

## **Dorset Open Land (Number 2) Anti-social Behaviour Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2025**

### **What we are consulting on**

Dorset Open Land (Number 2) Anti-social Behaviour Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2025 is a new Order which is intended to tackle issues of Anti-social Behaviour arising from the starting of fires in grass, heathland and forest areas. Such fires can contribute to climate change and result in risk to life; damage to biodiversity, habitats and property; and loss of income from tourism and other land uses, and include provisions relating to placing, throwing or dropping items likely to cause a fire, lighting fires, barbeques (including disposable barbeques), Chinese lanterns or fireworks, or using items which either (i) cause a naked flame or (ii) pose a risk of fire.

There is evidence of fires being started by disposable BBQ's and campfires on open land including heathland in the Dorset Council area.

Following the disastrous fire at Wareham Forest in May 2020, which was most likely to have been started inadvertently, councillors asked officers to investigate ways in which the Council could help prevent wildfires in such terrain. A report was brought to the Council's Cabinet on 6 April 2021, outlining a number of measures that could be taken and included investigating the use of a PSPO to restrict activities likely to cause fires. This led to an Open Land PSPO being introduced for areas of Wareham Forest, which is considered to have been successful, in particular, by raising public awareness.

Research has identified a small number of other councils who have introduced a similar provision following wildfires on open land and discussions with them have helped form an opinion the approach benefits public safety and protection of our natural environment. Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service, Dorset Police, Forestry England, and National Landscapes are all supportive.

National Landscapes has asked for a number of areas in their control to be covered by the provision. The evidence of issues at each location varies however, the similarity of terrain and level of public access are considered to be important factors when determining that the necessary criteria for a PSPO are met.

The draft Order covers areas of forest and heathland in the Parishes of Winterbourne Steepleton, Portesham, Stinsford, Puddletown, Moreton, Winfrith Newburgh, Affpuddle, Bere Regis, Wool, East Stoke, Wareham St Martin, Arne, East Holme, Steeple, Corfe, Studland, Corfe Mullen, Lytchett Minster and Upton, Ferndown, Holt, West Moors, St Leonards and St Ives, Verwood and Alderholt.

The purpose of this consultation is for you to tell us what you think about our Dorset Open Land (Number 2) Anti-social Behaviour Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2025.

Your responses will help shape the final Dorset Public Space Protection Orders decided by Dorset Council councillors.

Please note, any data collected follows Dorset Council's [privacy policy](#).

Once completed, please return your survey to Licensing Service, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ.

## Introduction

### **The Order includes:**

- Section 1 – Lighting of fires
- Section 2 – Fixed Penalty Notices

### **The following documents are available in your local library:**

- The overall Order document
- **Schedule 1a** - Map identifying Blackdown and Thorncombe Woods Controlled Zone (outlined in red blocks)
- **Schedule 1b** - Map identifying Purbeck Heaths, East Holme, Stoborough and Creech Heaths (outlined in red blocks)
- **Schedule 1c** - Map identifying Turners Puddle, Higher Hyde Heath, Winfrith Heath and Worgret Heath (outlined in red blocks)
- **Schedule 1d** - Map identifying Great Ovens, Sandford Heath, Lytchett and Upton Heath (outlined in red blocks)
- **Schedule 1e** - Map identifying Ashley Heath, Avon Heath, Holt Heath, Ferndown Common, Parley Common, Lions Hill and Slop Bog (outlined in red blocks)
- **Schedule 1f** - Map identifying Dewlands Common, Ringwood Forest and Stephens Castle (outlined in red blocks)

## The survey

### Q1. Are you responding as a...?

Please tick one option.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Resident of Dorset (Dorset Council area) – <i>If selected, go to Q6</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resident of elsewhere - <i>If selected, go to Q6</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Private business
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public sector organisation (Local council, health organisation etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Third sector organisation (Voluntary groups, Community groups, Charities)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillor / Politician - <i>If selected, go to Q6</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify) - <i>If selected, go to Q6</i>

If other, please specify:

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If you are not answering on behalf of a business/organisation, please skip to Q6.

### Q2. Are you providing your organisation's official response?

Please tick one option.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

### Q3. Name of your organisation

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### Q4. Your name

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### Q5. Your contact email/phone if responding on behalf of an organisation (optional)

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## Q6. What is your postcode?

Your details will only be used for the purposes of this survey and will be held in accordance with our Data Protection Policy. This can be found on our website.

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## Section 1 - Lighting of fires

It is proposed in the Order that: "No person shall place, throw or drop in the restricted areas anything likely to cause a fire."

Further: "No person shall light a fire, barbecue (including a disposable barbecue), Chinese lantern or firework in the restricted areas."

Also: "No person shall use any item in the restricted areas which either (i) causes a naked flame or (ii) or poses a risk of fire."

6 areas are proposed (maps showing the Controlled Zones and overall Order document are available in your local library). This includes:

- **Schedule 1a** - Map identifying Blackdown and Thorncombe Woods Controlled Zone (outlined in red blocks)
- **Schedule 1b** - Map identifying Purbeck Heaths, East Holme, Stoborough and Creech Heaths (outlined in red blocks)
- **Schedule 1c** - Map identifying Turners Puddle, Higher Hyde Heath, Winfrith Heath and Worgret Heath (outlined in red blocks)
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## Q7. How do you feel about the lighting of fires proposals?

Please tick one option.

<input type="checkbox"/>	I/we support this section – <i>If selected, go to Q9</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am/we are not sure – <i>If selected, go to Q10</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	I/we have concerns – <i>If selected, go to Q8</i>

**Q8. What are your concerns about the lighting of fire proposals?**

*Please tick all that apply.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't agree with it being included at all
<input type="checkbox"/>	The area shown on the map should be altered
<input type="checkbox"/>	Won't be enforced
<input type="checkbox"/>	Too harsh
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spoils people's enjoyment of these outside spaces
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of the above
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain)

If other, please specify:

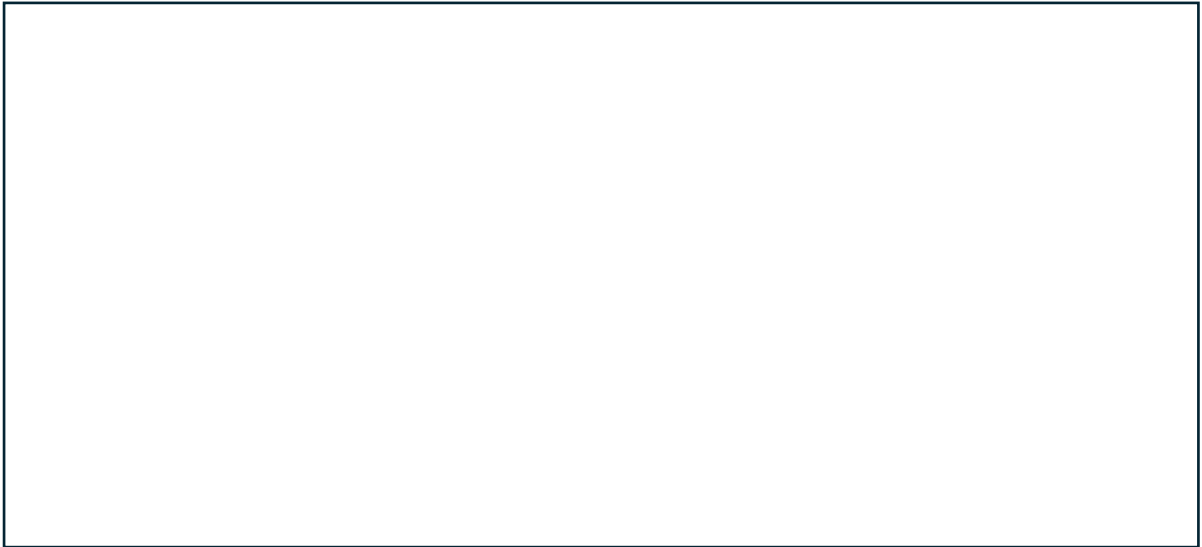
If you answered Q8, please now go to Q10.

**Q9. What do you particularly support about the lighting of fire proposals?**

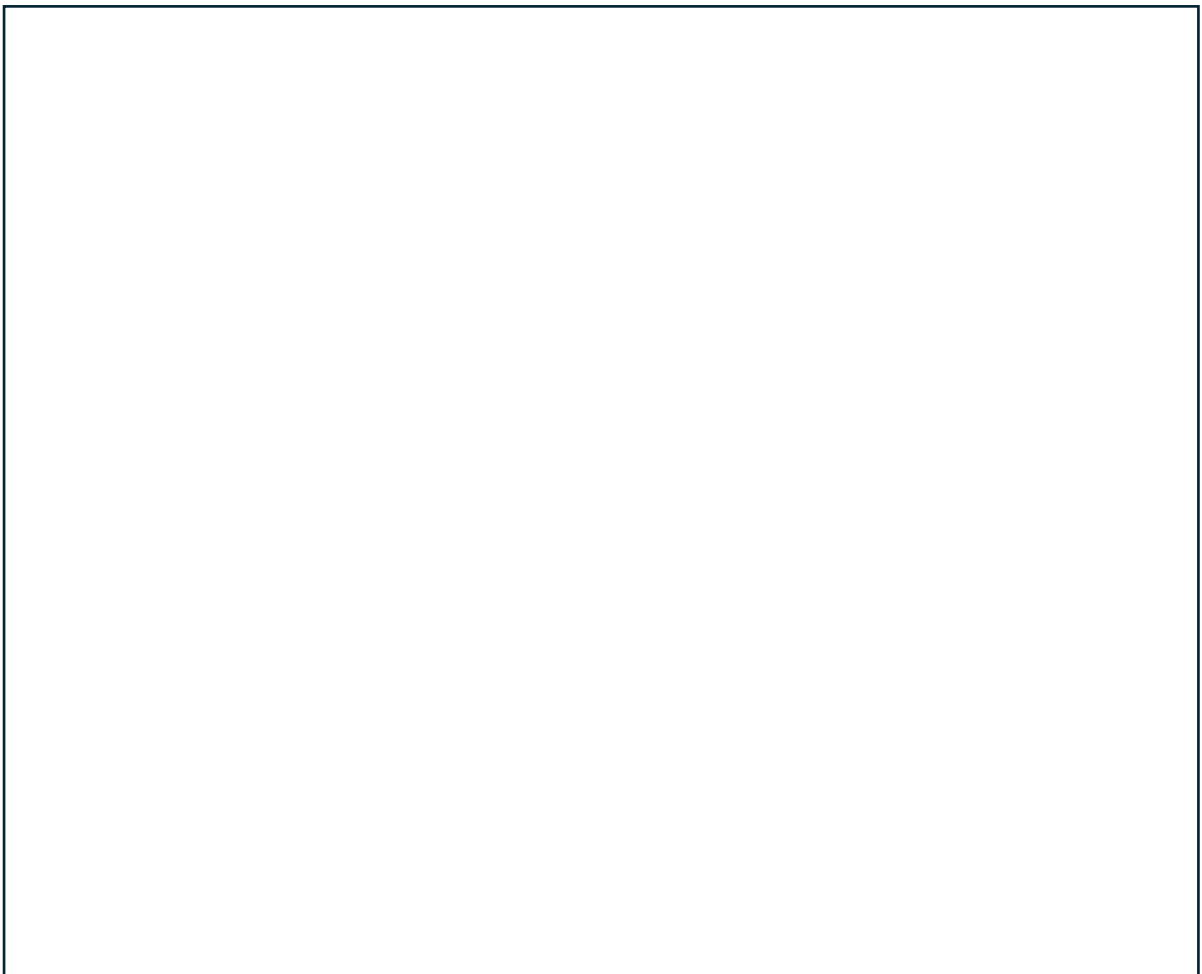
*Please tick all that apply.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Fires can cause danger to life and property
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lighting of fires can cause nuisance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extinguishing unintentional fires in the countryside can use significant emergency services manpower
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fires can have a devastating effect on fauna and flora
<input type="checkbox"/>	The area within the maps covers at risk locations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beneficial if enforced
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of the above
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify in the box on the next page)

If other, please specify:



**Q10. If you have any comments, please let us know below**



## About you

This section is optional. We use it to collect diversity information. This helps to ensure any changes do not unfairly impact specific sectors of the community. It also helps to make sure our consultation response comes from a representative sample of residents.

### **Q11. Please select your age group.**

*Please tick one option.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Under 18
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 to 24
<input type="checkbox"/>	25 to 39
<input type="checkbox"/>	40 to 49
<input type="checkbox"/>	50 to 59
<input type="checkbox"/>	60 to 64
<input type="checkbox"/>	65 plus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

### **Q12. What is your sex?**

*Please tick one option.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Female
<input type="checkbox"/>	Male
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

### **Q13. Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?**

*Please tick one option.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

**Q14. The Equality Act 2010 describes a person as disabled if they have a longstanding physical or mental condition that has lasted or is likely to last 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. People with some conditions (cancer, multiple sclerosis and HIV/AIDS for example) are considered to be disabled from the point that they are diagnosed. [Question continues onto next page]**

**Q14 [Continued] Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010?**

*Please tick one option.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

**Q15. If at the previous question you stated you consider yourself to have a disability, please state the type of disability which applies to you.**

*Please tick all that apply.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Autistic Spectrum Conditions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blind
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dyscalculia
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dyslexia
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dyspraxia
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaf
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hearing loss
<input type="checkbox"/>	Long term health condition
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental health issues
<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical impairment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sign Language User
<input type="checkbox"/>	Visually impaired
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical conditions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mobility issues
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning disability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Specific learning differences
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheelchair user
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you prefer to use another term, please specify on the next page

If you prefer to use another term, please specify:

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**Q16. What is your ethnic group?**

*Please tick one option.*

	White: British
	White: Irish
	White: Gypsy
	White: Irish Traveller
	White: Other
	Mixed: White and Black Caribbean
	Mixed: White and Black African
	Mixed: White and Asian
	Mixed: Other
	Asian or Asian British: Indian
	Asian or Asian British: Pakistan
	Asian or Asian British: Chinese
	Asian or Asian British: Other
	Black or Black British
	Arab
	Other ethnic group
	Prefer not to say

If other, please specify:

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**Q17. What is your religion or belief?**

*Please tick one option.*

	Buddhist
	Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)
	Hindu
	Jewish
	Muslim
	Sikh
	No religion
	Other religion or belief (please specify if you wish on the next page)
	Prefer not to say

If other, please specify:

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**Q18. What is your sexual orientation?**

*Please tick one option.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Heterosexual or straight
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gay or lesbian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asexual
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bisexual
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

If other, please specify:

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**Q19. Have you previously served in the UK Armed Forces?**

*Please tick one option.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, previously served in Regular Armed Forces
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, previously served in Reserve Armed Forces
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

**Q20. Are you currently pregnant or have you been pregnant in the last year?**

*Please tick one option.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

Thank you for completing the survey. Please return your survey to Licensing Service, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ.