



Dogs on Beaches

A cleaner, safer neighbourhood. We all want it. We can all help to achieve it.

Did you know there are some beaches in the Waveney District where dogs are banned?

There are also areas of beach where dogs must be kept on a lead.

This leaflet explains the scope and extent of these restrictions.

WANT TO TAKE YOUR DOG ON THE BEACH?

Dog owners have rights. The Council recognises that part of the pleasure of owning a dog comes from taking it for walks.

In a seaside area, this means walking your dog on the beach, sometimes without having to keep it on a lead.

WANT TO TAKE YOUR FAMILY ON THE BEACH?

Other beach users have rights too. For example, it is reasonable for beach users to expect to be able to enjoy the beach all year round unmolested by dogs.

These controls try to balance the rights of these groups of beach users so that they can both enjoy our beautiful beaches without affecting the enjoyment of others.

DOGS ON BEACHES

There are areas of beach where dogs are not allowed during spring and summer.

The details are as follows:

Dogs are BANNED from parts of Southwold Beach between 1 April and 30 September (inclusive):

SOUTHWOLD BEACH

From a point adjacent to the northernmost extremity of the promenade (at the northern end of the beach huts) to a point adjacent to the southernmost extremity of the promenade (Gun Hill Café).

Dogs are BANNED from the following beaches between 1 May and 30 September (inclusive):

LOWESTOFT BEACH

Between the South Pier, southward to a point adjacent to the CEFAS building.

CORTON BEACH

From a point to the east of Baker's Score, southwards to a point to the east of Tibbenham's Score.

There are signs at points of entry to the beach marking the extent of these areas.

These areas represent approximately 3.6Km of the 25Km of Waveney coastline.

WHO ENFORCES THESE RULES?

We employ people to patrol the beaches and ensure that these rules are respected.

The maximum penalty for disregarding them is £1000. We may issue a "Fixed Penalty Notice" (£80) as an alternative to prosecution.

We will not enforce these rules against registered users of disability assistance and medical assistance dogs.

CONSULTATION

We would like to know what you think about these aspects of dog control. If you would like to make a suggestion or a comment, please write to us at the address at the foot of this leaflet or eMail:environment@eastsoffolk.gov.uk or use the feedback form on our website at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Please Note:

These rules were reviewed in 2016/17 resulting in **four** significant changes, summarised as follows:

1. There are no longer any areas of **Kessingland Beach** where dogs are banned at any time of the year;
2. The area of **Southwold Beach** where dogs are banned for part of the year has been extended further South;
3. The period for which dogs are banned from **Southwold Beach** has been extended by 1 month, commencing at the beginning of April each year;
4. Dogs are now allowed **off-lead** on all areas of beach at times **when no ban is in force**.

