



Portobello Beach Sharing Consensus

In response to concerns raised by the public through previous consultation exercises and direct approaches, the Community Council is seeking the community's views on proposals for a voluntary arrangement for beach usage intended to enhance enjoyment of the beach for all.

Past surveys have shown that dog owners value the beach as a place to enjoy leisure time with their dogs and that this is broadly welcomed by the community as a whole. At the same time, some members of the community would value the opportunity to enjoy parts of the beach without the presence of dogs, particularly to allow free access for children, the elderly and others who can be unsettled by the presence of dogs.

We are proposing, subject to community buy-in, to trial an arrangement for a period over this summer, under which dog owners voluntarily contain their dogs' access to the beach within agreed zones. In a full year, on an annual basis if the trial is successful, we anticipate zoning will operate from May until the end of August. The trial will operate within these months commencing as soon as signage, communications and any other pre-requisites are established.

Following the trial, views will be sought on the success or otherwise of the trial, including how the arrangement could be improved.

It is intended that the agreement should be self-enforcing and will not be subject to formal policing. Visitors to the beach will be encouraged to participate most likely by a combination of signage, a public awareness campaign and word of mouth.

Four options are proposed and we would welcome your views on the form over the page. Diagrams representing the proposed zones are also provided for illustration purposes. General provisions applying for all options are:

- Zoning will apply between 1 May and 31 August and only between the hours of 10:00am and 6:00pm.
- Owners with dogs may continue to use the rest of the beach outwith this area as they currently do.
- Guide dogs will, of course, be welcomed in all areas regardless of zoning.

Please rank the options in terms of preference from 1 to 4 with 1 being your preferred option (you may, but do not need to, provide up to 4 rankings. Please leave blank if you feel any option is unacceptable.

In addition, we would like your feedback on whether owners should be asked, on the same voluntary basis and during the zoning months, to keep their dogs on a lead when using the promenade.

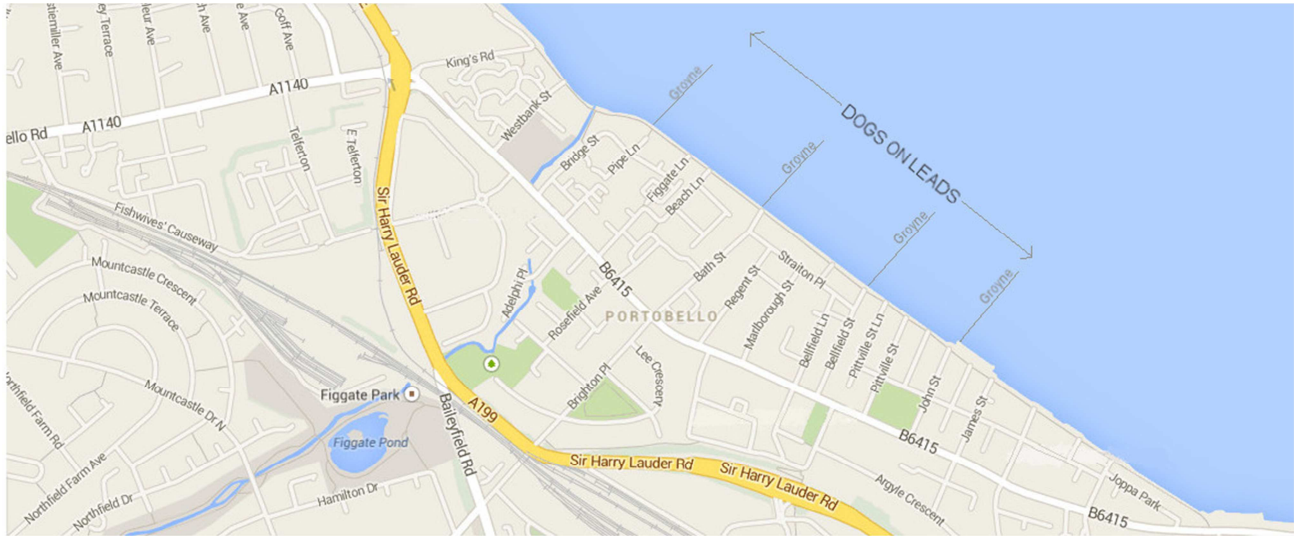
The consultation period will run between 1 April and 23 April 2-14. Should you know of others wishing to participate, details of how to do so will be available on the Portobello Community Council website www.portobellocc.org

Results of the consultation will be made available on the PCC website within 1 week of the close of the consultation.

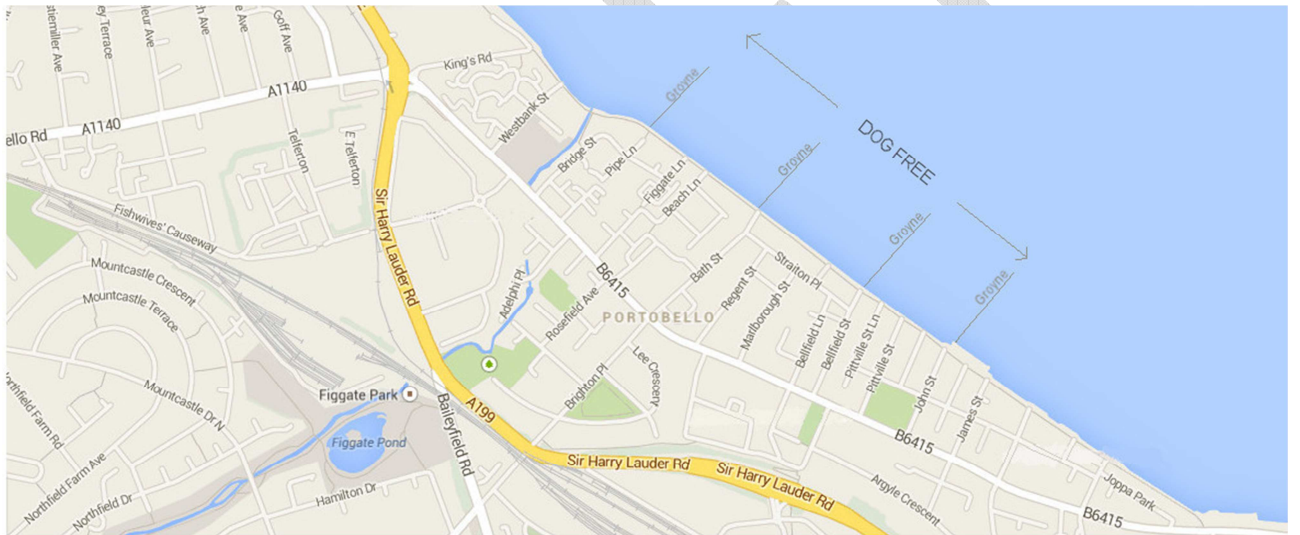


Proposed options

Option A



Option B



Option C

