



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs

**Ten years on:
changes in thinking,
policy and practice**

People & dogs in the outdoors

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The Kennel Club




10 years on... #1



Dog walking demographics

Even more robust UK data

- 26% of homes have a dog
- Dog on half of all outdoor visits
- 8.5million dogs: 10%↑ on 2010
- 7,000 assistance dogs helping people in ever-more ways
- Significant mental & physical health benefits for all



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There's still problems too



- "Disturbed local wildlife"
- "Chased my sheep"
- "Raided our picnic"
- "Left poo on the path"

But instead of division and conflict



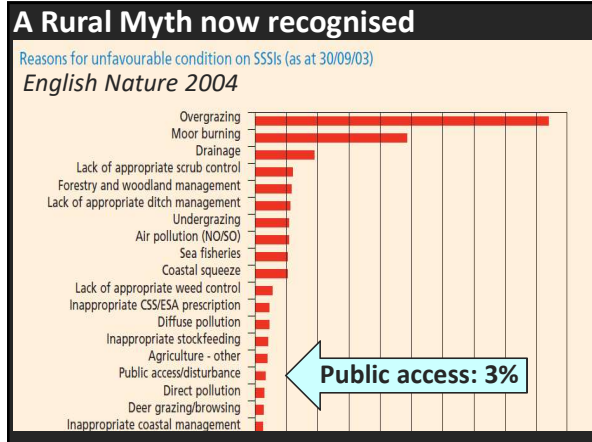
Or



10 more years of data: what dog walkers seek

- To feel welcome and safe
- Daily dog walks: up to one hour, around 2.6km long
- 85% seek off-lead exercise
- Access close to home
- Avoid conflict when given an informed choice
- Restrictions balanced by accessible alternatives





Less science abuse in academic press

Psychology Today

True Fact: Dog-Walking Helps Dogs But Harms Birds
 The good news and bad news about dog-walking

et al. 1997). We found no net difference in bird diversity or abundance between areas with and without regular dog walking receiving the same treatment, suggesting that long-term impacts in this area may be small.

Banks and Bryant 2007

2017 APGAW sheep worrying investigation

- Public access most often not the cause
- A role for all to do things differently
- Highlights the need for interventions built on evidence

Tackling livestock worrying and encouraging responsible dog ownership

November 2017

Unaccompanied dogs

Statistics from North Wales and North Yorkshire police and anecdotal evidence from Sheepwatch UK indicate that two-thirds of the attacks on livestock were from dogs who had escaped from the house or garden.


Simply leaving signs up for weeks at a time when there is no livestock encourages disregard by owners who see the signs as irrelevant and all too frequently misleading. This in turn reduces the compliance with the warning, (which may simply no longer be noticed) and thus increases the likelihood of incidents.

10 years on... #4

Legal powers: new ones

New laws. New tests. New challenges.

- For everyone (E&W). Public Spaces Protection Orders eg dog bans, fouling; leads etc
- For individuals (E&W). Community Protection Notices: leads, training, fences etc
- For individuals (Scotland). Dog Control Notices: leads, training, fences, etc
- Equality Act 2010 (E,W&S)




EXPRESS Home of the Daily and Sunday Express

HOME NEWS SHOWBIZ & TV SPORT COMMENT FINANCE
UK WORLD POLITICS SCIENCE ROYAL NATURE WEATHER WEIRD HISTORY

Home > News > UK > Woman hires top celebrity lawyer Mr Loophole...to get off £50 dog fine

Woman hires top celebrity lawyer Mr Loophole...to get off £50 dog fine

A WOMAN hired a celebrity lawyer to escape a £50 fine for walking her dog off its lead.

The Council will also now reimburse 44 other people who were fined under the Order which was shown to be failing to comply with regulations.

10 years on... #5



Displacement is a thing

Just use the law, say "no" and if by magic...




Problem solved... ?



Only saying "no" is ineffective because:

- 72% people will still walk their dogs as much
- 66% people will drive elsewhere
- 14% dog walkers unable / unwilling to go elsewhere
- It can displace dog walking to farmland and wildlife sites
- It can discriminate against assistance dog users



The need to manage the demand

Faced with local restrictions or access loss, dog walkers have 4 options on a given site:

1. Keep visiting if needs still met
2. Go somewhere else
3. Practically and/or politically challenge the restriction
4. Ignore the restriction, given a low likelihood of being caught/fined



Access planning is needed to avoid simply increasing and displacing conflict.

10 years on... #6



Making it easier to do the right thing



Jeskyns Wood • FC • Kent

www.dorsetdogs.org.uk

Love Dogs... Love Nature

Home | Out & About | Dog Friendly | Doggy Do Code | Lost Dogs | Events | News | Members | Wagjapawdia | Contacts

Find out what we do...

Enjoying Dorset with your dog

Includes map of great places to walk in south-east Dorset

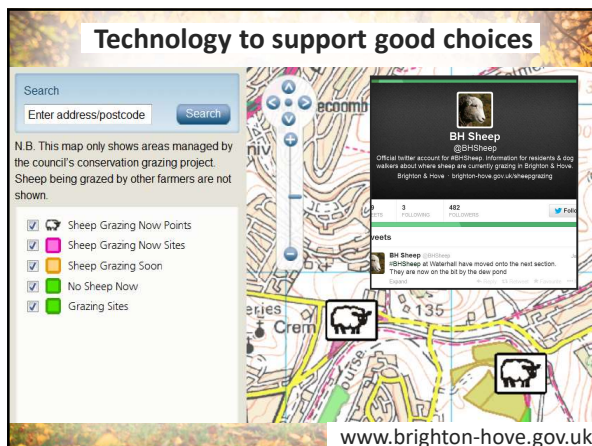
NEWSFLASH: Chick Alert! NEWSFLASH: Eyes open - report fires

Technology to support good choices

Search
Enter address/postcode [Search]

N.B. This map only shows areas managed by the council's conservation grazing project. Sheep being grazed by other farmers are not shown.

- Sheep Grazing Now Points
- Sheep Grazing Now Sites
- Sheep Grazing Soon
- No Sheep Now
- Grazing Sites



www.brighton-hove.gov.uk



10 years on... #7



Planning-out conflict from the start

Solutions within the planning system

- “Where are new residents going to walk their dogs?”
- Banning dogs from new homes doesn’t work
- So provide safe, nearby, one hour, off-lead dog walks
- 20 acres per 1,000 people = 1 acre per 5 dogs.
- Developer funded: £7k/home
- Underpinned by EU law

www.dogfriendlyhousing.org.uk



Former 46 acre farm: new dog-friendly greenspace




Enhancing greenspace: fencing against roads

10 years on... #8

The Dog Walking Code

Communicate outcomes

Launched 2015
www.dogwalkingcode.org.uk

This is general advice for dog walkers developed with input from:
 Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Kennel Club, Forestry Commission, National Farmers' Union, NFU Cymru, Ramblers, Ramblers Cymru, National Trust, Country Land and Business Association, Hampshire County Council, British Horse Society and the British Mountaineering Council.



The Dog Walking Code

For safe and happy walks with your dog, and to avoid causing problems for others:

- You do not let your dog off the lead unless you keep it in sight and close enough to come back to you on command
- 2. Prevent your dog from approaching horse riders, cyclists, or other people and their dogs uninvited.
- 6. Always bag and bin your dog's poo wherever you are. You can use any public waste bin or your bin at home.

10 years on... #9

Poo still happens

More enlightened about poo

- Fouling less in urban areas but still no single magic bullet
- Dual-use bins more apparent
- Better, greener disposal choices
- Moving bins to where needed
- It's difficult to remove bins
- Complex reasons for non-compliance, esp. rural areas
- Complaints can rise as problem numerically decreases
- Peer pressure a key tool

10 years on... #10

Partnerships are vital



Forestry Commission Scotland
Comhairle na Cèiltearachd Alba

Our Four Legged Friends

Horse riders and dog walkers often visit this forest.

It's natural that:

- some dogs will want to chase or play with horses.
- some horses will be scared of dogs.

Dog walkers, please

- Keep your dog calm, quiet and at your side around horses.
- Make sure you and your dog can always be seen.

Horse riders, please

- Slow down to a walk when passing dogs and walkers.
- Make sure dog walkers can see you approaching.

A startled horse may injure itself and any people or dogs nearby.

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The Dog Owner's Guide

Tel: www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland



to make sure that their gardens are properly secure.

2017 Quality Meat Scotland Sheep Worrying Video

Produced by



Supported by



To improve the next 10 years



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- Make it easier to do the right thing
- Promote the good, while reducing the bad
- Manage the demand: don't try to suppress it
- Use outcomes to inform language & interventions
- Plan for dogs in new housing
- Collaborate across sectors

