



## **The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011**

The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc.) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 2012 (S.R. 2012 No. 114)

### **The Dogs on Leads by Direction (Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council) Order 2025**

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council makes the following Order -

#### **Commencement**

1. This Order comes into operation on **1<sup>st</sup> January 2026**

#### **Application**

2. This Order applies to the land specified in the Schedule

#### **Interpretation**

3. In this Order "an authorised officer of a district council" means an employee of the district council who is authorised in writing by the district council for the purpose of giving directions under this Order.

#### **Offence**

4. (1) Any person in charge of a dog is guilty of an offence if, at any time, on any land to which this Order applies, the person does not comply with a direction received from an authorised officer of the district council to put and keep the dog on a lead, unless;
  - (a) the person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
  - (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to the person failing to do so.(2) For the purpose of this Article
  - (a) a person who habitually has a dog in their possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
  - (b) an authorised officer of the district council may only give a direction under this Order to put and keep a dog on a lead if the authorised officer believes that such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person on any land to which this Order applies or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird.

## Penalty

5. A person guilty of an offence under Article 4 is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

## Revocation

6. From and after the date on which this Order comes into operation, the following Orders relating to the control of dogs on leads by direction shall be and are hereby revoked:-
  - (a) The Dogs on Leads by Direction Order made by Antrim Borough Council on 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2013
  - (b) The Dogs on Lead by Direction Order made by Newtownabbey Borough Council on 20<sup>th</sup> day of December 2012

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of **December 2025**

The Common Seal of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

Affixed hereto in the presence of:-



Richard Baker

**Chief Executive**



Leah Kirkpatrick

**The Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council**

## **SCHEDULE**

1. Subject to the exception in paragraph 2 below, this Order applies to all land within the Borough of Antrim and Newtownabbey which is;
  - I. Open to the air (which includes land that is covered but open to the air on at least one side) and,
  - II. To which the public are entitled or permitted to enter (with or without payment)
  
2. Excepted from the description in paragraph (1) above is land held by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) for the purpose of any of its functions under the Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 (2010c. 10 (NI))

