
| <input type="radio"/> 7 White & Asian | <input type="radio"/> 16 Any other Black/African/Caribbean background |
| <input type="radio"/> 8 Any other mixes/multiple ethnic background | <input type="radio"/> 17 Arab |
| <input type="radio"/> 9 Indian | <input type="radio"/> 18 Any other ethnic group |

Further details

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Q25 Finally, do you have any further comments or general feedback about your visit and access to this area?

That is the end. Thank you very much indeed for your time.

Q26 TO BE COMPLETED AFTER INTERVIEW FINISHED.

Surveyor initials	<input type="text"/>
Survey location code	<input type="text"/>
Gender of respondent	<input type="text"/>
Total number in interviewed group	<input type="text"/>
Total males	<input type="text"/>
Total females	<input type="text"/>
Total minors	<input type="text"/>
Number of dogs	<input type="text"/>
Number of dogs off lead	<input type="text"/>

Q27 Did the interviewee directly approach you or queue up to be interviewed?

- Yes
 No

Q28 Surveyor comments. *Note anything that may be relevant to the survey, including any changes to the survey entry that are necessary, eg typos/mistakes/changes to answers/additional information.*

Appendix 2: Responses to Question 25 – further comments and general feedback

This appendix lists all responses to question 25. Responses are sorted alphabetically. Responses were recorded as free text during the survey.

og walking and where boundaries are.

orses and runners to areas where dogs on lead and also livestock when have them out. Warden has said that wants 80 per cent of park with cattle

k park. I would like to see a reasonable priced yearly ticket please. Condition of place is lovely.

parking because says parking conditions apply at all times. Signage nor clear although don't mind donating. We will be back.

eanliness and way it's looked after.

gh they are doing the best they can with decreasing budget. Understand that too.

into the park?

persuading to exercise

n or just some logs to walk along old be great.

t it to be lovely for everyone.

y cafe or at more entrances perhaps with walking times.

me as much for our walking. Perhaps a pound off parking if use cafe. Signage could be better on history and what is there. Do guided walks. Like the
lead e.g. Oct to Easter off lead .

fering. Used to run here before had dog. Feels tamer now.

access to the centre of the woods for these people.

boundaries and on lead areas. Should be much smaller on lead area. Opening hours in winter bit early to close. Car park is a bit expensive. Could g

g

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1hr

e can go off lead.

ous in reprimanding elderly ladies than large groups of young men fire; a much greater hazard to the environment than the dogs

g elsewhere

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working now though!

area

Issues with people with learning difficulties have been out of control and hit someone in face. Barbed wire fences and near roads where the off lead

ing kids. It would be nice to have a few of the small car parks opened up for quiet enjoyment.

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rs in all my years here. Know one lady who brings lots of dogs and doesn't control them.

ods saying where eg cafe or Farnham Common in addition to initial trail signs, just so know which direction heading. Lots of people get lost.

be open, better for elderly

mehow.

choice for where on and off lead. Would be sensible to have a different boundary though. Know how difficult to mix livestock with dogs but change

instead. Open up the closed car parks and parking areas. Why closed? They are in convenient locations

etc. If could stop would be great.

ry helpful. It would be even better if we could avoid using the main entrance to Burnham Beeches by the car park which we tend not to use at bus

ers who are only here for 20mins

say where you are on map

ickets to the woods.

vel and should be available off lead

he lack of freedom for others.

bins are over flowing.

g on trees and remove it. Perhaps more bins further in.

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weekends would like to use the off lead area at off peak times as better terrain for ill dog.

n with sign to say picnic area please keep clean.

about off lead and fact could be seasonal.

d feel safer in the on lead area. Feel cast aside.

are good.

ple!