

The Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

Public Spaces Protection Order 2026

Pursuant to powers granted to the Council under s.59 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council has made the following Order:

From 1 April 2026 it is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse:

- (a) To do anything that the person is prohibited from doing in this Order, or
- (b) To fail to comply with any requirement to which the person is subject under this Order.

A person guilty of an offence in relation to this Order is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (£1,000 as at 28th June 2025).

The Council or a Police Constable may issue a fixed penalty notice to any person he or she has reason to believe has committed an offence in relation to this Order. A fixed penalty notice offers the opportunity to discharge liability for conviction upon payment of a fine of £100.

Measures affecting the whole of the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling

The following measures apply to all areas to which the general public has access within Tonbridge and Malling:

a. Dog Fouling

No person is permitted to leave dog faeces deposited by any dog under their control or ownership in any public place, save in a designated dog faeces bin or general waste bin. Owners and dog-walkers must clean up after dogs under their control, care or ownership.

b. Exclusion of Dogs from Children's Play Areas

No person in control, care or ownership of a dog may allow (whether wilfully or otherwise) those dogs to enter or remain upon any Children's Play Area.

c. Dogs on Leads by Direction

When required by an authorised officer of the Council, any person in control of dogs must place those dogs on a lead.

d. Maximum Numbers of Dogs Under a Person's Control

No person is permitted to have under their individual control more than 6 dogs in a public place.

e. Alcohol Control

No person may drink alcohol in a public place if requested to stop by an authorised officer of the Council or Police Constable.

f. Public Urination/ Defecation

No person may urinate or defecate in any public place, except in a public lavatory.

g. Use of Drones

No person may launch or land a drone from any open space owned by the Borough Council without first obtaining authorisation from the Borough Council.

For the purposes of this measure, “drone” means any remote-controlled pilotless aircraft or Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

h. Vehicles on public open spaces

No person may park a vehicle on any public open space within the borough, save in a designated vehicle parking space. For the purposes of this provision, ‘public open space’ shall mean any land laid out as a public garden or used for the purposes of public recreation.

i. Nuisance associated with car/motorcycle meetings

No person may attend any unauthorised meeting or gathering within the borough involving a mechanically propelled vehicle as an owner, driver, passenger or spectator where any reasonable person would consider that such activity causes or is likely to cause nuisance or annoyance, harassment, alarm, distress or detrimental impact in the locality.

No person may attend any meeting or gathering within the borough in which the use of a mechanically propelled vehicle is the main focus of attention and any of the following activities are taking place:

- Unnecessary sounding of motor vehicle horns in a manner causing or being likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Playing amplified music in or near, or powered from, a motor vehicle at an excessive volume causing or likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Unnecessary revving of a motor vehicle engine to causing or likely to cause, a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Causing danger to other road users including pedestrians.
- Causing damage or risk of damage to private property.
- Speeding or racing.
- Performing stunts including, but not limited to, performing donuts, wheel spins, skidding, drifting, handbrake turns or burn outs.
- Using loud and/or threatening and/or using abusive language causing or likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Causing an obstruction of a public highway or public place whether stationary or moving.
- Attending any meeting of two or more vehicles in a public space either as a vehicle owner, driver, passenger or spectator and engaging in any activity that a reasonable person would consider to be part of a car cruising activity.

- Engage in, encourage, or otherwise assist the above activities which includes spectators of any of the above.

For the purposes of this Order 'Mechanically propelled vehicles' means any vehicles which is powered mechanically (for example, electrically or by an engine) that is intended or adapted for use on roads. This includes but is not limited to, motorcars and motorcycles.

j. Use of Catapults

No person may have in their possession a catapult, slingshot or similar item capable of launching a missile that could cause harm or damage to a person, animal or property. This does not preclude the powers of the police with regard to an item recognised in law as an offensive weapon.

It is an offence if a person fails to surrender any catapult, slingshot or similar item capable of launching a projectile in their possession when requested to do so by an authorised officer.

No person may have in their possession stones, ball bearings, pellets or similar item(s) capable of being launched as a projectile, by a catapult, slingshot or similar item or by manual force, that could cause harm or damage to a person, animal or property.

It is an offence if a person fails to surrender any stones, ball bearings, pellets or similar item(s) capable of being launched as a missile by a catapult, slingshot or similar item when requested to do so by an authorised officer.

2. Area- Specific Measures

In addition to the Borough-wide measures, the following measures apply within the boundaries of these designated areas:

a. Leybourne Lakes Country Park

i. No unauthorised Barbecues

No person may use any barbecue, open fire or other method of cooking or heating food within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

ii. No unauthorised swimming, bathing or boating

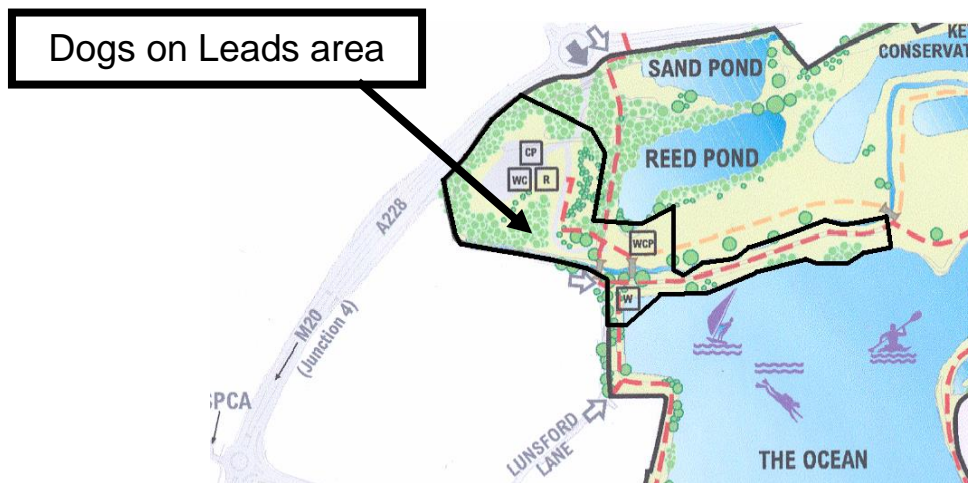
No person may swim, bathe or operate any boat or craft in any lake within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

iii. Dogs on Leads at all times in designated areas

Dogs must be kept on leads at all times within the areas shown on the plan below. Broadly, these areas are the car parks and the access road for the Watersports facility.

iv. No unauthorised camping

No person may camp in any place within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.



b. Tonbridge Memorial Gardens

i. **No wheeled-sports activities**

No wheeled-sports activities may take place within the Tonbridge Memorial Gardens. This includes, but is not limited to: skateboards, BMX, in-line skating and scooters.

ii. **No unauthorised camping**

No person may camp in any place unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

c. Tonbridge Moorings

i. **No unauthorised mooring**

No person is entitled to moor any boat or craft on the moorings unless licenced to do so or otherwise specifically authorised in writing by the Council or Environment Agency.

ii. **No unauthorised camping**

No person may camp in any place unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

iii. **No unauthorised swimming or bathing**

No person may swim or bathe within the area shown in purple at any time.



iv. **Anti-social behaviour associated with fishing**

No person may fish as shown within the purple area above.

d. Haysden Country Parki. **No unauthorised Barbecues**

No person may use any barbecue, open fire or other method of cooking or heating food within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

ii. **No unauthorised swimming, bathing or boating**

No person may swim, bathe or operate any boat or craft in any lake within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

iii. **Dogs on Leads at all times in designated areas**

Dogs must be kept on leads at all times within the areas shown on the plans below. Broadly, these areas are the car parks and around the catering unit.

iv. **No unauthorised camping**

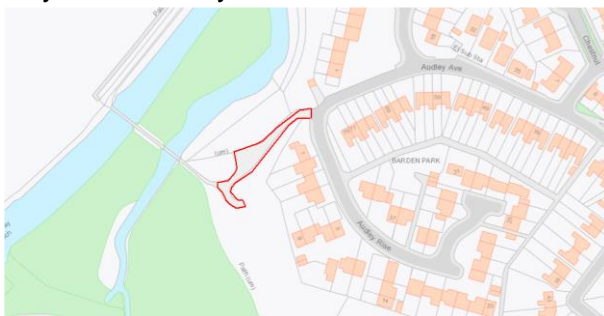
No person may camp in any place within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.



Map above showing dogs on lead area within main car park and catering area within Haysden Country Park.



Map above showing dogs on lead area within Lower Haysden Lane Car Park.



Map above showing dogs on lead area within Audley Rise Car Park

e. Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground and Tonbridge Castlei. **No unauthorised Barbecues**

No person may use any barbecue, open fire or other method of cooking or heating food within these areas unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

ii. **Dogs on Leads at all times in designated areas**



h. Closed Churchyards at St Peter's and St Paul's Churches

i. **Dogs on leads at all times**

Dogs must be kept on leads at all times within the Churchyards of St Peter's and St Paul's churches.

i. Holborough Lakes, Snodland

(i) **No unauthorised swimming, bathing or boating**

No person may swim, bathe or operate any boat or craft in any lake within Holborough Lakes unless specifically authorised in writing.

