PLEASE NOTE VENUE

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



BOROUGH COUNCIL

Thursday 29th November 2007

at 10.00 am

in the Town Hall, Raby Road, Hartlepool (main Theatre entrance)

MEMBERS: CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors Akers-Belcher, Brash, Coward, Cranney, Hall, Hargreaves, Henery, Kaiser, Laffey, Lauderdale, London, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Sutheran, Tumilty and Worthy

Resident Representatives:

James Atkinson, Bob Farrow, Alan Greenwell, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes, Sarah Maness and Brian McBean

- 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
- 3. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

4. MINUTES

- 4.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2007 (*attached*)
- 4.2 Matters arising (maximum of 10 minutes) Feedback sheet from last meeting attached.

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)

Foggy Furze Grange Park Rift House Stranton Burn Valley Elw ick

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

6.1 Dog Control Orders – Head of Neighbourhood Management

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION and/or INFORMATION

- 7.1 Presentation LINKs (Local Involvement Networks) Development Officer
- 7.2 The Future Tow n Planning of Hartlepool Core Strategy Issues and Options Discussion Paper Consultation – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*
- 7.3 Presentation Pride in Hartlepool Pride in Hartlepool Officer

8. **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

8.1 Minor Works Report – *Neighbourhood Co-ordinator*

9. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Central Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will be held on Thursday 10th January 2008 commencing at 10am, in the Baltic Suite, Hartlepool Historic Quay, Maritime Avenue, Hartlepool

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will be held on Thursday 31st January 2008 commencing at 10am, in the Sir William Gray Suite, Hartlepool Historic Quay, Maritime Avenue, Hartlepool

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Report of: Head of Neighbourhood Management

Subject: Dog Control Orders

1. <u>Purpose of Report</u>

1.1 To provide concise details of the proposed Dog Control Orders for consultation.

2. <u>Current Situation</u>

- 2.1 The Council has a number of byelaws relating to dogs that were introduced to protect the general public. These byelaws consist of the following, and are stringently enforced by the Council's Neighbourhood Action Team:
 - (i) Dogs on leads in Ward Jackson Park, Burn Valley Gardens, Rossmere Park, Seaton Park.
 - (ii) Dogs on leads in Stranton Cemetery and West View Cemetery.
 - (iii) Seasonal ban of dogs on the seashore and corresponding promenades at Seaton Carew, Headland Fish Sands, Headland Block Sands.
- 2.2 The Dogs(Fouling of Land)Act 1996 is used by the Council's Neighbourhood Action Team to reprimand irresponsible dog owners who fail to remove dog faeces forthwith.
- 2.3 With few exceptions, the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 applies to any land, which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).
- 2.4 Failure to remove dog faeces forthwith is an offence under the Dogs(Fouling of Land)Act 1996 and subject to a maximum fine of level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000).
- 2.5 Offenders are able to discharge liability for conviction through payment of a Fixed Penalty Notice of £50.

3. <u>Dog Control Orders</u>

3.1 In April of 2006, the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act was fully introduced and provided local authorities with a range of new powers to tackle problems in the environment.

Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum – 29 November 2007

- 3.2 Part 6 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 enables local authorities to make dog control orders, which effectively replace the previous system of dog by elaws for the control of dogs, and also the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.
- 3.3 Existing by elaws remain in force indefinitely and can continue to be enforced as normal. However, if an authority makes a Dog Control Order in respect of an offence on a specified area of land, any existing by elaw dealing with the same offence on the same land lapses.
- 3.4 A Dog Control Order can be made in respect of any land, which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).
- 3.5 Although the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 has been repealed, the Order commencing the repeal provision preserves the offence under the 1996 Act in respect of any designation orders made prior to the repeal. Therefore, any orders made under the 1996 Act will continue to have effect, and enforcement through fixed penalty notices (fixed at £50) and prosecution can continue.
- 3.6 The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 will cease to have effect only when a Dog Control Order is fully introduced by an authority.
- 3.7 The Dog Control Orders Regulations provide for five offences which may be prescribed in a dog control order:
 - (a) failing to remove dog faeces;
 - (b) not keeping a dog on a lead;
 - (c) not putting, and keeping a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer;
 - (d) permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded;
 - (e) taking more than the specified number of dogs onto land.
- 3.8 The penalty for committing an offence under a Dog Control Order is a maximum fine of level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000). Alternatively, the opportunity to pay a fixed penalty may be offered in place of prosecution.
- 3.9 The local authority is able to set the amount of fixed penalty payable.
- 3.10 If no amount is set, then the amount payable is $\pounds75$.
- 3.11 An authority may make provision for treating the fixed penalty as having been paid if a lesser amount is paid before the end of a period specified by the authority.

4. <u>Exemptions</u>

4.1 Dog Control Orders provide exemptions in particular cases for registered blind people, and for deaf people, and for other people with disabilities who make use of trained assistance dogs.

5. <u>Consultation</u>

- 5.1 Dog Control Orders under Part 6 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 are a welcome new addition to the powers available to the Council as it endeavours to provide a safe and clean environment for the people of Hartlepool.
- 5.2 The effective implementation of these new powers is essential and the Council must consider them fundamental to its key aims and objectives.
- 5.3 Initial public consultations on Dog Control Orders have been carried out through press articles, attendance at Resident Associations and Groups, Neighbourhood Consultative Forums, the Environmental Theme Partnership, Parish Council meetings and the Council's website. Members of the public have been encouraged to make comments, suggestions or to ask questions about the proposed Dog Control Orders.

6. <u>Draft Proposals</u>

6.1 Following initial consultations, details of the areas affected by the proposed Dog Control Orders are attached as follows:

Appendix A

- (i) Failing to Remove Dog Faeces.
- (ii) Not Putting, and Keeping a Dog on a Lead when Directed to do so by an Authorised Officer.
- (iii) Taking More than the Specified Number of Dogs onto Land.

<u>Appendix B</u>

(i) Not Keeping a Dog on a Lead.

Appendix C

- (i) Permitting a Dog to Enter Land from which Dogs are Excluded.
- 6.2 Areas where dogs shall be permitted to exercise freely are detailed at <u>Appendix D</u>; however, an Authorised Officer shall retain the power to direct a person to put, and keep a dog on a lead.

The list of areas at Appendix D is not exhaustive, but indicative in its nature.

- 6.3 The Council is proposing to set the level of fixed penalty payable for committing an offence under a Dog Control Order at £100.
- 6.4 The fixed penalty will be subject to a discount of £40 if paid within a period of 7 days from the date of issue.

7. <u>Timetable for implementation</u>

7.1 Prior to the introduction of Dog Control Orders, the Council will publish a notice describing the proposed Orders in a local newspaper circulating in the same area as the land to which the orders will apply and invite representations on the proposals.

6.1

- 7.2 At the end of the consultation period the authority will consider any representations that have been made. If it then decides to proceed with the orders, it must decide when the order will come into force.
- 7.3 Subject to further public consultation, it is envisaged that any Dog Control Orders will formally come into force on 1st April 2008.

8. <u>Recommendations</u>

8.1 Members of the public are asked to consider the proposals to introduce Dog Control Orders and to make comments or suggestions.

Contact Officer:

Craig Thelwell Neighbourhood Action Manager 1 Church St Hartlepool TS24 7DS

Tel: 01429 523370 E-mail: craig.thelwell@hartlepool.gov.uk

APPENDIX C

Title of Dog Control Order(s):

• PERMITTING A DOG TO ENTER LAND FROM WHICH DOGS ARE EXCLUDED

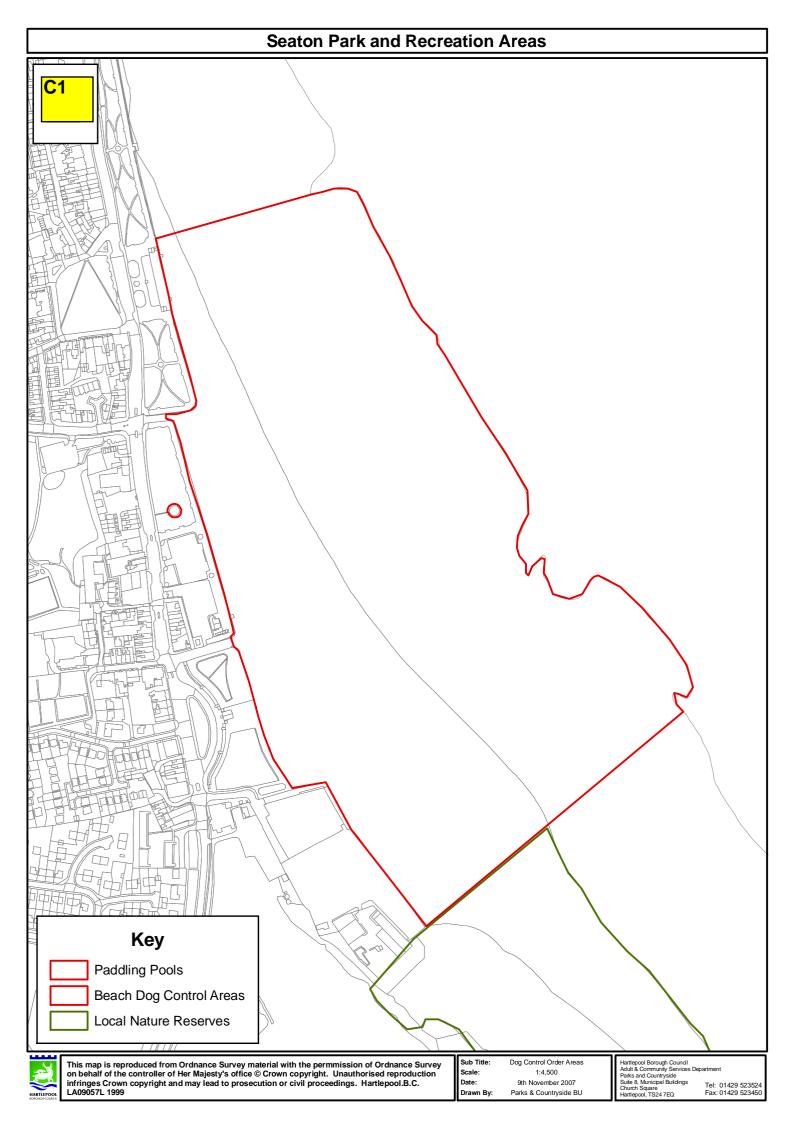
Land subject to Dog Control Order(s):

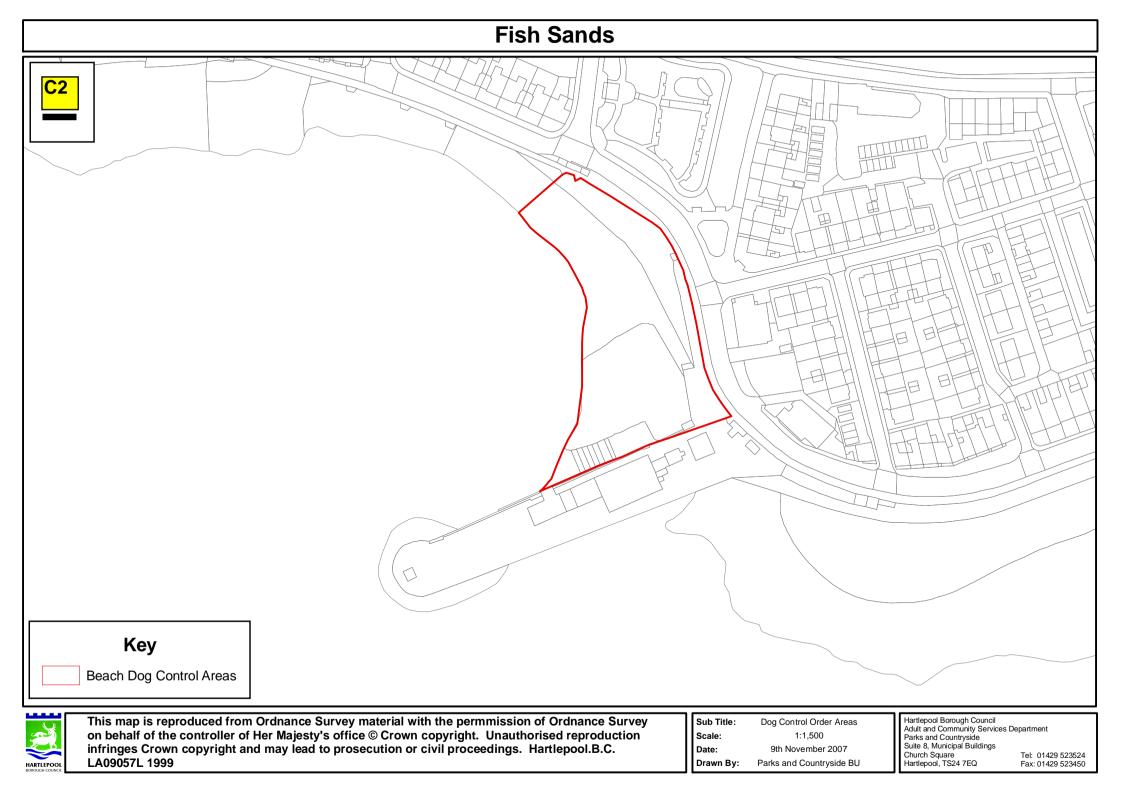
- SEATON CAREW BEACH Seasonal May to September inc. (see map C1)
- HEADLAND FISH SANDS Seasonal May to September inc. (see map C2)
- HEADLAND BLOCK SANDS Seasonal May to September inc. (see map C3)
- BURBANK COMMUNITY GARDEN (see map C4)
- SEATON PADDLING POOL (see map C5)
- LOWER PROMENADE PADDLING POOL, HEADLAND (see map C6)
- MILL HOUSE SKATE PARK (see map C7)
- SUMMERHILL VISITOR CENTRE FIELD STUDY AREA (see map C8)
- ALL SPORTS PITCHES (e.g. football, rugby, hockey, cricket and athletics) at the following locations:

RIFT HOUSE REC. GRAYFIELDS REC. SEATON REC. KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD HARTLEPOOL 6TH FORM COLLEGE GREATHAM SPORTS FIELD

• ALL PLAY GROUNDS at the following locations:

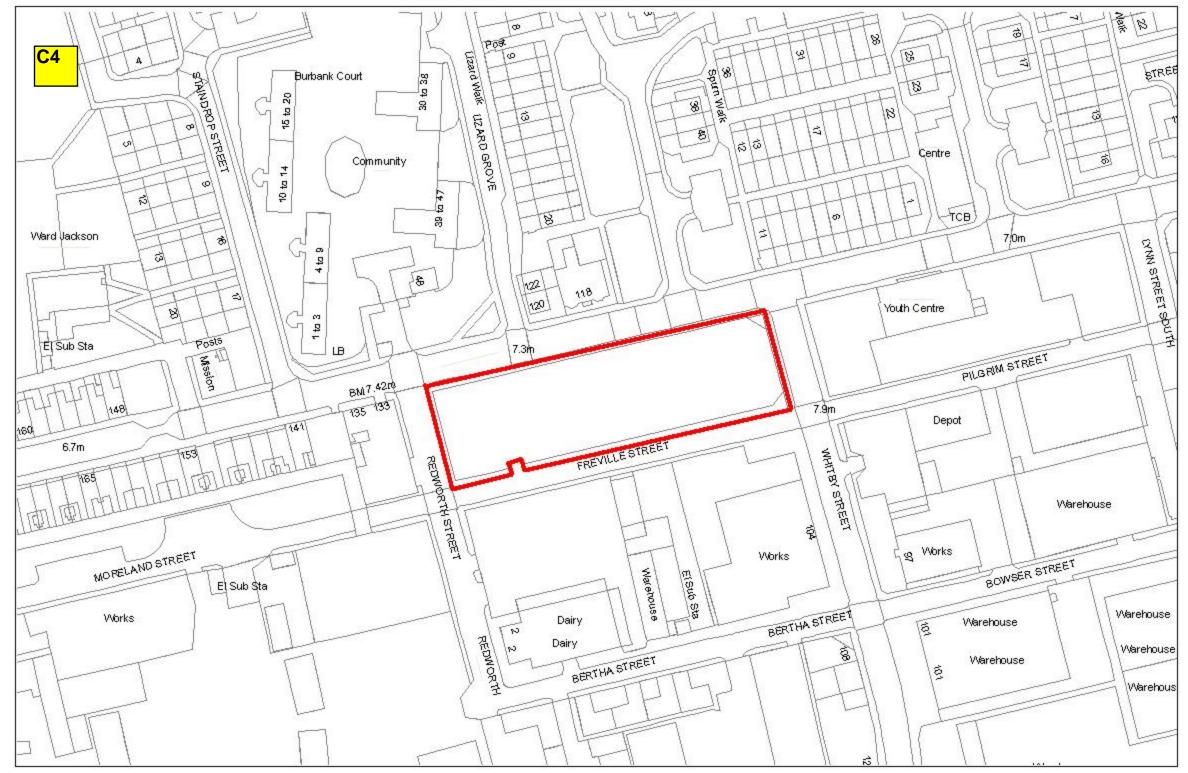
CLAVERING (see map C9) WARD JACKSON PARK (see map C10) TOWN MOOR REC. (see map C11) ROSSMERE PARK (see map C12) BURN VALLEY GARDENS (see map C13) SUMMERHILL VISTOR CENTRE (see map C14) HEADLAND LOWER PROMENADE (see map C15) KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD (see map C16) GRAYFIELDS REC. (see map C17) SEATON PARK (see map C18) OXFORD RD (see map C19) KING OSWY DRIVE (see map C20) JUTLAND RD (see map C21) GREATHAM VILLAGE (see map C22)

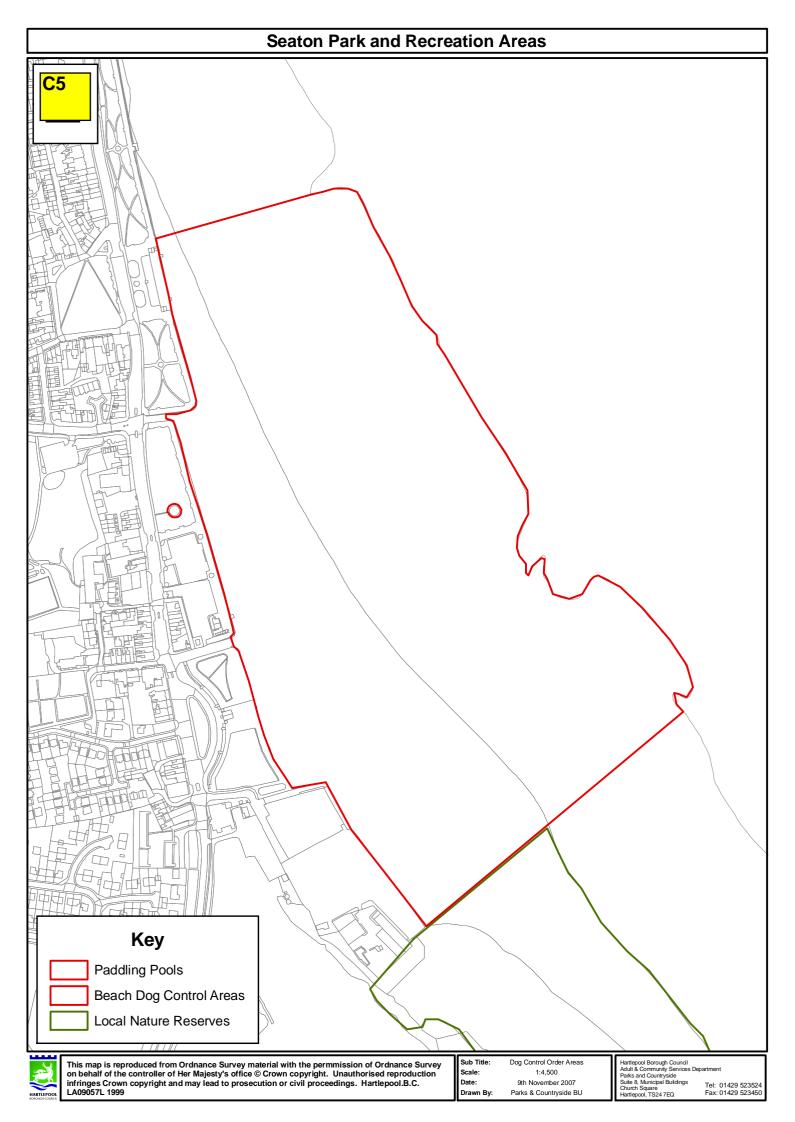




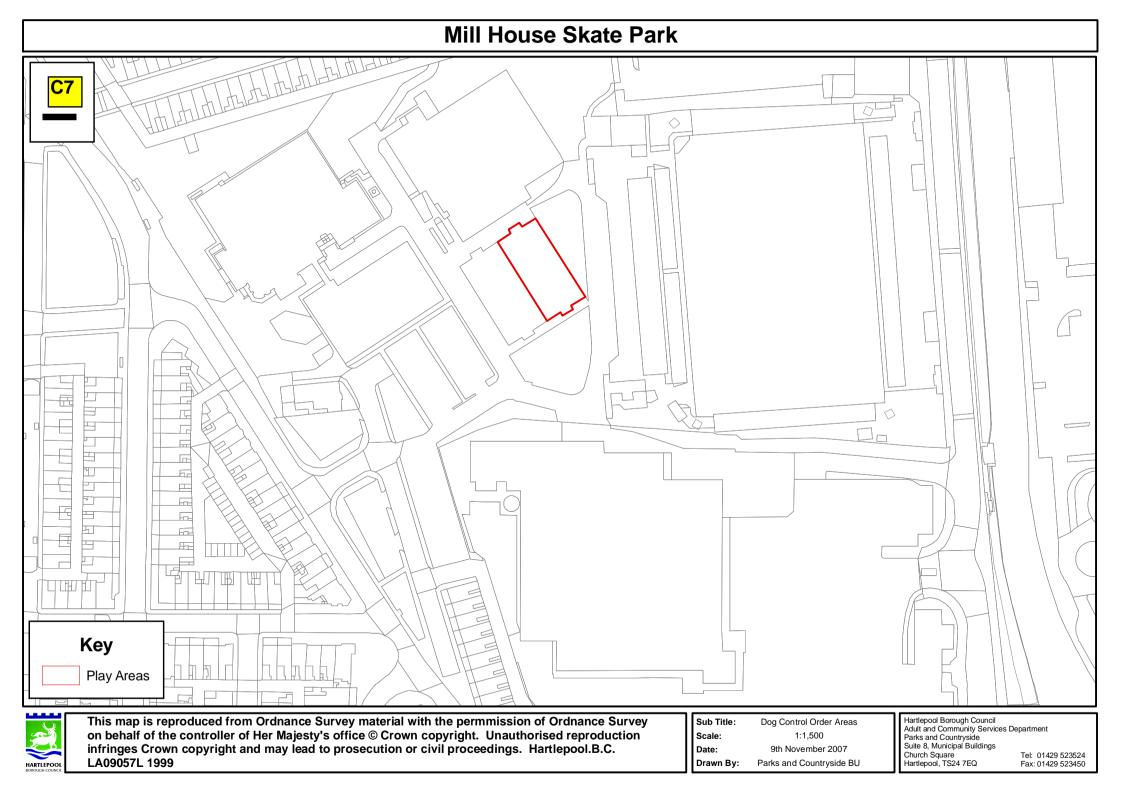
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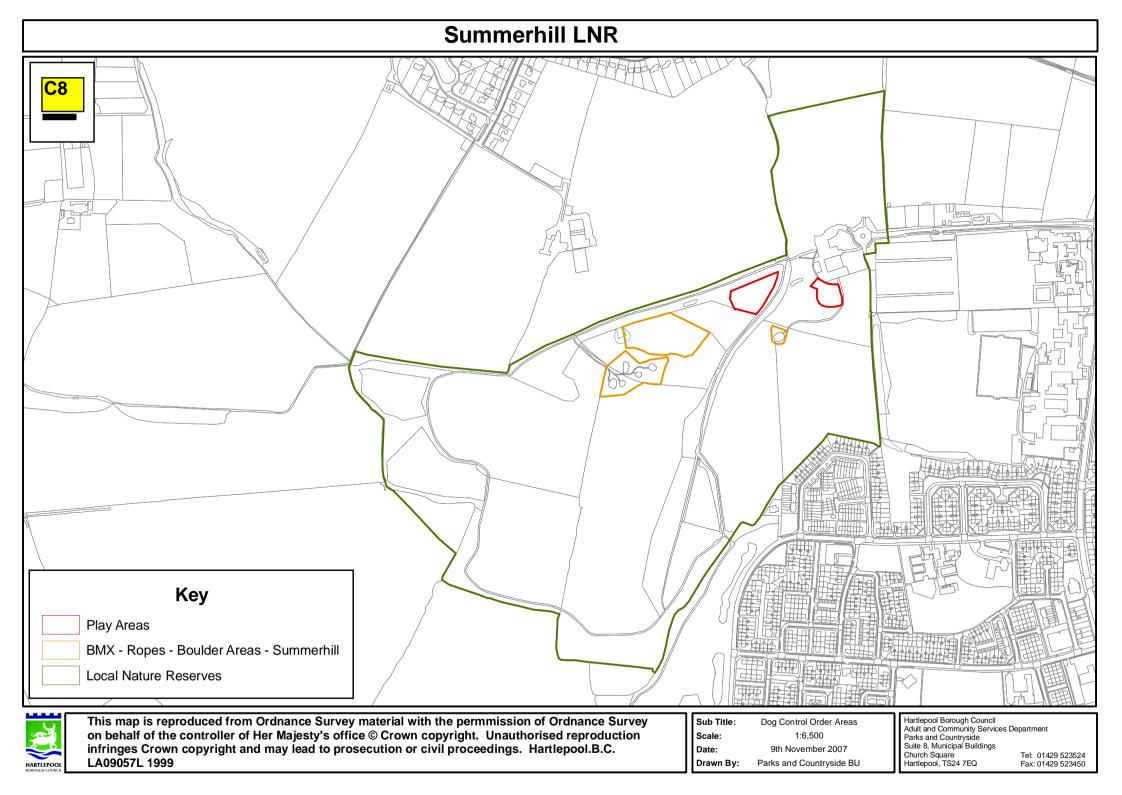
Burbank Community Garden



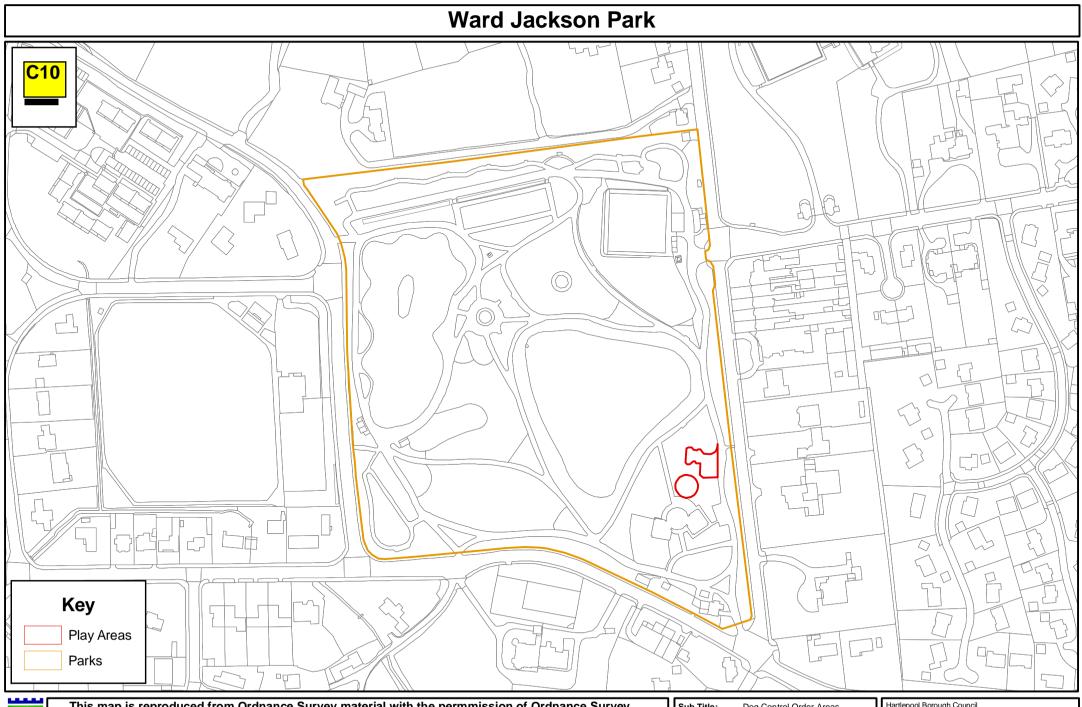


Block Sands	
Block Sands	
Play Areas	
Beach Dog Control Areas	
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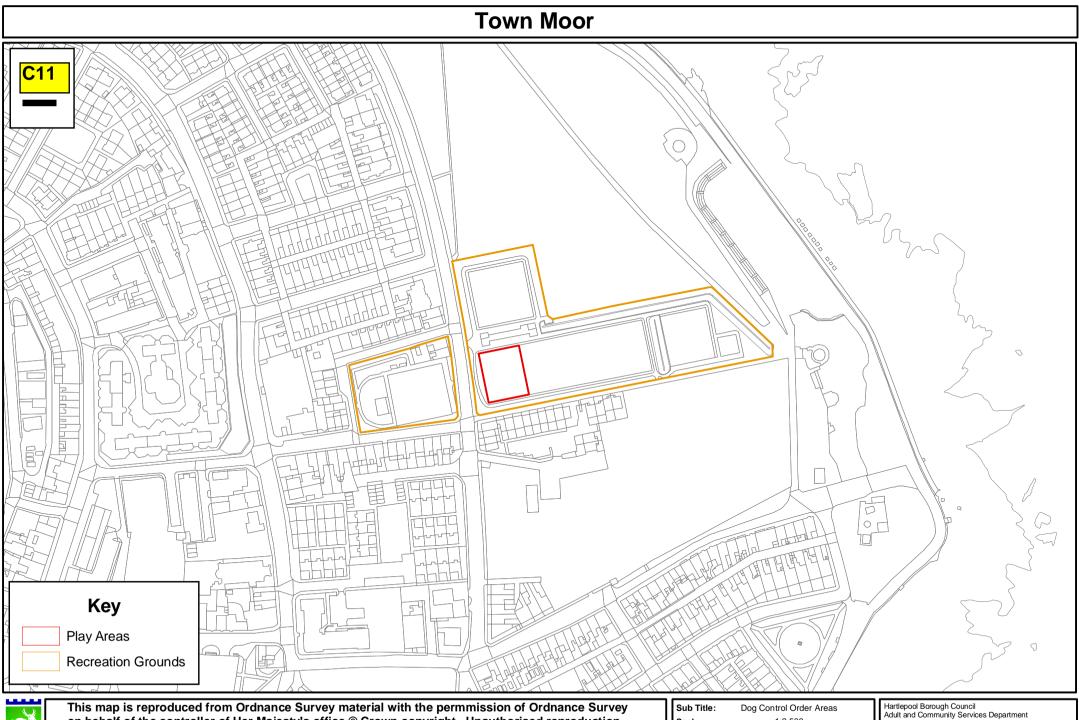


Clavering Play Area					
Play Areas					
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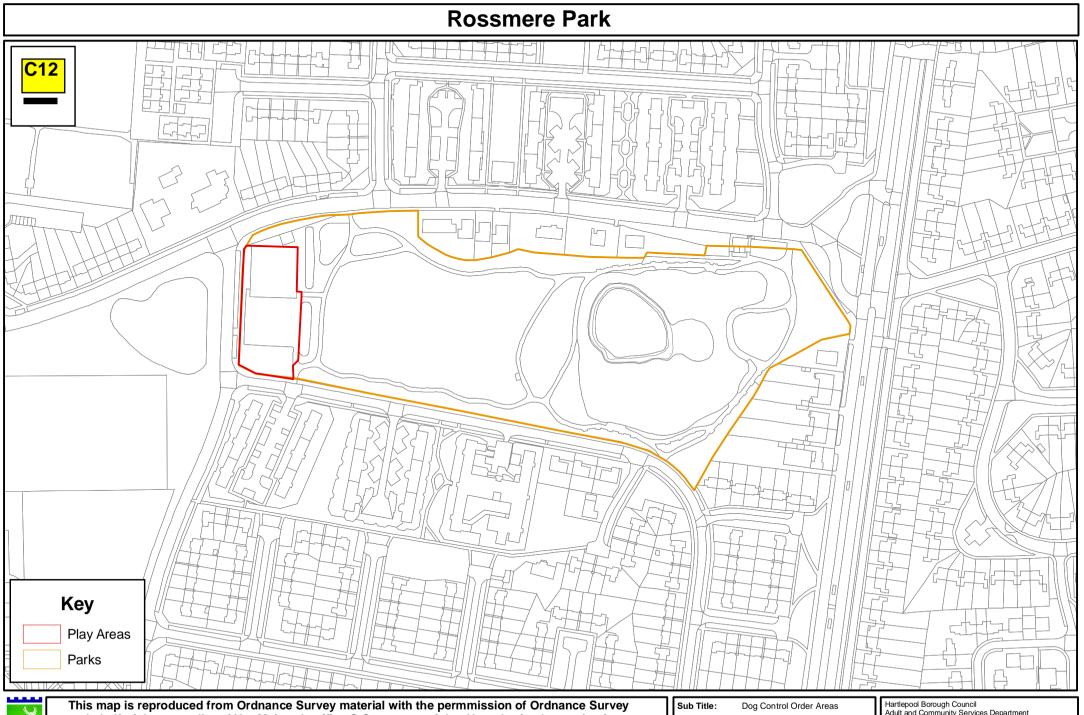
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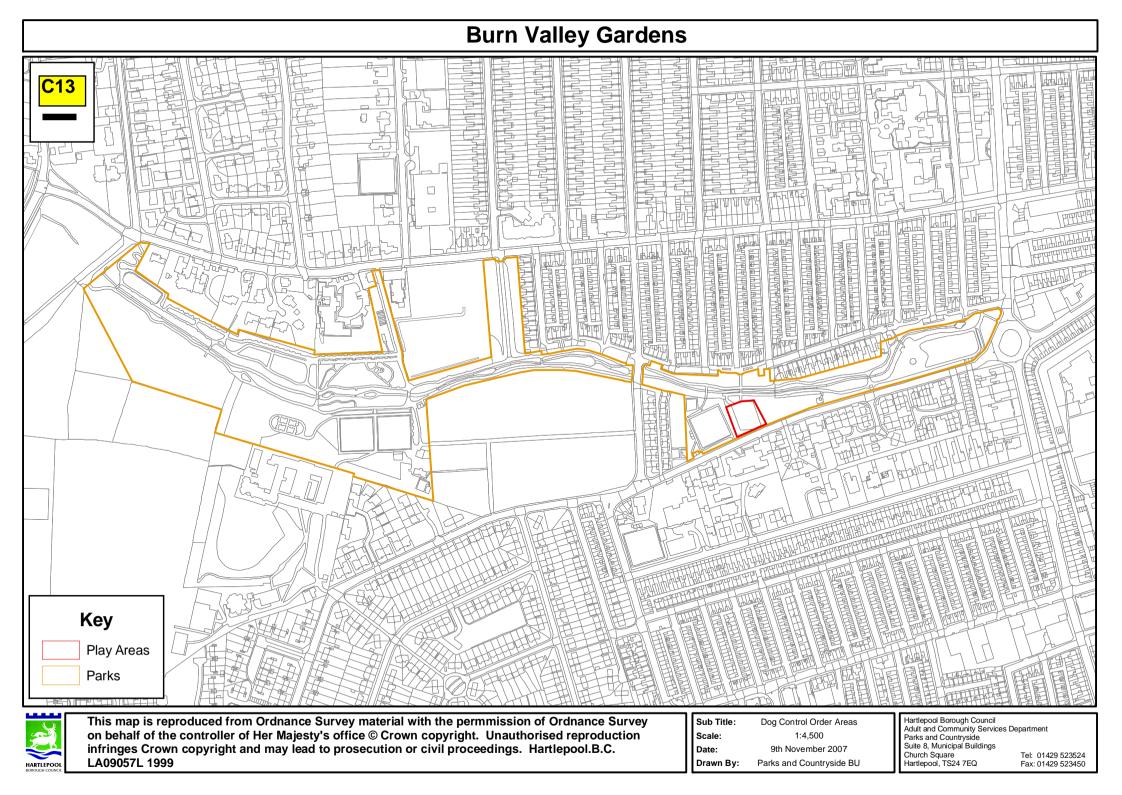
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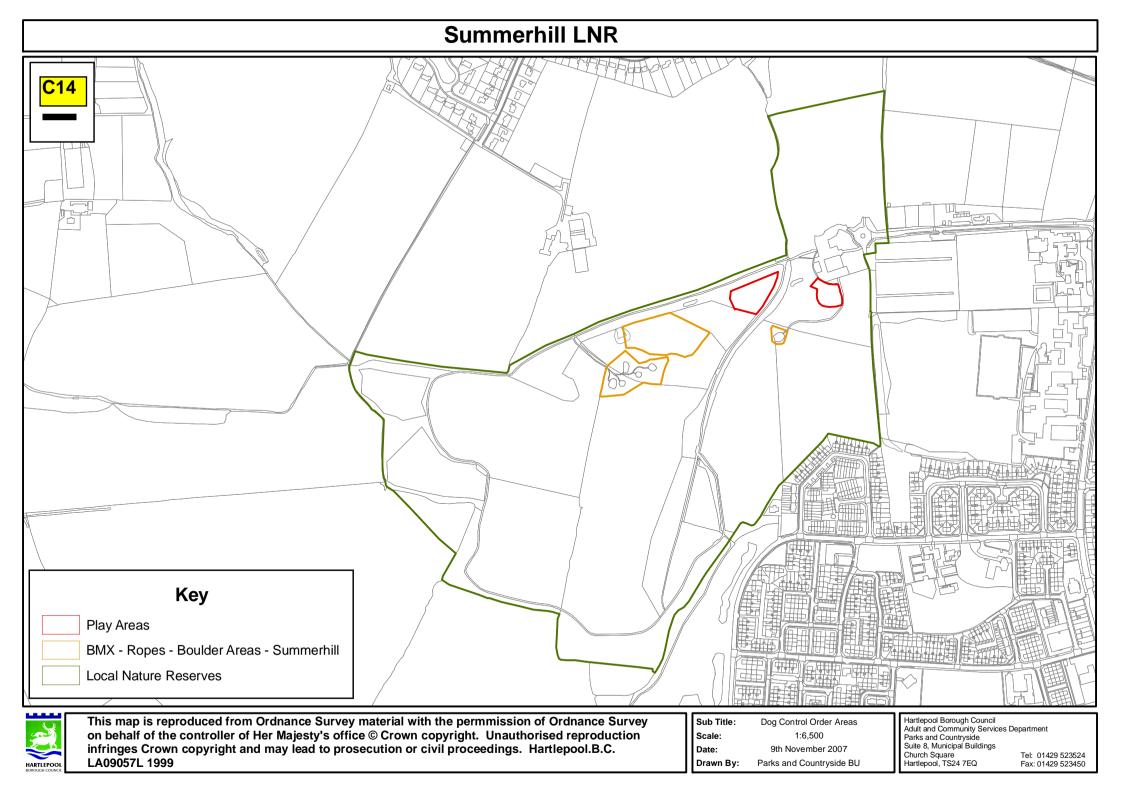
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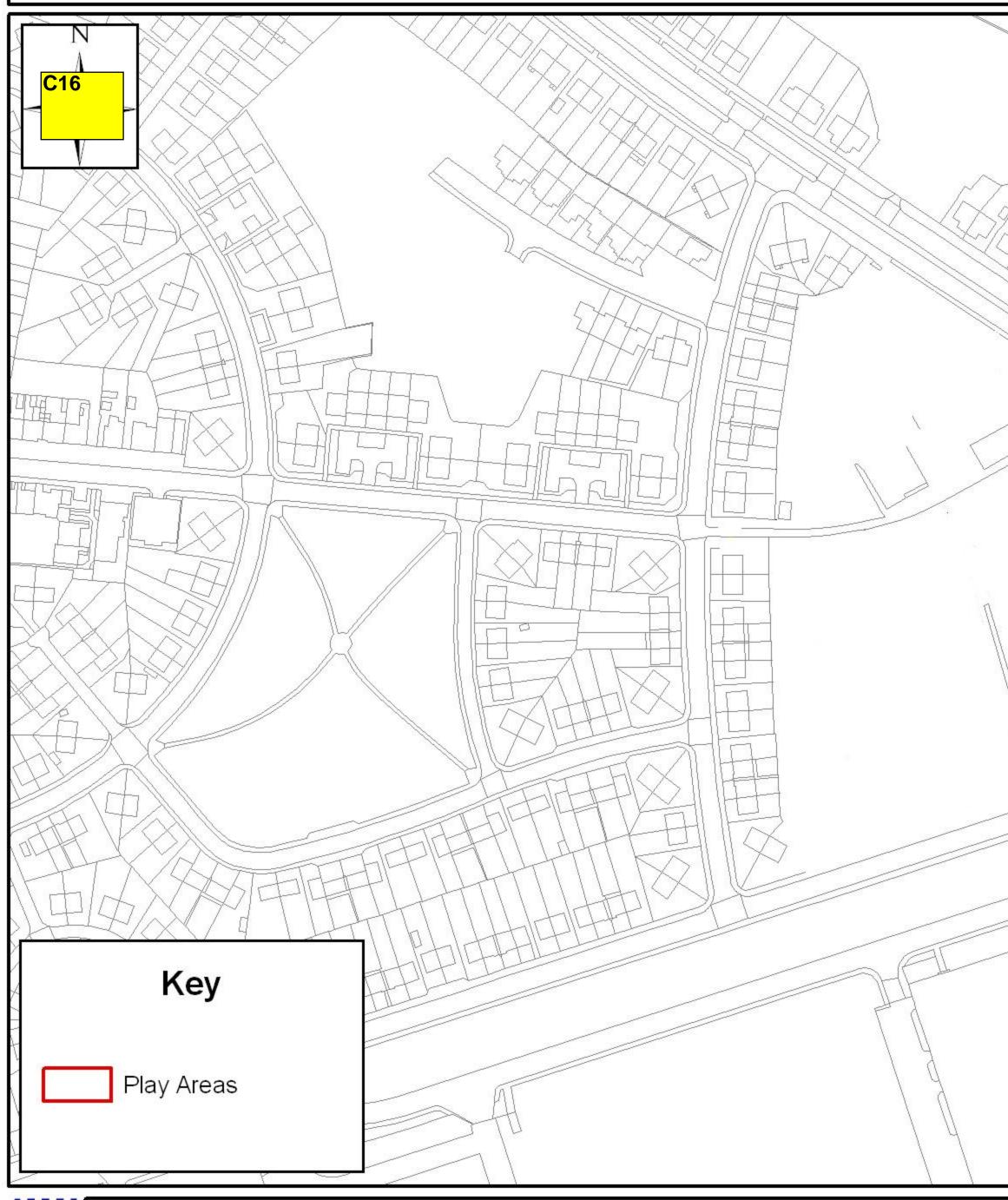
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Beach Dog Control Areas			
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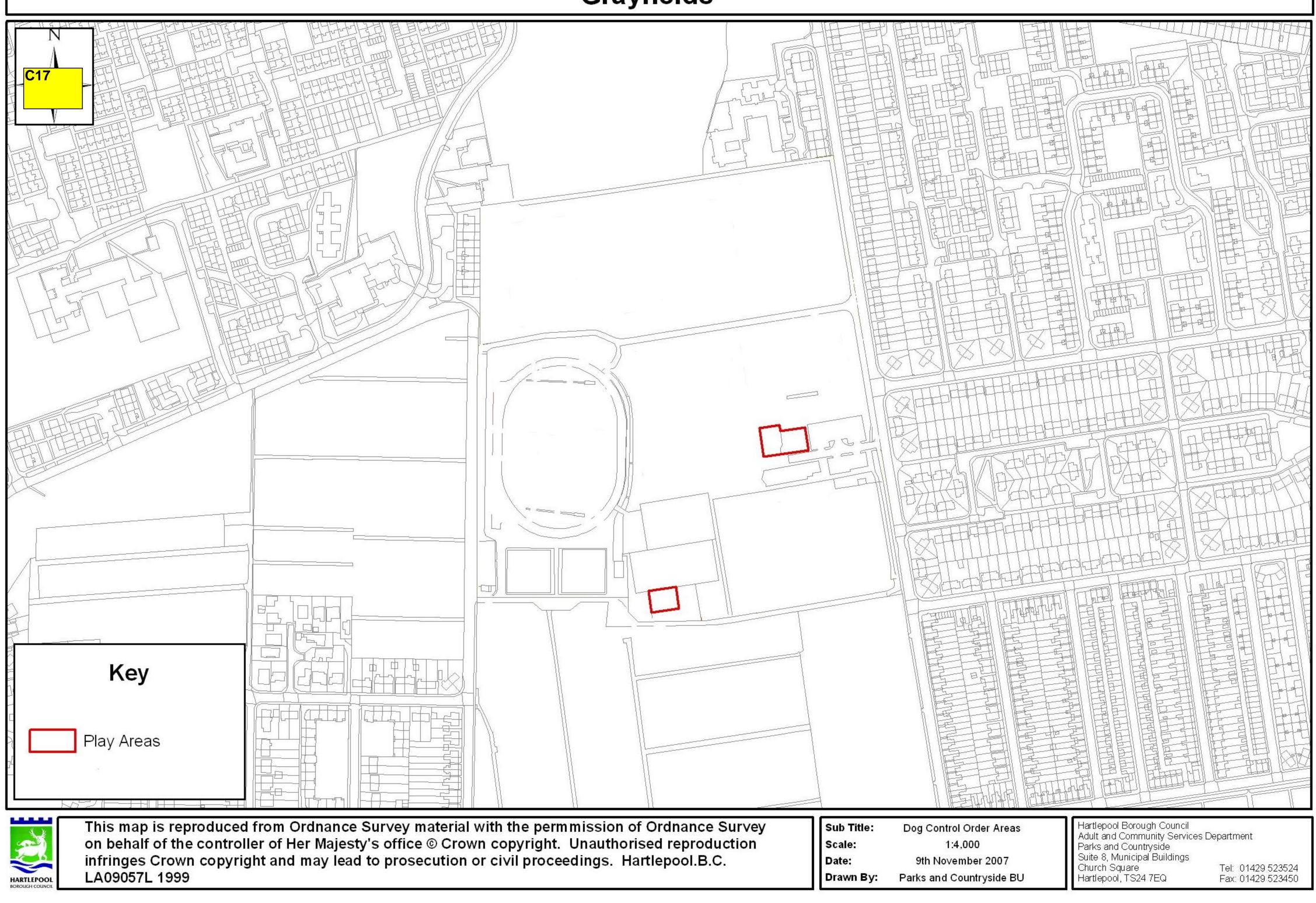




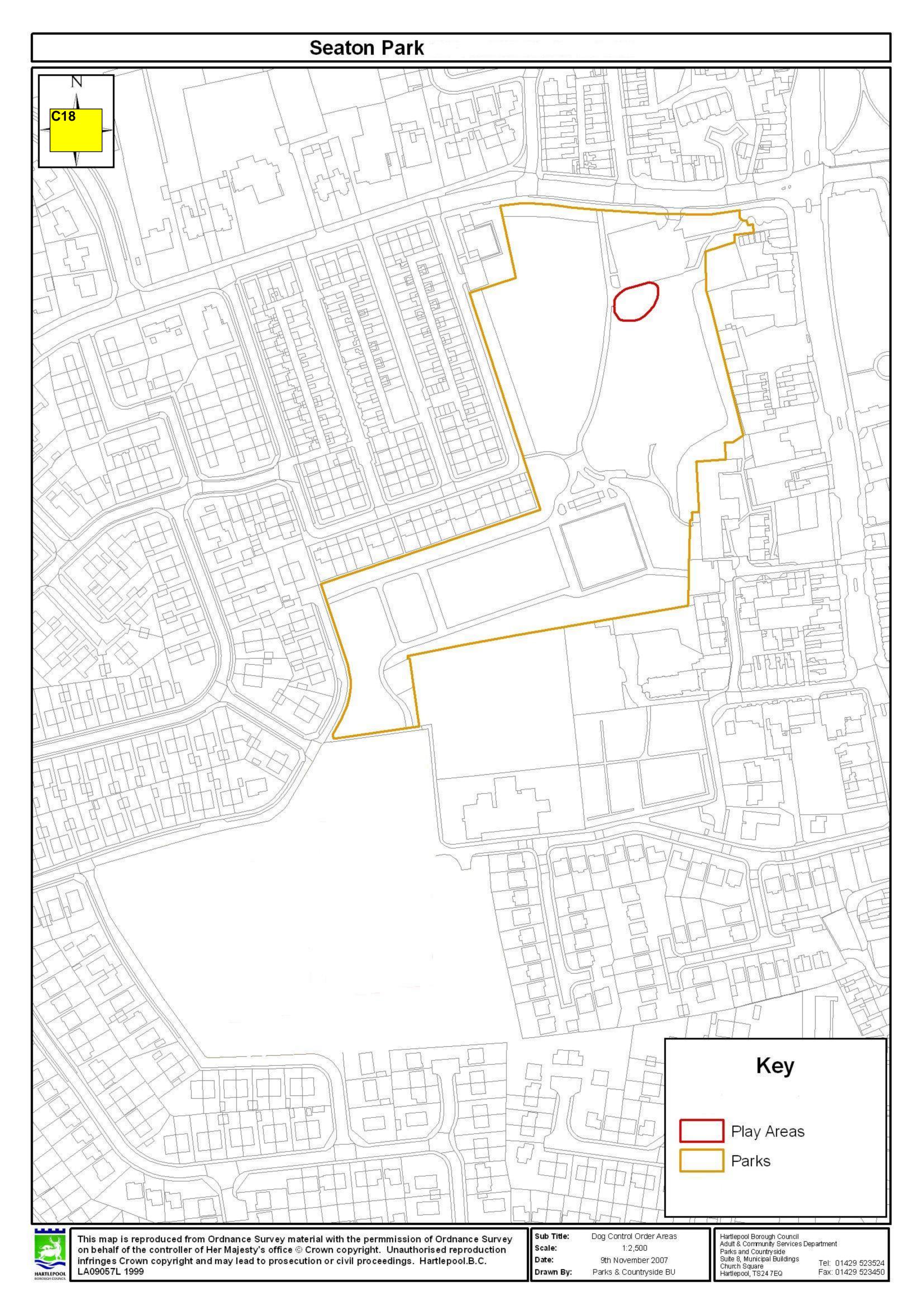
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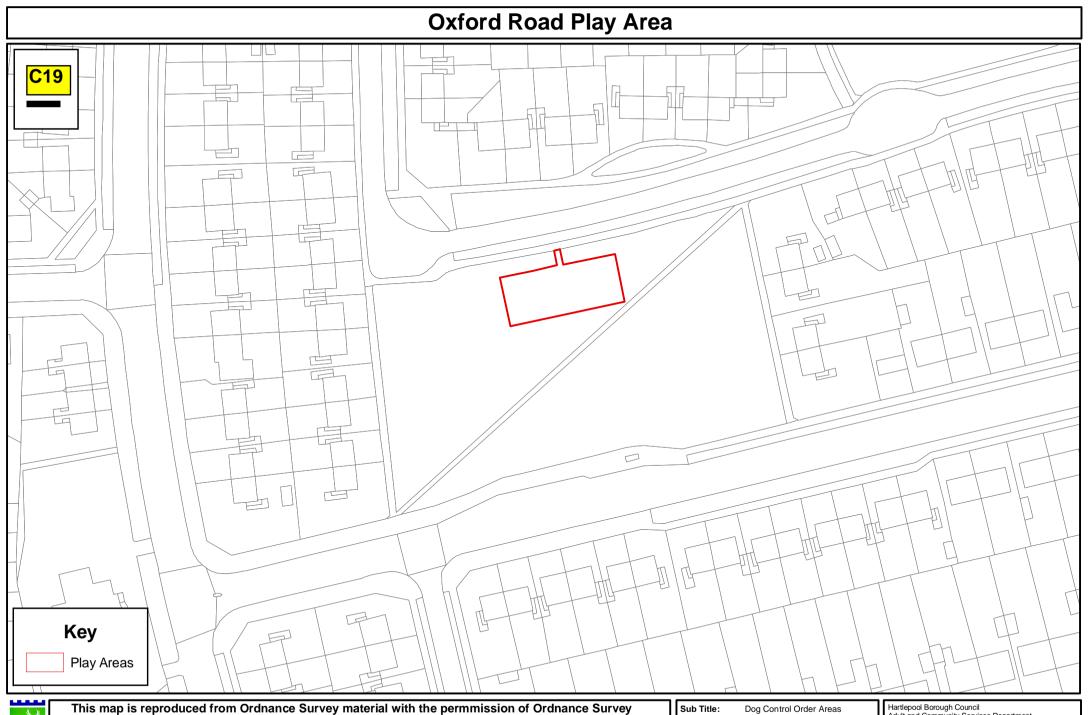
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Grayfields





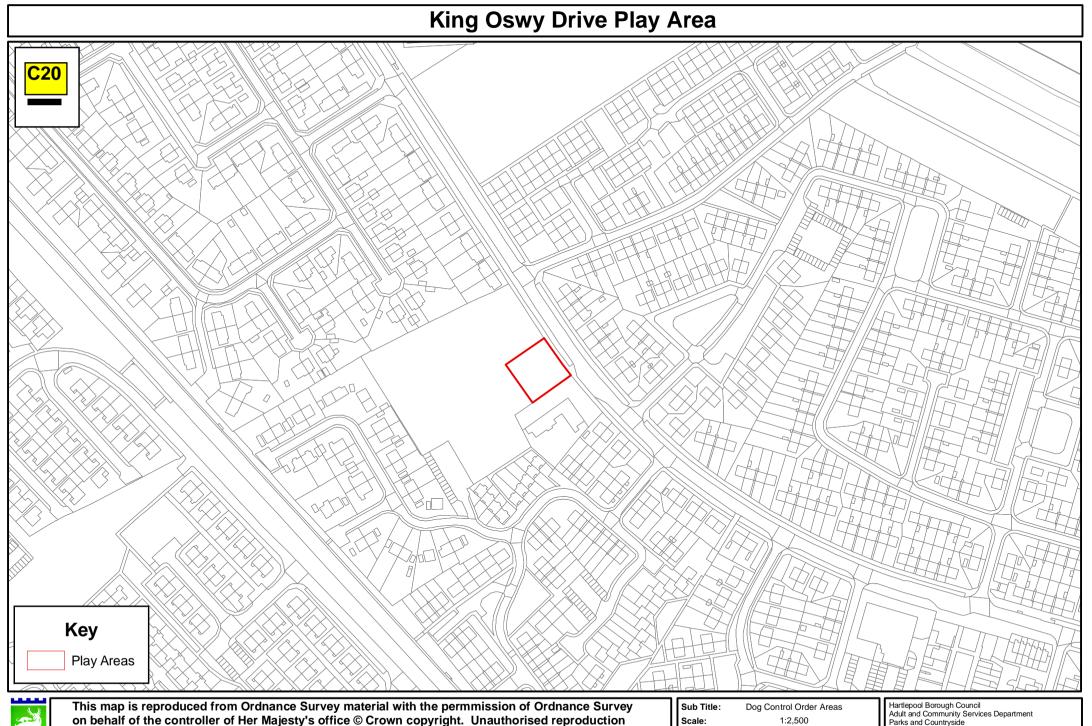




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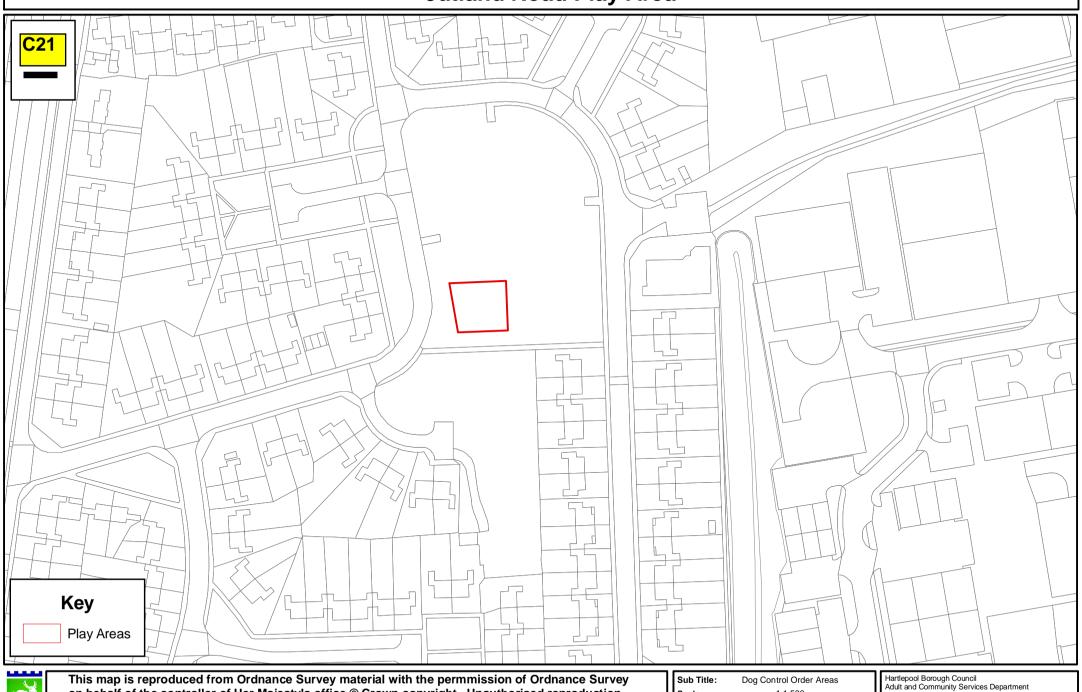
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Greatham Play Area		
Key Play Areas		
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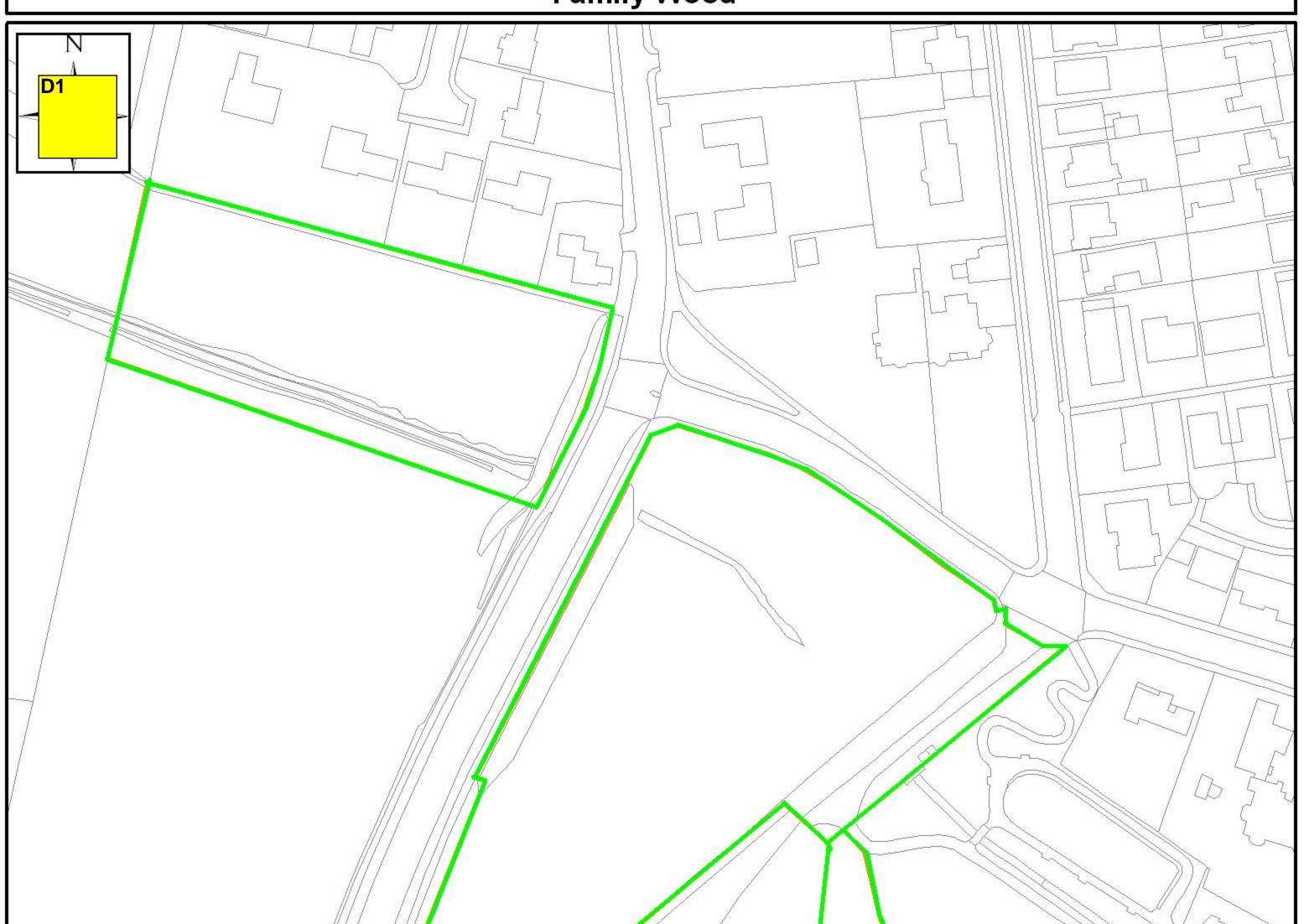
APPENDIX D

The following locations are areas where dogs shall be permitted to exercise freely; however, an Authorised Officer shall retain the power to direct a person to put, and keep a dog on a lead.

- FAMILY WOOD, ELWICK RD (see map D1)
- HART TO HASWELL LNR (see map D2)
- SEATON DUNES & COMMON LNR (see map D3)
- GREATHAM BECK LNR (see map D4)
- SPION COP LNR (see map D5)
- HART WARREN DUNES LNR (see map D6)
- SUMMERHILL VISITOR CENTRE (see map D7)

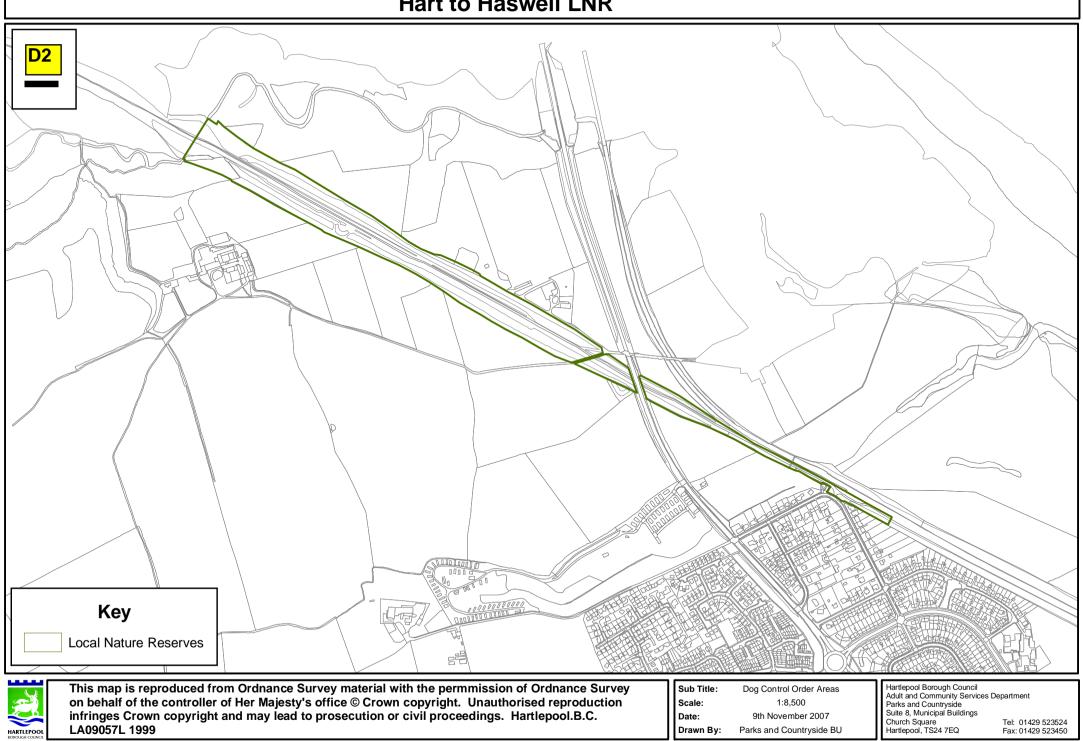
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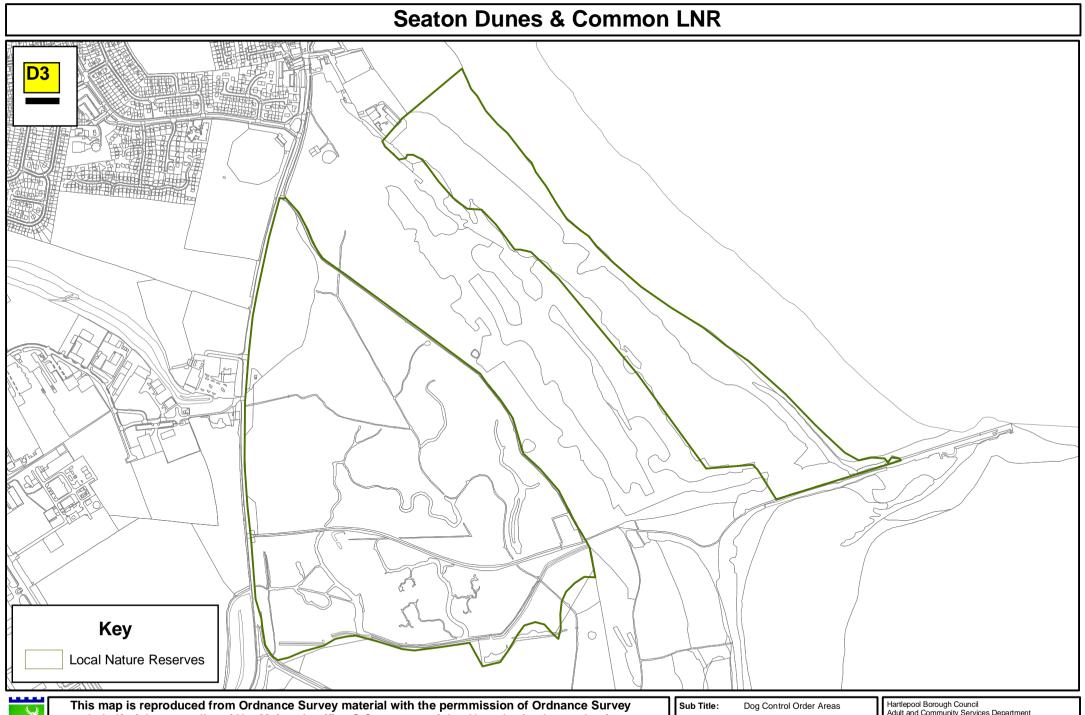
Family Wood



Key Family Wood				
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Hart to Haswell LNR

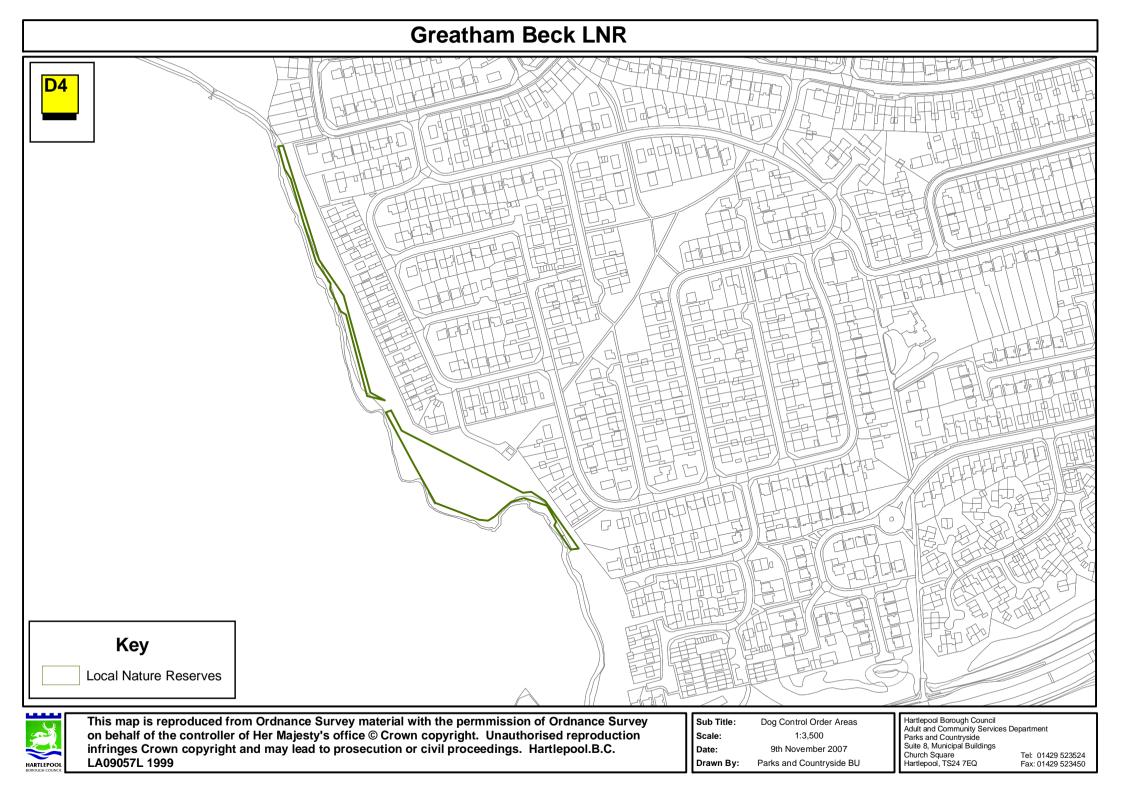




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Spion Kop LNR			
		51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 5	
Local Nature Reserves			
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Hart Warren Dunes LNR			
Key Local Nature Reserves			
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