



A Guide to Exercising and Keeping Animals in Close Proximity to Public Rights of Way

www.transportmerseyside.org

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN
MERSEYSIDE

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Merseyside Transport Partnership



Knowsley Council



The City of Liverpool



St Helens Council



WIRRAL



Public Transport



Goods



Walking



Cycling



Traffic

Dog Walkers

Dogs under close control are welcome on all Public Rights of Way. These paths and tracks can be a great place to exercise dogs, but it is every owners duty to make sure their dog is not a danger or nuisance to livestock, wildlife or other users. We do advise that dogs are kept on a lead or under close control, as there are serious penalties for allowing a dog to injure or intimidate other legitimate users of a Public Right of Way.

Any Dog which stands on a Public Right of Way and, by its "threatening behaviour", prevents users from using the path constitutes a public nuisance and is, therefore, considered to be an obstruction. "Threatening behaviour" may include snarling or running around the user barking in a threatening manner.

Please remember to clear up after your dog as fouling in areas of public access creates public health issues and is an offence under law. Dog mess should be disposed of responsibly and dogs should be wormed regularly.

Landowners

Landowners and occupiers must ensure that their own dogs are kept under proper control when in the vicinity of a Public Right of Way. Dogs should be leashed so they cannot reach the Path and cause an obstruction.

Dangerous Animals

The keeper of an animal may be liable to be prosecuted if it injures a user. Landowners and occupiers are advised, therefore, to ensure that any animal they know to have a

tendency to be aggressive is not kept in a field with a Public Right of Way.

Dairy bulls over 10 months old cannot be kept in a field crossed by a Public Right of Way. A beef bull must be accompanied by cows or heifers.

This leaflet has been developed as a result of the Merseyside Rights of Way Improvement Plan – a 10-year strategy for improving the Public Rights of Way network for all types of users.

For further information, please contact the relevant Public Rights of Way Officer for the area in question:

Merseyside District	Contact	Contact Tel.	Email Address
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council	Mr Bernard Maloney	0151 443 2289	Bernie.Maloney@knowsley.gov.uk
Liverpool City Council	Mr Mike Cassidy	0151 233 5230	Michael.Cassidy@liverpool.gov.uk
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council	Mrs Val Hough	0151 934 4206	Val.Hough@technical.sefton.gov.uk
St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council	Mr James Widdop	01744 456 652	Jameswiddop@stelens.gov.uk
Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council	Mr Robin Tutchings	0151 606 2480	Robintutchings@wirral.gov.uk