

Specific changes that have been made as a result of 2013 consultation

You said	Our response
Of the 77% of people in favour of byelaws, 85% felt it would make parks better for everyone, 79% said it would make them safer.	We have continued to introduce byelaws due to public support.
61% of people had experienced activities being a problem, endangering people, harming the environment or persisting to cause a nuisance. Motor vehicles, injuring/disturbing animals and moving and damaging structures were the most common.	We have continued to introduce byelaws as there is evidence that the byelaws cover areas that the public do find a nuisance and affect their enjoyment of parks and green spaces.
<p>Those responding were most in favour of byelaws that would improve safety and enjoyment without being overly restrictive or stopping people having fun.</p> <p>A light touch approach but one that would ensure some nuisance behaviour could be addressed.</p>	<p>We have taken out byelaws related to climbing, children’s play areas, children’s play apparatus, skateboarding and ball games.</p> <p>We have proposed that barbeques are allowed in most parks and green spaces subject to certain conditions to avoid damage and protect special areas.</p> <p>Introducing ‘general consent’ will also make it clearer that certain common everyday activities are excluded from the terms of specific byelaws</p> <p>The idea of the byelaws is not to stop enjoyment of parks and green spaces but to control unacceptable behaviour that detrimentally affects others.</p>
There were many comments that said the byelaws in 2013 (ball games, climbing, skateboarding) seemed to be overly restrictive in stopping children and young people playing and challenging themselves through activities.	We have taken out byelaws associated with children’s play, ball games, climbing and skateboarding
23% of people were against byelaws – a common theme was that there are already enough laws governing anti-social behaviour – these should be enforced rather than creating new byelaws	We have looked at enforcement and how this can be improved, and have the support of the police and PCSOs to help enforce byelaws when necessary. Designated council officers will also be able to enforce byelaws.

	The benefit of byelaws over and above other legislation is that action can be taken immediately when the nuisance behaviour is taking place. Other enforcement action can take longer to put into effect.
A number of comments relate to the fact that byelaws will improve the lives of residents living around parks.	It is recognised that byelaws benefit not only other park users but residents living adjacent to parks – an important consideration in introducing byelaws
Concerns were raised about a possible ban on cycling, whilst there were also comments about inconsiderate cycling	The byelaw has been kept in as far as it relates to dangerous cycling which could cause reasonable fear of injury. The intention is to encourage sensible cycling in parks, taking into account other park users.