



Cambridge City Council
Environment and Community Scrutiny
Committee

Date: Thursday, 29 June 2023

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ [access the building via Peashill entrance]

Contact: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk, tel:01223 457000

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes (Pages 3 - 24)
- 4 Public Questions

Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces and City Services

- 5 Review of Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control (Pages 25 - 148)

Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Climate Action and Environment

- 6 Cambridge City Centre Heat Network: Detailed Project Development (Pages 149 - 186)

Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Community Wealth Building and Community Safety

- 7 PSPO (Touting) 2016 (Pages 187 - 214)

Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Communities

- 8 Single Equality Scheme Annual Report 2022/23 (Pages 215 - 264)
- 9 Anti-Poverty Strategy Annual Report 2022/23 (Pages 265 - 284)

Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee Members: Divkovic (Chair), Nestor (Vice-Chair), Glasberg, Hauk, Payne, Pounds, Swift and Wade

Alternates: Flaubert, Griffin, Howard, Levien and Sheil

Executive Councillors: Carling (Executive Councillor for Open Spaces and City Services), Gilderdale (Executive Councillor for Community Wealth Building and Community Safety and Deputy Leader (Statutory)), Healy (Executive Councillor for Communities) and Moore (Executive Councillor for Climate Action and Environment)

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ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 23 March 2023
5.30 - 8.00 pm

Present: Councillors Pounds (Chair), Carling (Vice-Chair), Divkovic, Hauk, Holloway, Howard, Payne and Swift

Executive Councillors: Collis (Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development), Gilderdale (Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety), Healy (Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing) and Moore (Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity)

Officers:

Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities: Jane Wilson

Head of Climate, Environment & Waste: Bode Esan

Head of Environmental Services: Joel Carré

Community Safety Manager: Keryn Jalli

Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces: Alistair Wilson

Waste Projects Officer: Jack Howe

Committee Manager: James Goddard

Meeting Producer: Boris Herzog

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**23/11/EnC Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Copley (Councillor Howard attended as her Alternate) and Sweeney.

23/12/EnC Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Interest
Councillors Carling and Swift	23/15/EnC	Personal: Ward Councillor for West Chesterton. Discretion unfettered for this item.
Councillor Hauk	23/15/EnC	Personal: Ward Councillor for Trumpington. Discretion unfettered for this item.

23/13/EnC Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

23/14/EnC Public Questions

Members of the public asked a number of questions, as set out below.

1. Newnham Croft Resident Association representative raised the following points:
 - i. Had asked for an end to herbicide use in their area for some time so were pleased that the Council agreed to run one of the trials in Newnham.
 - ii. Welcomed the report which showed what had been achieved and thanked officers for the work they put in to make the trials a success.
 - iii. The need for the City to work more closely with the County Highways team had become clear.
 - iv. One of the issues raised in Newnham was the maintenance of solar lighting on the footpaths and cycleways. Those on Lammas Land, the Driftway and across Sheeps Green and Empty Common were very dirty and obscured by leaves and other debris so there were now fewer lights working than were operating.
 - v. This was unsafe, discouraged active travel, and had led to pressure for additional lighting which would be expensive, environmentally harmful and unnecessary if the existing solar lights were kept clean and functioning.
 - vi. It seemed from the report that manual removal was an effective alternative way of dealing with clearing weeds and debris, but it was more expensive. This may be compensated by the reduced cutting/mowing schedule that had now been agreed with the County Highways but will the Council commit to making sure there was sufficient funding for alternative methods to ensure that the solar lights in our parks and open spaces remain clean and functional?

The Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development responded:

- i. The Newnham trial was generally successful.

- ii. City Council actions were now being matched by the County Council. Manual removal of weeds was more effective but required more officer time and money than other measures.
- iii. Shifting priorities meant staff could be redeployed to focus on areas of need.
- iv. Issues with solar lights could be reported online.

The Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces said:

- i. Officers would respond to issues with solar lights reported online.
- ii. There was scope to deploy staff resources where needed depending on priorities.

Supplementary question:

- i. Some people may see unmown verges as 'untidy' and believe Council standards were slipping, so it's important that people understood the rationale for these changes and there was good communication about them
- ii. The report recognised this and proposed ways to address concerns, for example noting that 'ward walkabouts' were conducted in the Arbury and Newnham Wards, where a range of items, concerns and improvements were identified'.
- iii. There was a good ward network here through our Residents' Associations and Friends groups. Could our representatives take part in these and work with the Council and 'On the Verge' so more local people were involved?

The Executive Councillor responded:

- i. Residents were good at letting councillors know about issues. The Executive Councillor was working with the Communications Team about council issues such as the herbicide trial.
- ii. Where residents saw a change in their area, they may not know why so it was important to communicate through the Communications Team.
- iii. Two ward walks had been organised to date. Only Ward Councillors had been invited to participate on these. Residents could give feedback through their Ward Councillors.

2. Pesticide-Free Cambridge raised the following points:
 - i. In relation to the Update on the Herbicide Reduction Plan Report (<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s62188/Update%20on%20the%20Herbicide%20Reduction%20Plan%20report.pdf>), why was there a need for two more trial wards instead of an immediate hard-stop of herbicide use across the city when we have learnt all we need to from last year's two-ward trials in Newnham and Arbury?
 - ii. It would seem that moving from sixteen to six cuts a year in the mowing regime would free up manpower that could be redirected to manual treatment of pavement plants. As Cambridgeshire County Council were moving to three cuts a year, and moreover, have decided on a hard-stop of herbicide use on land that it manages itself, why does the City not do likewise now to save resources that could be redirected to mechanical weeding rather than waiting for a directive from the County to stop using herbicides on its land?

The Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development responded:

- i. The Council had not learnt all they needed to from the trial so it would be extended to two more wards.
- ii. Options had been discussed with Pesticide-Free Cambridge who were aware of plans for the trial and reasons for extension of the scheme.
- iii. The City Council wanted to stop using herbicide in a sustainable way.
- iv. The Executive Councillor was liaising with Councillor Bird who was concerned about slips, trips and falls if access routes were not properly maintained.
- v. There was a need to talk to residents about changes to management of land around their homes.
- vi. The City Council did not want to follow Brighton Council's example and go back on their hard stop commitments.

The Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces said:

- i. Reducing grass cutting to just three times per year may not be sustainable for an urban setting. This may cause more issues if grass cutting was not undertaken.

3. Raised the following points:

- i. Referred to item 9 in the meeting agenda on the work of health partnerships.
- ii. Please could the Executive Councillor or the responsible council officer state what consideration had been given to funding 'Active Bystander Training' similar to that delivered to London NHS (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/london/our-work/equality-and-diversity/active-bystander-training/>).
- iii. If none had been proposed/discussed, requested that consideration was given to funding a pilot programme in Cambridge, perhaps starting with sports clubs and further education colleges, and possibly extending to local community groups and societies that have a core of longer standing members who were familiar with their local neighbourhoods and communities?

The Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing responded:

- i. Starting with our internal training for City Council staff, although we do not commission the company referred to in the question, we do have training that covers similar areas including our EDI Employee Induction programme, which includes videos and scenarios covering workplace discrimination, and actions people could take to deal with and challenge discrimination. Our EDI programme also includes workshops on Trans Awareness, Gypsy Roma Traveller awareness – which include elements of challenging discrimination and reporting concerns. We also facilitate Dignity and Respect workshops for teams – which challenges negative behaviours and encourages people to report their concerns. Also anti-racism training.
- ii. In addition, we run sessions on domestic violence, and a programme of facilitated and e-learning Safeguarding courses.
- iii. This was an area which the Council takes very seriously and all of the above build awareness and encourage colleagues to challenge or report negative behaviours, discrimination and or safeguarding concerns. In addition to our internal training we also support wider programmes, for example:
 - a. As part of our community safety work We support awareness raising of the Cambridgeshire kNOw violence campaign, which

includes how to be an active bystander [How Can I help someone in need? | Know Violence](#)

- b. We fund infrastructure organisations including Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service, and they run training programmes based on the needs of our local community organisations. Cambridge CVS had run bystander training previously and was looking at options to do so again.
- iv. Turning now to the NHS, it was important to recognise that the individual organisations within the Integrated Care System continue to be employers in their own right. We could and would raise the principle of active bystanders with our NHS colleagues, however it was not the role of the City Council to determine specific elements of their workforce training.
- v. Possible addition: As we continue to build our approach to partnership working, training was one of the areas where collaboration could be very effective. However, it should be noted that this would need to be developed collaboratively, and go through the right commissioning and procurement processes, which would not necessarily lead to the use of any specific training provider.

Supplementary question:

- i. Had attended the Cambridge Ahead launch of the Vision of Cambridge for young adults.
- ii. Was this how young adults could be incorporated (encouraged to participate) into the culture of the city? Could councillors liaise with the community rather than rely on other organisations to do so?

The Executive Councillor supported younger peoples' participation in the community.

23/15/EnC Update on the Herbicide Reduction Plan

Matter for Decision

On 27 January 2022 the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food & Community Wellbeing (after scrutiny) approved a Herbicide Reduction Plan (HRP), which included Newnham and Arbury as the two herbicide free wards and the introduction of up to 12 herbicide free streets.

The Council's declaration of a Biodiversity Emergency (18th July 2019) included a commitment to reducing and removing the need to use herbicides on highway verges, roads, and pavements, and to find viable and effective alternatives, and this was reflected in the development and application of the HRP.

The Council's passing of a Herbicide Motion (ref. 21/32/CN1c - 22nd July 2021) included a commitment to undertake a range of tasks and actions to reduce the reliance on herbicide, as a means of managing unwanted vegetation on public property asset within the city.

The Officer's report gave updates on the work completed on the HRP to date, including an evaluation of the two herbicide free wards and the herbicide free street scheme; and made recommendations on the further reduction in the use of herbicides in the city's public realm.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice & Community Development

- i. Approved the expansion of the Herbicide Reduction Plan to include two additional herbicide free wards for 2023 - West Chesterton and Trumpington, (and continuation with Newnham and Arbury herbicide free wards from 2022).
- ii. Approved the continuation and further development of the 'Happy Bee Street Scheme'.
- iii. Noted the decision of the County Council on their use of herbicides in the city and to assist them with their new approach (paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4 of the Officer's report).
- iv. Noted the decision of the County Council to change the grass cutting specifications in the city (paragraphs 3.5 to 3.7 of the Officer's report).
- v. Supported the development of a collaborative communication plan as detailed in Section 5 of the Officer's report.

Reason for the Decision

As set out in the Officer's report.

Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

Scrutiny Considerations

The Committee received a report from the Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces.

The Development Manager said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. Complaints referred to the:
 - a. Early stage of the trial where herbicide was applied by a third party who was unaware of the herbicide free trial.
 - b. Appearance of the area when people were unaware the trial was underway and thought the area was untidy.
- ii. The scheme showed how much potential the Happy Bee scheme had for the Council. There was interest in more streets joining the scheme. The Council would provide appropriate personal protective equipment to participants.
- iii. There was a risk of accessibility around the city as wet vegetation could block/overhang pavements in open spaces causing hazards. Weeds in gutters were another issue as channels needed to be kept clear. The City Council was working with the County Council to keep channels clear.
- iv. A Working Group had looked at rolling out the herbicide free trial across all wards, but selected just two, due to conditions such as road surfaces. The trial was limited to two wards to avoid negative impact around peoples' homes eg perception of lack of maintenance which may lead to fly tipping.
- v. Referred to Appendices A and B in the Officer's report for details of actions taken and their effectiveness.
- vi. The trial would determine how to proceed in other areas. Some DEFRA guidance was expected in 2024.

The Committee resolved by 6 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions to endorse the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

23/16/EnC Litter Strategy

Matter for Decision

The Officer's report made recommendations on the approval and adoption of a Litter Strategy for Cambridge City (set out in detail at Appendix A of the Officer's report).

The Strategy was recommended for approval and adoption following extensive research and stakeholder engagement, including a public survey, focus group and series of officer task and finish groups.

The Strategy reflected public consultation results and identified areas for strategic action that included:

- i. Effective litter disposal infrastructure provision.
- ii. Awareness raising and education.
- iii. Enforcement.
- iv. Collaboration and partnership working.
- v. Civic pride and social responsibility.

The Strategy was intended to support positive change in behaviours, make it easy to dispose of litter, continue with enforcement activity, when it is proportionate and reasonable to do so, maximise the productivity of streets and open spaces waste management service and minimise the volume of litter.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

- i. Approved the adoption and use of the proposed 'Litter Strategy for Cambridge' (ref. Appendix A of the Officer's report).
- ii. Instructed Officers to format the Strategy for publication and to prepare a Communication Plan to support its adoption and implementation.

Reason for the Decision

As set out in the Officer's report.

Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

Scrutiny Considerations

The Committee received a report from the Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces.

The Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. Officers were undertaking a number of initiatives. Examples:
 - a. Working with the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign.
 - b. Different bins were provided for general waste and recycling.
 - c. Providing labels on bins listing how to dispose of waste responsibly.
 - d. Checking bins were in appropriate locations ie where people would use them instead of fly tipping.
- ii. No particular enforcement action was required regarding litter at present. CCTV could be used to catch culprits if required.
- iii. Litter was not always recyclable but the aim to do so could be included in Litter Strategy Policy LS2.
- iv. The Development Manager was working with the Waste Team on recycling policies to separate waste received into different streams (for reuse/sale) even if depositors did not. General waste and recycling bins were located together in tandem, but people usually put rubbish in the closest bin regardless of whether it was the most appropriate.
- v. Noted that Central Government proposed six different collection types in future. This would feed into the Litter Strategy.

The Executive Councillor said the City Council:

- i. Collected bins but recycling was undertaken by the County Council. If the Recycling Policy changed in future eg separating glass from paper, more bins may need to be provided and collected.
- ii. Was engaging partners such as RECAPP about the Central Government Waste and Resources Strategy. The City Council wanted to implement a deposit return scheme but not all partners wanted to. The Central Government Strategy would impact on the City Council Litter Strategy and Waste Strategy.

Councillors requested a change to the report text (recommendations unaffected). Councillor Howard proposed to add the following text to those in the Officer's report:

Litter Strategy (page 53) Policy LS2

To continue to build a knowledge base and understanding around litter and sources of litter to inform, direct, and drive all service activity and maximise our effectiveness.

We will:

- Continue our work with Greater Cambridge Shared Waste service to examine the causes of littering, including fly tipping, and so help us find solutions to deal with problems at source.
- Create campaigns and encourage businesses to design their products and packaging in ways which will reduce public waste, including **reuse before recycling** ~~recyclable~~ by default and stating clear methods of disposal.
- Ensure and support more recycling with media campaigns.
- Work with partners in the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning service to design bin infrastructure on new development sites.

The Committee unanimously approved this amendment.

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

23/17/EnC Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service Collection Changes

Matter for Decision

Greater Cambridge Shared waste service was responsible for collecting domestic waste from 127,000 households and Commercial waste from 4,000 businesses across Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire.

Due to the extensive amount of growth across both Districts, collection rounds had expanded at a significant rate since they were last reviewed in 2017, resulting in the need for review and optimisation now. The service was conducting a routine routes optimisation exercise due for completion in Summer 2023 to address this issue.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Noted the Shared Waste Service was working on a route optimisation exercise that would result in collection day changes for residents during the Summer. Until the first phase of the exercise was complete the level of impact on residents was unknown, but It was anticipated there may be a period of

disruption to services whilst new rounds settled down and collection crews got to grips with changes.

Reason for the Decision

As set out in the Officer's report.

Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

Scrutiny Considerations

The Committee received a report from the Head of Climate, Environment & Waste.

The Head of Climate, Environment & Waste said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. No details were available on how the four day working week would affect the service. A report would be brought back in future to a Cambridge City Council Committee. (Post meeting note: The report is expected to be presented to the Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee meeting on 3 July 2023).
- ii. In order to recycle clothing and encourage people to do so:
 - a. Various recycling banks were available across the South Cambs and Cambridge City areas.
 - b. Repair shops could allow people to swap dirty clothes (eg paint stained ones) for clean clothes, or provide a cleaning service.

The Executive Councillor:

- i. Acknowledged that clothing and textile recycling could be an issue.
- ii. Two things were required to undertake recycling:
 - a. Collection points.
 - b. Someone who wanted to recycle paper, plastic, clothing etc.
- iii. Encouraged people to donate usable clothing to charity shops.
- iv. Non-wearable clothing should not go in blue bins, and preferably not to landfill. Suggestions on how to recycle it were welcome. People were cautious about accepting stained clothing for recycling.
- v. More could be done to promoted recycling facilities. Noted the suggestion to promote clothing recycling campaigns through RECAPP (organisation).

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendation.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendation.

Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

23/18/EnC Review of Alcohol Public Spaces Protection Order 2015

Matter for Decision

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“2014 Act”) gave local authorities the power to make Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs).

The Cambridge City Council Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green and the front garden at Ditchburn Place, Cambridge Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 was due to lapse on 31st May 2023. This PSPO prohibited consuming alcohol or having an open container of alcohol in possession within the areas shown shaded red on the Order (see Appendix A-C of the Officer’s report). At the time the PSPO was introduced, these areas were the focus of complaints for anti-social drinking of alcohol.

Before the orders lapse, Cambridge City Council must decide to either: a) extend the period of the order for up to three years, b) vary the order or c) discharge the order.

As per legislation this decision should be informed by consultation with:

- i. The Police and Crime Commissioner,
- ii. Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the local policing body),
- iii. Relevant community representatives,
- iv. Ward Councillors, and
- v. The owner/occupier of land the PSPO covers.

In addition to these groups, the Council sought the views of local people via the Council’s Citizen Lab consultation platform. 61 people completed the consultation. The consultation questions could be found in Appendix D of the Officer’s report.

The Council also collaborated with the University of Cambridge whose Geography students completed 300 in-person surveys with the public on ASB and public spaces.

The evidence and consultation results have been used to inform consideration about whether to a) renew the PSPO; b) vary it; or c) discharge it and adopt a

new approach to addressing alcohol related ASB. The report highlighted why options a) and b) were not recommended and how option c) is proposed to be implemented, as summarised in 3.18 of the Officer's report.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety

Discharged the PSPO and adopted a new approach to addressing alcohol related ASB.

The new approach would involve:

- i. A proactive and preventative council presence on the current PSPO sites through weekly patrols.
- ii. Better engagement and education with street drinkers, support services and local interest groups.
- iii. A greater ability to gather intelligence on alcohol related ASB, which will be used as evidence for enforcement action, such as Criminal Behaviour Orders.

Discharge was recommended on the grounds of:

- iv. A significant reduction in reports of anti-social drinking of alcohol on the sites covered by the PSPO. In 2022, the police and council received only 2 reports each.
- v. Low frequency of incidents identified in the consultation. 36 consultation respondents had witnessed anti-social drinking in the past 12 months. Of these who had witnessed anti-social drinking, almost half witnessed this 10 times or less (an average of less than once per month).
- vi. 65% (194 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge's in person surveys did not list alcohol as a core problem facing public spaces in Cambridge.
- vii. 80% of consultation respondents (49 people) supported the Council and Police managing anti-social drinking of alcohol as outlined in 2.1 – 2.3 of the Officer's report.

Reason for the Decision

As set out in the Officer's report.

Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

Scrutiny Considerations

The Committee received a report from the Community Safety Manager.

The Committee made the following comments in response to the report:

- i. Welcomed a joined up approach with partners to address street drinking, not just a punitive approach.
- ii. Queried work the Street Life Officer had undertaken.

The Community Safety Manager said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. The Street Life Officer engaged with street drinkers, and they supported proposals in the Officer's report.
- ii. Officers regularly engaged with the street life community and their support services such as Jimmy's (shelter).

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendation.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

23/19/EnC Update on the Work of Health Partnerships**Matter for Decision**

The Officer's report provided an update on the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Cambridge Community Safety as a part of the Council's commitment given in its "Principles of Partnership Working".

Decision of Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety

Agreed to continue to work with partners within the framework of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership, identifying local priorities and taking action to make a positive difference to the safety of communities in the city.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing

Agreed to continue to work with the Health and Wellbeing Board, and engage with the Integrated Care, and its sub-system to ensure that public agencies and others came together to address the strategic issues affecting Cambridge City and that the concerns of Cambridge citizens are heard, as the system developed.

Reason for the Decision

As set out in the Officer's report.

Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

Scrutiny Considerations

The Committee received a report from the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities on behalf of the Strategy Officer.

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. Clinical factors only affected twenty percent of people's health. This (partnership working) was an opportunity to work on the social determinants of health such as housing.
- ii. Joining up with colleagues has led to funding for heating and health, community group engagement, joined up working with partner organisations to improve peoples' health.
- iii. Officers were looking to expand on this in future to develop a Health Equality Partnership. Historically there had not been an opportunity to join up to provide an integrated care system.
- iv. How health provision fitted into the planning process was one part of how the Health Equality Partnership/Strategy aligned with other strategies and city population growth.

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm

CHAIR

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ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 25 May 2023
4.49 - 4.49 pm

Present: Councillors Nestor (Vice-Chair), Glasberg, Hauk, Pounds, Swift and Wade

Executive Councillors: Carling (Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development), Healy (Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-poverty and Wellbeing) and Moore (Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity)

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

23/20/EnC Appointment to Outside Bodies

The Scrutiny Committee recommended appointments to the Executive Councillors.

The Executive Councillors agreed the appointments.

The Junction (Observer Status)

1 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat

Councillors – Griffin, Lee

Cambridge BID

1 Labour

Councillor - Gilderdale

Adults and Health Committee

1 Member, 1 Alternate member

Councillor - Healy

Alternate Councillor - TBC

Cambridge Community Safety Partnership

1 Labour, 1 Alternate

Councillors - Gilderdale

Alternate Councillor - McPherson

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel

1 Labour, 1 Labour Alternate

Councillors – Thittala Varkey

Alternate Councillor – Gilderdale

Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors

1 Labour

Councillor - Healy

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Military Covenant Board

1 Labour

Councillor – Davey

Clay Farm Advisory Group

1 Labour, 1 Lib Dem

Councillors – Divkovic, Levien

Storey's Field Community Trust

2 Labour, 1 Lib Dem

Councillors – Nestor, S.Smith, Nethsingha

Recycling in Cambridge and Peterborough (RECAP)

1 Labour

Councillor – Moore

Cambridge Airport Consultative Committee

1 Member

Councillor – Robertson

23/21/EnC Appointment to Working Party

The Scrutiny Committee agreed the nominations below:

Equalities Panel

3 Labour, 2 Liberal Democrat

Councillors – Smart, Thittala Varkey, Healy, Porrer, Flaubert
Alternate Councillor - Payne

The meeting ended at 4.49 pm

CHAIR

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Item

Extension and variation of

Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2017

To:

Councillor Sam Carling, Executive Councillor for Open Spaces and City Services

Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee 29/06/2023

Report by:

Wendy Johnston, Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager

Tel: 01223 - 458787 Email: wendy.johnston@cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

All

Not a Key Decision

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report considers the results of the statutory consultation exercise conducted by the council, during February and March 2023, in relation to the proposal to extend and vary the Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2017 (“Order”), in respect of irresponsible dog control (including dog fouling, dog exclusion, dogs on leads seasonal requirements, means to pick up dog faeces, restriction on maximum number of dogs able to be walked and dogs on leads in designated areas) within Cambridge.
- 1.2 The council received 736 responses to the consultation survey (735 via Citizen Lab and one paper copy), during February and March 2023. Several written responses were also received. The council has considered all of the responses and reviewed the proposal again against PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) evidential ‘tests’ and based on the results, is recommending the variation and extension of the current Order, as set out in Appendix A, for a further three-year period, ending October 2026.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

1. Approve the extension and variations of the Order as set out in Appendix A.
2. Approve the geographical areas covered by the Order, as indicated in the maps at Appendix B.
3. Delegate to authorised officers' the authority to install, update and/or remove signage appropriate to the approved Order; and
4. Increase the fixed penalty notice amount for breach of the Order to £100 (with a reduced amount of £60 for early payment).

3. Background

- 3.1. This report revisits the terms of the current Order, reviews its impact and considers the case for varying and extending it for a further three years, as permitted by the Act following completion of the statutory consultation.
- 3.2. The council reviewed the areas of dog control and created a Public Space Protection Order for dog control ("the Order"). The Executive Councillor approved the initial Order, which came into effect on 19 October 2017; and was subsequently approved for variation and extension on 19 October 2020.
- 3.3. The dog control activities currently prohibited by the Order are:
 - Failing to remove dog faeces immediately.
 - Not keeping a dog on a lead in a designated area.
 - Not putting, and keeping, a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer.
 - Permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded; and
 - Taking more than the stated maximum number of dogs onto land where restrictions are in place.
- 3.4. The Order was not put forward as a means of unduly restricting the exercising or recreation of dogs across the city. The reason for making the Order was to address the detrimental effect on the quality of life of

those in the locality caused by the irresponsible behaviour of a small minority of dog owners; and to set out a clear standard of behaviour to which all dog owners were required to adhere.

3.5. At any point before expiry of the Order, the council can extend it by up to three years, if it considers an extension is necessary to prevent the original behaviour (for which it was introduced) from occurring or recurring. According to section 60(2) of the Act, before the time when a PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) is due to expire, the local authority that made the PSPO may extend the period for which it has effect if satisfied on reasonable grounds that doing so is necessary to prevent:

1. Occurrence or recurrence after that time of the activities identified in the Order, or
2. An increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

3.6. Section 61 of the Act makes provision for the Order to be varied by increasing or reducing the affected area; or by altering or removing a prohibition or requirement included in the Order; or by adding a new one. For an Order to be able to be varied, the council must be satisfied that, on reasonable grounds, the following two conditions are met. The first condition is that:

- a. Activities carried on in a public place within the council's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality; or,
- b. It is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

The second condition is that the effect or likely effect, of the activities:

- a. Is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature.
- b. Is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable; and,
- c. Justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

Any such variations will need to be subject to public consultation as set out in section 5.

- 3.7. The only prohibitions, or requirements, which may be imposed by a PSPO are ones that are reasonable to impose, to prevent or reduce the risk of the detrimental effect continuing, occurring, or recurring.
- 3.8. PSPO prohibitions can apply to all persons, or only to persons in specified categories, or to all persons except those in specified categories. The Order can specify the times at which it applies and the circumstances in which it applies or does not apply.

Breach of Order and fixed penalty notices

- 3.9. Breach of a PSPO, without reasonable excuse, is a criminal offence. The Police, or a person authorised by the council, can issue an FPN (fixed penalty notice). A person can also be prosecuted for breach of a PSPO and, on conviction; the Magistrates' Court can impose a fine not exceeding Level 3 on the Standard Scale (currently £1000). Alternatively, the opportunity to pay a fixed penalty (currently set at £75 for breaches of the Order) is offered by the council in place of prosecution. An FPN is an 'on the spot' fine for committing criminal offences, such as breach of the Order. Payment of a FPN means that no further action will be taken for that offence, it does not constitute an admission of guilt by the offender, but it does mean that such cases are diverted away from the Magistrates Court, thereby avoiding the risk of the offender receiving a larger penalty fine of up to £1000 and a criminal record.
- 3.10. To ensure consistency with all other FPNs currently issued by the council, officers are recommending that the FPN for breaches of the Order is increased from £75 to the maximum legal level of £100, and to give a discount of 40% (i.e., discounted fine value) of £60 for early repayment provided payment is made within 10 days of the date the FPN was issued.
- 3.11. There is a set legal standard payment period of 14 days for the payment of fixed penalties. Once an FPN has been issued, an authority cannot prosecute for the alleged offence if the fixed penalty is paid within this period, and this must be stated on the notice itself. For this reason, the period during which a discount for early payment is offered must be less than 14 days and in line with the Regulations cannot be more than 10 days. Again, this will be consistent with the standards set by other local authorities and the approach already in place for other environmental crime fixed penalty notices.

- 3.12. The council will continue not to accept payment by instalments or payment plans. Payment for FPNs can only be accepted by the council for the full amount. However, in cases of financial difficulties, officers will continue to have discretion to be able to extend the lower threshold payment period (subject to legal restrictions) and will work together with those issued fixed penalties to avoid prosecution where possible.
- 3.13. In accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the council will only use the income received from FPN's on council functions relating to litter, dog fouling and cleansing.
- 3.14. The intention is that the increased level of FPN will function as a deterrent to offenders; and that the council will see a decrease in the number of environmental crime incidents and the number of prosecutions for these offences.
- 3.15. FPN's are an effective and visible way of dealing with low level environmental crime and will be supported by the public, provided they are used sensibly, enforced fairly, and are seen as a reasonable response to genuine problems.
- 3.16. The council has already approved the use of FPNs as an alternative to prosecutions when dealing with other environmental crimes including littering, illegal advertising, and abandoned vehicles. These FPNs are issued by authorised council officers. The same authorised officers will continue to be responsible for issuing FPNs for offences related to dog control offences as part of the Order in accordance with the council's Corporate Enforcement Policy.
- 3.17. FPNs are not appropriate for repeat offenders or those responsible for large-scale environmental offences, for those who are non-compliant or those who do not wish to be issued an FPN. These types of offences will continue to be enforced by prosecution in line with the Corporate Enforcement Policy.

3.18. Fixed penalty notice figures for dog control offences¹ between 2017-2023 are detailed below:

Year	Dog fouling	Dogs on leads areas	Dog exclusion area
2017/18	0	0	0
2018/19	7	2	0
2019/20	7	2	0
2020/21	3	0	0
2021/22	3	1	1
2022/23	0	0	0

3.19. Previously there was no requirement for anyone committing an offence to provide their name and address if requested to do so by an authorised officer. Legislation for other environmental offences such as littering makes it an offence to fail to provide details to an authorised officer when the officer proposes to issue a fixed penalty notice. Therefore, a section requiring suspects to provide their name and address when they have breached the requirements has been added to the Order.

Proposed Order extension and variation

3.20. On 19 January 2023, the Executive Councillor approved, in principle, the proposal to vary and extend the current Order (ending October 2023) in respect of dog control within Cambridge for a further three-year period. Authorisation was given for the necessary statutory consultation to be conducted, prior to any decision being made on whether, or not, to vary and extend the Order.

3.21. A consultation was conducted, which included the necessary steps required by statute. The proposals set forward for consultation were open as to what the consultation responses might be and the need to make any resulting alterations.

3.22. In pursuing the Order, the council was required to consult with the Chief Officer of Police, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), the local policing body and whatever community representatives the council thought appropriate to consult. The council was also required to consult with the owner or occupier of land within the restricted area.

¹ No fixed penalty notices were not issued for dogs on leads by direction and maximum number of dogs

3.23. It was recognised that the proposed order could be of interest to many sections of the community, including the public and residents' groups. Accordingly, the council consulted widely, as evidenced by the list of consultees in the background papers. The consultation methodology used is set out in Section 5 of this report.

4. Consultation responses

4.1. In response to the consultation, a total of 736 responses were received via CitizenLab and paper surveys, over half (58%) were dog owners and a small proportion were professional dog walkers (1.2%).

4.2. Several emails were received and were included within the analysis of the consultation responses.

4.3. Responses from statutory consultees were received from the Cambridgeshire Police. Despite communications sent to PCC and Cambridgeshire County Council, no responses were received. A copy of the response from the Cambridgeshire Police is included as Appendix E

4.4. A response was also received from the Kennel Club which is included as Appendix F. No other organisational responses were received.

4.5. This section sets out the Order proposals and, for each, includes a summary of the related consultation responses and any proposed alterations.

4.6. Many of the comments received identified that restricting the right for a dog to exercise off lead would have an impact on the welfare of dogs. There is a legal requirement for dogs to be provided '5 Freedoms' under the Animal Welfare Act 2006. "Dogs must be provided regular exercise and regular opportunities to walk, run, explore, play, sniff and investigate."

4.7. There is no legal requirement for dogs to be off the lead to undertake required exercise and the amount of exercise a dog needs will depend on age, breed, and behaviour of dogs. Dogs can be exercised off lead on all council open spaces (where they are able to be recalled) except where there are restrictions in place because of the Order.

4.8. There are many areas outside of the city that can be accessed via footpaths, cycleways and by car. There are also several private dog

walking areas / fields for hire that can be accessed just outside of Cambridge.

Dog fouling

- 4.9. The Order proposal is to continue the requirement that on land, open to the air, to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment) across Cambridge, that if a dog defecates, at any time, the person who is in charge of the dog, at the time, must clear up the dog faeces immediately.
- 4.10. Responses to the consultation indicated very high support for this requirement to continue (90% strongly agreed, and 7% agreed) and officers recommend that this part of the Order is retained and extended.

Dogs on leads by direction

- 4.11. The Order proposal is to continue with the requirement that on land, open to the air, to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment) across Cambridge, a person in charge of a dog must comply with a direction given to them by an authorised officer to put and keep the dog on a lead. Situations when dogs appear to be 'out of control' include, but are not limited to the following:
- Where animals, or birds, or wildlife, are, or could be, threatened.
 - Where the public, particularly children or vulnerable adults, are at threat, or feel threatened.
 - Where dogs are posing a risk to the safety of pedestrians and/or cyclists and/or motorists.
 - Where dogs are causing damage to public property, including trees and plants; and
 - In case of emergency situations.
- 4.12. Eighty-five percent of respondents agreed (70.9% strongly agreed and 14.1% agreed) that authorised officers should continue to have the ability to use the power in given situations and officers recommend that this part of the Order is retained and extended.

Dogs on leads at all times

- 4.13. The Order proposal is to retain dogs on leads at all times for some open play areas and cemeteries. Land subject to the proposed Order will

continue to have signs using the words “dogs on leads area;” or words, and/ or symbols, having a similar meaning displayed.

- 4.14. Under the proposed Order, existing restrictions at the following locations are proposed to be retained:
- Histon Road Cemetery
 - Newmarket Road Cemetery
 - Cherry Hinton Hall – areas by the pond/stream
 - Hanover and Princess Court – the green area outside the residential area
 - Tenby Close – whole of the park
- 4.15. From the consultation, 64% of respondents agreed with the requirements to always keep dogs on leads in the above areas.
- 4.16. **Officers are aware that there are ongoing development plans for Hanover and Princess Court and would recommend that the dogs on leads restriction only applies to the Hanover and Princess Court as it currently exists. Following redevelopment, the current restriction should cease to apply.** Any new green spaces would need to be subject to the next review of the Order in 2026.
- 4.17. Officers therefore recommend that the existing dogs on lead areas are retained and extended.
- 4.18. Under the proposed Order, a new dog on leads area was proposed at Coldham’s Common sports pitches.
- 4.19. There was no clear consensus with the proposal, whereby 47% agreed or strongly agreed, 41% strongly disagreed or disagreed and 12% neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposal. Comments were made around the fact that sports pitches are not in constant use and suggested the restriction should only apply when the sports pitches are in use. Other comments were received that dogs on leads on the sports pitches would help to reduce the amount of faeces that those playing sports might encounter.
- 4.20. The Kennel Club response makes specific reference to Coldham’s Common sports pitches and concern that dog walkers’ ability to exercise their dogs would be impacted and they would be forced to identify locations outside of the city to exercise their dogs, and that they could be

displaced onto areas with livestock (i.e., grazing areas of Coldham's Common).'

- 4.21. Having considered the consultation comments, and the current situation where it is not easy to identify when an organised² sports pitch use is in place, **officers recommend that the Order proposal to create a dog on lead area on Coldham's Common sports pitches is not introduced at the current time.** Instead, officers will undertake ongoing monitoring that will be revisited at the next review of the Order in 2026.

Dogs on leads (seasonal restrictions)

- 4.22. The Order proposal is to introduce seasonal dogs on leads restrictions in sensitive areas. Dogs off leads have the potential to significantly disturb nesting birds, as depending on the habitat type, many species nest at ground level or low down in vegetation. Repeated disturbance by dogs can reduce the number and diversity of species able to use the site to breed. Officers had proposed that dogs would be on leads during the bird nesting season (1st March to 31st July) each year, at all other times dogs would not be required to be on lead and could be exercised off lead subject to being under control.

- 4.23. Under the proposed Order, the new restrictions would be located at:

Local Nature Reserves - whole site:

- Bramblefields
- Paradise
- Barnwell East
- Barnwell West
- West Pit
- Limekiln

Local Nature Reserves – part of site:

- Logan's Meadow Local Nature Reserve (existing wet woodland and river frontage south of cycle bridge)

Other sites:

- Mill Road Cemetery
- Hobson's Park

² Organised use refers when organisations, groups and clubs have made a booking with the council vs an informal ad hoc gathering

4.24. The number of respondents agreeing with the restriction was not particularly high. The results on the survey for the above areas are shown below:

Areas	Strongly Agree or Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Strongly Disagree or Disagree
Local Nature Reserves (whole site)	54%	15%	31%
Logan's Meadow	49%	15%	36%
Mill Road Cemetery	54%	13%	33%
Hobson's Park	48%	16%	36%

4.25. Comments received included respondents not having seen any ground nesting birds or evidence to support the proposal. Comments were also made in support of the proposals but that they should apply all year long and dogs had been witnessed to have disturb birds at some of the sites. Respondents also provided comments that only the minority of dog owners behave irresponsibly, and the restrictions penalise responsible dog owners.

4.26. In considering whether to keep the proposal for the seasonal dogs on leads restrictions at the local nature reserves officers also sought advice from the Biodiversity and Local Nature Reserves Officers. The officers recommended that the seasonal dogs on leads restrictions should be made (except for Hobson's Park).

4.27. The referenced ground nesting birds include species of open grassland habitats such as Skylark and Meadow Pipit, and those nesting in low herbaceous cover, scrub, and woodland habitat such as Whitethroat, Blackcap, Chiffchaff and Robin. Some respondents to the consultation commented that they had not seen ground nesting birds or requested evidence of nesting bird surveys. However, the long history of uncontrolled dog walking on the sites is certain to have reduced nesting bird numbers and therefore any baseline surveys would give an inaccurate assessment of the bird populations. The council's Biodiversity Strategy seeks to enhance the habitats and species biodiversity of its core sites within the Cambridge Nature Network, including the Local Nature Reserves. The proposed seasonal orders allow people, including

those walking their dogs, to enjoy the LNRs and the birds they support during the nesting season.

- 4.28. Having considered the consultation comments, the officer recommendation is **to support the Order proposal for dogs on leads seasonal restrictions on all the proposed areas, except for Hobson's Park**. Hobson's Park is currently subject to the South Station construction compound and space that was previously available at the park to all users has been temporarily lost, reducing what area is available for dogs to be exercised. Therefore, officers are not recommending that any restrictions on seasonal dogs on leads are introduced at the current time. Instead, officers will undertake ongoing monitoring on dog use / control in the park that can be revisited at the next review of the Order in 2026.

Dog exclusion areas

- 4.29. The Order proposal is to retain dog exclusion areas for fenced children's play areas, outdoor children's paddling pools, tennis courts, some green spaces and bowling greens. Land subject to this order will continue to have signs using the words "dog exclusion area" or words and/ or symbols having a similar meaning displayed.
- 4.30. Under the proposed Order, existing restrictions at the following locations are proposed to be retained:

Bowling greens:

- Alexandra Gardens
- Christ's Pieces
- Coleridge Recreation Ground
- Lammas Land
- Trumpington Recreation Ground

Paddling pools:

- Abbey Pool Paddling Pool
- Cherry Hinton Hall
- Coleridge Recreation Ground
- Lammas Land
- Sheep's Green Learner Pool

Tennis courts:

- Cherry Hinton Hall

- Christ's Pieces
- Coleridge Recreation Ground
- Jesus Green
- Lammas Land
- Nightingale Avenue Recreation Ground
- Trumpington Recreation Ground

Fenced children's' play areas:

- Abbey Pool play area (Access Land)
- Aberdeen Avenue
- Ainsdale
- Alexandra Gardens
- Arbury Court (fenced play area)
- Atkins Close
- Bateson Road
- Beales Way
- Cherry Hinton Hall
- Cherry Hinton Recreation Ground
- Chesterton Recreation Ground
- Chestnut Grove
- Christs Pieces
- Coldhams Lane play area (Access Land)
- Coleridge Recreation Ground
- Discovery Way
- Ditton Fields
- Dudley Road
- Edgecombe Flats
- Flower Street
- Green End Road
- Gunhild Way/Close
- Hampden Gardens
- Histon Road
- Humphreys Road
- Huntsman Road
- Jesus Green (fenced play area)
- Kathleen Elliot Way
- Kingfisher Way
- Lichfield Road
- Neptune Close
- Nightingale Avenue
- Nuns Way

- Pearl Close
- Petersfield
- Peverel Road
- Ramsden Square
- Ravensworth Gardens (1)
- Ravensworth Gardens (2)
- Reilly Way
- River Lane
- Robert May Close
- Romsey Recreation Ground
- Scotland Road
- Sleaford Street/Ainsworth Street
- St Alban's Recreation Ground
- St Barnabas Court
- St Matthews Recreation Ground
- St Thomas's Square
- Stourbridge Common (Access Land)
- The Bath House (Hector Pierson) play Area (Gwydir Street)
- Thorpe Way / Fison Road
- Trumpington Recreation Ground
- Whytford Close

Fenced open spaces

- Ravensworth Gardens – green area (upper area)

4.31. Seventy-eight percent of respondents agreed (66% strongly agreed, and 12% agreed) that the existing locations were areas where dogs should be excluded at all times.

4.32. Officers therefore recommend that the existing dog exclusion areas are retained and extended.

4.33. The Order proposed new dog exclusion areas at the following sites:

- Coldham's Common Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and Astro-turf pitch
- Shelly Row Recreation Ground

4.34. There was strong agreement for the creation of dog exclusion areas at Coldham's Common MUGA and Astro-turf pitch (71%) but less agreement for creation of a dog exclusion area at Shelly Row Recreation Ground (55%). Officers are therefore recommending that dog exclusion areas be created at both locations. Shelly Row is a fenced recreation

ground that has children's play equipment in, and in line with the existing restrictions at all similar sites is being recommended to exclude dogs. The dog bin at Shelly Road Recreation Ground will need to be removed at the time the Order comes into force to avoid miscommunication.

- 4.35. The Order also proposed an extension of dog exclusion site to a wider area at Hampden Gardens.
- 4.36. There was not a high level of support for the extension of the existing dog exclusion area at Hampden Gardens (53%) to include the whole of the green area. Comments from consultees identified that users of the green space should be able to exercise their dogs in this area and that children already have a fenced play area, and that this should remain as a dog exclusion area. **Officers are recommending that the dog exclusion area at Hampden Gardens is not extended but retained as it is and only includes the fenced children's play area.**

Maximum number of dogs

- 4.37. For Byron's Pool, the Order proposal was to continue with the restriction on the number of dogs that can be taken by a person, at any one time, to a maximum of four dogs.
- 4.38. The results of the consultation showed that 69% of respondents agreed with the proposal, comments agreed that four dogs was a reasonable number for a single person to be able to control at one time, though many people commented that it should be less than four. Based on the results, it is recommended that Byron's Pool continues as an area where the number of dogs that can be taken at any time is four dogs per person.
- 4.39. Two new areas were proposed as locations where the maximum number of dogs that could be taken by a person at any one time was four.

The locations were:

- Coldham's Common sports pitches
- Hobson's Park

There was agreement with both areas 65% and 64% respectively.

- 4.40. In setting the number of dogs that can be taken at any one time, officers have used the Professional Dog Walker's Guidelines and Defra's 'Dealing with irresponsible dog ownership – Practitioner's manual' guidance.' Officers have also considered the positive improvement at

Byron's Pool where the restriction was introduced in 2020, where the professional dog walkers that were irresponsibly exercising large numbers of dogs no longer use the site, and the restriction has seen a high level of compliance without the need for enforcement action. Officers note that the Kennel Club response being against the introduction of the restriction on the number of dogs at the new locations.

- 4.41. Officers are therefore recommending that the maximum number of dogs taken at any one time is created for both Coldham's Common sports pitches and Hobson's Park.

Means to collect and dispose of dog faeces

- 4.42. The Order proposal is to introduce a new requirement for those in charge of a dog being walked to have on them a suitable means to collect and dispose of dog faeces and to produce the means to dispose upon request of an authorised officer.
- 4.43. The means to dispose of dog faeces could include nappy sacks, dog poo bags, carrier bags, poop a scoop. Unacceptable examples would include using hands and leaves/ twigs to collect faeces once the requirement to produce has been made.
- 4.44. The results of the consultation showed that 75% of respondents agreed with the proposal. Of those that agreed, comments were around enforcement of the requirement, consideration of cases where people had genuinely run out of bags, and the requirement for the provision of free dog poo bags at parks and open spaces. Of those that disagreed, comments focused on the proposal being overly zealous and difficult to enforce.
- 4.45. The response from the Kennel Club highlighted that the proposal could mean owners would not pick up their dog's faeces to retain the last bag and avoid an FPN if caught. They have highlighted that the council may wish to include exemptions if a person is able to prove they had been in possession of a bag but run out of the means during the walk. However, officers do not think that this exemption would be easily possible for a dog walker to prove and could be open to abuse.
- 4.46. Having considered the results of the consultation; officers feel it is more appropriate at the current time to make efforts educating dog owners/handlers on their responsibility to carry a suitable means to clear up dog faeces. It is recommended that officers undertake an education

campaign around this requirement to promote responsible dog ownership in Cambridge.

- 4.47. **Officers are recommending that the requirement to have a suitable means to collect and dispose of dog faeces is dog not introduced.** Instead, officers will undertake ongoing monitoring that can be revisited at the next review of the Order in 2026.

Exemptions

- 4.48. It was proposed that exemption as previously set out in the Order were continued but reviewed to ensure they were still accurate.
- 4.49. Seventy-two percent of respondents agreed with the exemption continuing, whereby the Order would not apply to a person in control of a working assistance dog which had been trained to assist a person who has a disability.
- 4.50. In the survey the council asked for views on an exemption to the Order for a person in control of a working assistance dog that has been trained to assist a person who has a disability. Comments were received that the question was worded as though the council was proposing to remove the exemption. An explanation was added to the survey front page to confirm this was not the case. This explanation said “We are not proposing to remove an exception for assistance dogs. Please be assured that the question is intended to see whether residents find the current exception satisfactory and if there are any suggested changes to improve the exception. We can’t update the question because the survey is already live and unfortunately this would mean we would lose the responses already submitted.”
- 4.51. Comments were received around the need for those with assistance dogs to produce documentation / evidence that they have such a dog and have not simply purchased something with the word ‘assistance dog’ on it (i.e., a fluorescent jacket) and comments were made that emotional support dogs should be included within the exemption.
- 4.52. Officers have reviewed the information provided by the Kennel Club response, and the Assistance Dogs UK which clearly sets out that there is not a UK assistance dog register and that assistance dog owners are not required by law to carry identification. In addition, it also sets out that emotional support dogs or therapy dogs providing comfort and companionship do not have legal recognition at the current time.

4.53. Officers are therefore proposing the following amendment to the Order in line with assistance dog as defined by the Equality Act 2010 which has been reviewed and agreed with the council's Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer.

Nothing in this order shall apply to a person who is in charge of:

- a. a dog which has been trained to guide a blind person.
- b. a dog which has been trained to assist a deaf person.
- c. a dog which has been trained by a prescribed charity to assist a disabled person who has a disability that consists of epilepsy or otherwise affects the person's mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination, or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects.
- d. a dog of a prescribed category which has been trained to assist a disabled person who has a disability (other than one falling within paragraph (c)) of a prescribed kind.

For the purposes of the Order, a "disability" means a condition that qualifies as a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010 and an "assistance dog" has the meaning given by the Equality Act 2010..

5. Implications

a) Financial Implications

5.1 When the Order is varied and extended, in accordance with Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act, 2014, the council must "cause to be erected on or adjacent to the land in relation to which the public spaces protection order has been made such notice or notices as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that land to:

- (i) the fact that a public spaces protection order has been made; and
- (ii) and the effect of that order being made."

5.2 The dog fouling, means to pick up dog faeces and dogs on leads by direction aspects of the order are city-wide offences and therefore advisory warning signs will be placed in hotspot areas. Such hotspot areas may change over time as targeted education/ enforcement has an impact. Dog exclusion, seasonal dogs on leads areas, restricted number of dogs and dogs on leads areas are small fixed geographical areas and

will have advisory signs placed at entrances and exits to the designated areas under these orders.

- 5.3 The signage required will cost approximately £10 each. The total cost is in the region of £1000, which will be met from within existing departmental cost centres.
- 5.4 The issuing of a FPN for breach of the Order will generate additional income, which can offset the cost of signage in future years, if considered appropriate. FPN receipts will be used for the purpose of exercising functions to improve street cleanliness and enforcement of offences; it is not being regarded as an 'income generator.' It is not envisaged that the revenue generated from the fines will be significant, but it will reduce the need to pursue costly prosecution, in some cases, and enable a more flexible approach in dealing with specific offences.

b) Staffing Implications

- 5.5 There are no additional staffing implications as authorised enforcement officers are already equipped to deal with dog control offences.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

- 5.6 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is set out in Appendix C.
- 5.7 The impact on residents, visitors and businesses is expected to be positive, as the recommended The Order should continue to function as a deterrent to irresponsible dog ownership. Exemptions for those with assistance dogs has been fully considered and included in the Order. There is no adverse impact on any other Protected Groups from the Order's extension and variation.

d) Environmental Implications

- 5.8 There will continue to be a net positive effect on local environmental quality with the enforcement of the Order for dog control and the continued enforcement against dog fouling.

e) Procurement Implications

- 5.9 Procurement in delivering the Order will be undertaken in accordance with the council's adopted procurement regulations.

f) Community Safety Implications

5.10 The recommended Order will continue to have a positive effect on community safety, reducing the public health and safety risks associated with *Toxocariasis*³ and nuisance dogs.

6. Consultation and communication considerations

6.1 The council has conducted a consultation process, which included the necessary consultation required by statute. The consultation was conducted when the proposal was at a sufficiently formative stage and undertaken with an open mind as to what the consultation responses might be and the need to make any resulting amendments. The council believes this is amply demonstrated by the proposed alterations made to the terms of the Order.

6.2 It was recognised that the proposed Order could be of interest to many sections of the community, including the public and special interest groups. Accordingly, the council has consulted widely. The consultation methodology used included:

- Making the survey available on the council's webpage, CitizenLab.
- Emails sent out to statutory consultees and to any individual, organisation, or business on request.
- Emails sent out to assistance dog organisations and charities, animal associated organisations, Cambridge veterinary surgeries, dog welfare organisations and the Kennel Club
- Emails sent out to disability support charities, organisations, and groups
- Posters erected at all the affected parks and green spaces which notified users of the consultation and gave details of how to access the survey or request an alternative copy.
- Emails circulated with a link to the survey to residents' groups, ward and county councillors and friends of groups
- Emails sent to relevant landowners and organisations including Local Access Forum, Natural England, and Parishes Committee for Mill Road Cemetery

³ *Toxocariasis* is a rare infection caused by roundworm parasites. Its spread from animals to humans through contact with infected faeces and infection may cause disease that involves the liver, heart, lung, muscle, eye, and brain.

- 6.3 The consultation took place between 27th February and 31st March 2023.
- 6.4 The results of the consultation have been used to make amendments to the final recommended Order (appendix A).

7. Background papers

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents/enacted/data.htm>
- DEFRA Dealing Practitioner's Manual on dealing with irresponsible dog ownership:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/373429/dog-ownership-practitioners-manual-201411.pdf
- The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 Statutory guidance for frontline professionals:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/352562/ASB_Guidance_v8_July2014_final_2_.pdf
- Report to Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee Review of Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control in Cambridge 16th January 2020:
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s48733/PSPO%20variation%20paper%202019.pdf>
- Minutes for Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on 16th January 2020:
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/g3608/Printed%20minutes%2016th-Jan-2020%2017.00%20Environment%20and%20Community%20Scrutiny%20Committee.pdf?T=1>
- Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2017
https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/1300/public_spaces_protection_order_dog_control_2017.pdf
- Fixed Penalty Notices Review 2018/19
https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s44777/FPNS_Review_Report.pdf
- Council's Corporate Enforcement Policy -
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/content/enforcement-policy>
- Council Constitution - <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/constitution>

- Professional dog walkers' guidelines - <https://www.rspca.org.uk/webContent/staticImages/Downloads/DogWalkingGuide.pdf>)
- DEFRA 'Dealing with irresponsible dog ownership – Practitioner's manual' https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/373429/dog-ownership-practitioners-manual-201411.pdf.
- Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/697953/pb13333-cop-dogs-091204.pdf

8. Appendices

- Draft Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) - Appendix A
- Draft Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) maps – Appendix B
- EQIA - Appendix C
- List of consultees – Appendix D
- Consultation response from Cambridgeshire Police – Appendix E
- Consultation response from Kennel Club – Appendix F

9. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers, or if you have a query on the report, please contact: Wendy Johnston, Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager, tel: 01223 - 458578, email: wendy.johnston@cambridge.gov.uk

**ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT
2014
SECTION 59**

**PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (DOG CONTROL)
2017**

Cambridge City Council (“the Council”) in exercise of its powers pursuant to Section 59 and 72 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“the Act”) hereby makes the following Order:

This Order extends the period for which the Cambridge City Council Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2017 has effect.

This Order comes into force on the 19th October 2023 date for a period of 3 years until 18th October 2026.

General provisions:

1. This Order applies to all land within the Council’s administrative area, which is open to the air (which includes land that is covered but open to the air on at least one side) and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).
2. A person who fails to comply with any obligation imposed by this order is guilty of a criminal offence by virtue of section 67(1) of the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and liable to a fine on summary conviction not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale; or to be made subject to a fixed penalty notice.
3. The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Sections 59 and 72 of 'the Act' have been met: that activities carried on in a public place within the Council’s area have had or are likely to have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality; and that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by this notice.
4. The Council is satisfied that the prohibitions and requirements imposed by this Order are reasonable to impose in order to prevent the detrimental effect of these activities from continuing, occurring or recurring, or to reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence.

Obligations on persons with dogs:

5. Fouling

If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this order applies a person who is in charge of the dog at the time must remove the faeces from the land immediately unless:

- They have reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

6. Leads by order

A person in charge of a dog on land to which this order applies must comply with a direction given to him by an authorised officer of the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead unless:

- They have reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

An authorised officer may only give a direction under this order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or to a bird or another animal.

7. Leads

A person in charge of a dog on land detailed in Schedule 1 below must keep the dog on a lead at all times unless

- They have reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

8. Exclusion

A person in charge of a dog on land detailed in Schedule 2 below must not take it into or keep it in this land unless

- They have reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

9. Maximum number of dogs

A person in charge of dog(s) must not, at any time, take more than four dogs on land detailed in Schedule 3 unless

- They have reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

10. Seasonal Dogs on Leads

A person in charge of a dog on land detailed in Schedule 4 below must keep the dog on a lead between 1st March and 31st July unless

- They have reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or

Appendix A

- The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

11. Requirement to provide details to an authorised officer

If an authorised officer proposes to give a person a fixed penalty under this Order, the authorised person may require the person to give him his name and address. A person commits an offence if he fails to give his name and address when required to do so.

12. Exemptions

Nothing in this order shall apply to a person who is in charge of:

- a. a dog which has been trained to guide a blind person.
- b. a dog which has been trained to assist a deaf person.
- c. a dog which has been trained by a prescribed charity to assist a disabled person who has a disability that consists of epilepsy or otherwise affects the person's mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination, or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects.
- d. a dog of a prescribed category which has been trained to assist a disabled person who has a disability (other than one falling within paragraph (c)) of a prescribed kind.

For the purposes of the Order, a “disability” means a condition that qualifies as a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010 and an “assistance dog” has the meaning given by the Equality Act 2010..

For the purpose of this order:

- A person who habitually has a dog in his 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.
- Any land which is covered is deemed to be land which is "open to the air" if it is open to the air on at least one side.
- Placing the faeces in a bin or receptacle on the land, which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be sufficient removal from the land.
- Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces immediately
- “An authorised officer” means an employee, partnership agency or contractor of Cambridge City Council who is authorised in writing by Cambridge City Council for the purposes of the Order.
- Giving a false or inaccurate name or address in response to a requirement to provide details is an offence.

Dated.....

Appendix A

Schedule 1

Dogs on leads areas:

- Cemeteries
 - Newmarket Road Cemetery – the whole of the cemetery
 - Histon Road Cemetery – the whole of the cemetery
- Cherry Hinton Hall – *area by pond / stream*
- Hanover and Princess Court – *the green area outside the residential areas*
- Tenby Close – *the whole of the park*

Schedule 2

Dog exclusion areas

- Fenced bowling greens at the following locations:
 - Alexandra Gardens
 - Christs Pieces
 - Coleridge Recreation Ground
 - Lammas Land
 - Trumpington Recreation Ground
- Fenced tennis courts at the following locations:
 - Cherry Hinton Hall
 - Christs Pieces
 - Coleridge Recreation Ground
 - Jesus Green (Access Land)
 - Lammas Land
 - Nightingale Avenue
 - Trumpington Recreation Ground
- Outdoor paddling pools at the following locations:
 - Abbey Pool Paddling Pool (Access Land)
 - Cherry Hinton Hall
 - Coleridge Paddling Pool
 - Lammas Land
 - Sheep's Green Learner Pool
- Fenced children's play areas at the following locations:
 - Aberdeen Avenue
 - Abbey Pool play area (Access Land)
 - Ainsdale
 - Alexandra Gardens
 - Arbury Court
 - Atkins Close
 - Bateson Road
 - Beales Way
 - Cherry Hinton Hall
 - Cherry Hinton Recreation Ground
 - Chesterton Recreation Ground
 - Chestnut Grove
 - Christs Pieces
 - Coldhams Common Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) (Access Land)
 - Coldhams Common Astro-turf pitch (Access Land)

Appendix A

- Coldhams Lane play area (Access Land)
- Coleridge Recreation Ground
- Discovery Way
- Ditton Fields
- Dudley Road
- Edgecombe Flats
- Flower Street
- Green End Road
- Gunhild Close / Godwin Close
- Hampden Gardens
- Histon Road
- Humphreys Road
- Huntsman Road
- Jesus Green (Access Land)
- Kathleen Elliot Way
- Kingfisher Way
- Lichfield Road
- Neptune Close
- Nightingale Avenue
- Nuns Way
- Pearl Close
- Petersfield
- Peverel Road
- Ramsden Square
- Ravensworth Gardens (1)
- Ravensworth Gardens (2)
- Reilly Way
- River Lane
- Robert May Close
- Romsey Recreation Ground
- Scotland Road
- Shelly Row Recreation Ground
- Sleaford Street/Ainsworth Street
- St Albans Recreation Ground
- St Barnabas Court
- St Matthews Recreation Ground
- St Thomas's Square
- Stourbridge Common (Access Land)
- The Bath House (Hector Pieterston) play area (Gwydir Street)
- Thorpe Way/Fison Road
- Trumpington Recreation Ground (also known as King George V Memorial Playing Fields)
- Whytford Close
- Fenced open spaces at the following locations:
 - Ravensworth Gardens – Green area (upper area)

Appendix A

Schedule 3

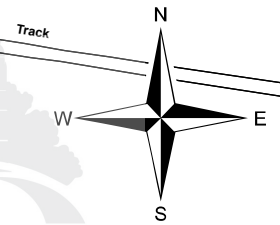
Maximum number of dogs

- Bryon's Pool Local Nature Reserve
- Coldhams Common sports pitches
- Hobsons Park

Schedule 4

Seasonal dogs on leads from 1st March to 31st July

- Barnwell East Local Nature Reserve (whole site)
- Barnwell West Local Nature Reserve (whole site)
- Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve (whole site)
- Limekiln Local Nature Reserve (whole site)
- Logans Meadow Local Nature Reserve (part of - existing wet woodland and river frontage south of cycle bridge)
- Mill Road Cemetery (whole site)
- Paradise Local Nature Reserve (whole site)
- West Pit Local Nature Reserve (whole site)



Allotment Gardens

Path (unp)

Abbey Pool Play Area

Play Area

Recreation Ground

Paddling Pool

Sports Court

Abbey Pool

Sports Facility


 Dog Exclusion Area

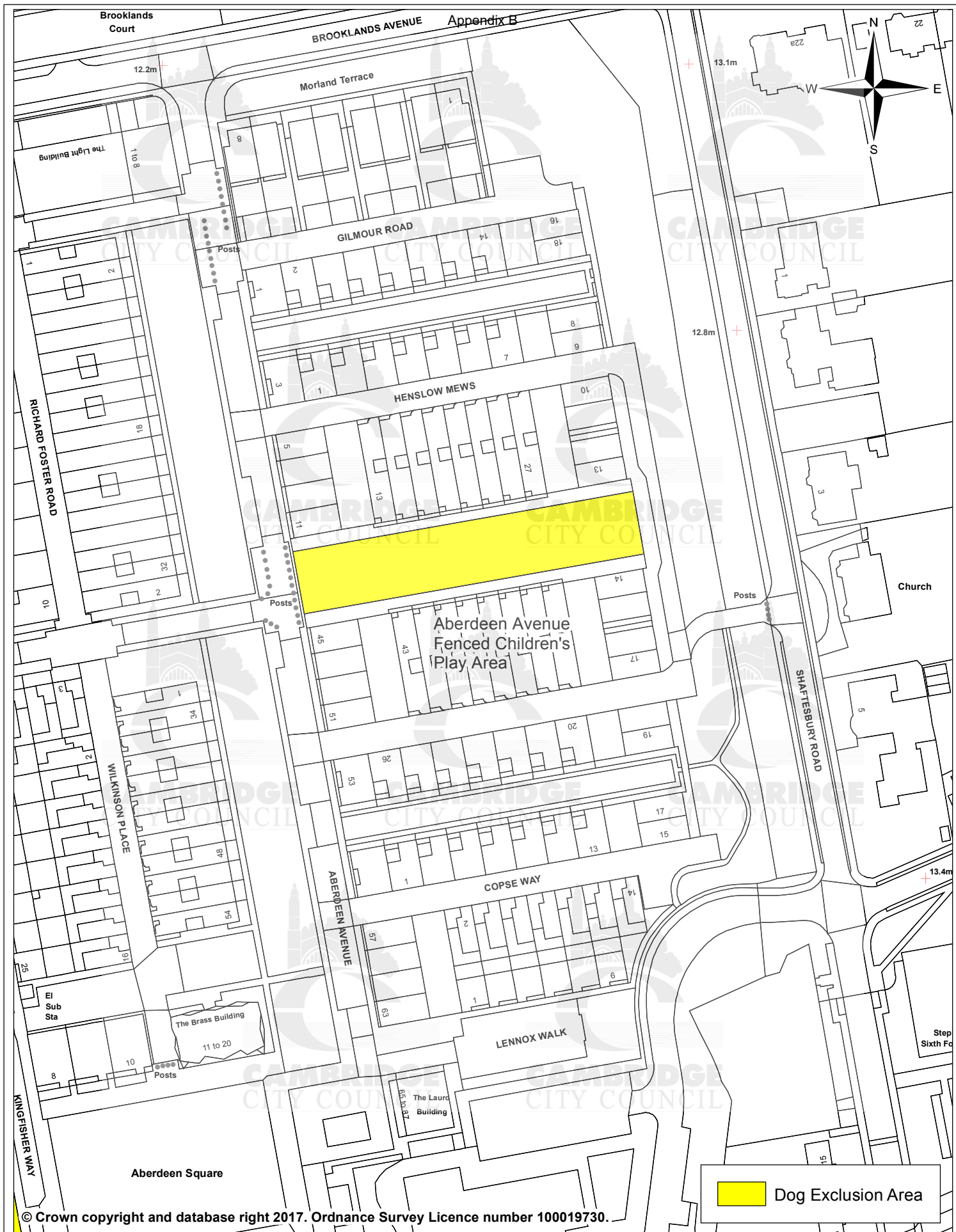
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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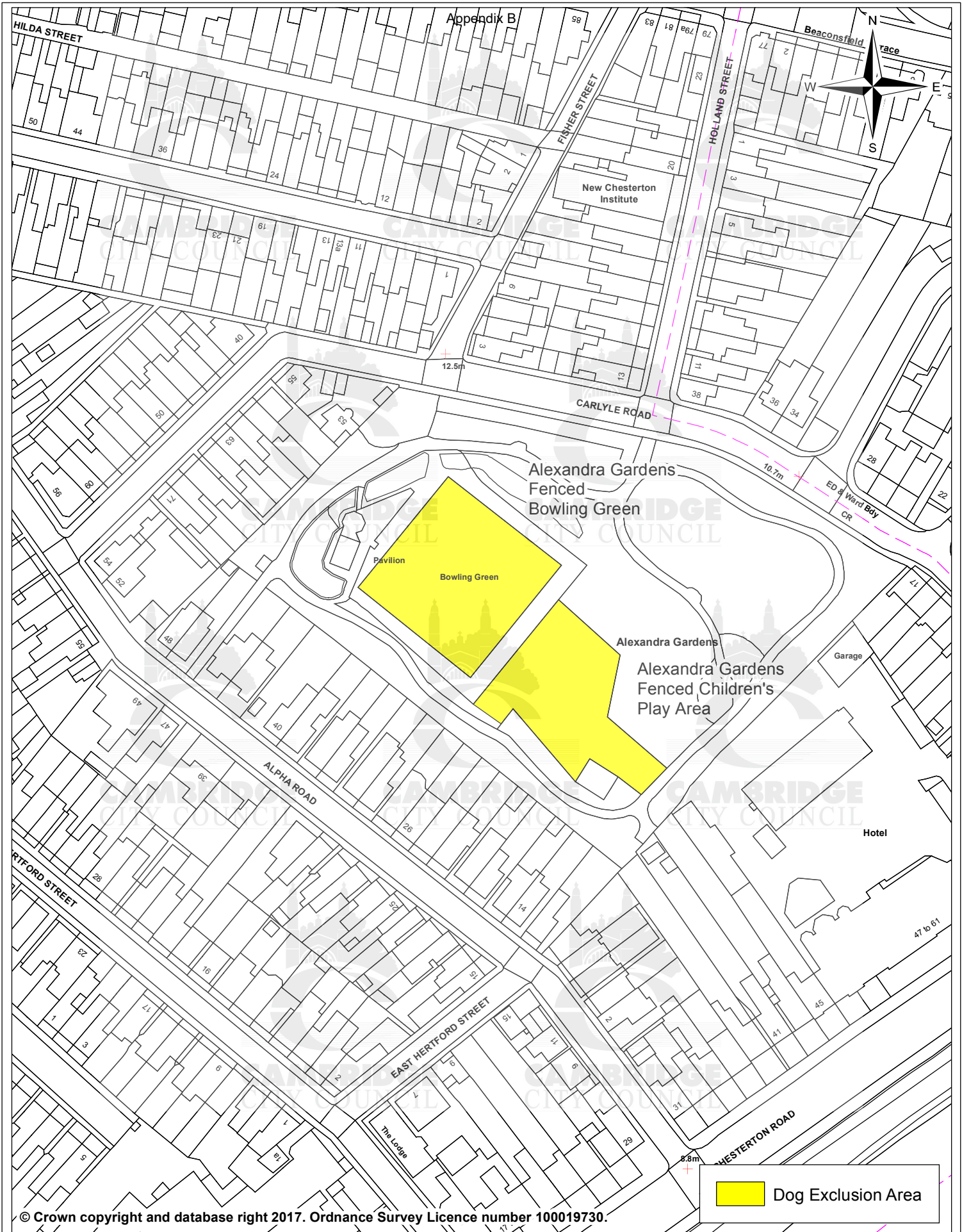
 Dog Exclusion Area

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Appendix B



Dog Exclusion Area

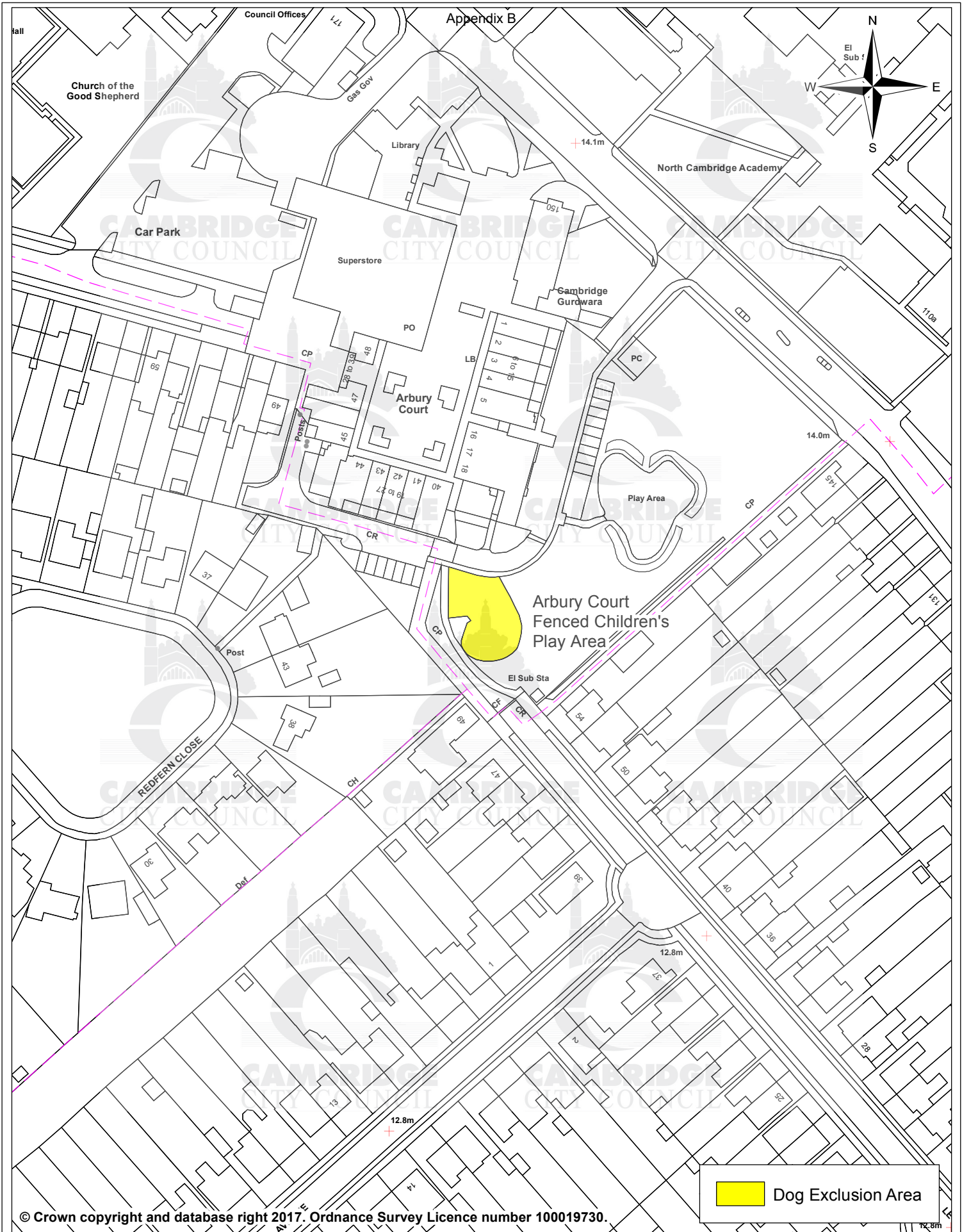
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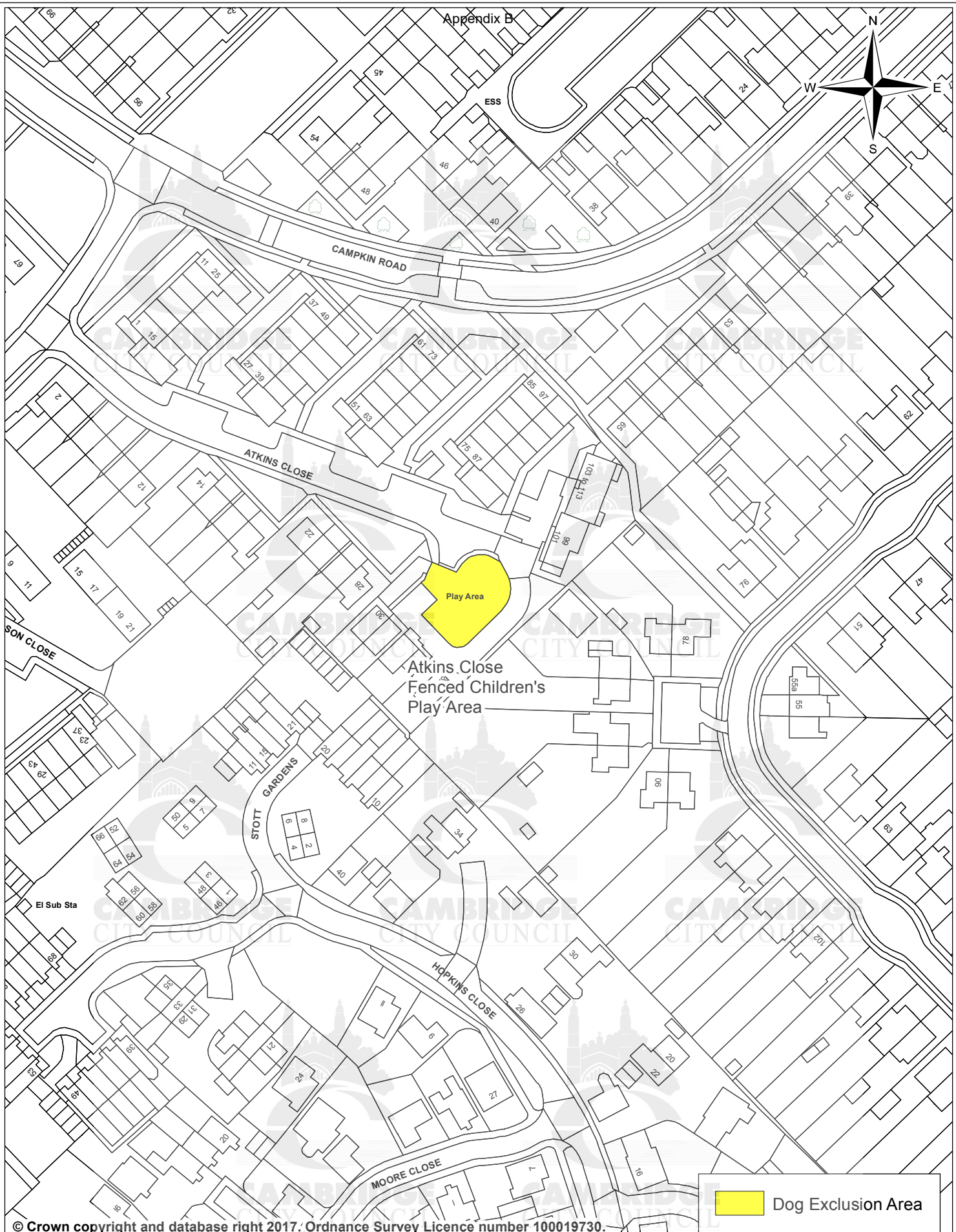
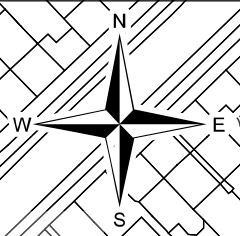
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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Play Area

Atkins Close
Fenced Children's
Play Area



Dog Exclusion Area

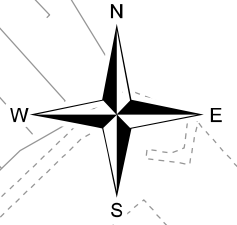
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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Barnwell East LNR




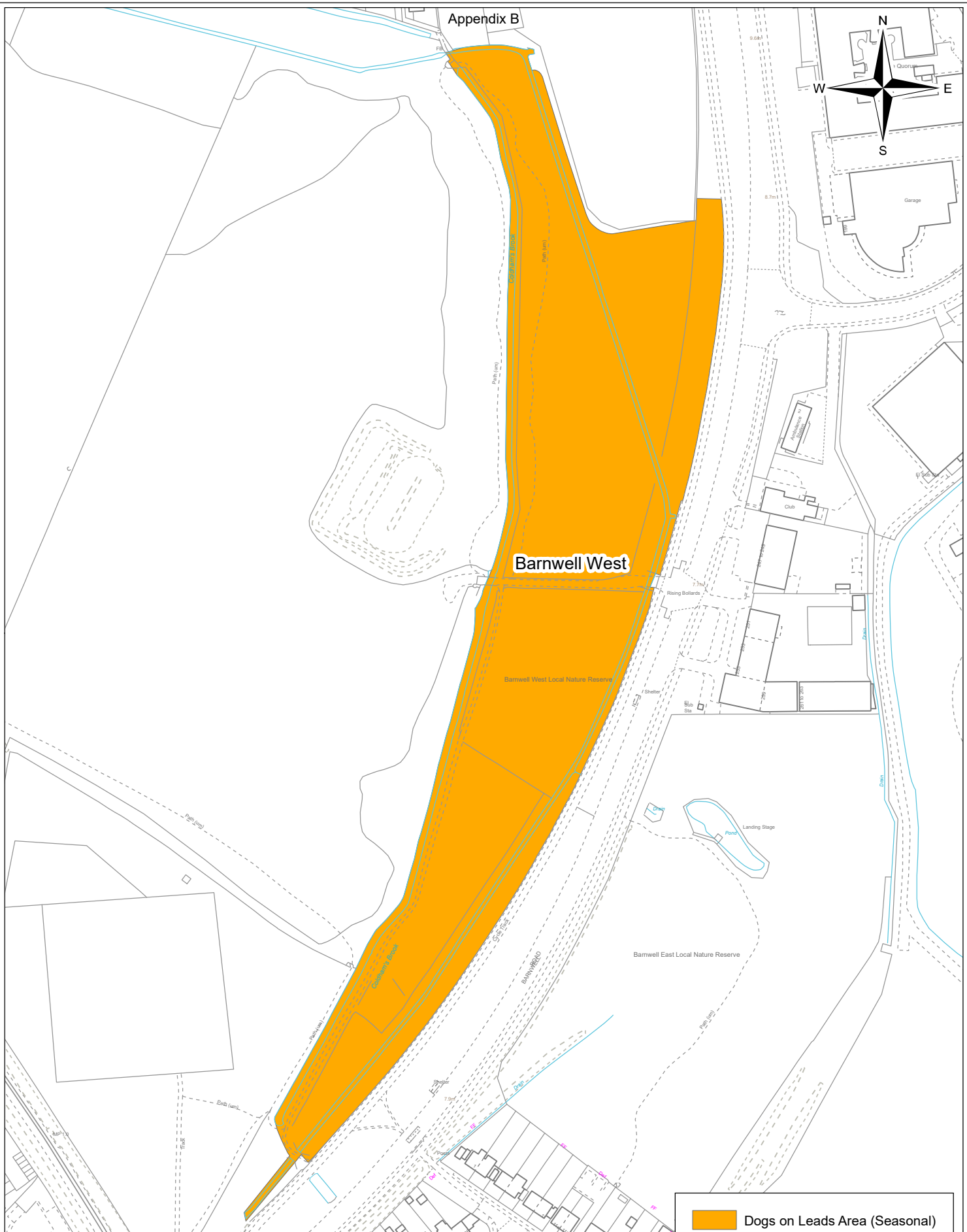
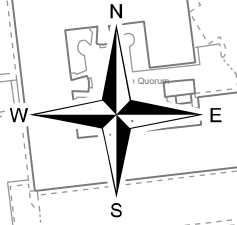
Dogs on Leads Area (seasonal)


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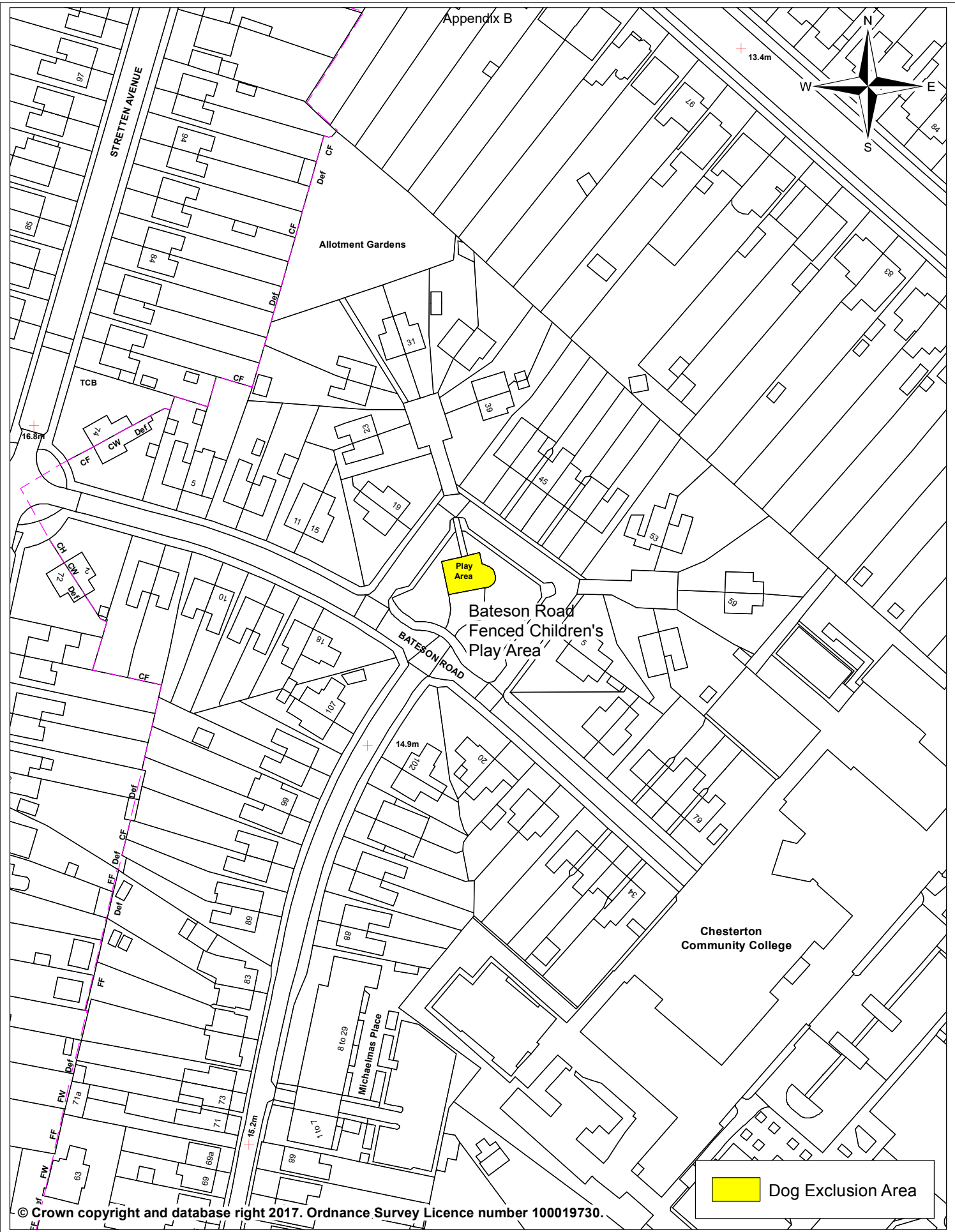
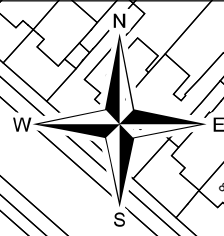
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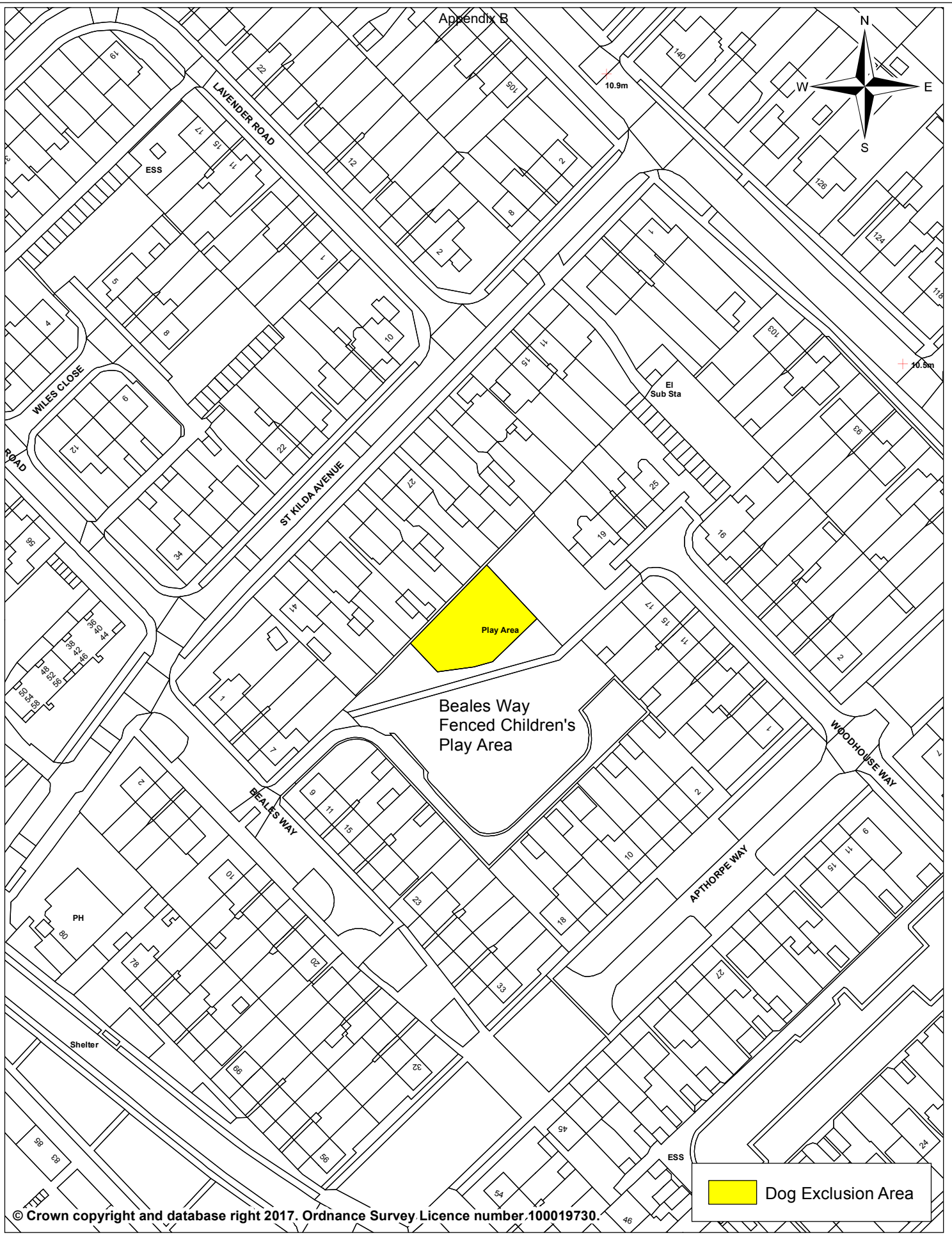
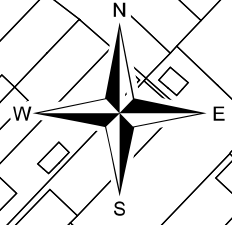
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	Dog Exclusion Area
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control) Page 61

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 Dog Exclusion Area

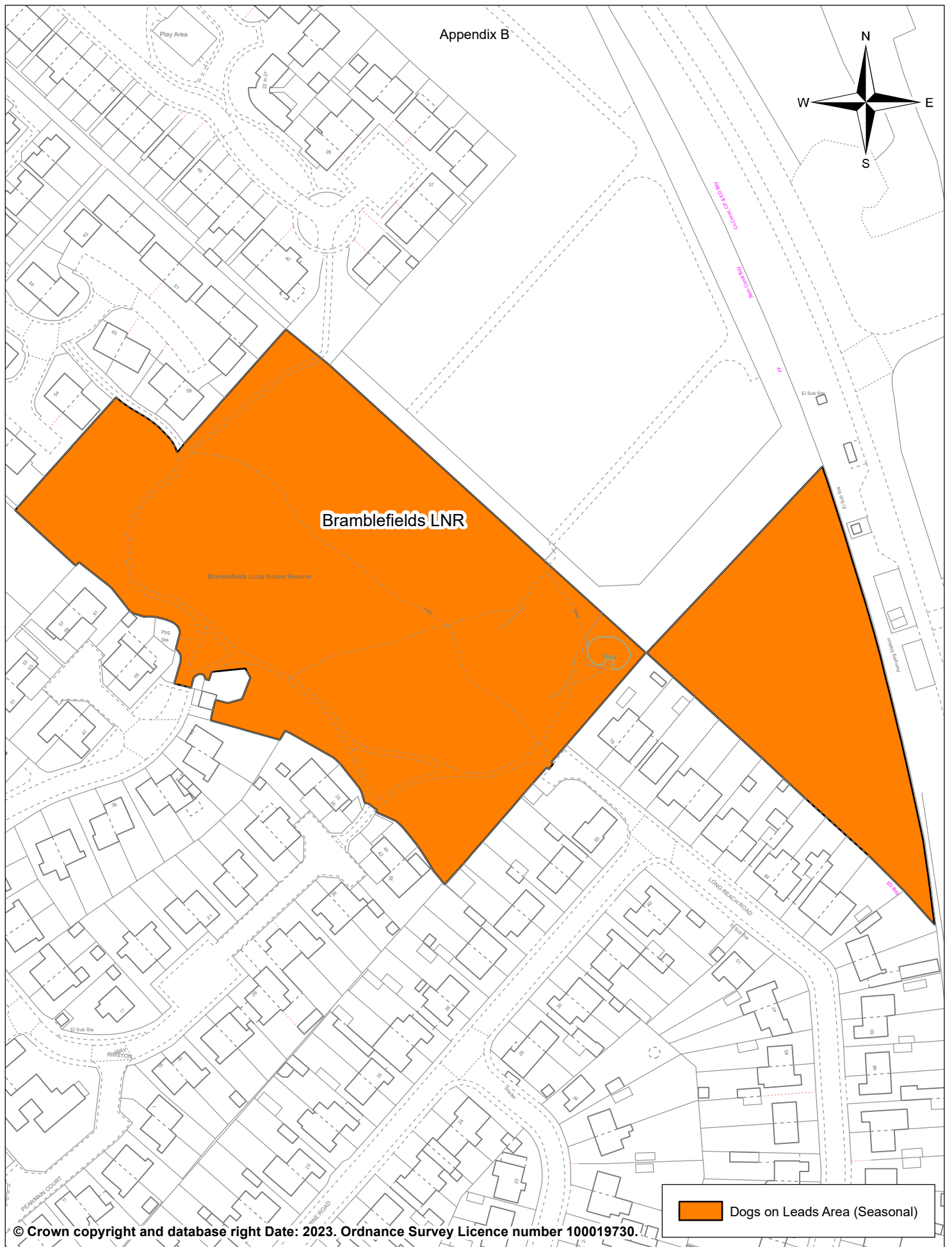
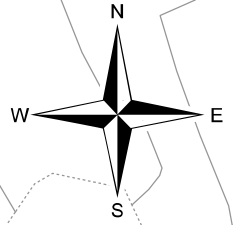
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 Dogs on Leads Area (Seasonal)



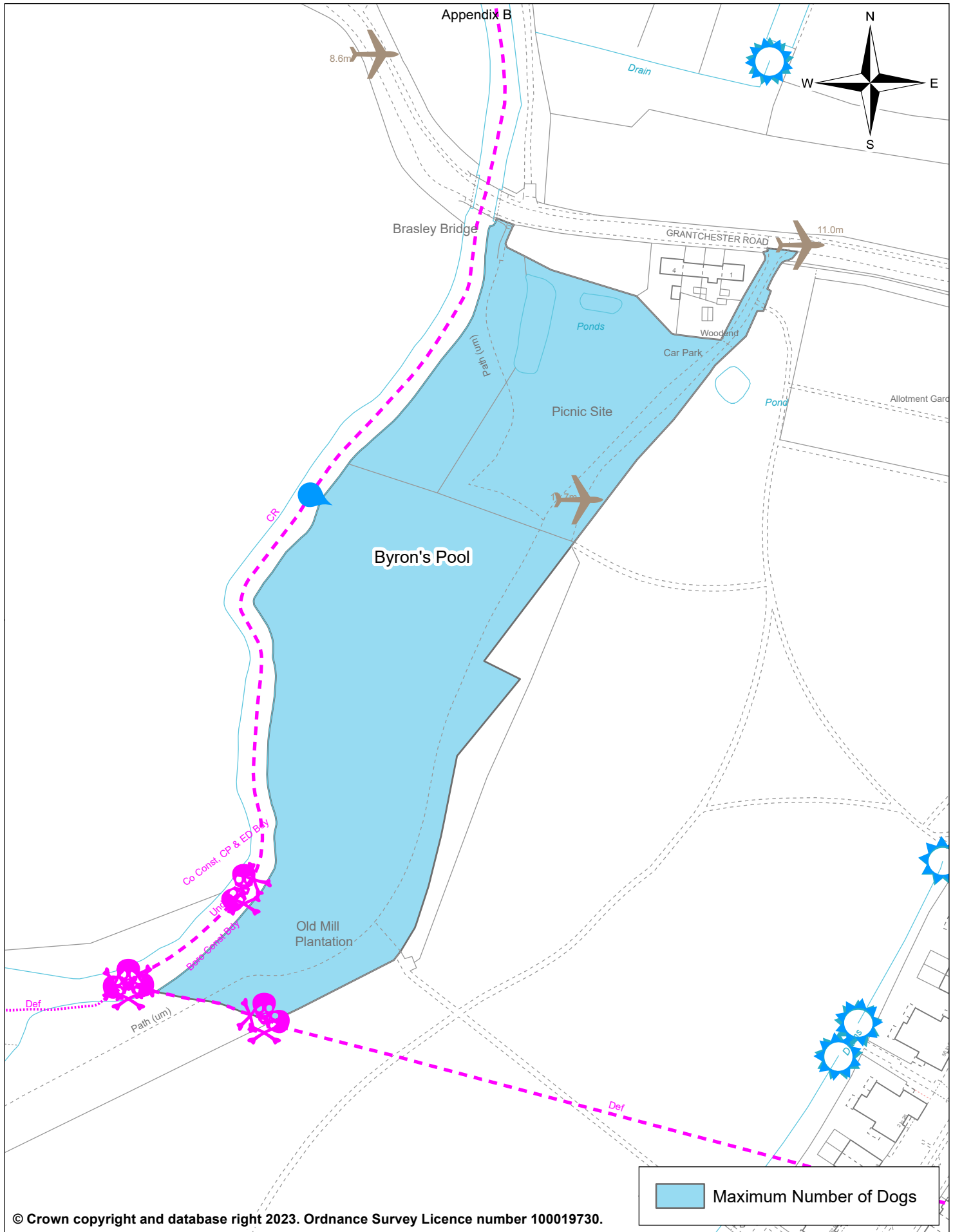
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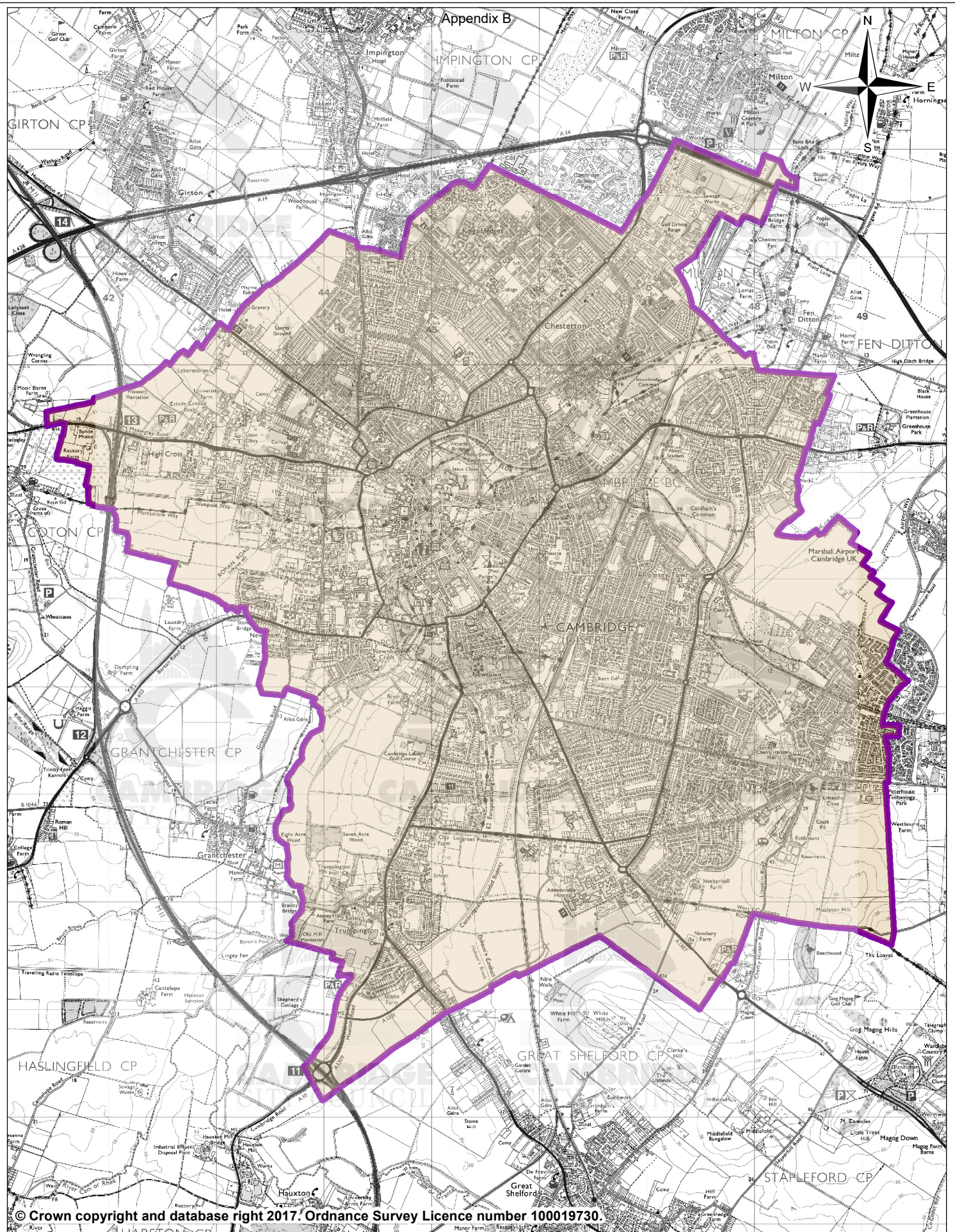
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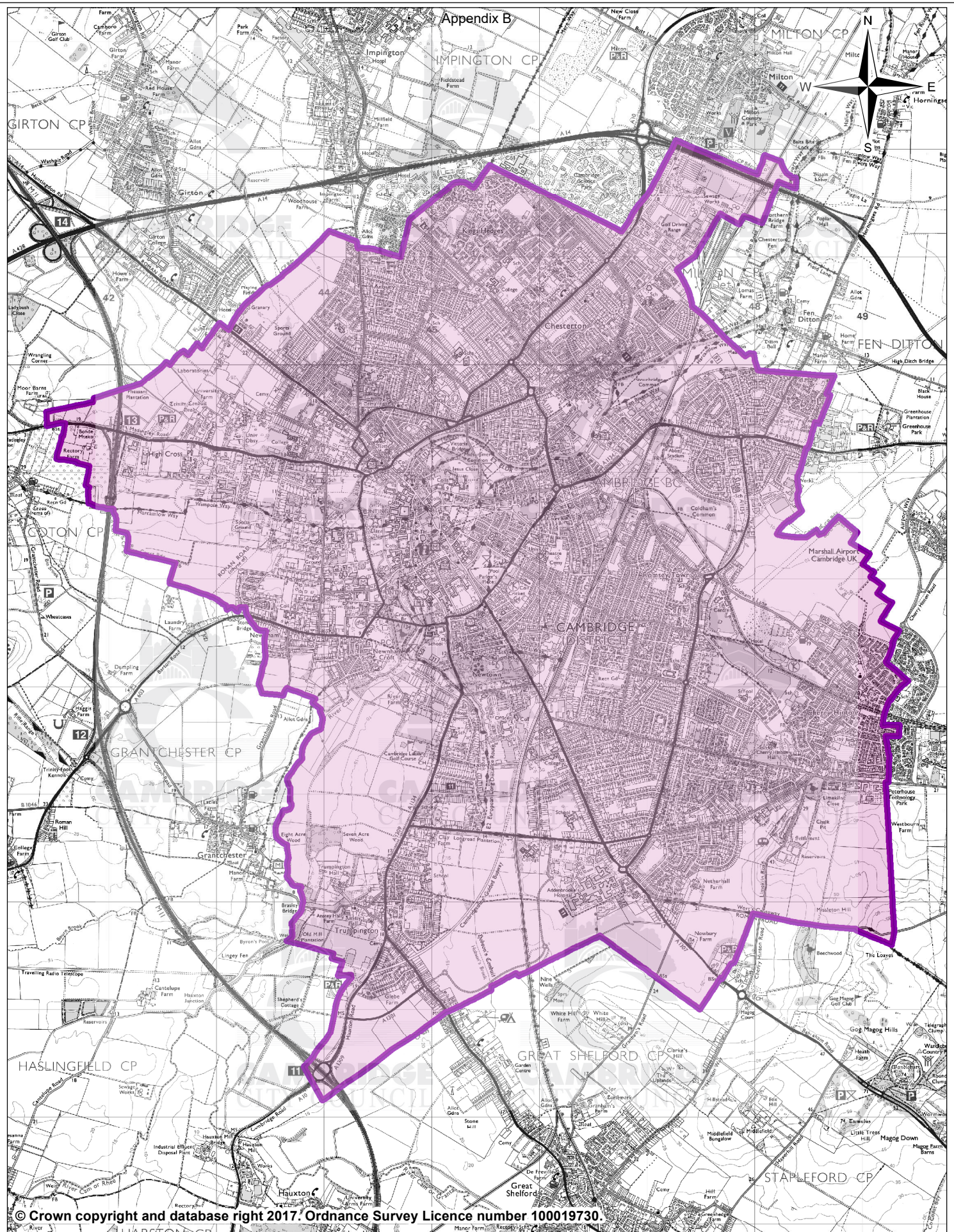
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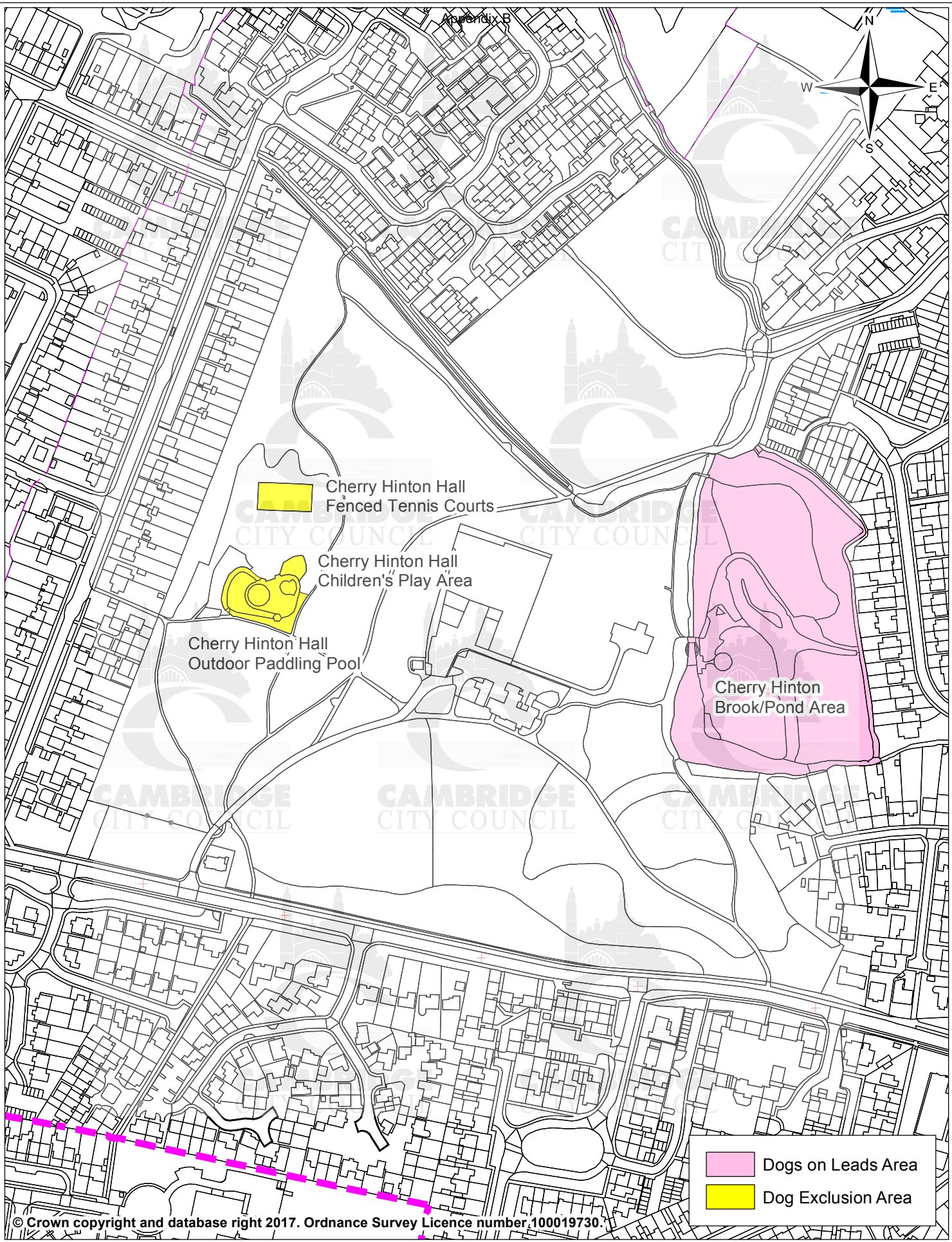
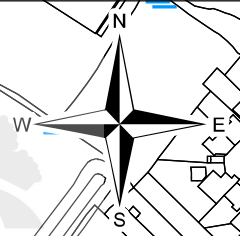
Public Space Protection Order Dog Fouling Page 65

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Public Space Protection Order Dogs on Leads by Direction Page 66

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Cherry Hinton Hall Fenced Tennis Courts

Cherry Hinton Hall Children's Play Area

Cherry Hinton Hall Outdoor Paddling Pool


Cherry Hinton Brook/Pond Area

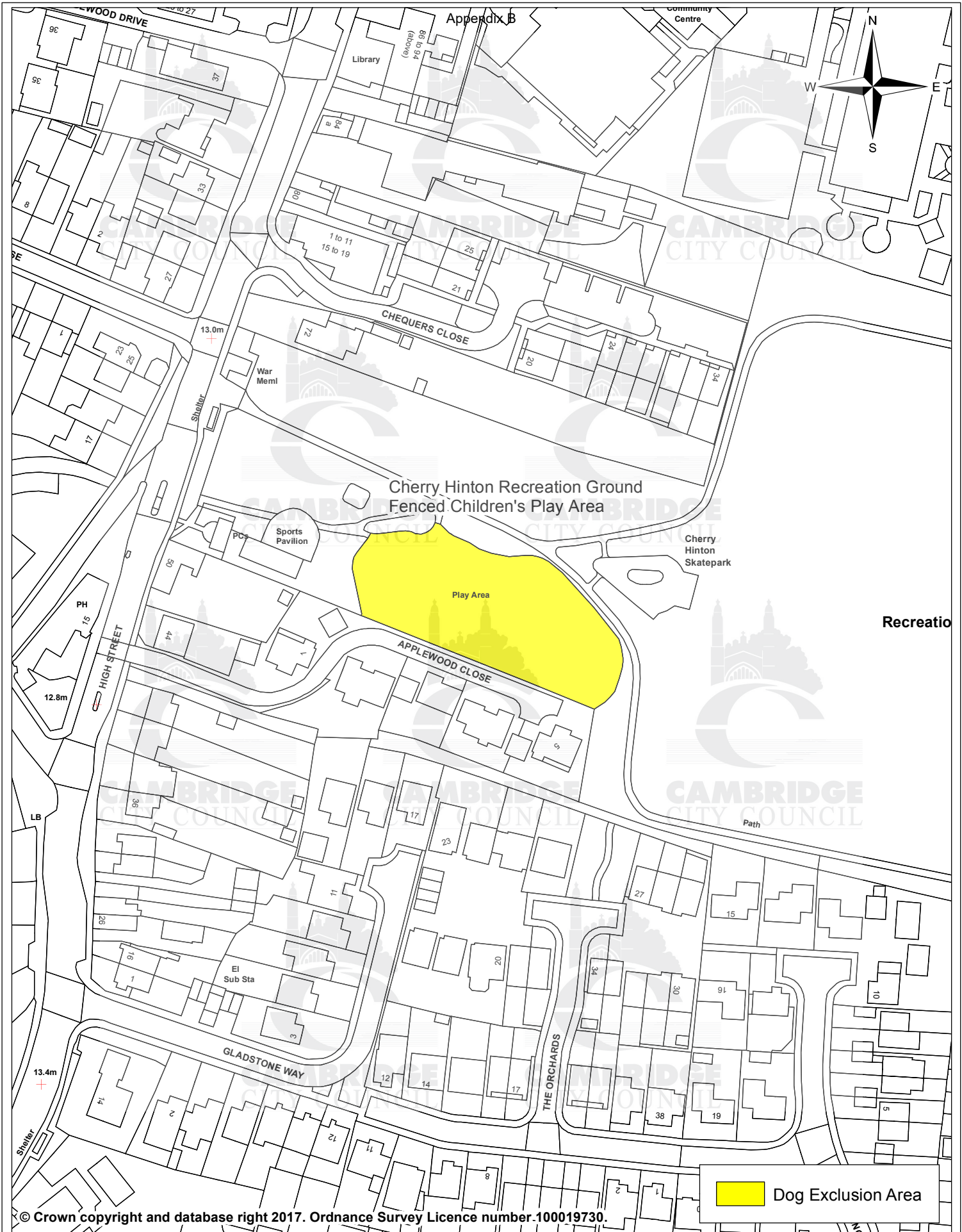
 Dogs on Leads Area
 Dog Exclusion Area

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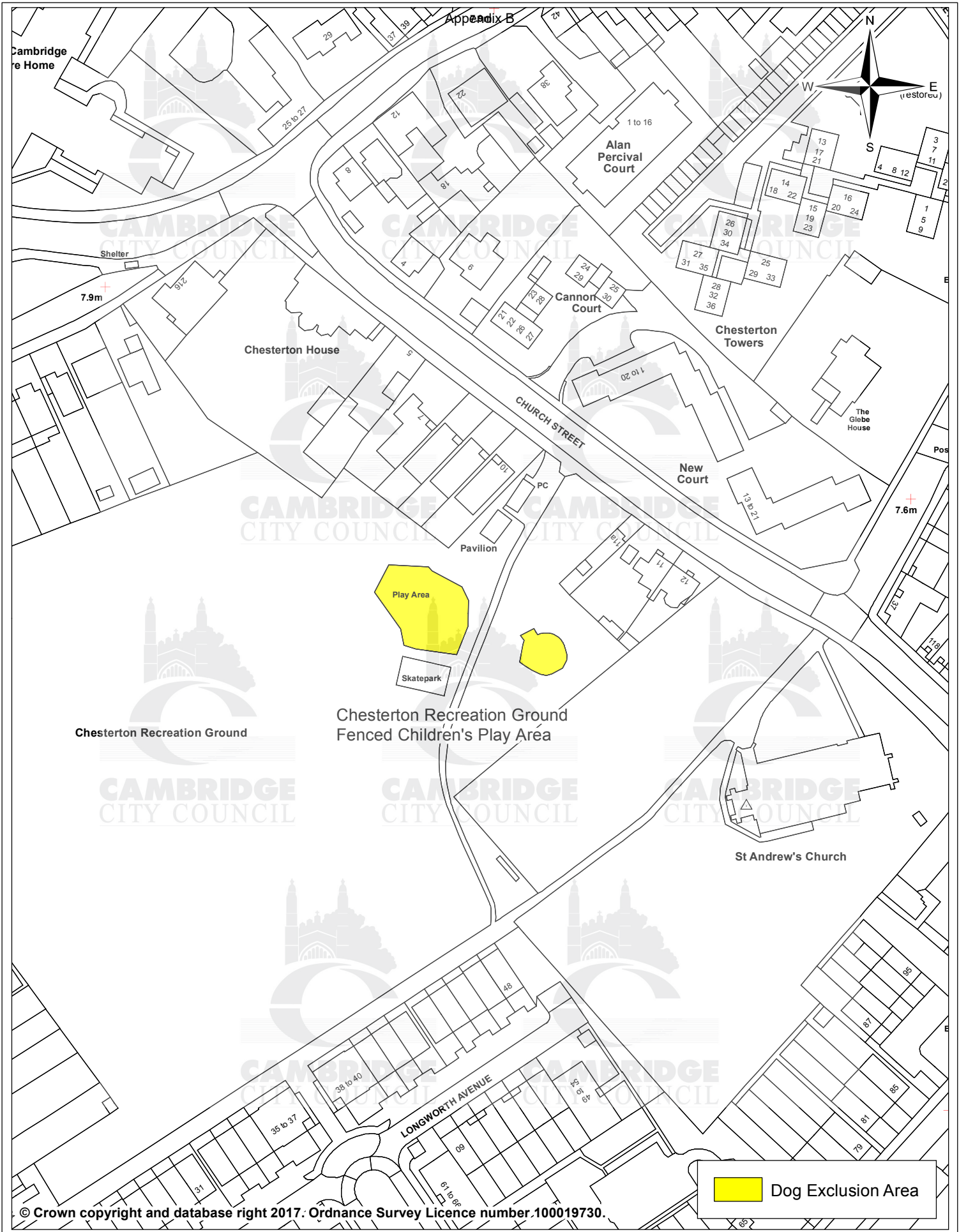
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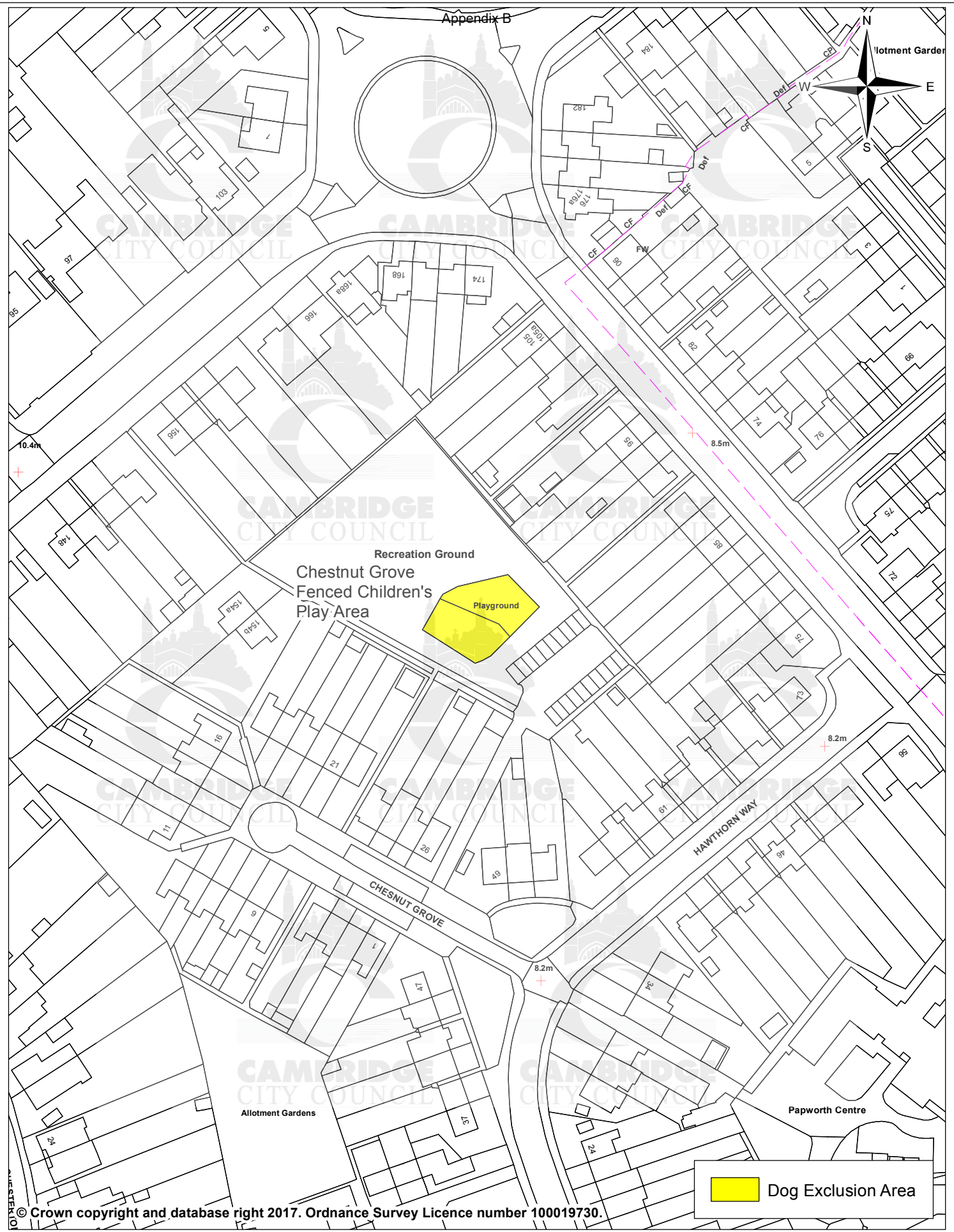
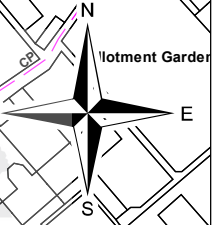
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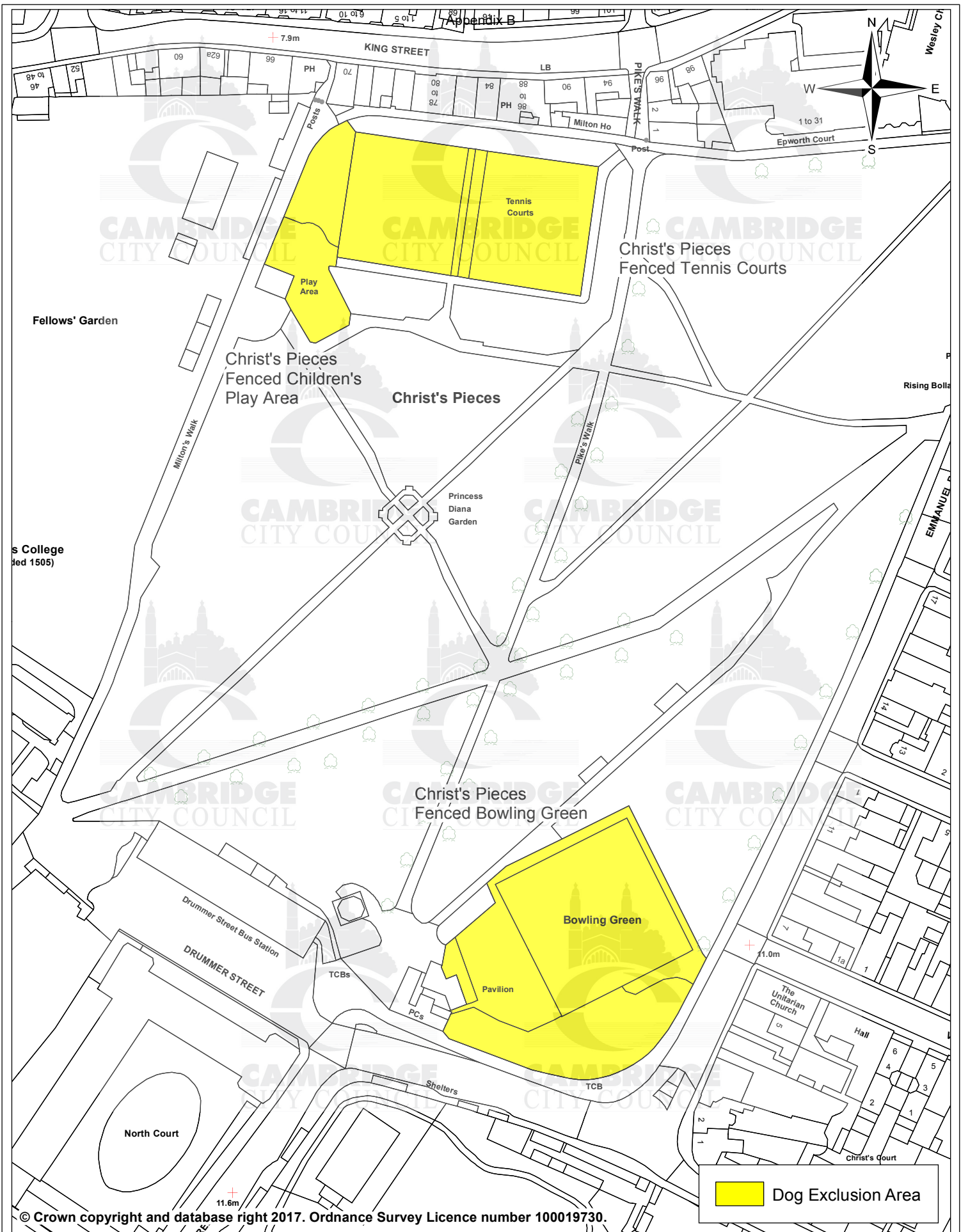
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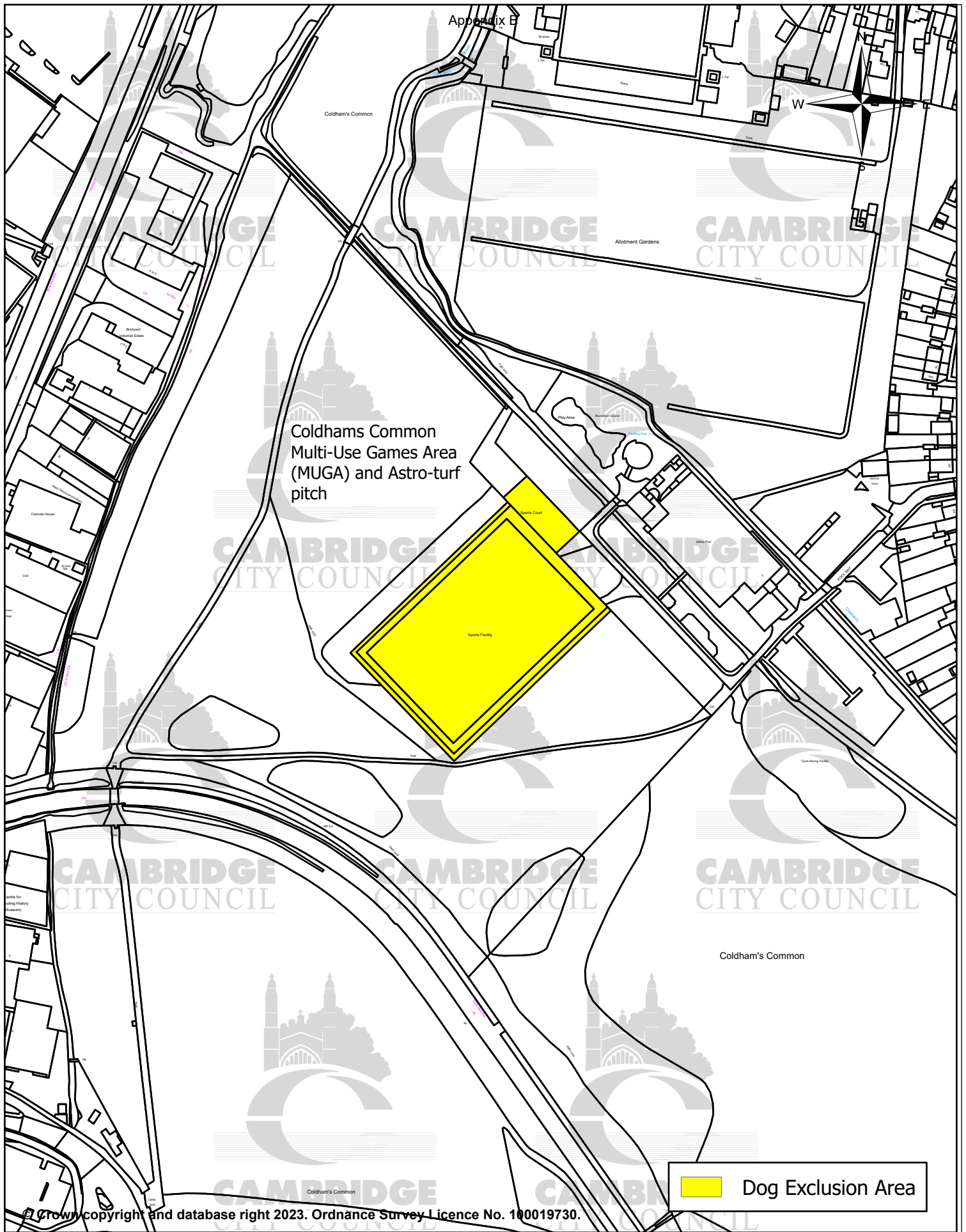
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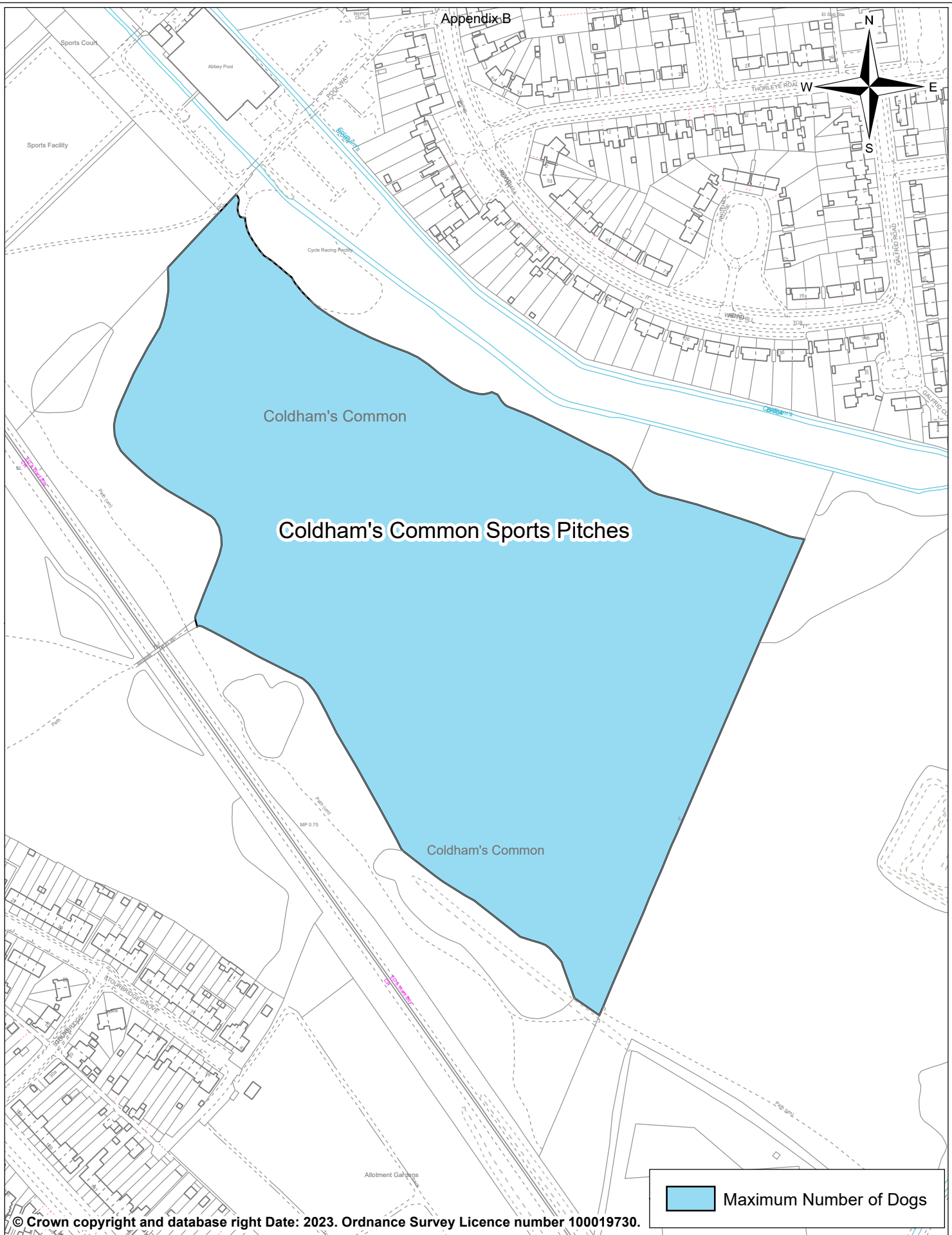
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 Maximum Number of Dogs

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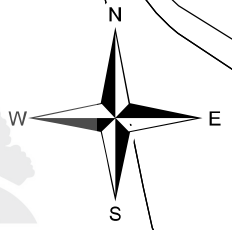
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Coldham's Common

Path (um)

Cattle Grid

Coldham's Lane Play Area

Play Area

Coldham's Common


COLDHAM'S LANE LB

Path

SHARPS

ESS

BRIDGE BROVE

 Dog Exclusion Area

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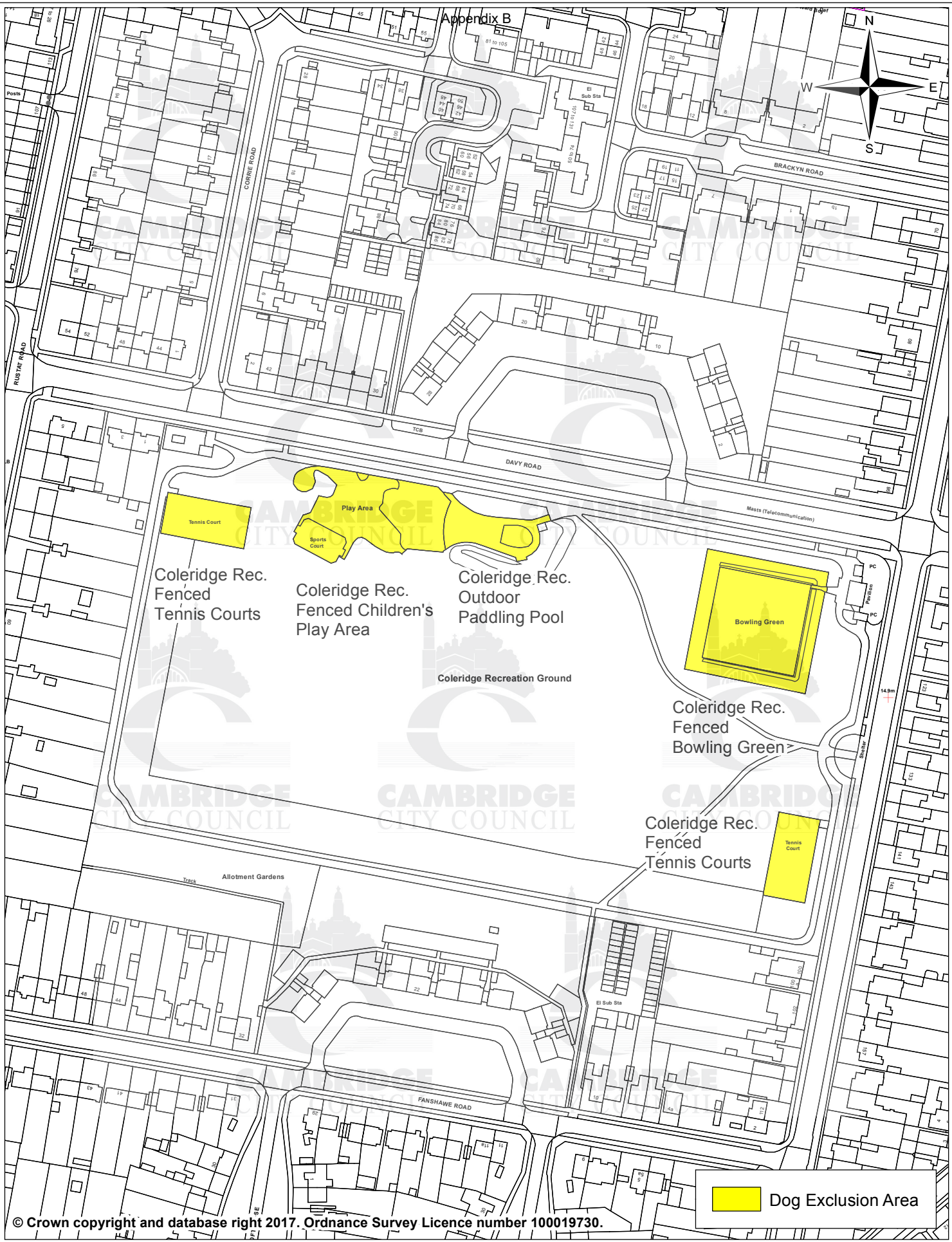
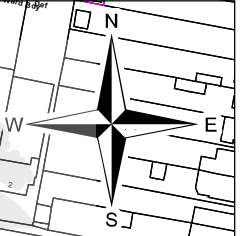
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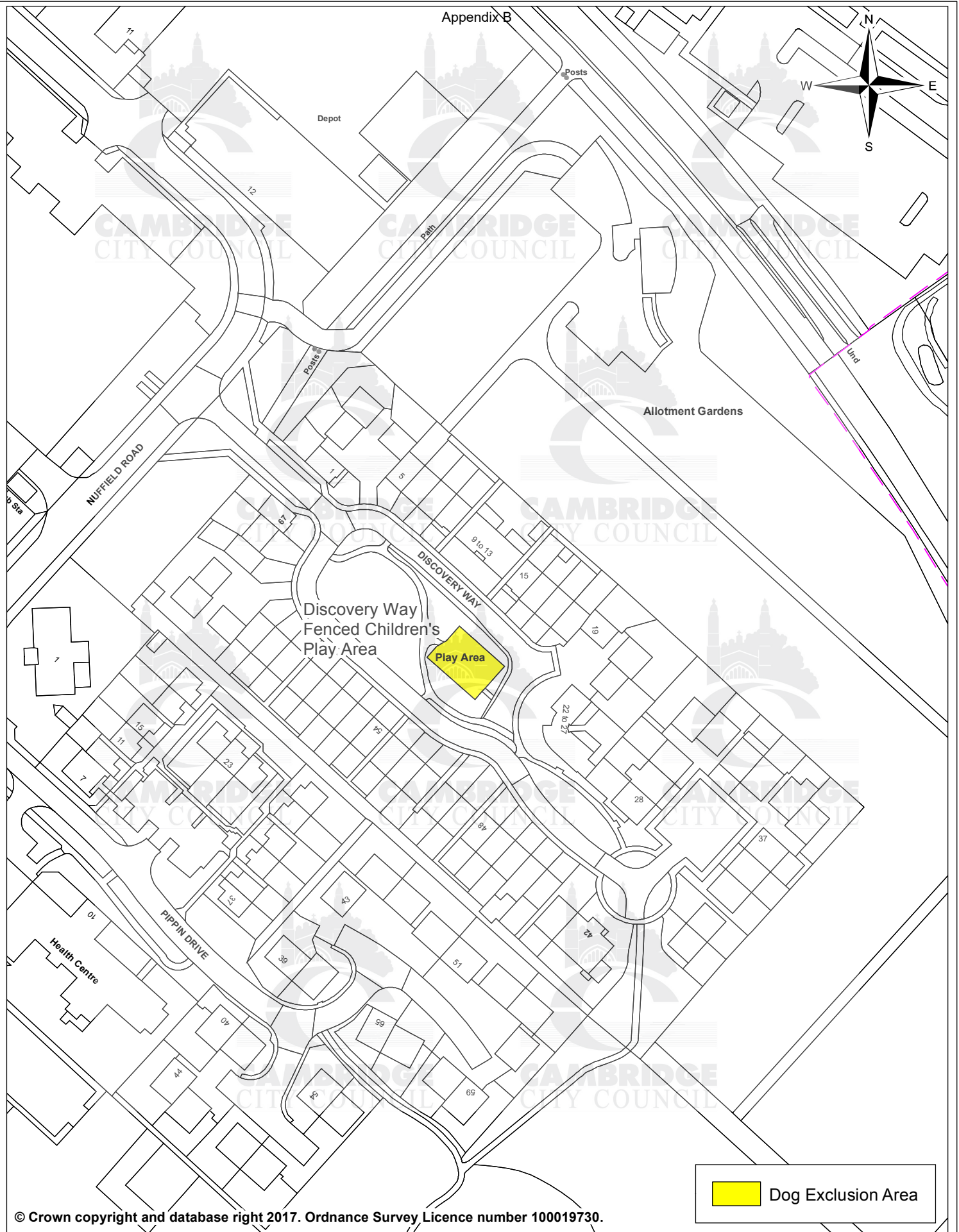
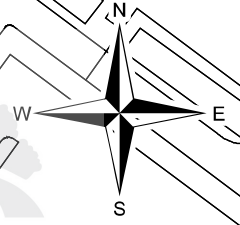
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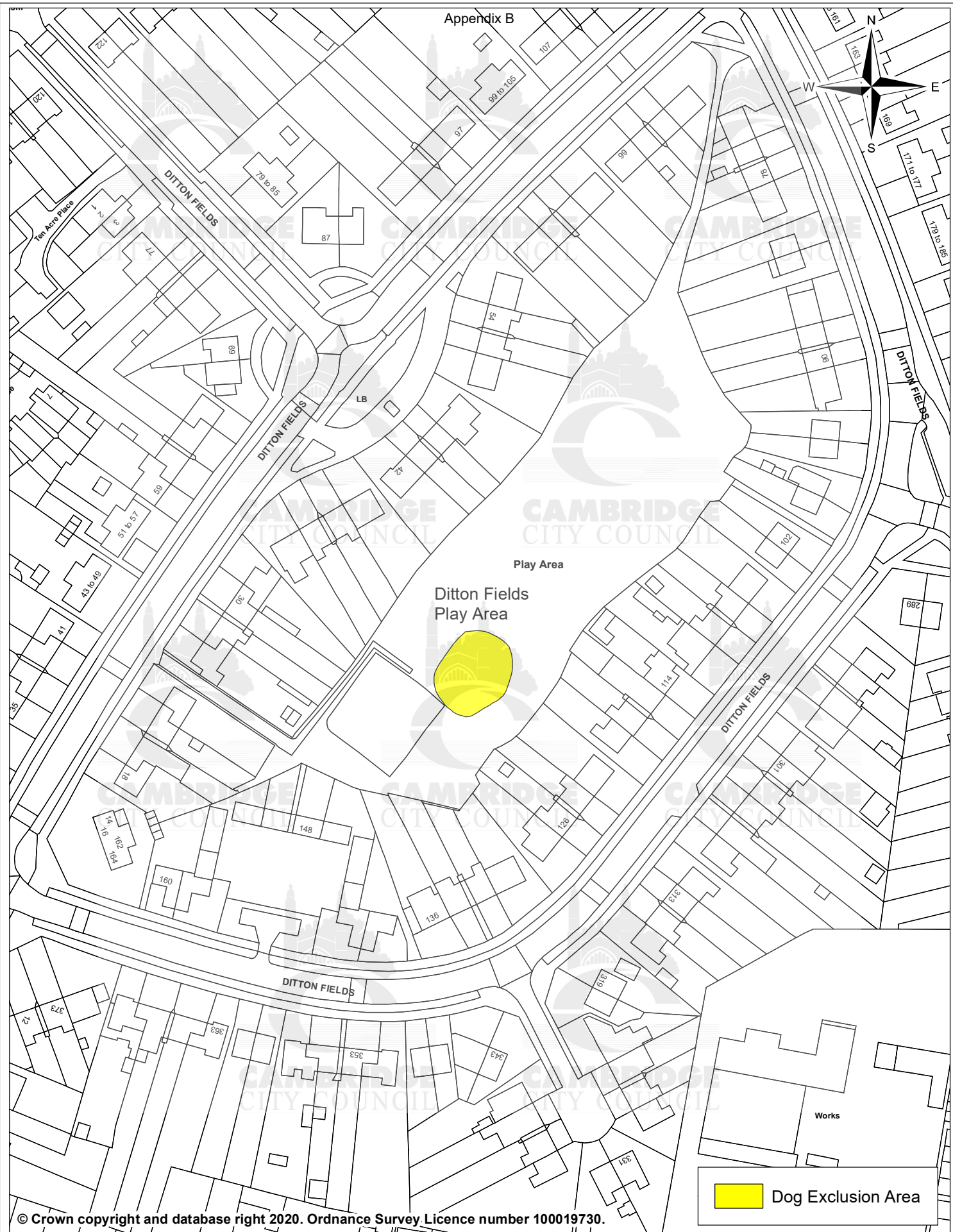
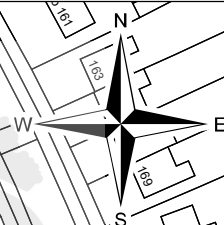
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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Ditton Fields
Play Area


 Dog Exclusion Area

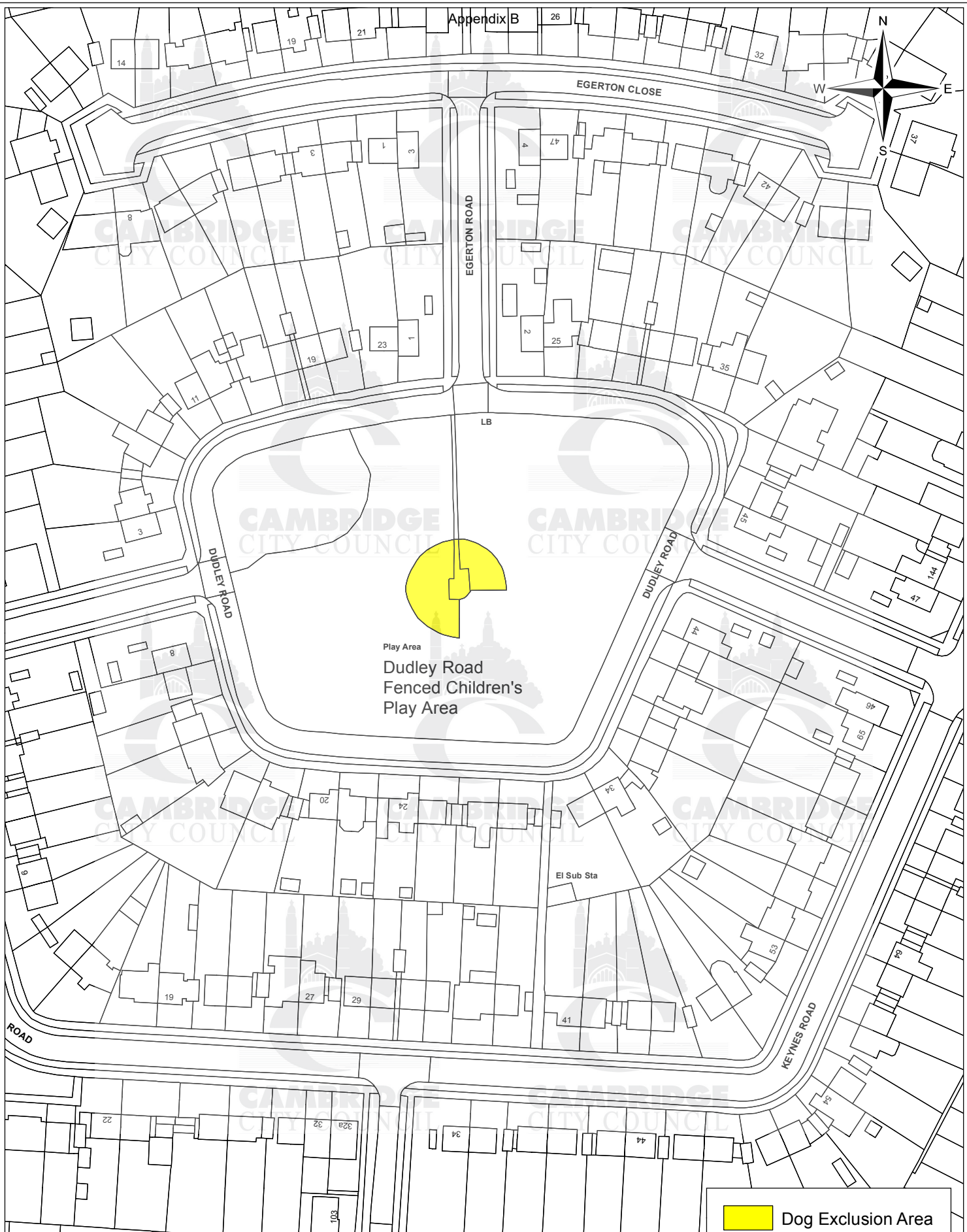
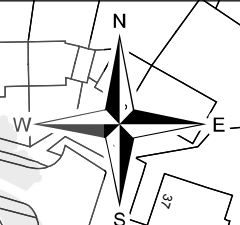
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 77

Date: 02 June 2020
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 Dog Exclusion Area

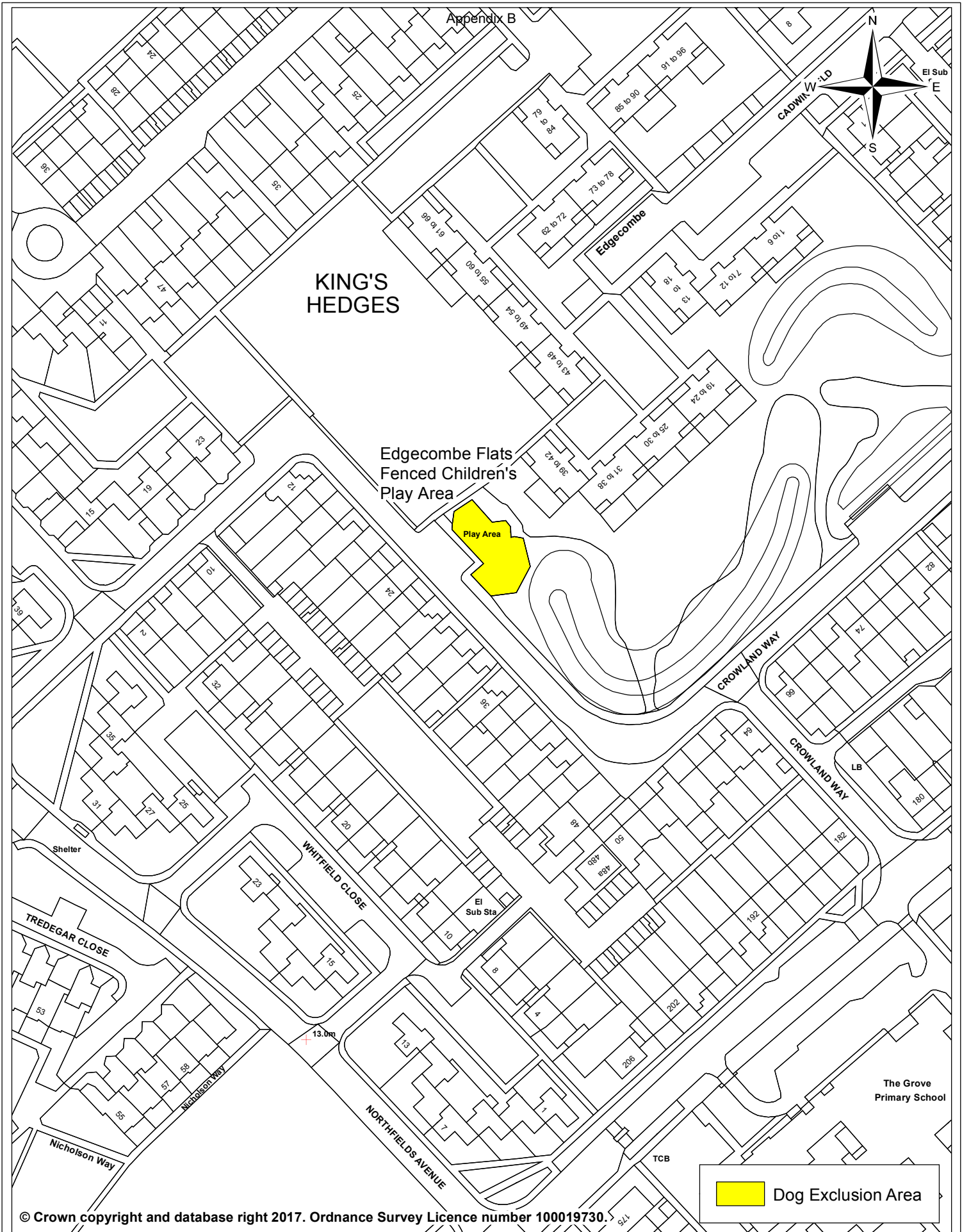
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 78

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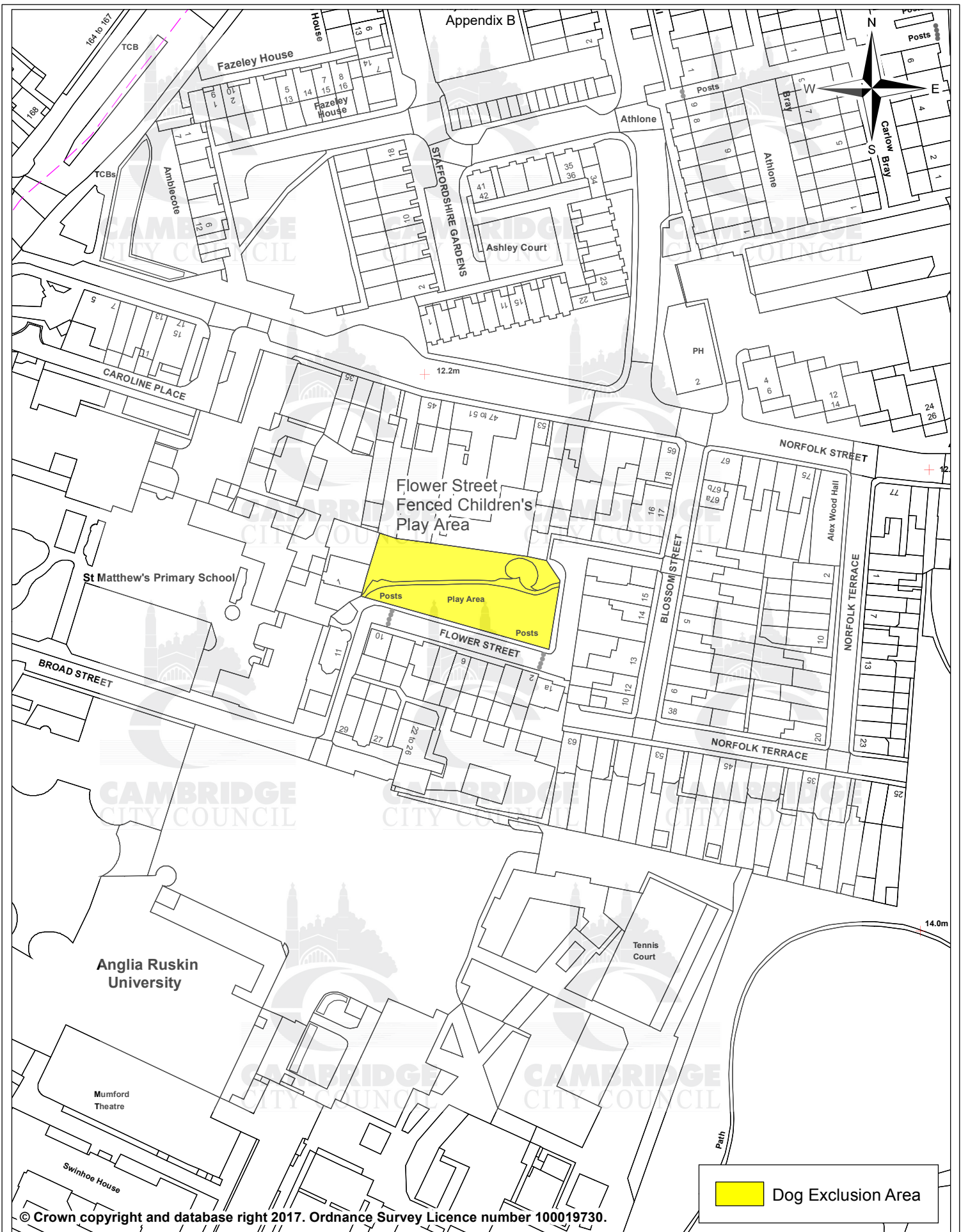
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 79

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Section/Department:	Spatial Team
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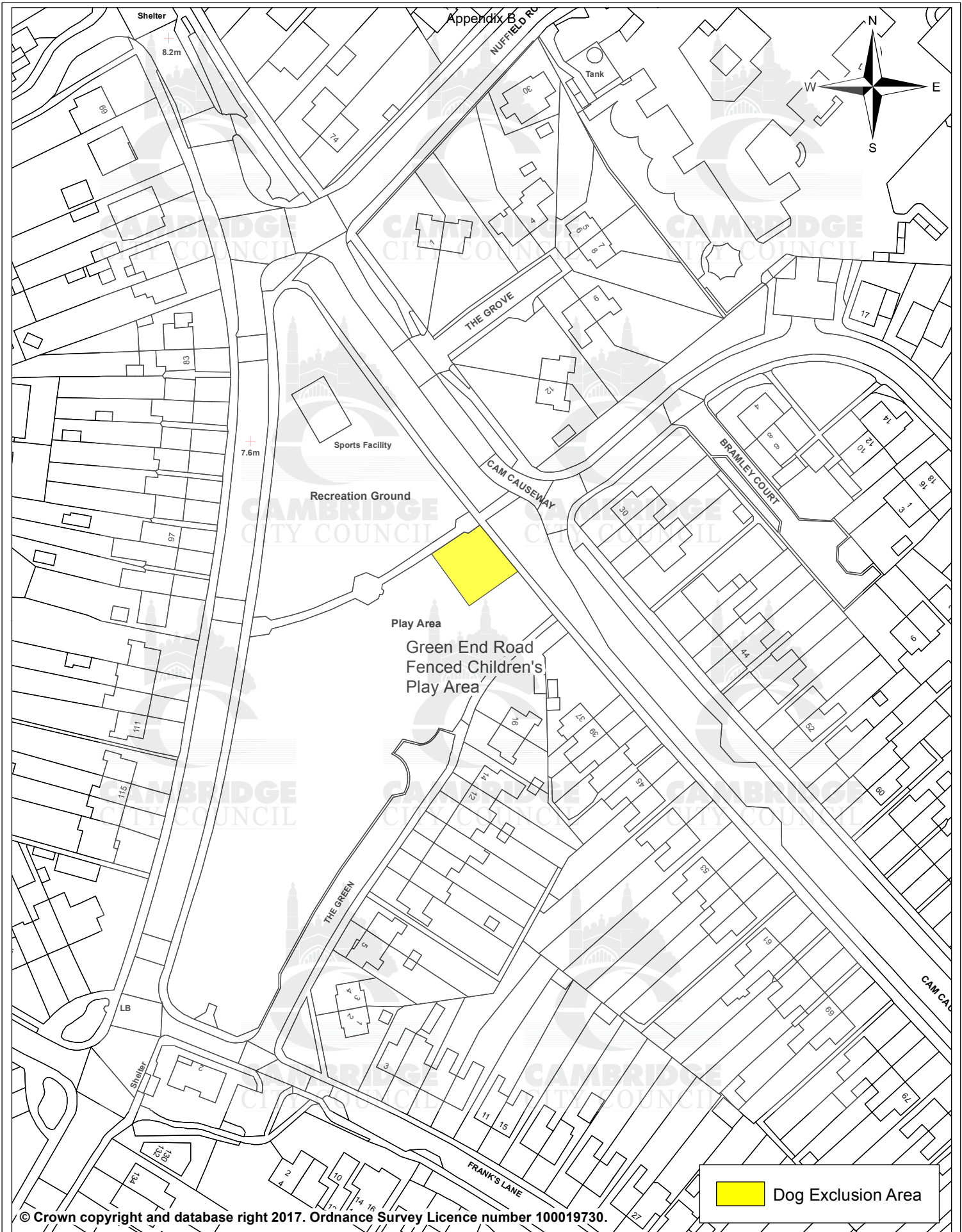
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 80


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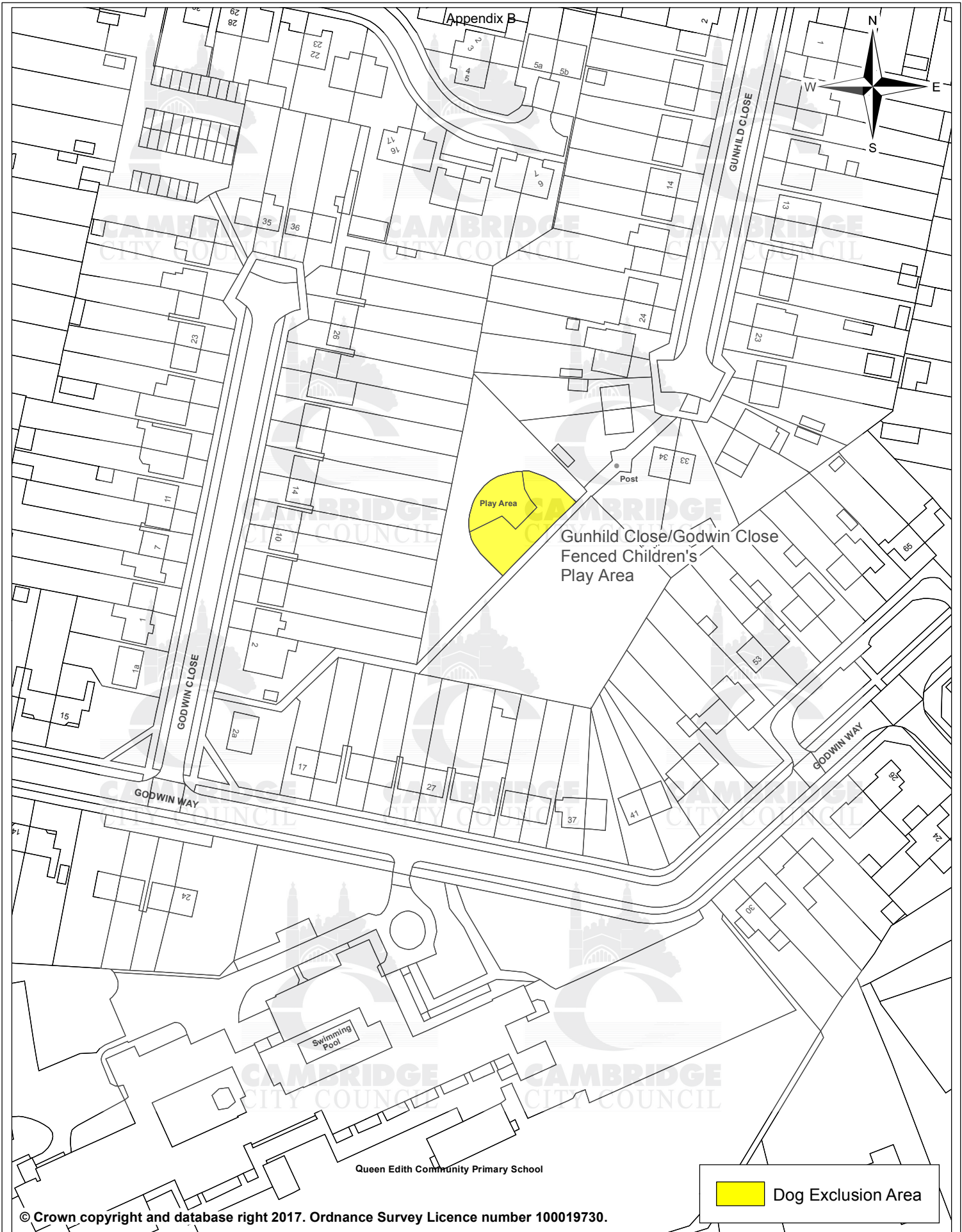


 Dog Exclusion Area



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)
Page 81

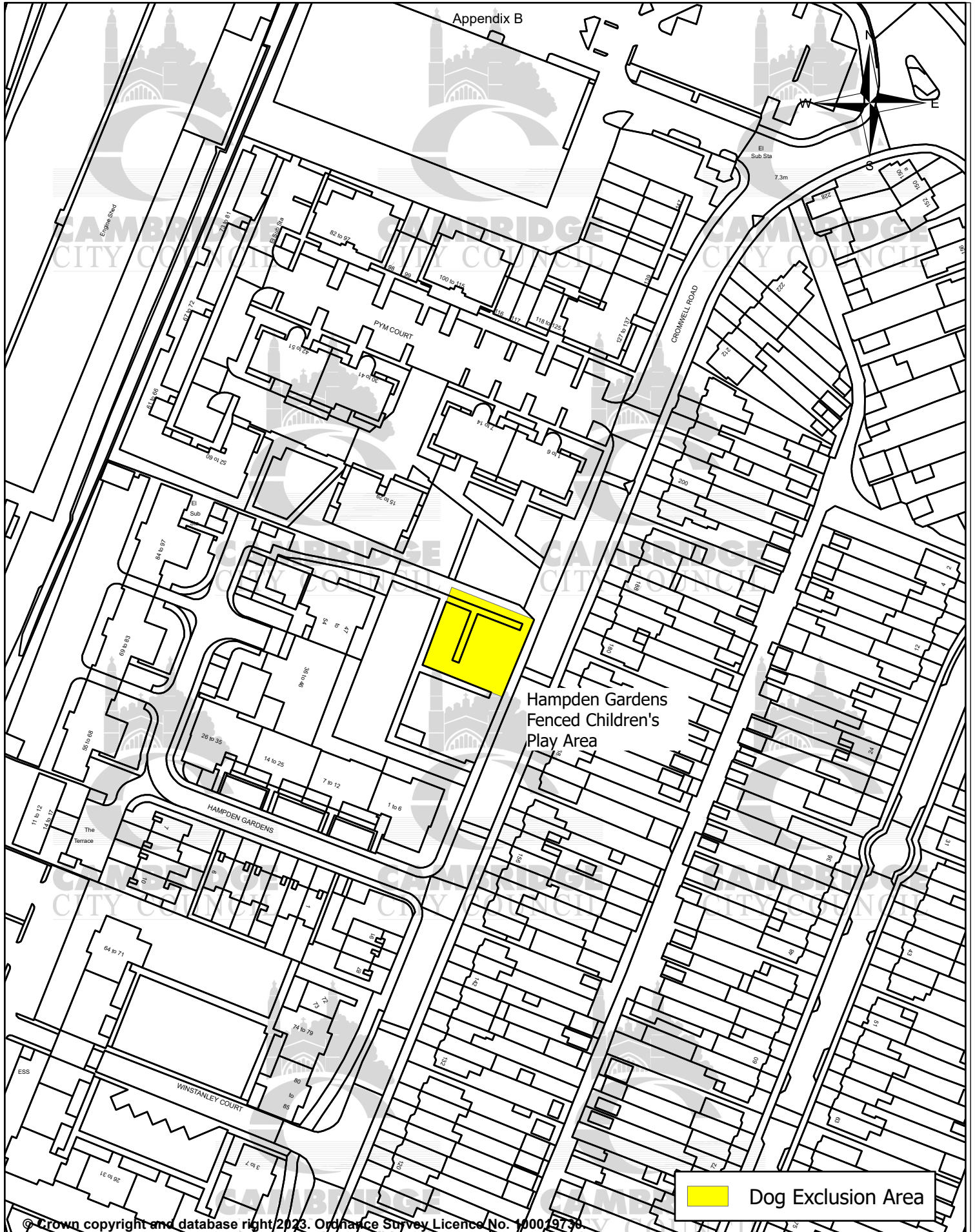
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)
Page 82

Date:	09 June 2017
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Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4

EI Sub Sta
7.3m



Hampden Gardens
Fenced Children's
Play Area


 Dog Exclusion Area

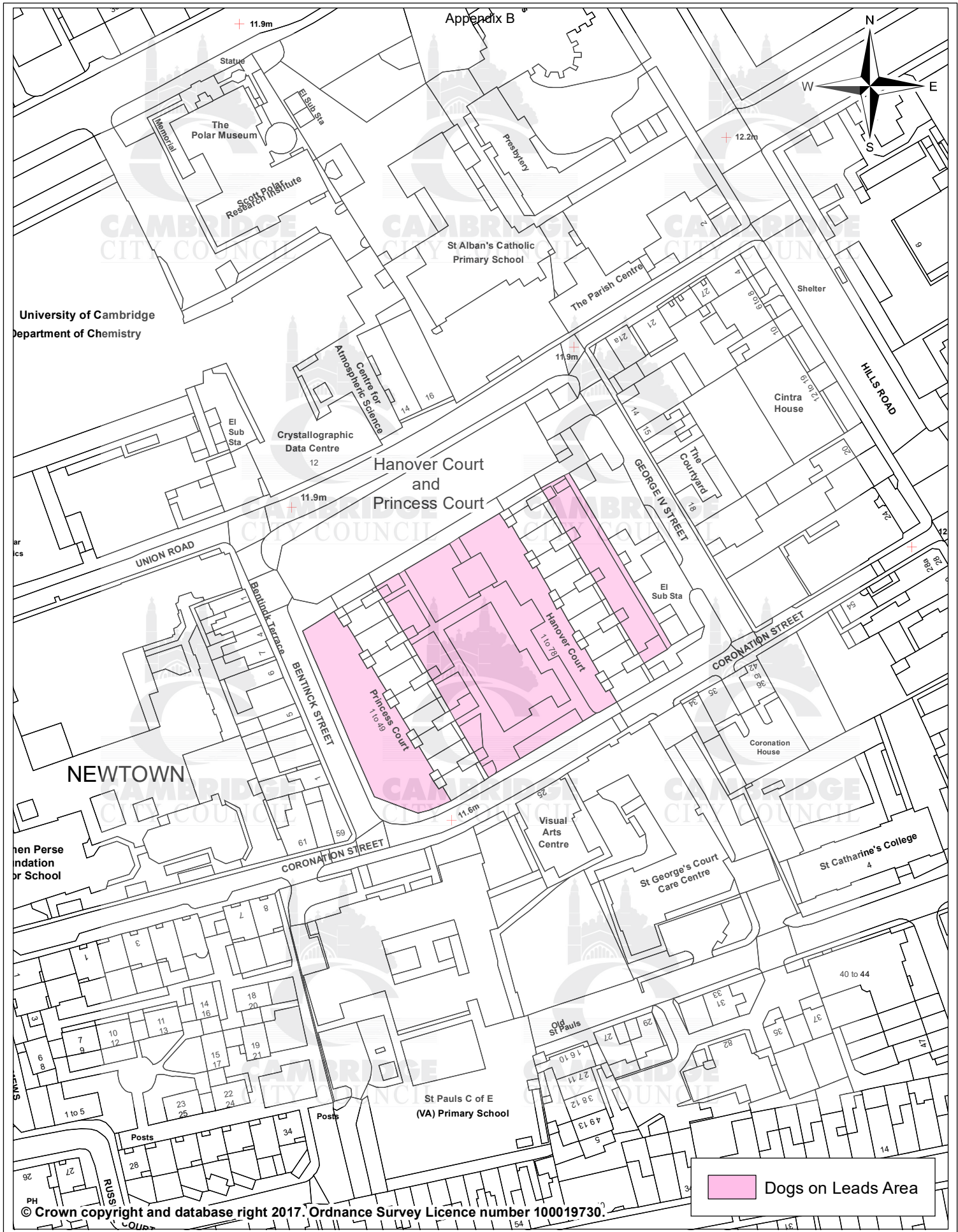
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

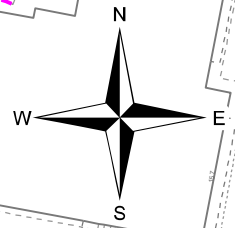
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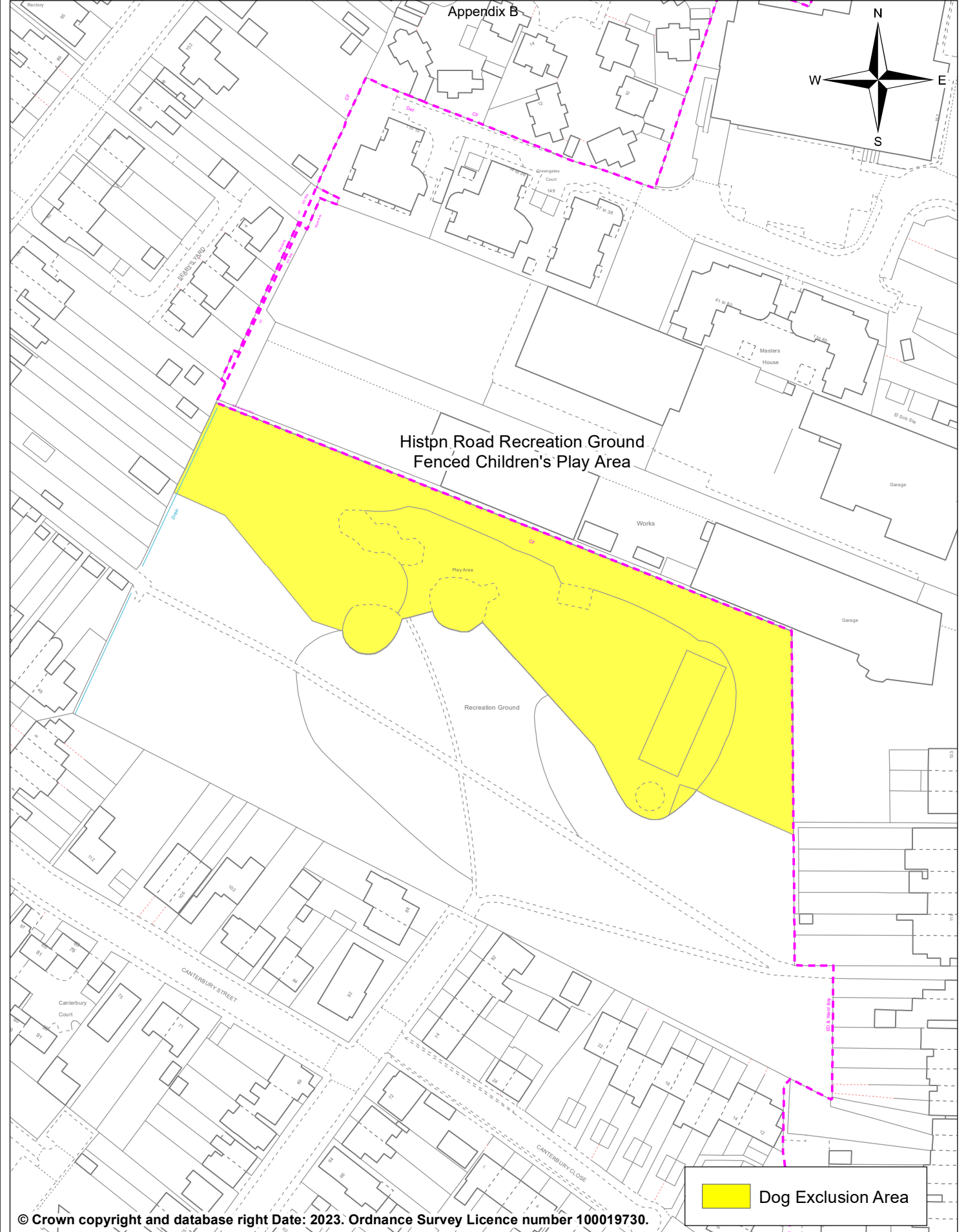


Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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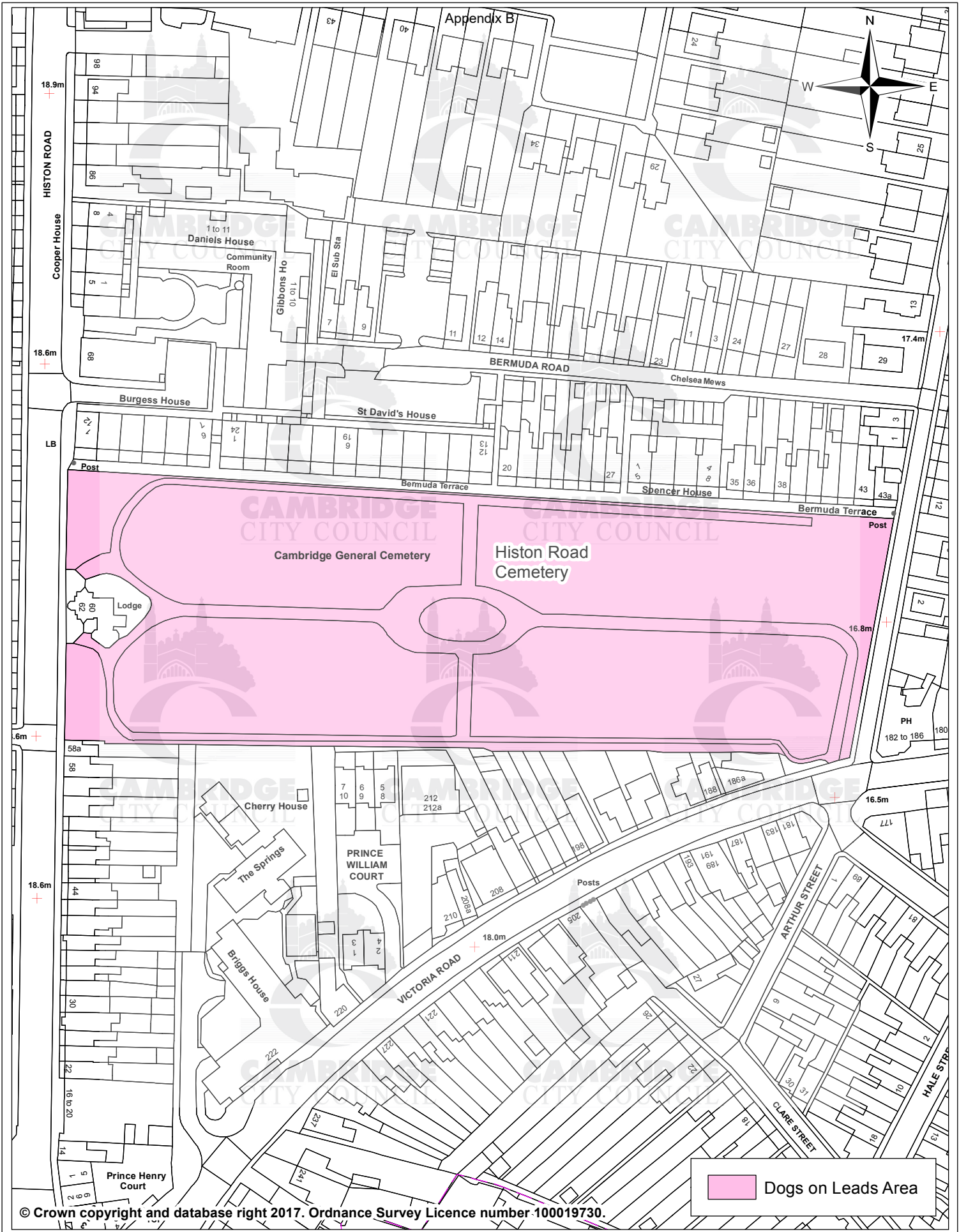
Histon Road Recreation Ground Fenced Children's Play Area



 Dog Exclusion Area

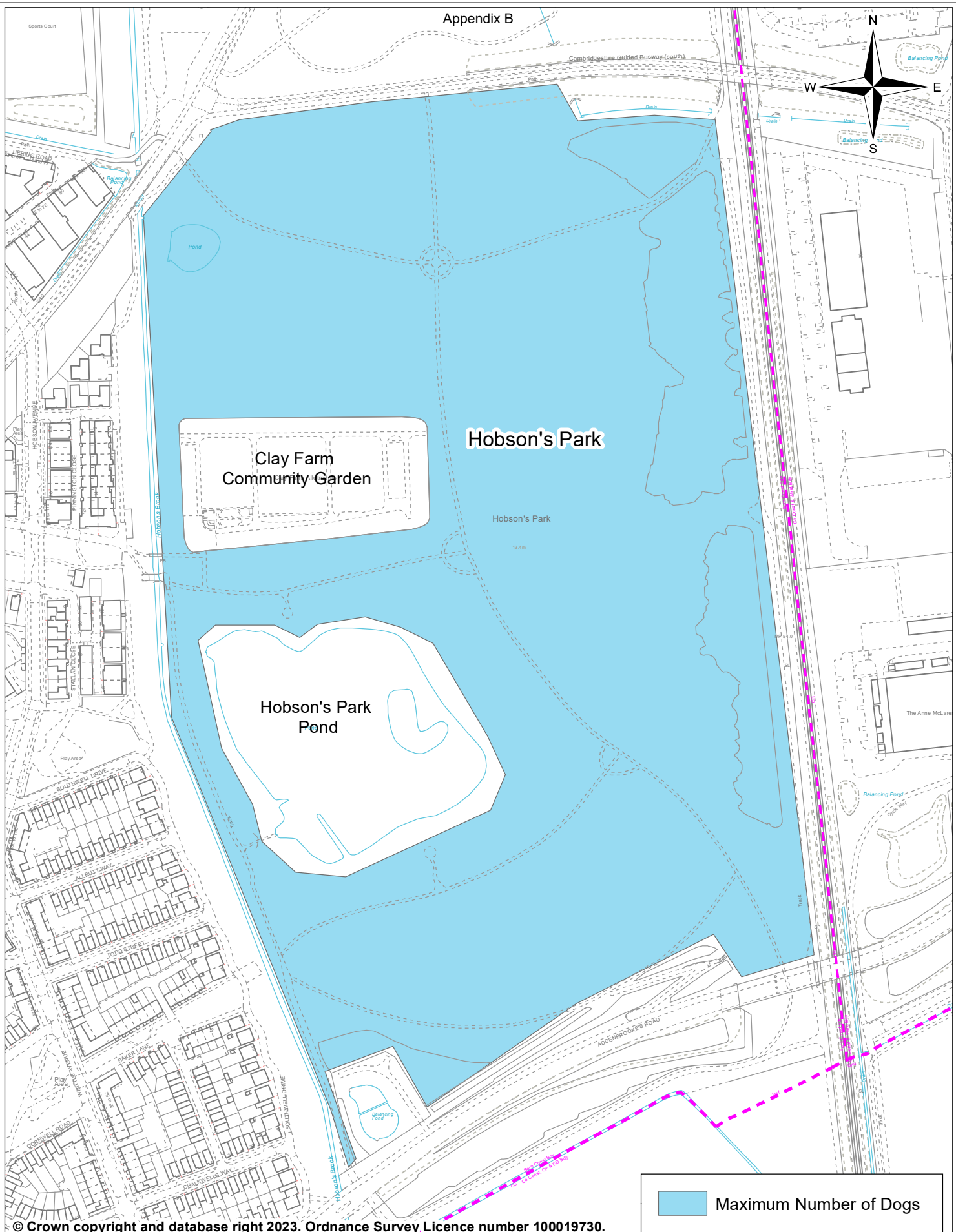
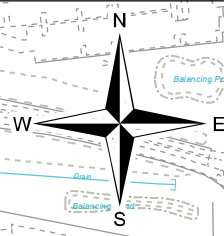


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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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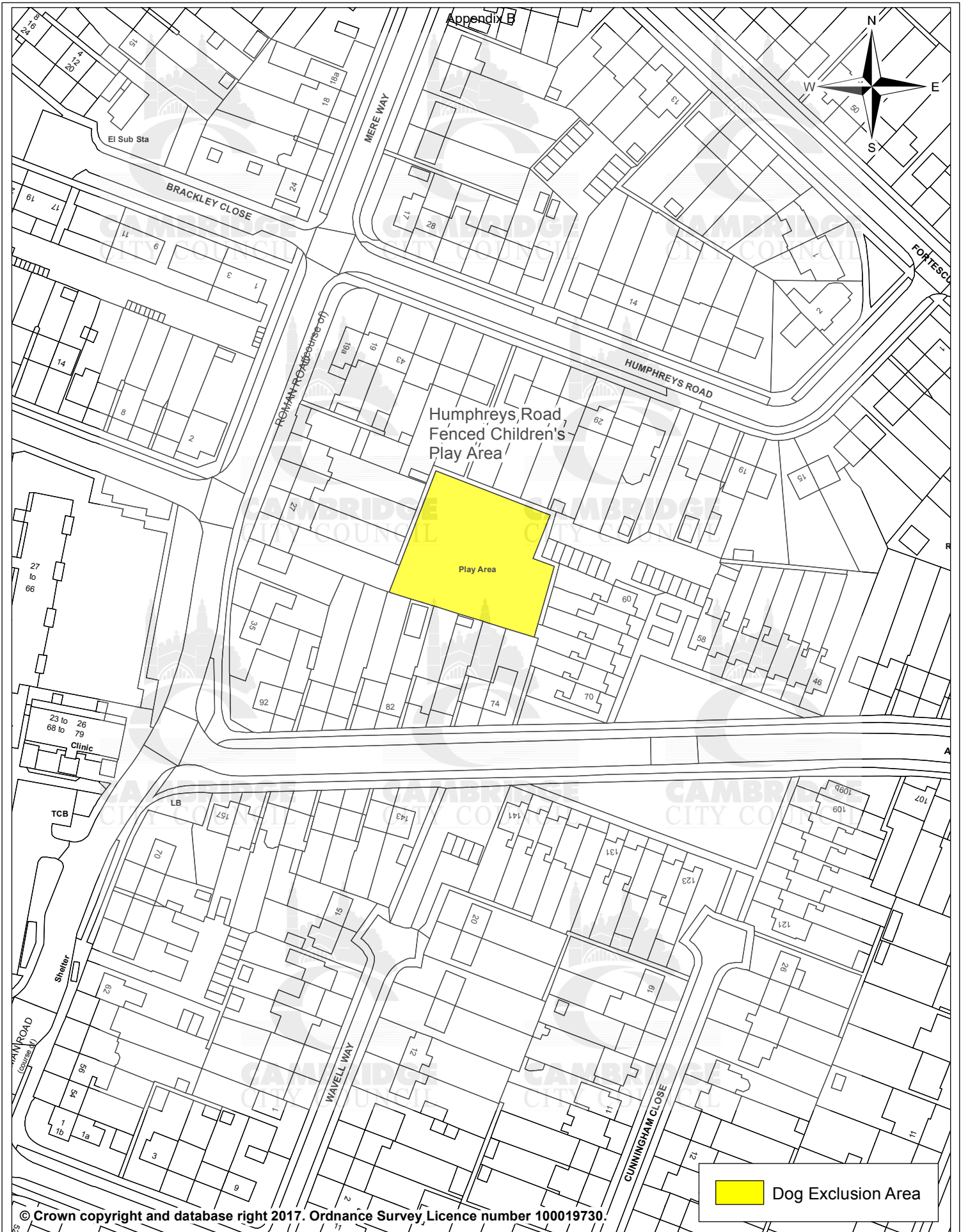
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

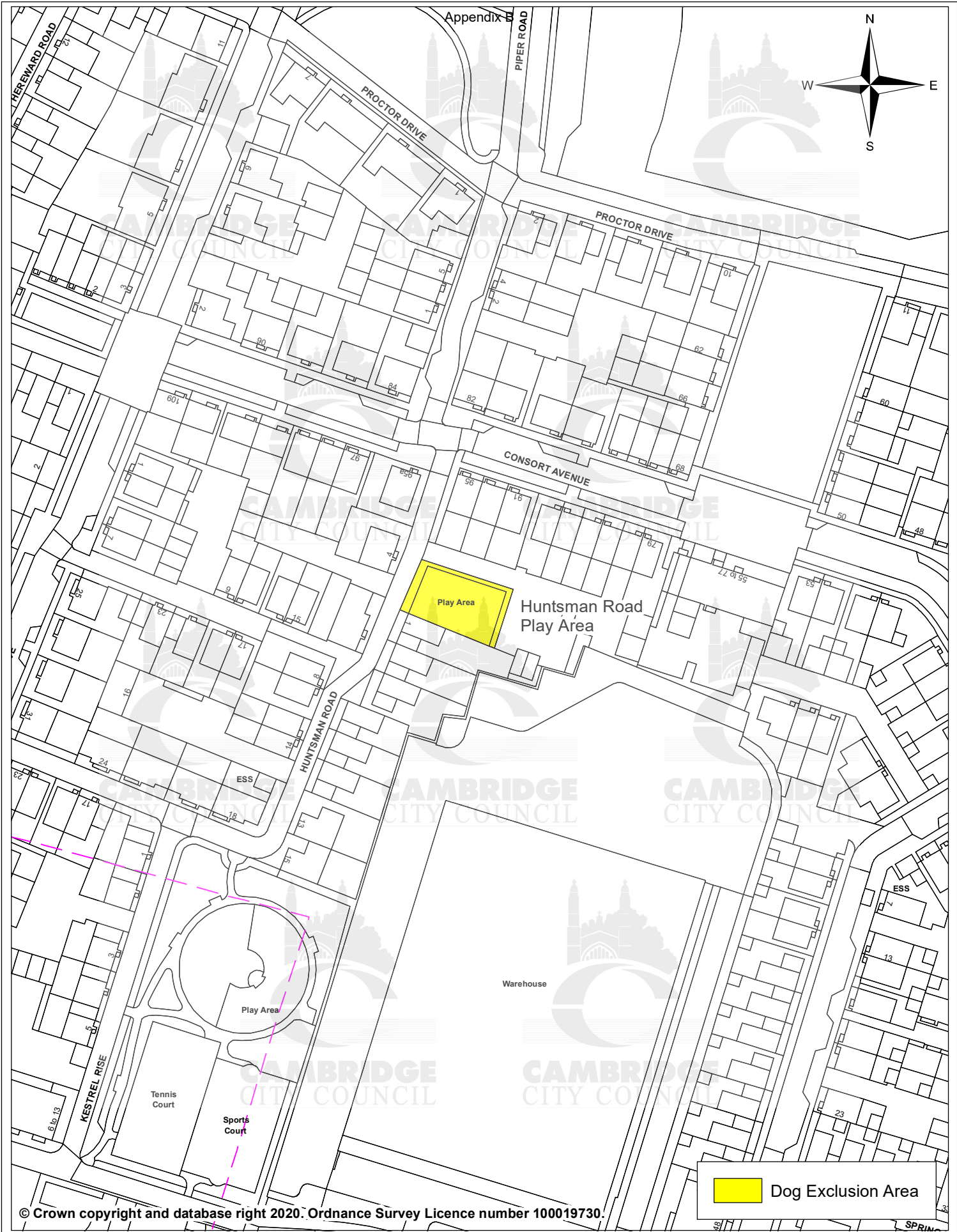
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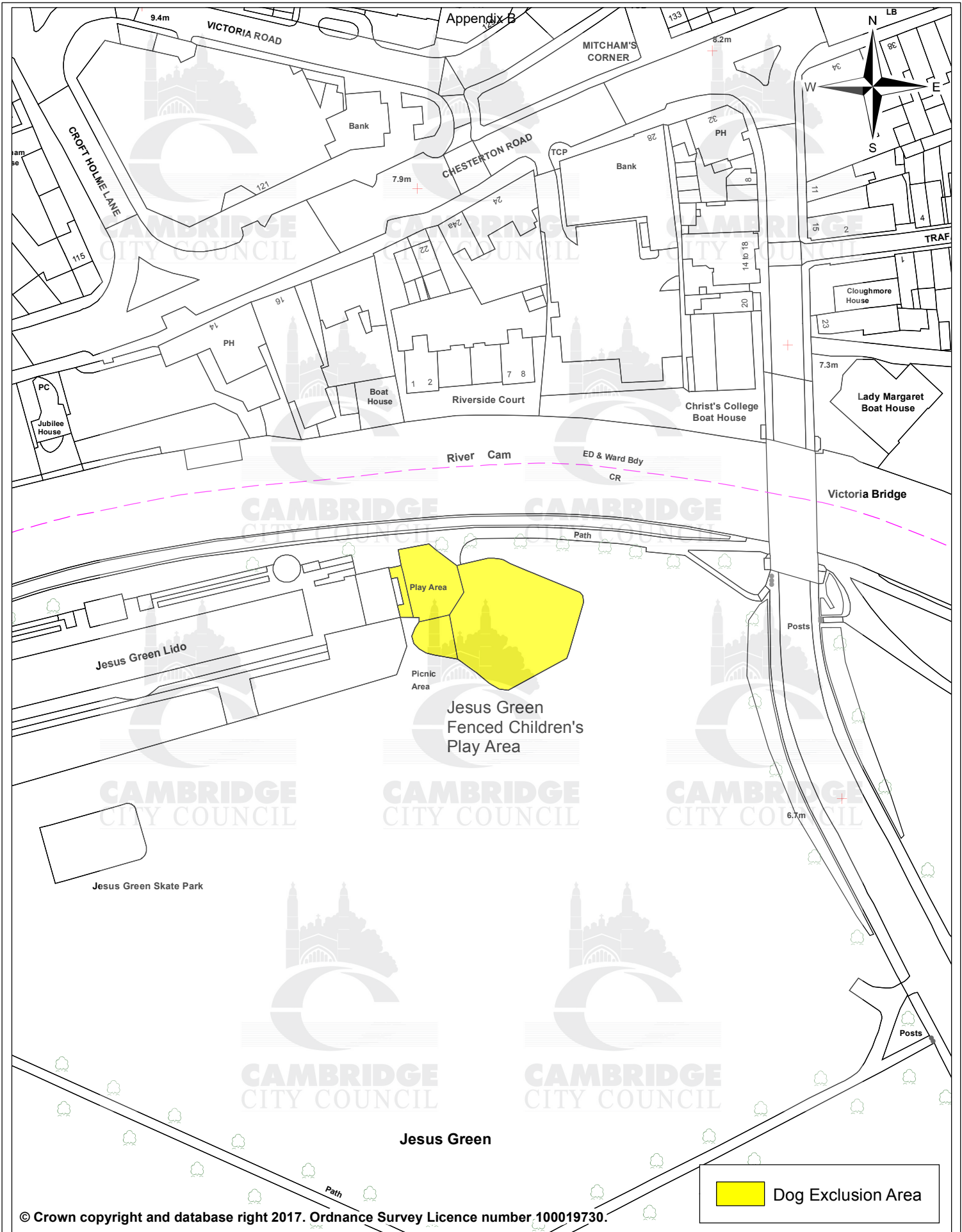
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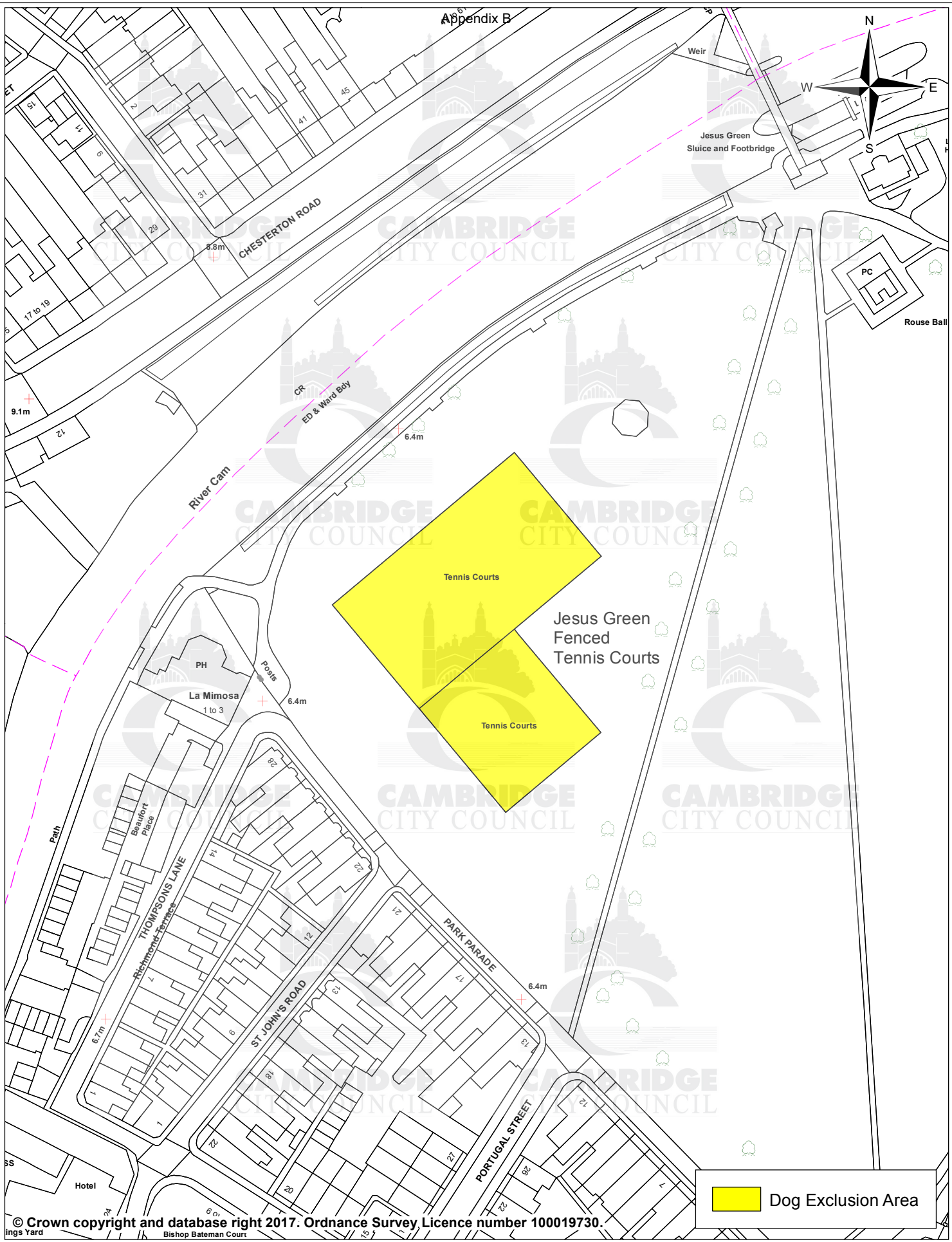
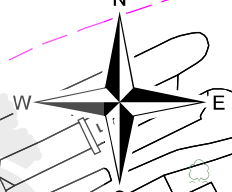
	Dog Exclusion Area
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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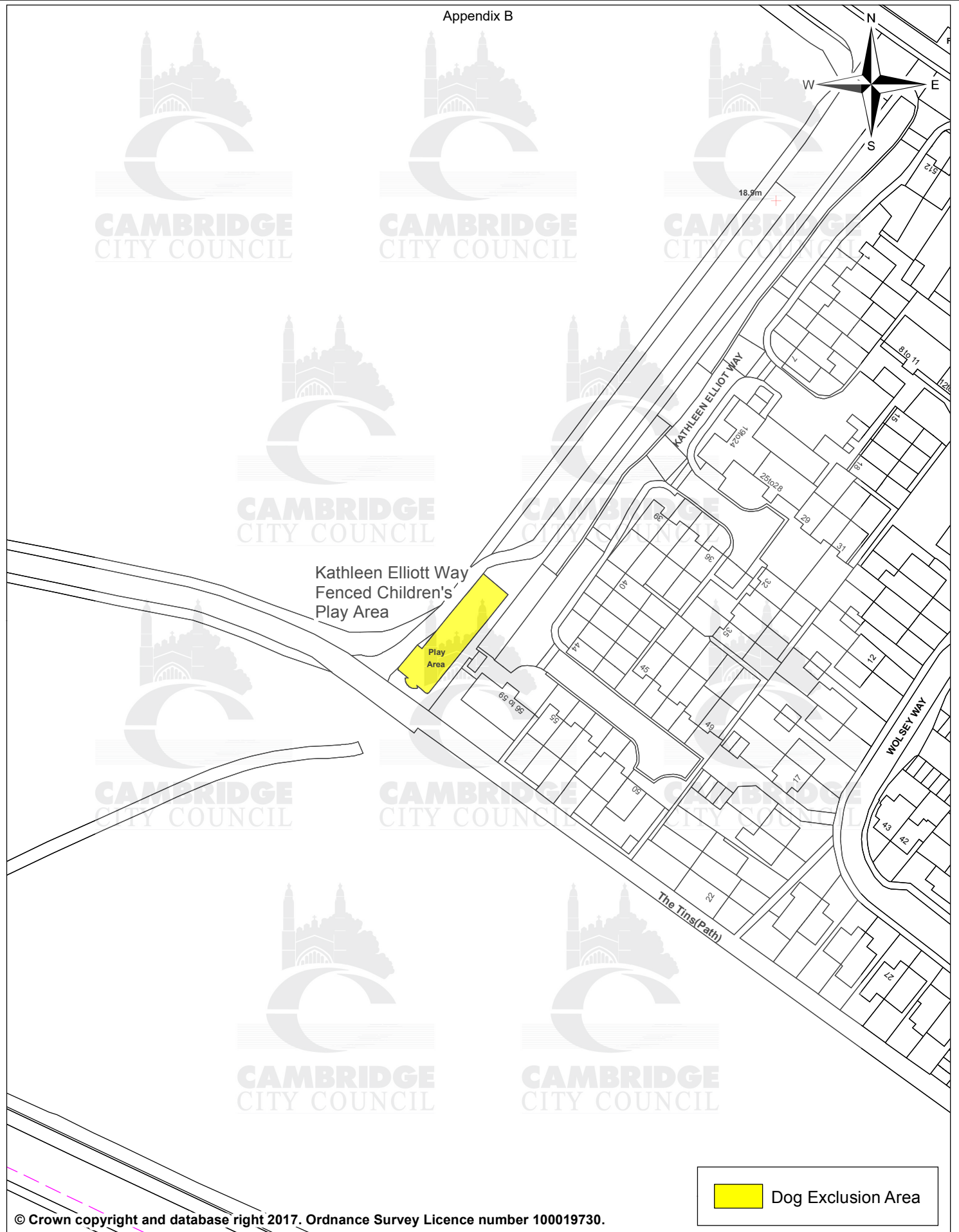
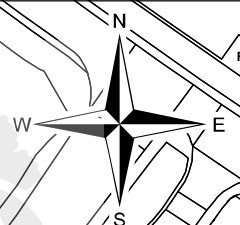
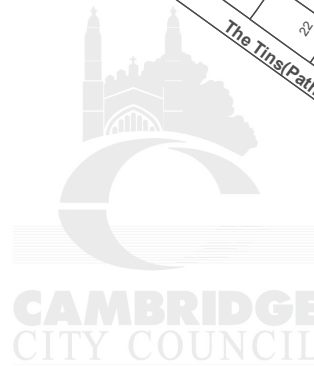
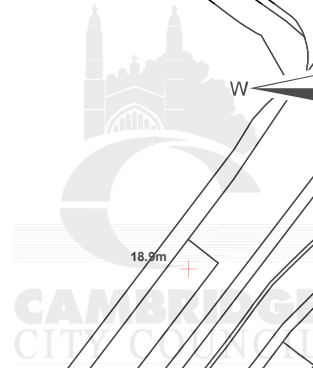
 Dog Exclusion Area



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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Kathleen Elliott Way Fenced Children's Play Area

Play Area



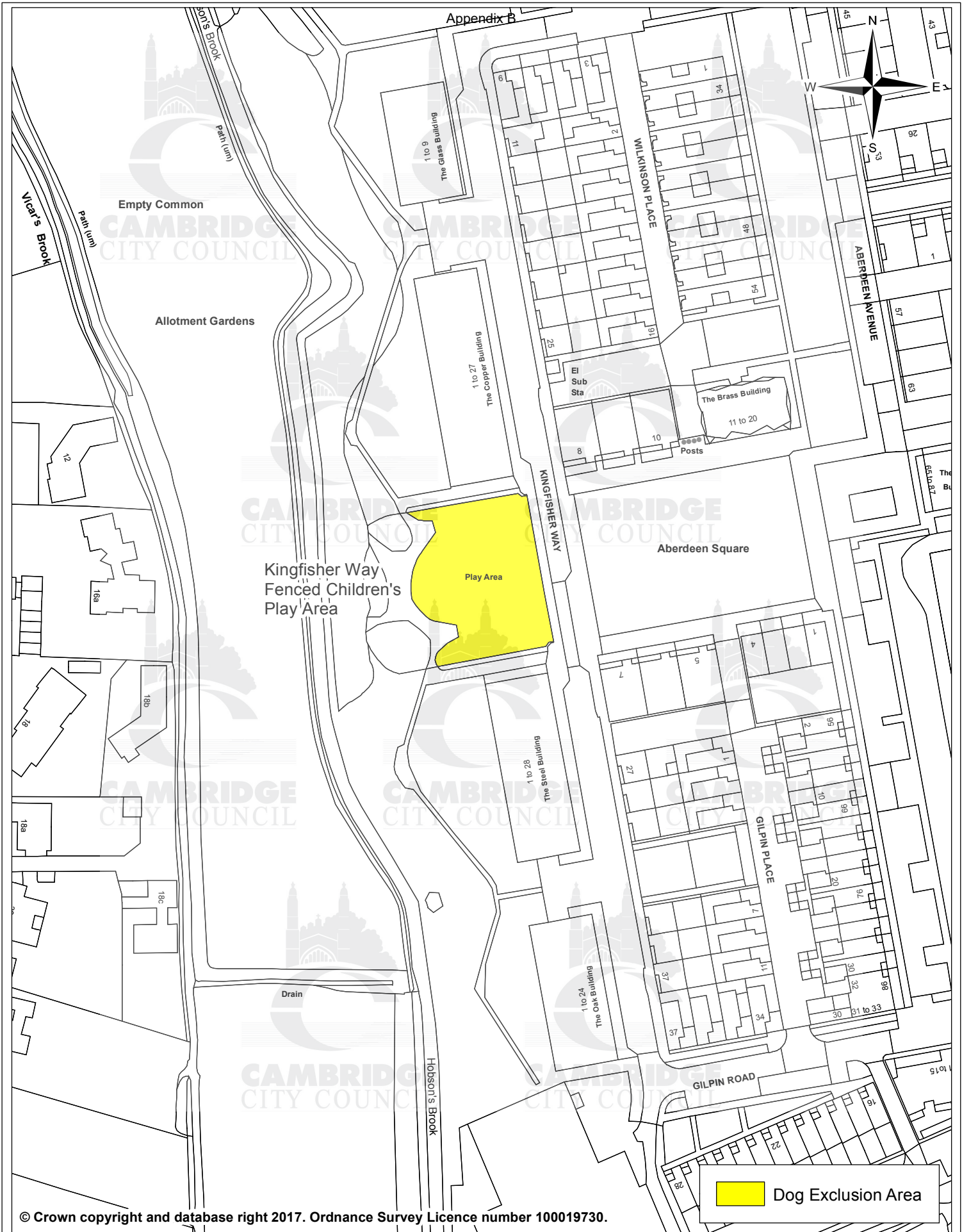
Dog Exclusion Area

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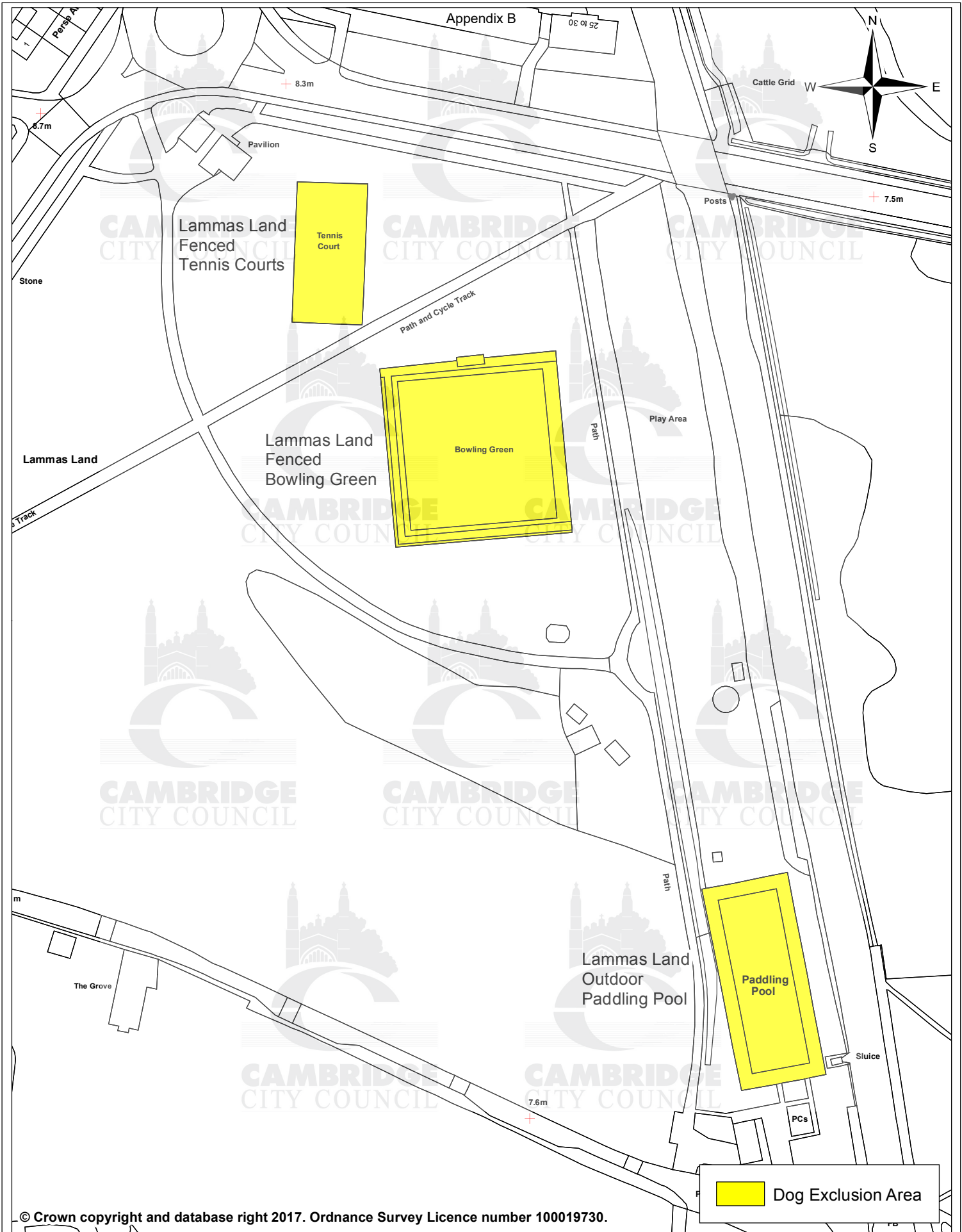
Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control) Page 92

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Page 93

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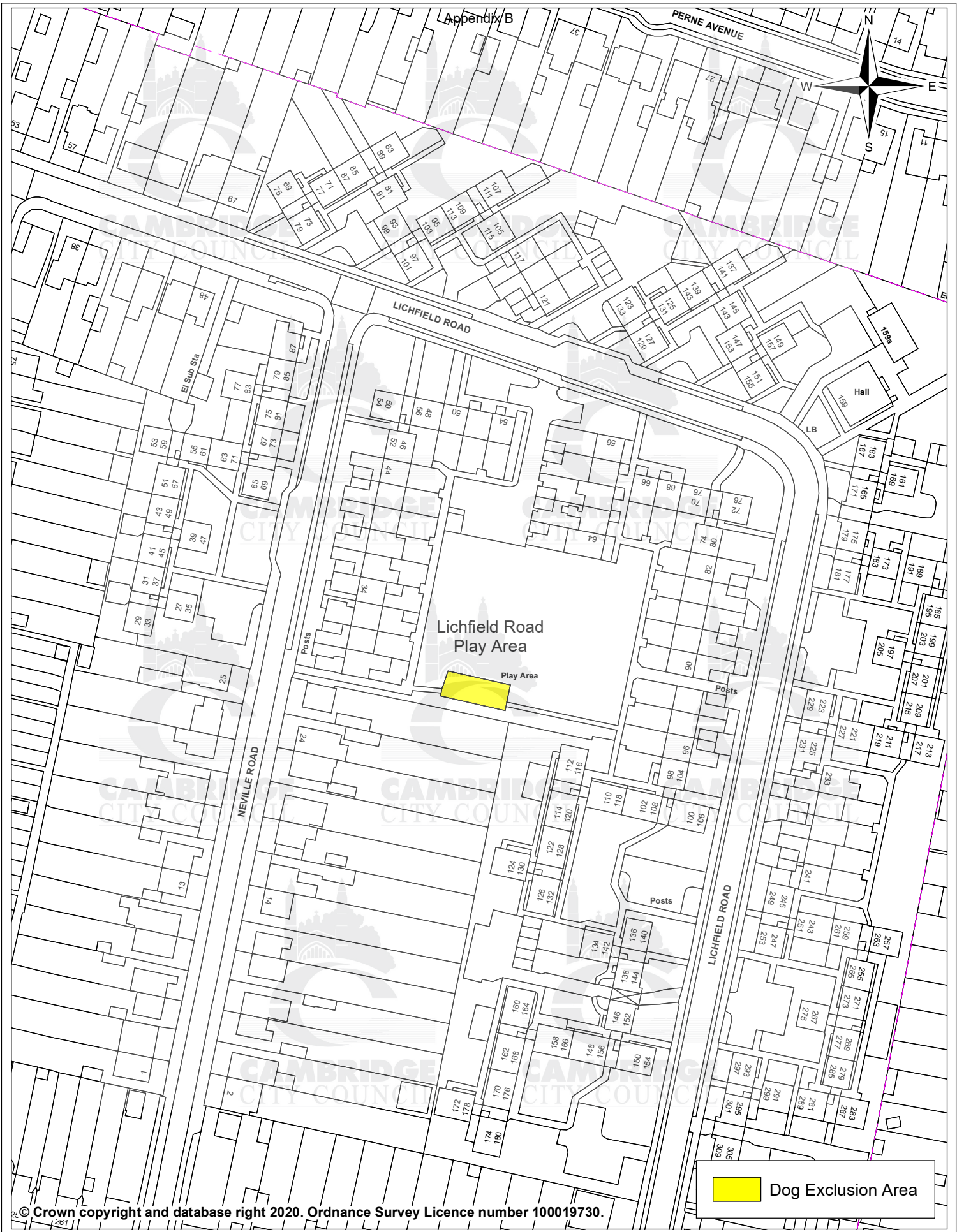
 Dog Exclusion Area

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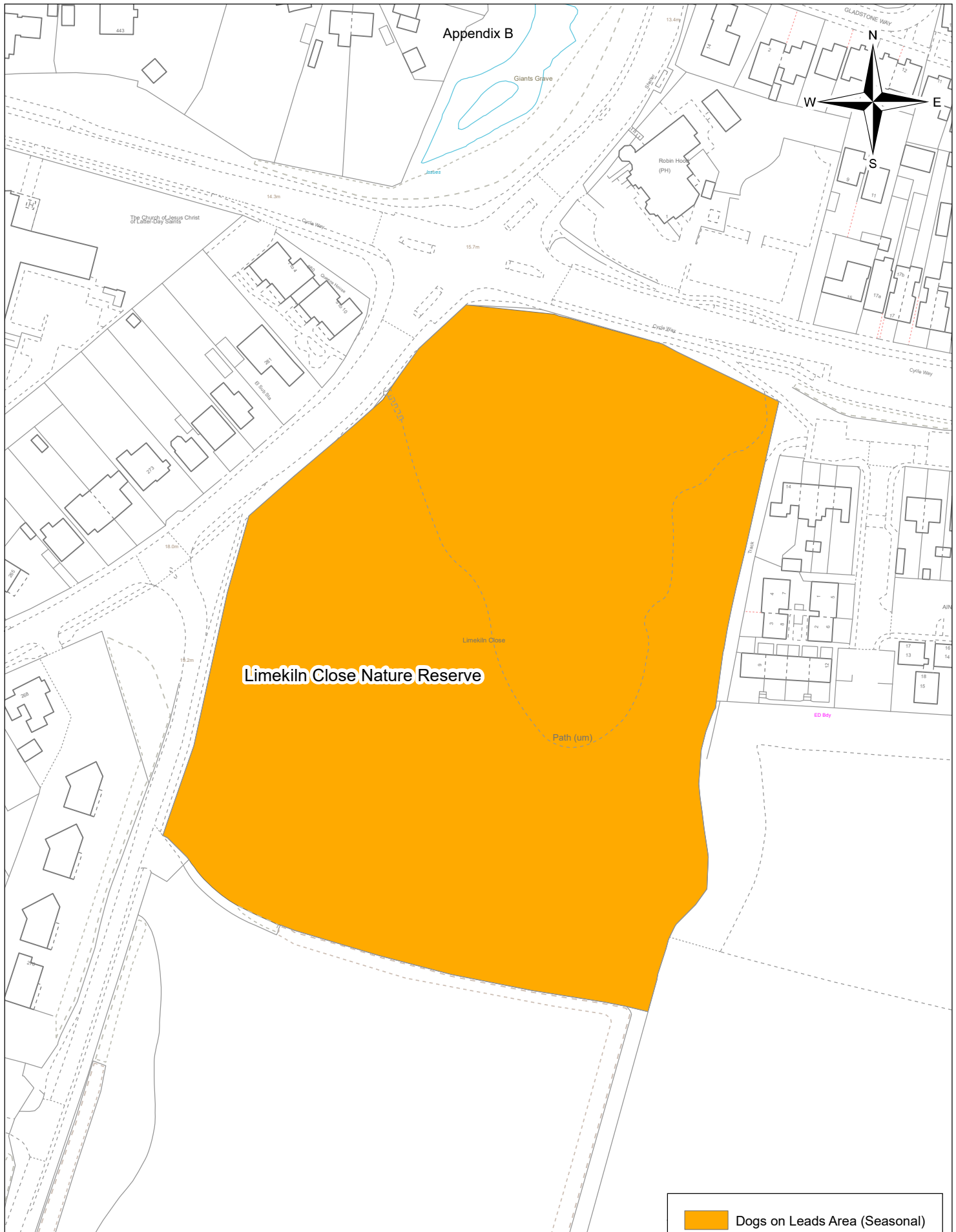
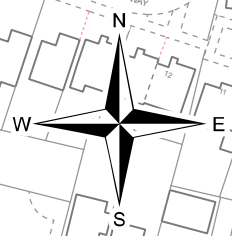
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Limekiln Close Nature Reserve

 Dogs on Leads Area (Seasonal)

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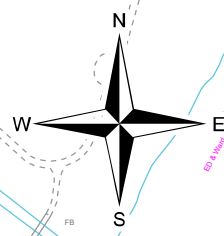
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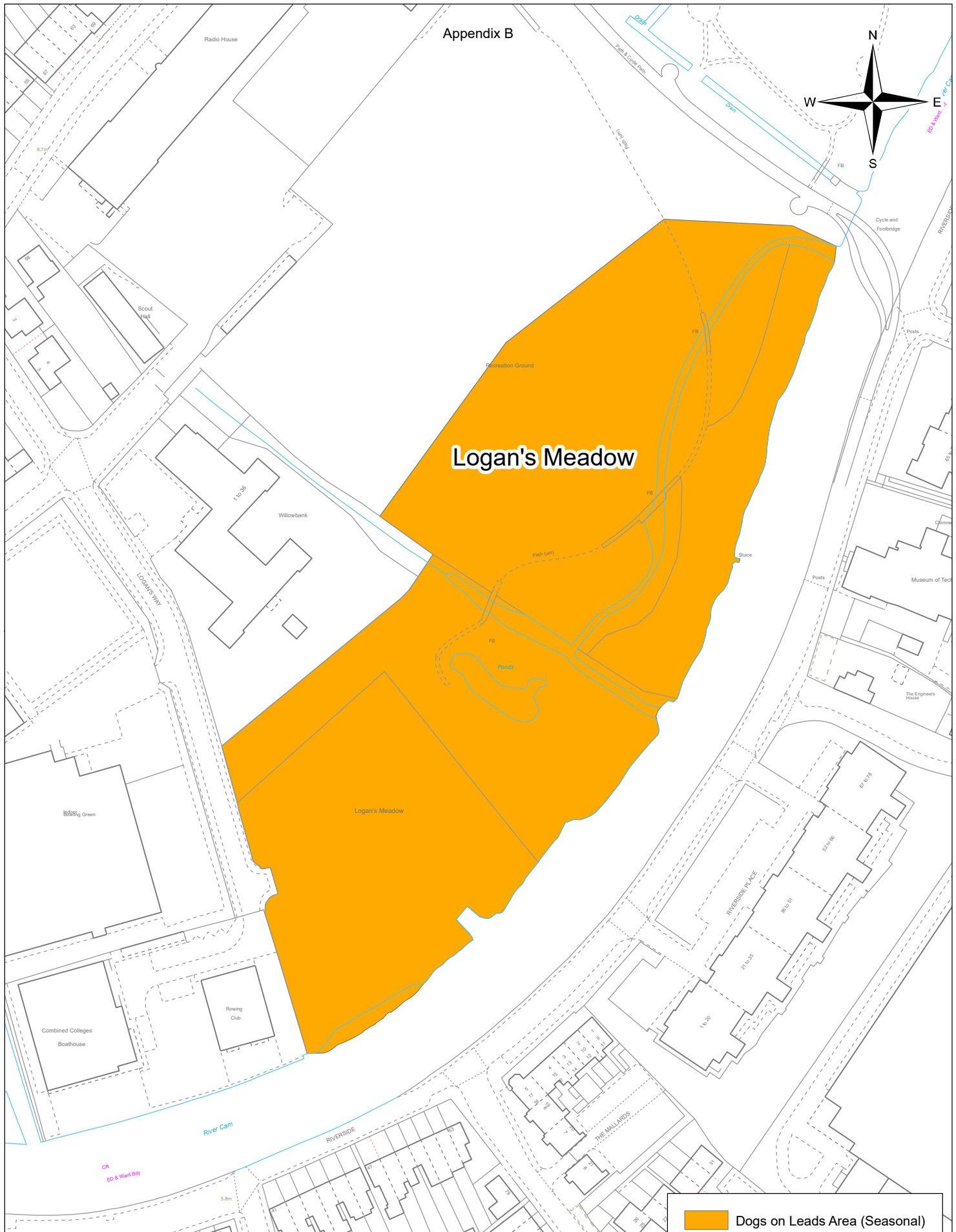
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Logan's Meadow



 Dogs on Leads Area (Seasonal)

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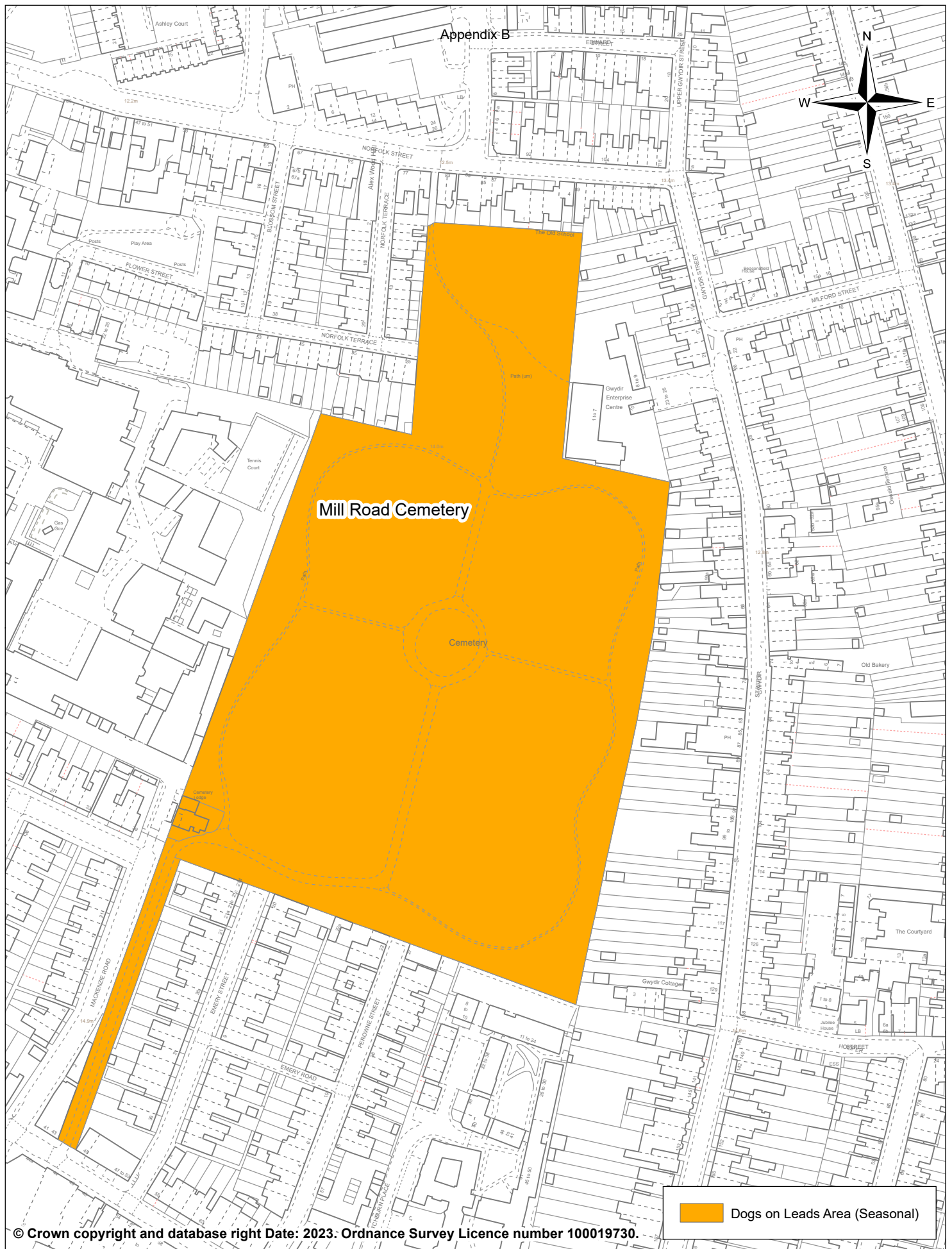
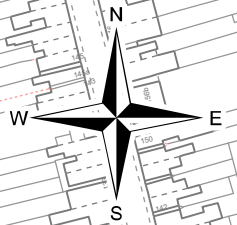
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Mill Road Cemetery

Cemetery

 Dogs on Leads Area (Seasonal)

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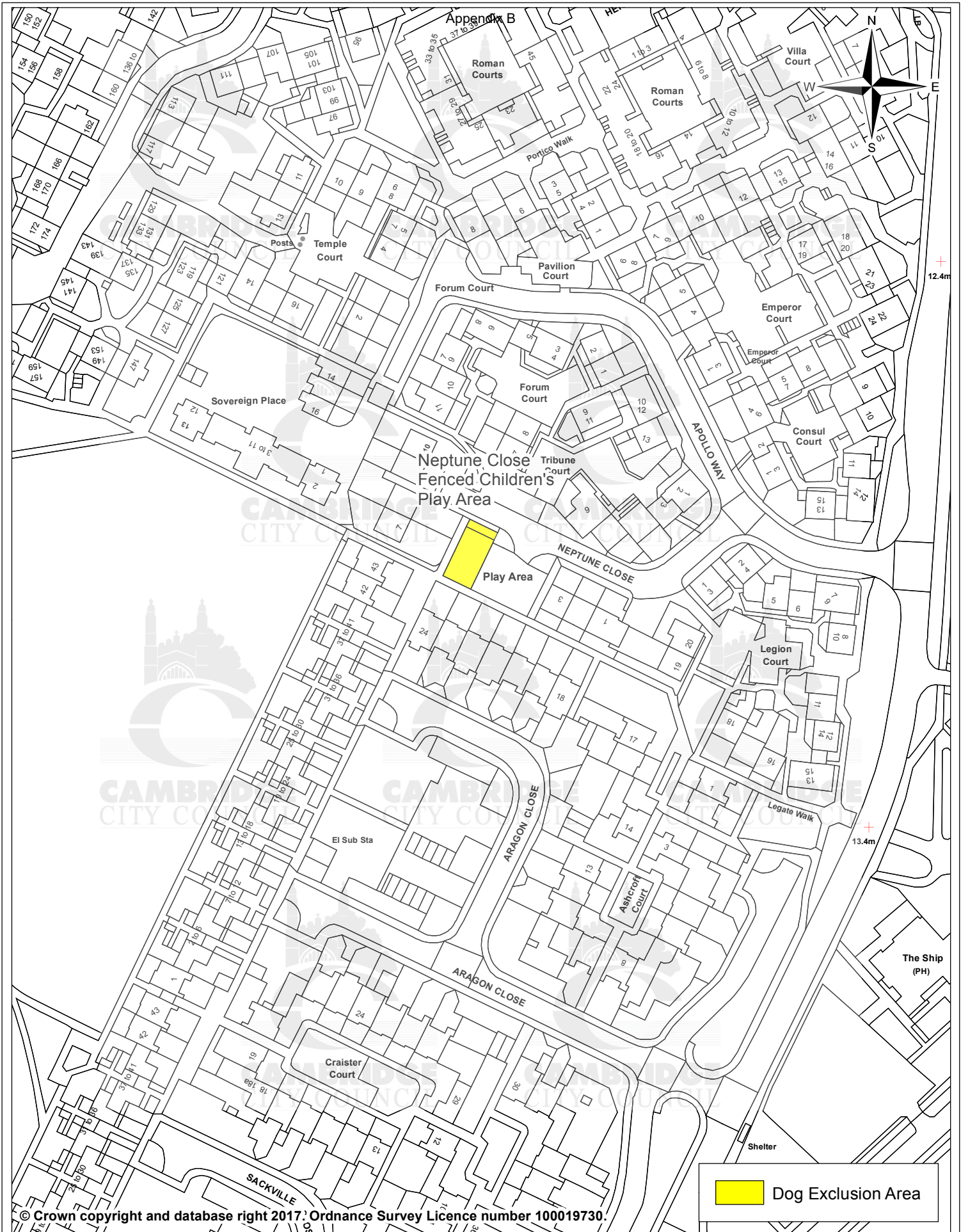
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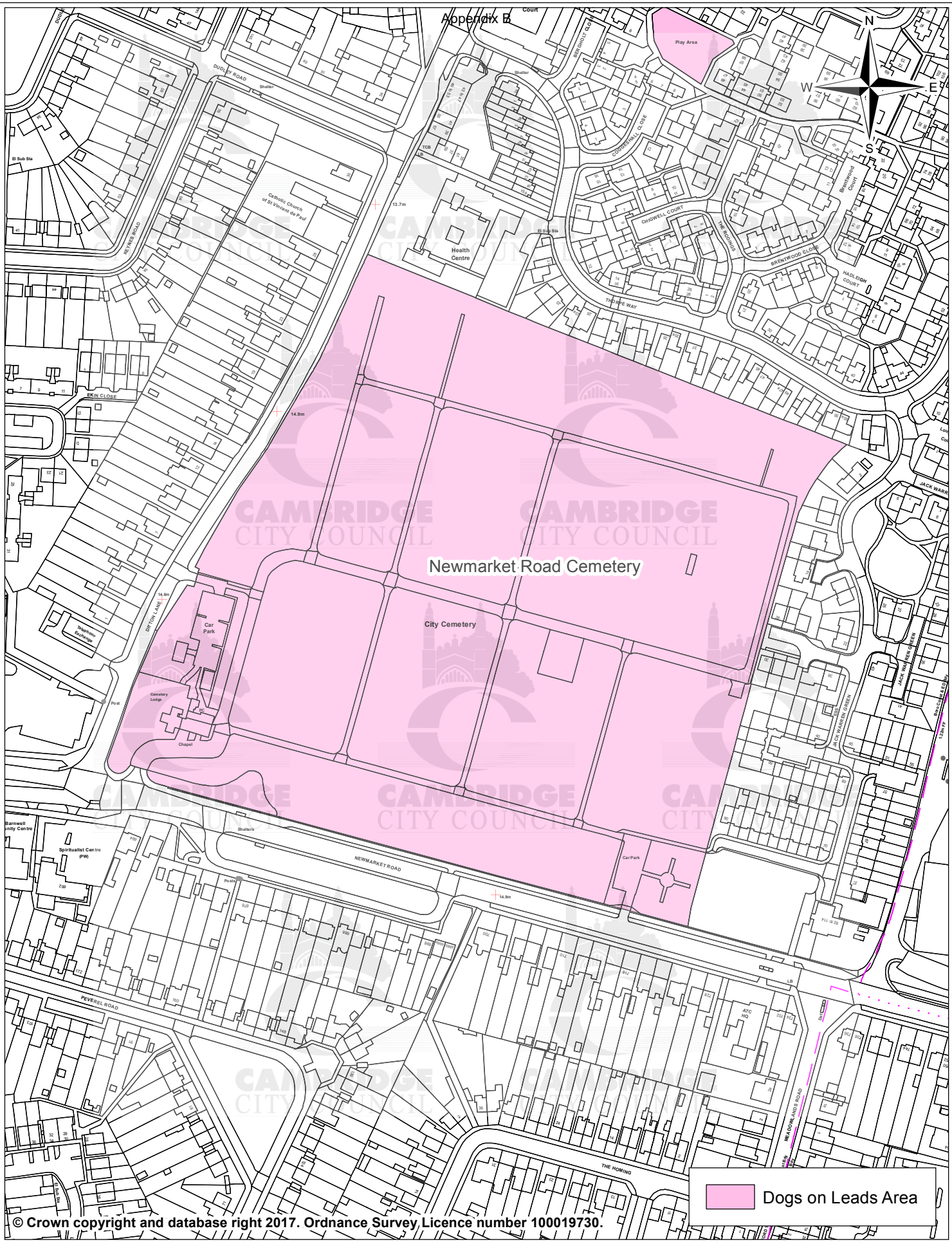
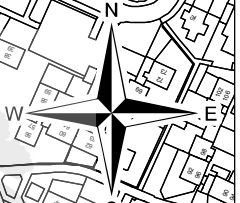
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 99

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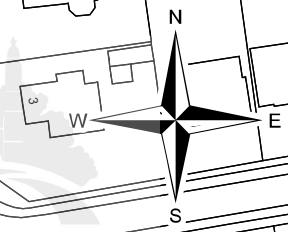
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 Dogs on Leads Area



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Bowling Green

Nightingale Avenue
Recreation Ground
Fenced Children's
Play Area



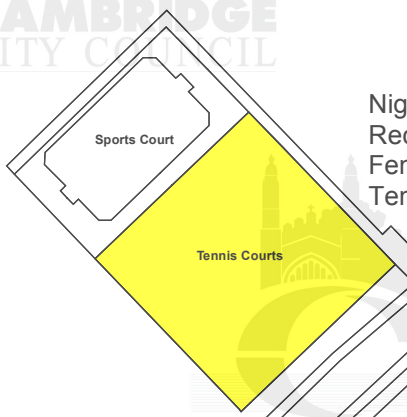
Play Area

Pavilion
PCs

LB

Recreation Ground

Nightingale Avenue
Recreation Ground
Fenced
Tennis Courts



Sports Court

Tennis Courts



Dog Exclusion Area

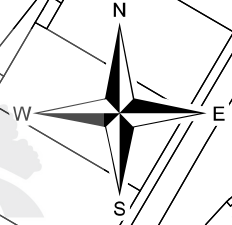
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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recreation Ground

Nuns Way Fenced Children's Play Area



Nuns Way Pavilion




 Dog Exclusion Area

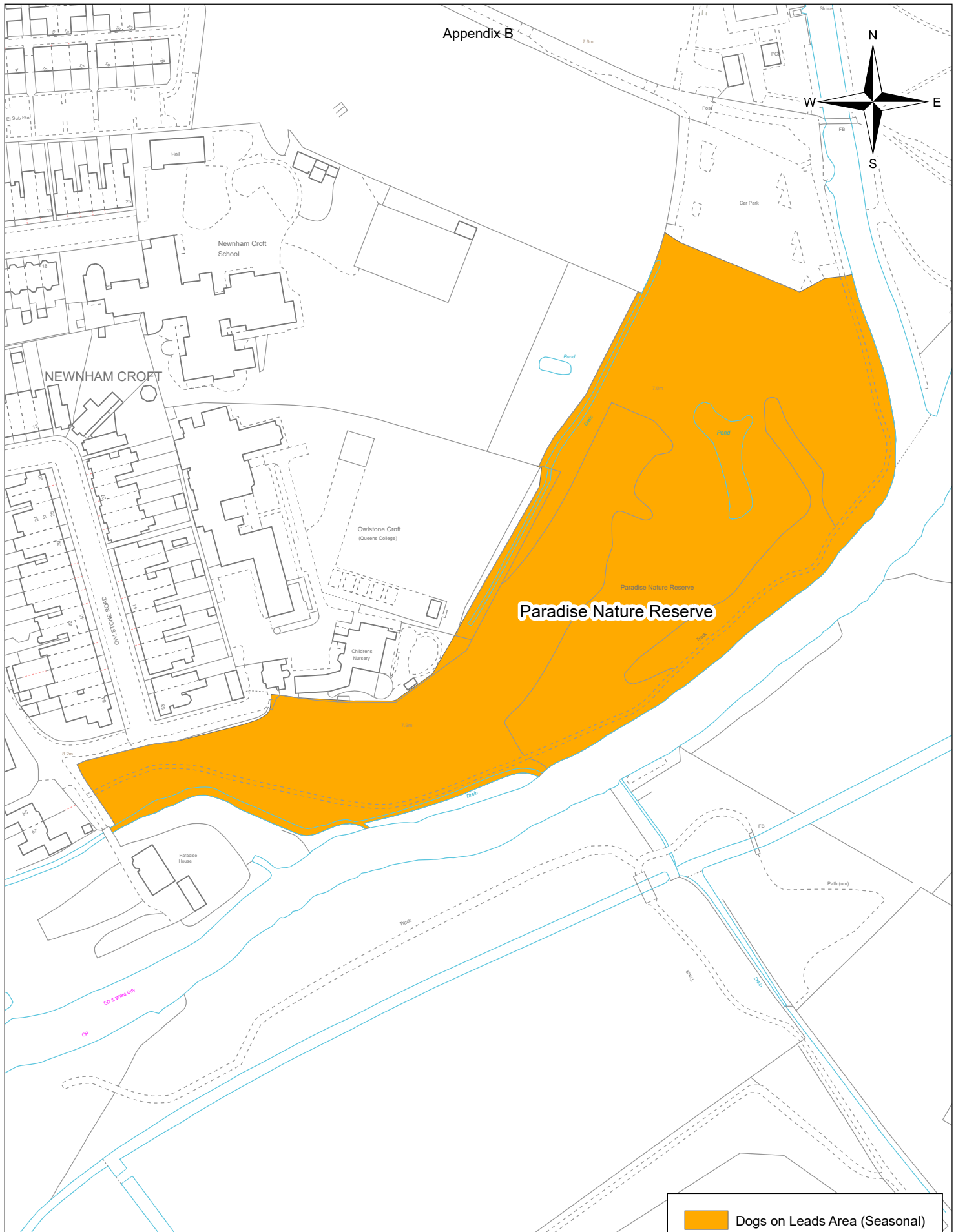
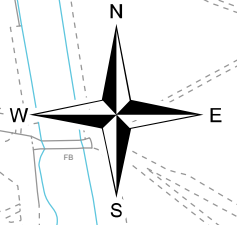
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 Dogs on Leads Area (Seasonal)



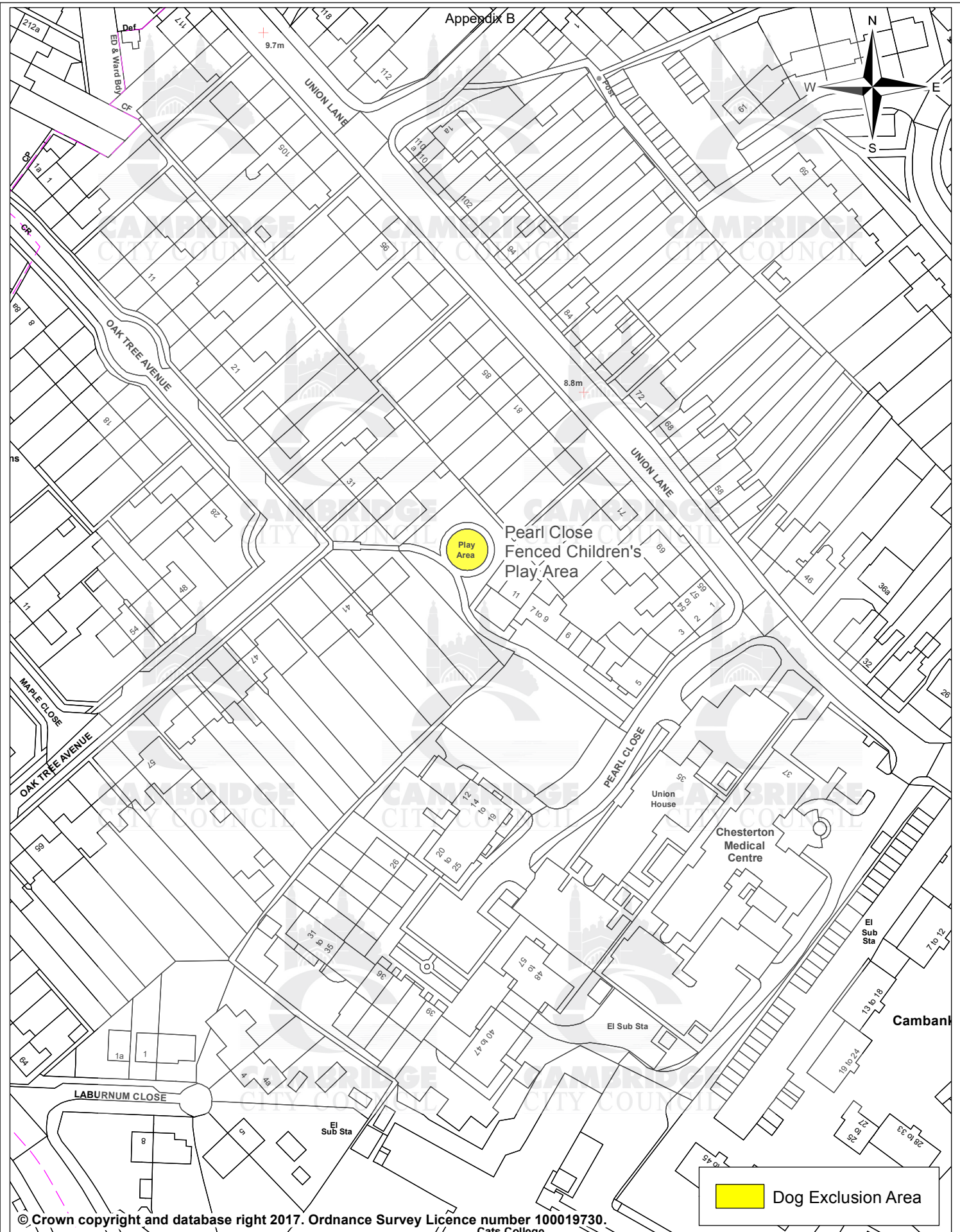
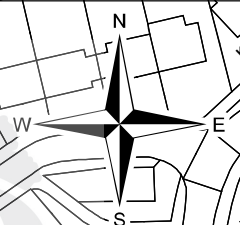
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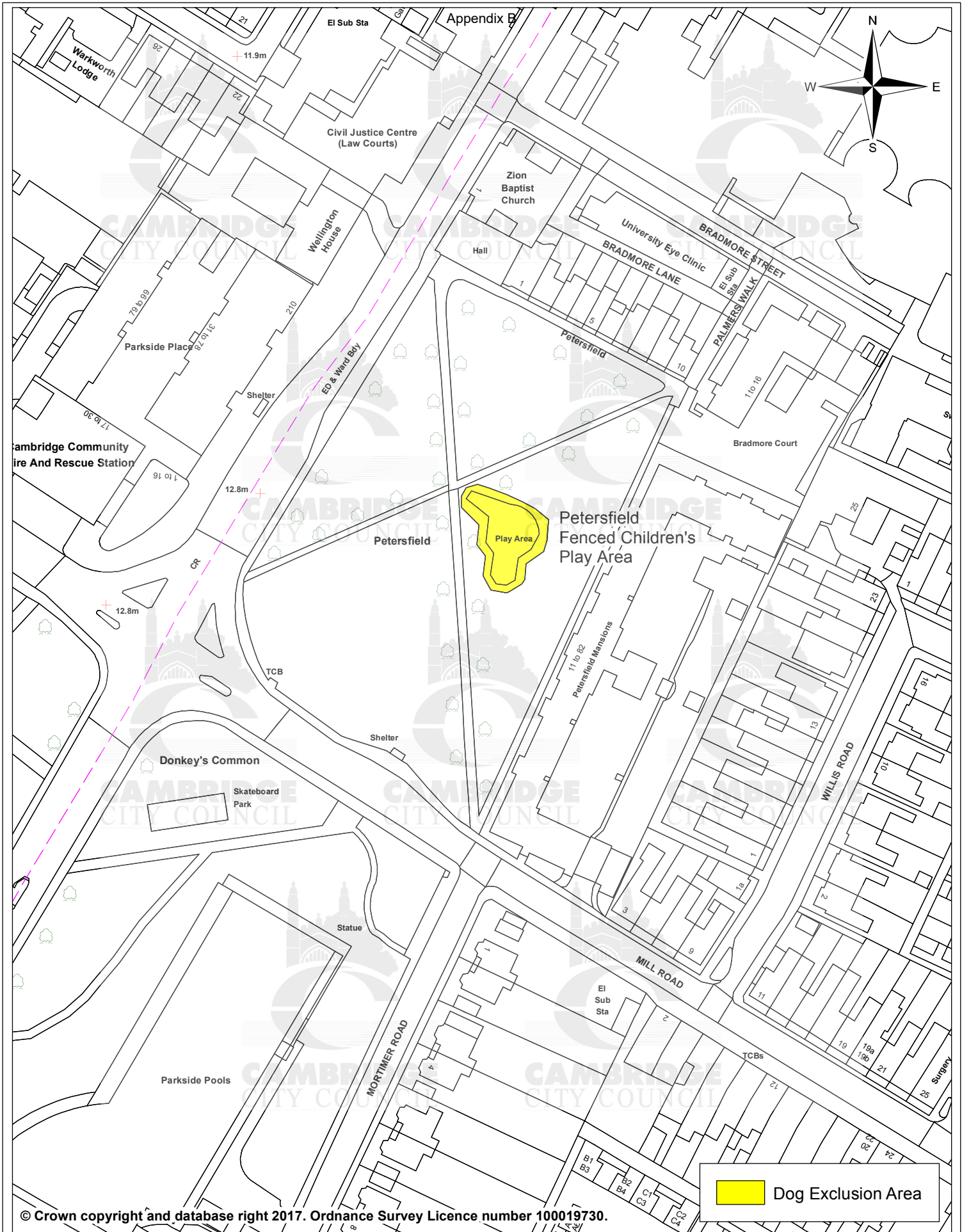
 Dog Exclusion Area



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 104

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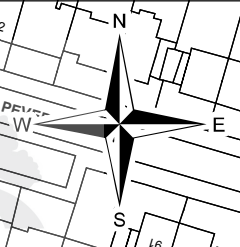
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)


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11.0m
Subway
10.9m
11.5m


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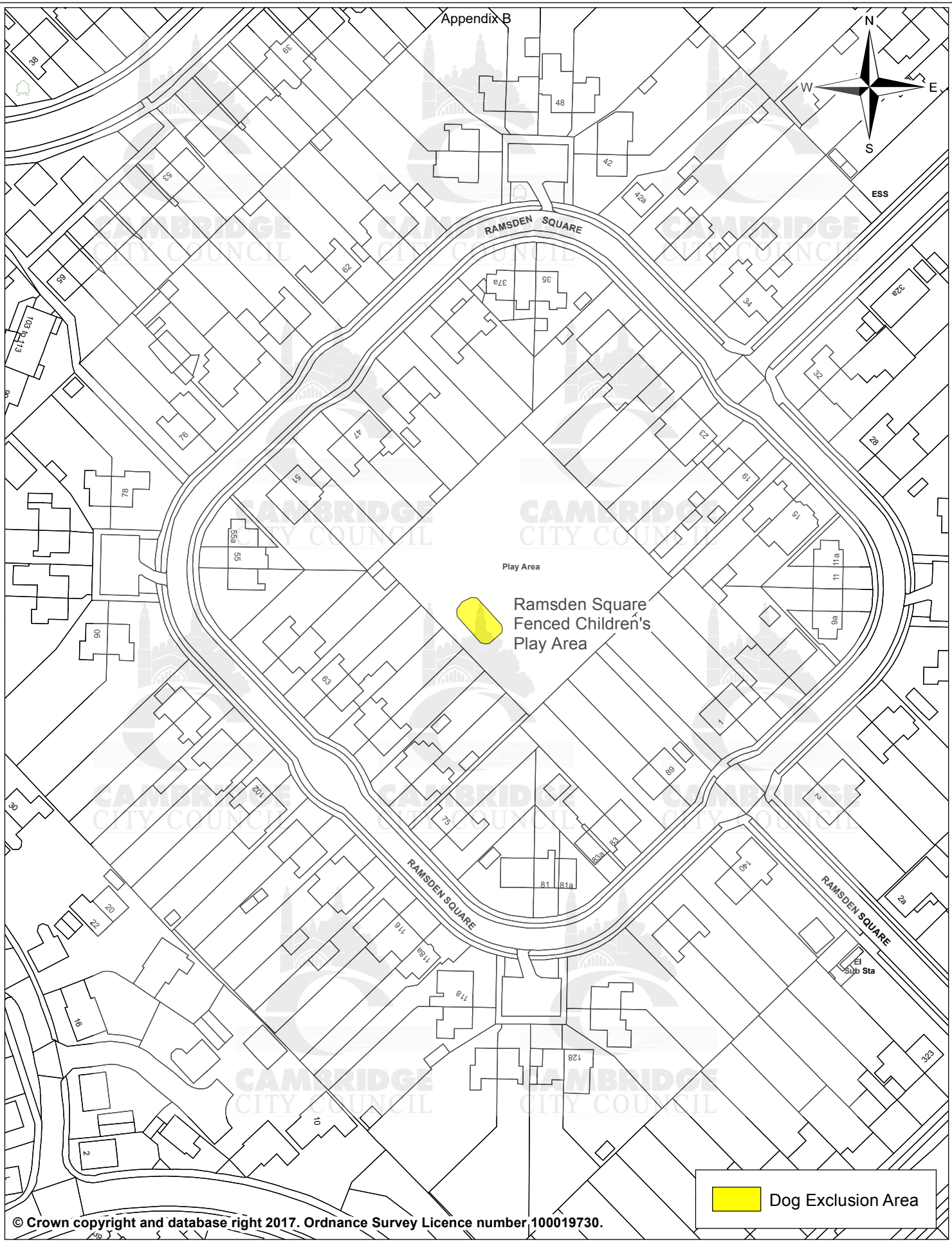
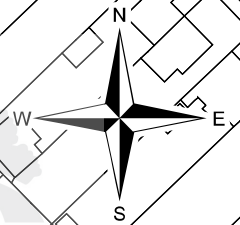
 Dog Exclusion Area



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 106

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 Dog Exclusion Area

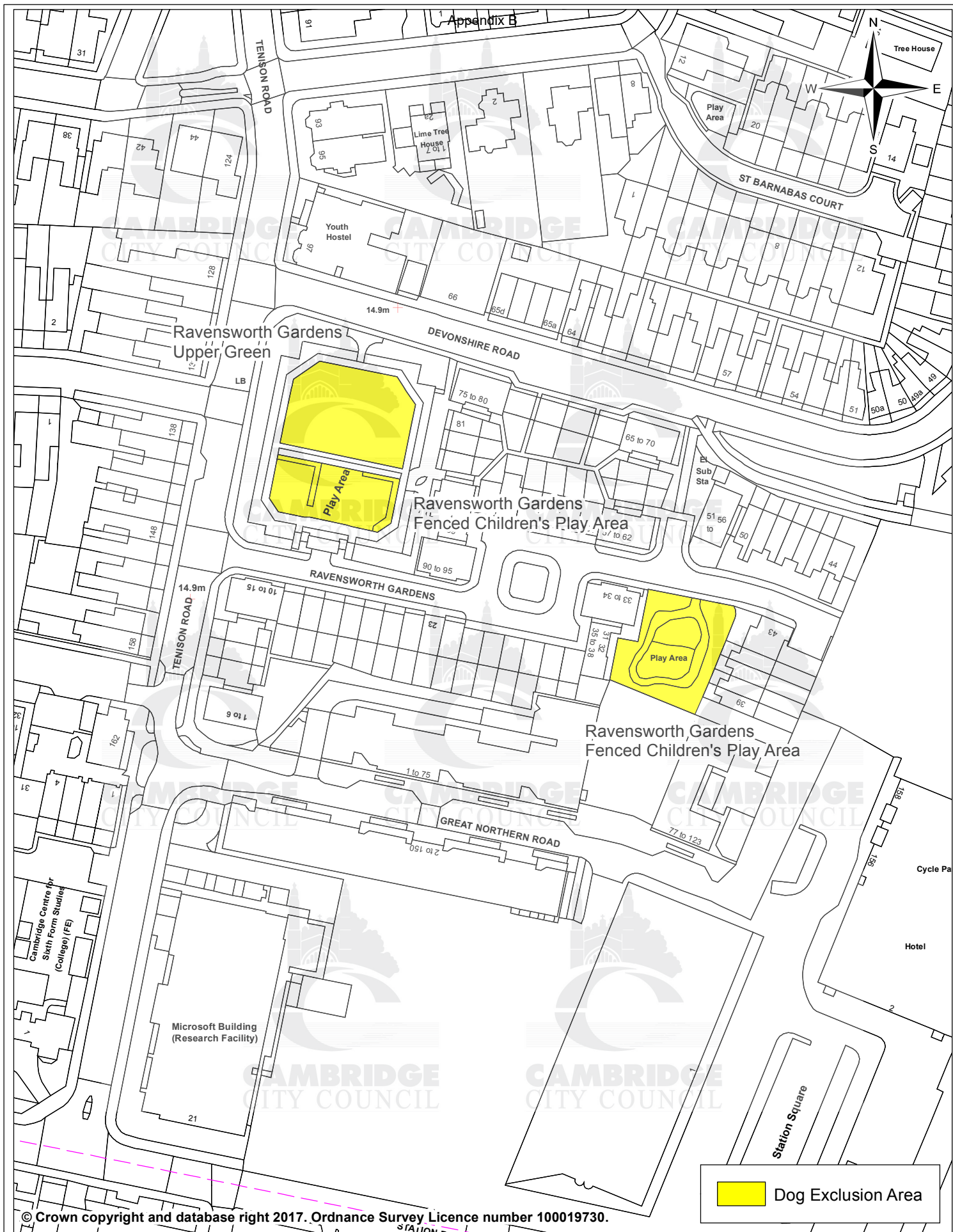
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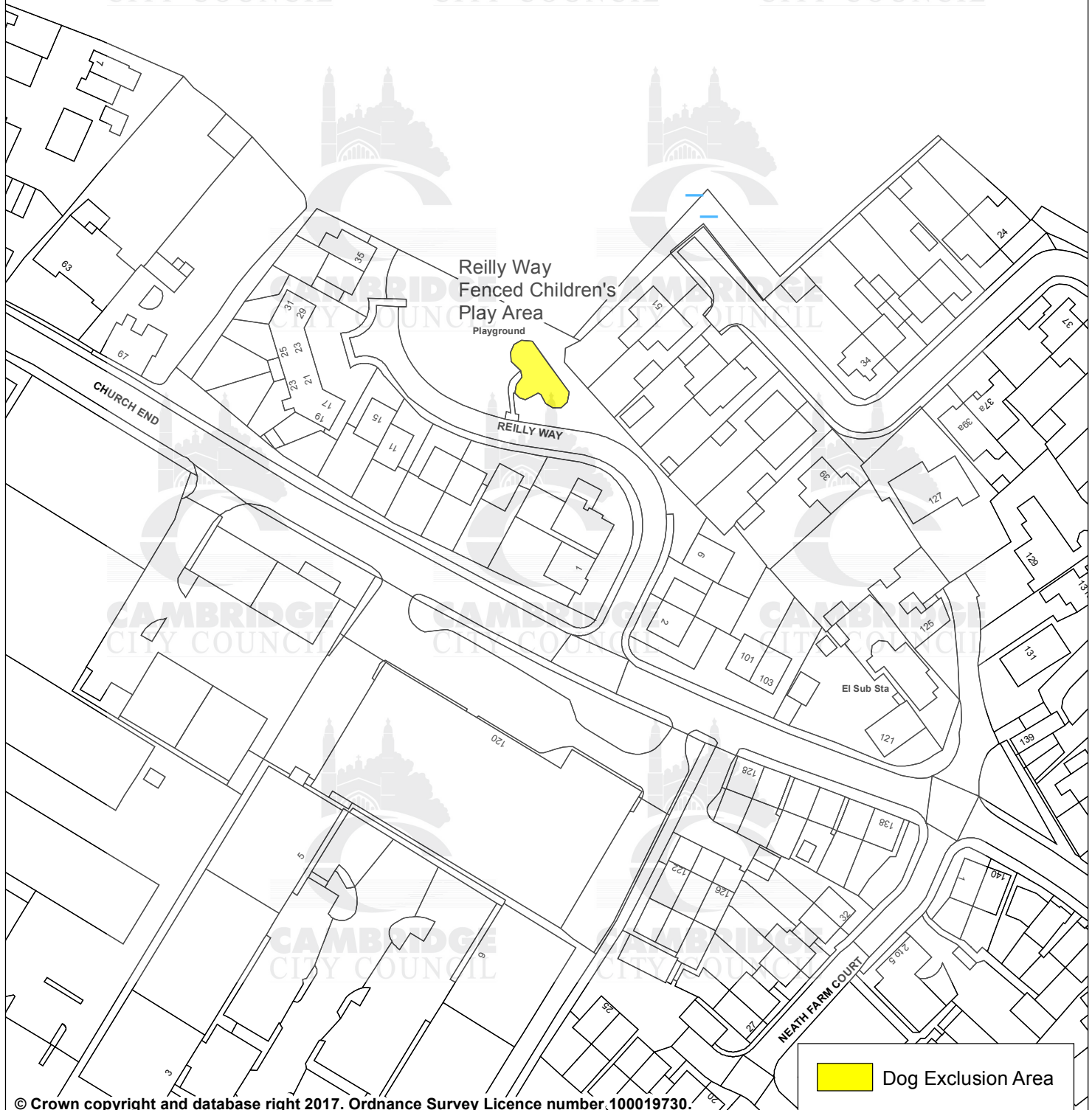
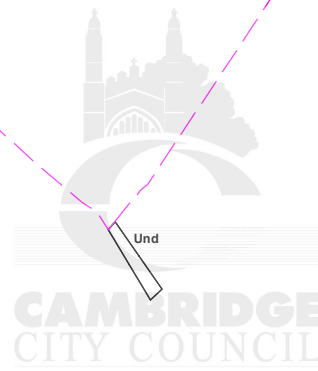
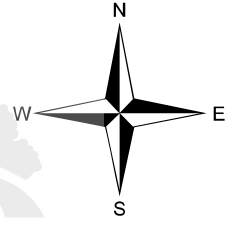
Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)


Page 108

Date:	09 June 2017
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Drain

Appendix B




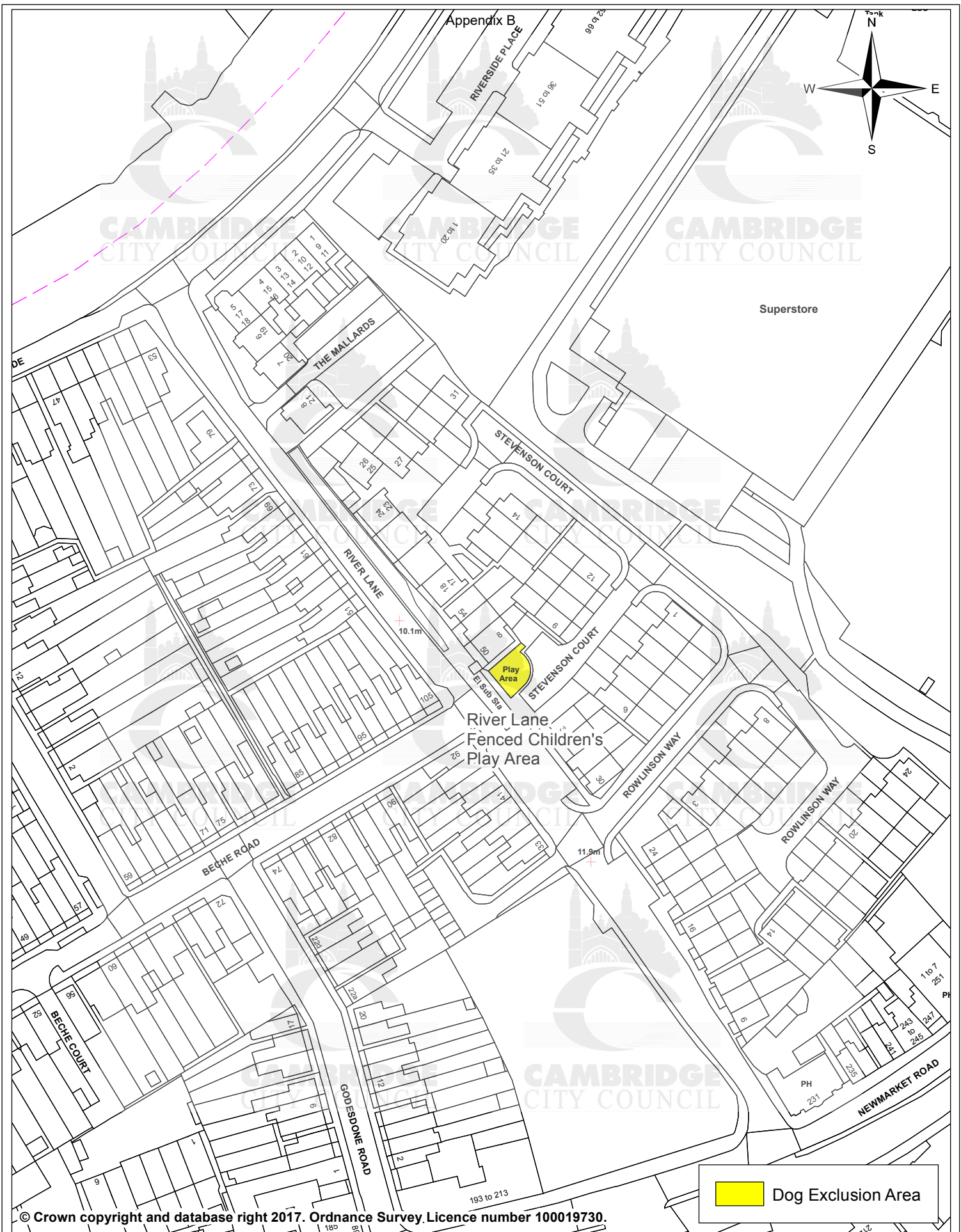
 Dog Exclusion Area

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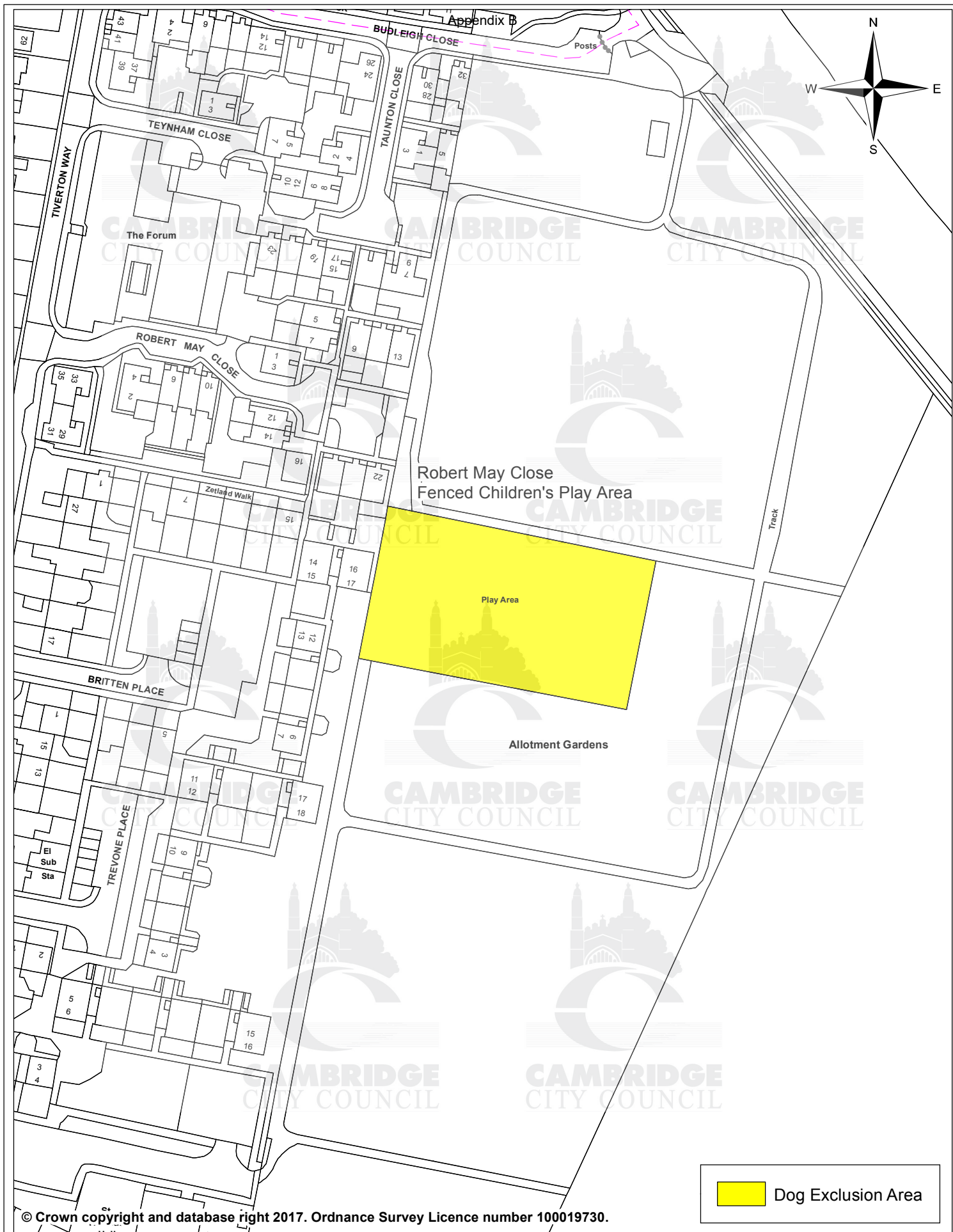
 Dog Exclusion Area



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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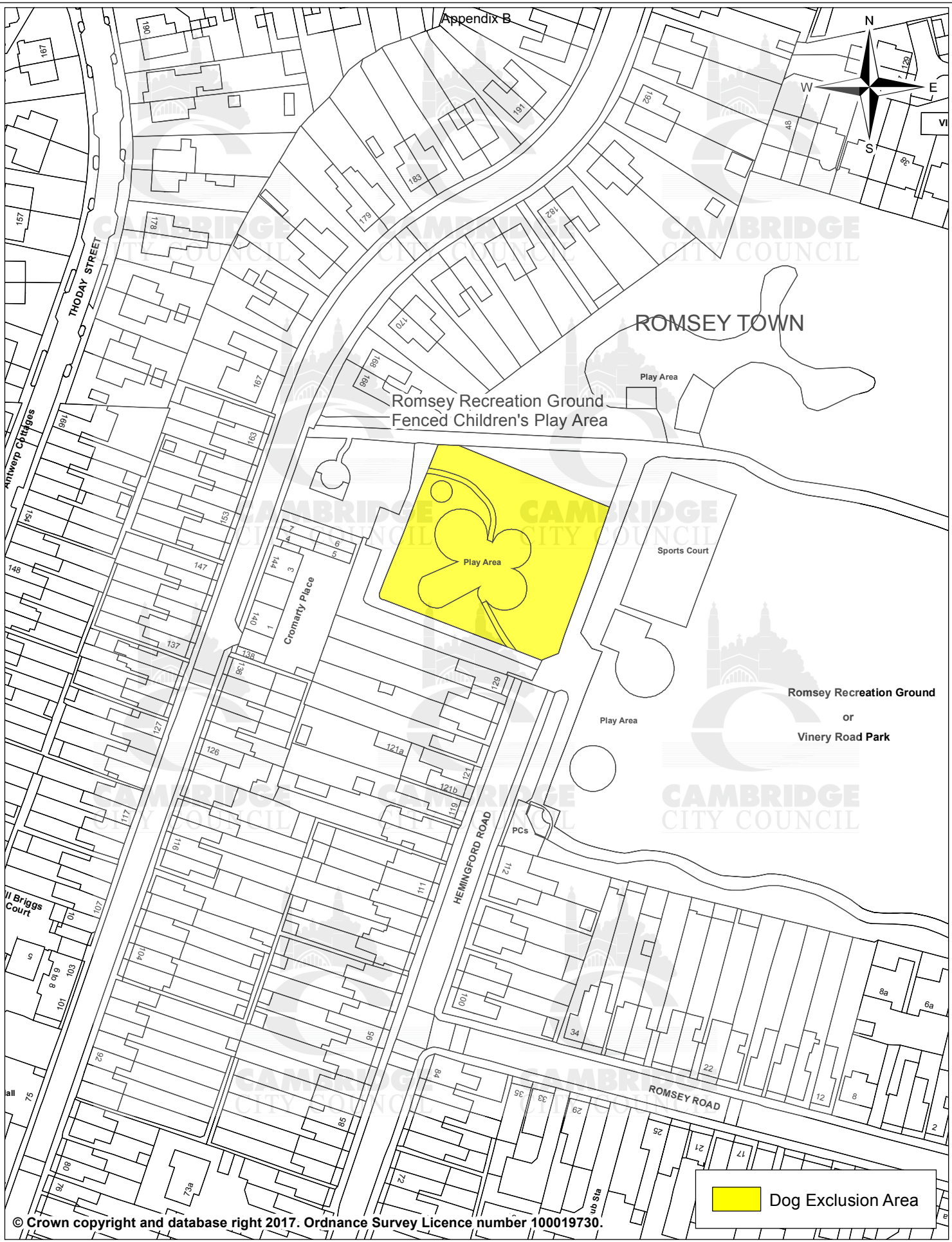
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 111

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 Dog Exclusion Area

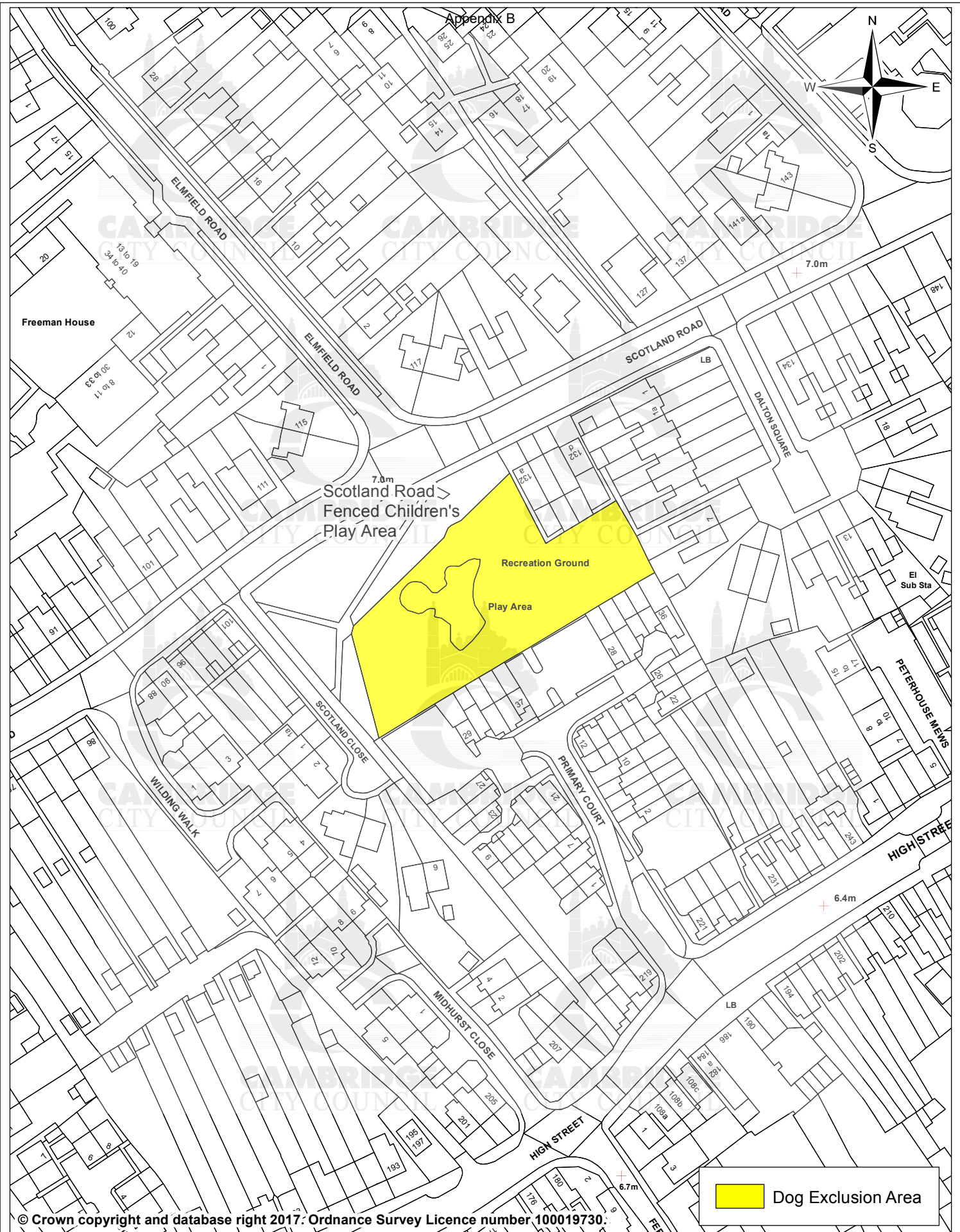
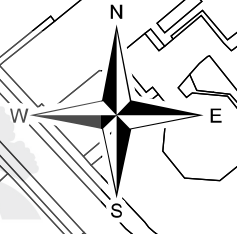
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 112

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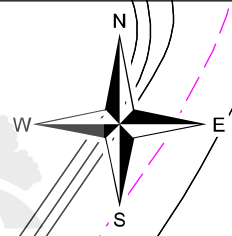
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	Dog Exclusion Area
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control) Page 113

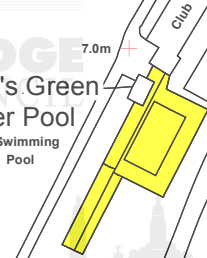
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Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4



Drain
Sheep's Green

Padding Pool
Sluice
PCs

7.0m
Sheep's Green
Learner Pool
Swimming Pool




Car Park

FB

FB

CG


Track
Coe Fen

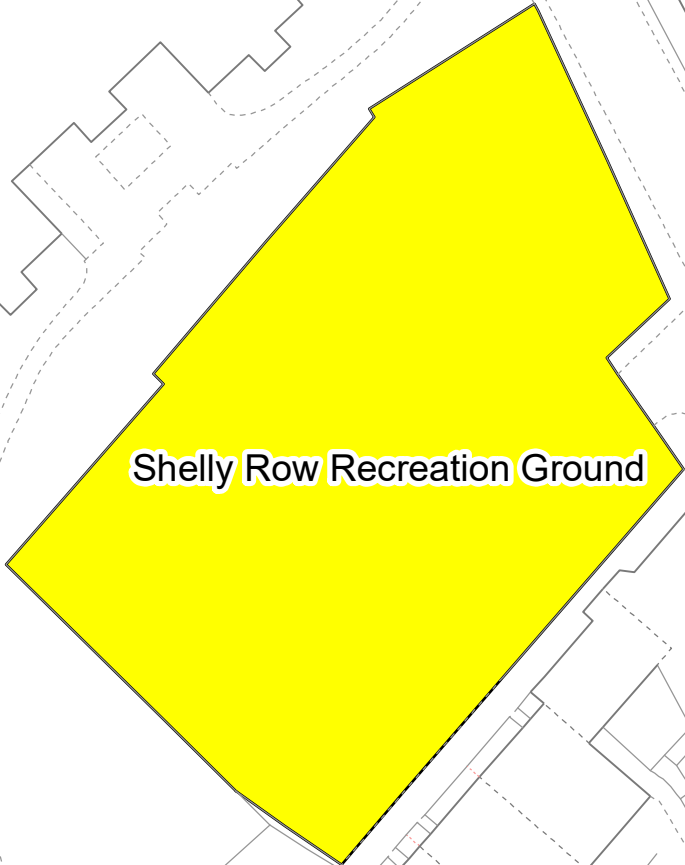
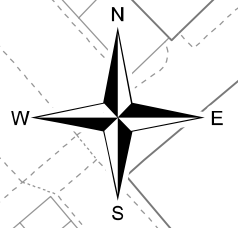
 Dog Exclusion Area

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Shelly Row Recreation Ground



Dog Exclusion Area

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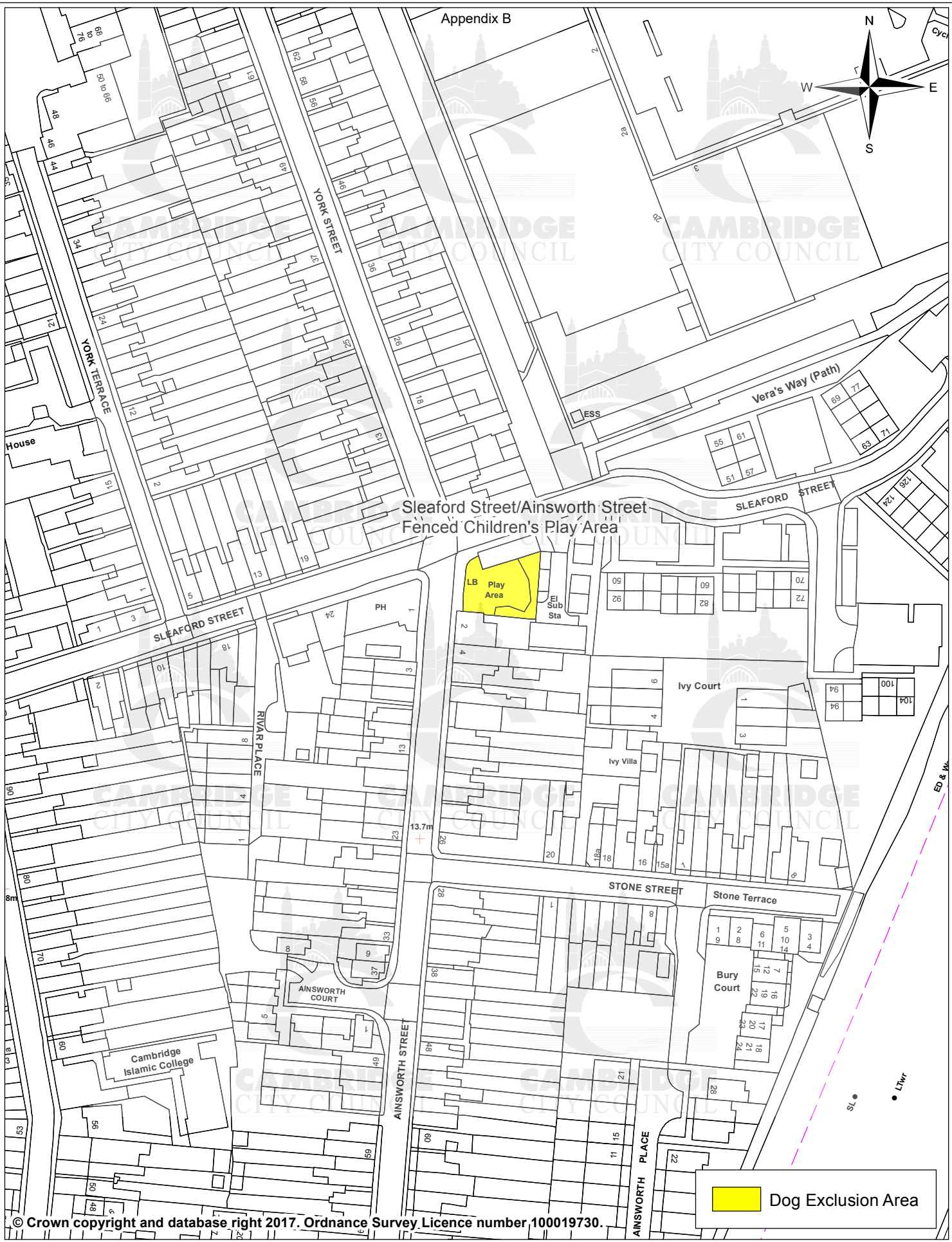
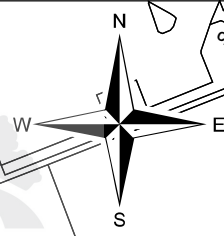
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Date: 23 February 2023

Produced by:  Huntingdonshire DISTRICT COUNCIL


Section/Department: Spatial Team

Scale: 1:500 @ A4



Sleaford Street/Ainsworth Street Fenced Children's Play Area


LB Play Area

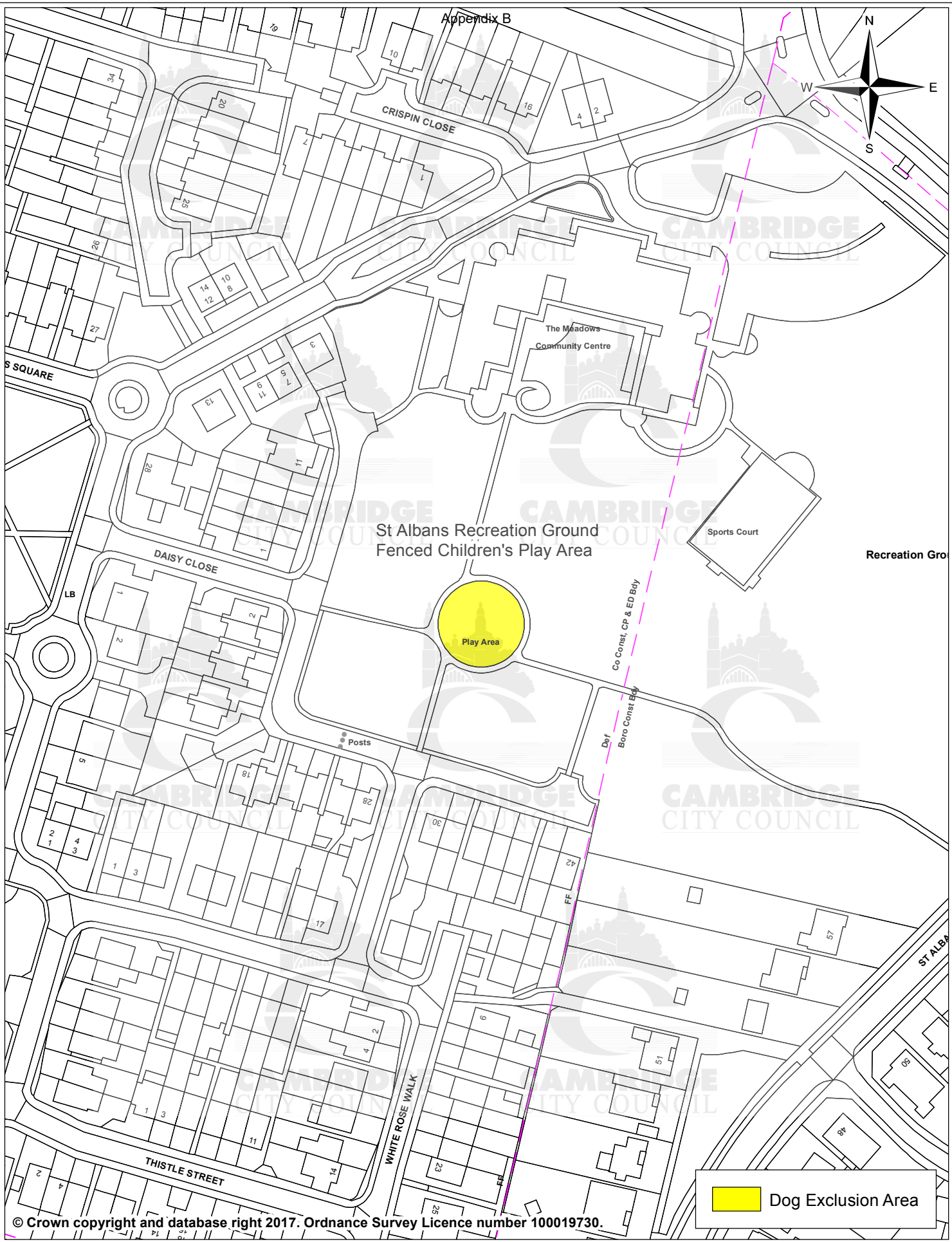
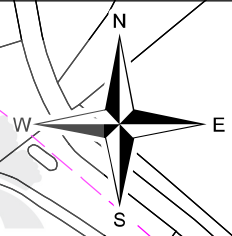
 Dog Exclusion Area

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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Date:	09 June 2017
Produced by:	 Shared Services
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4




 Dog Exclusion Area

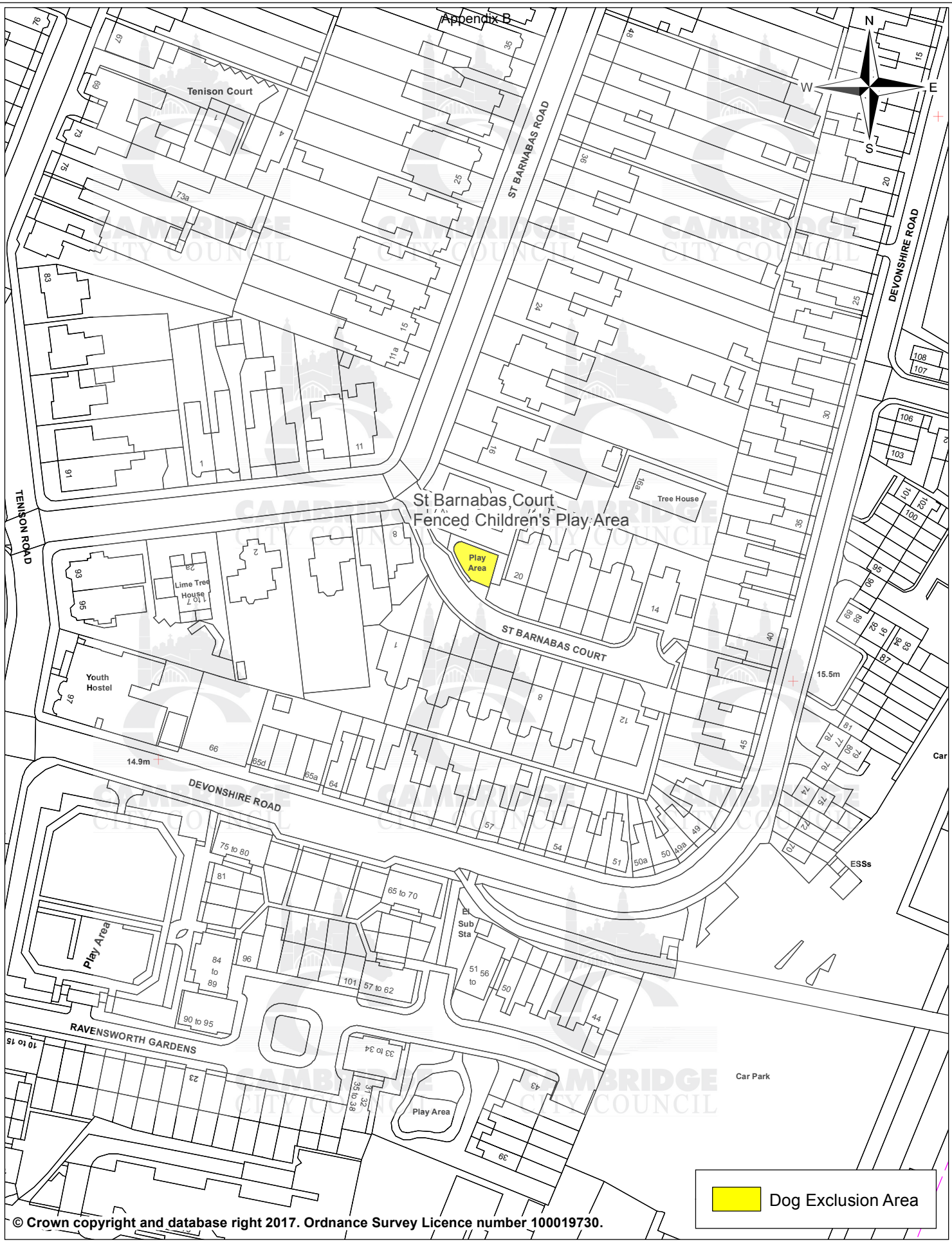
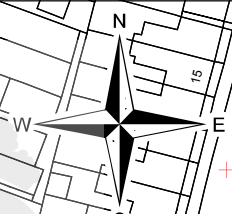
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 117

Date:	09 June 2017
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 Dog Exclusion Area

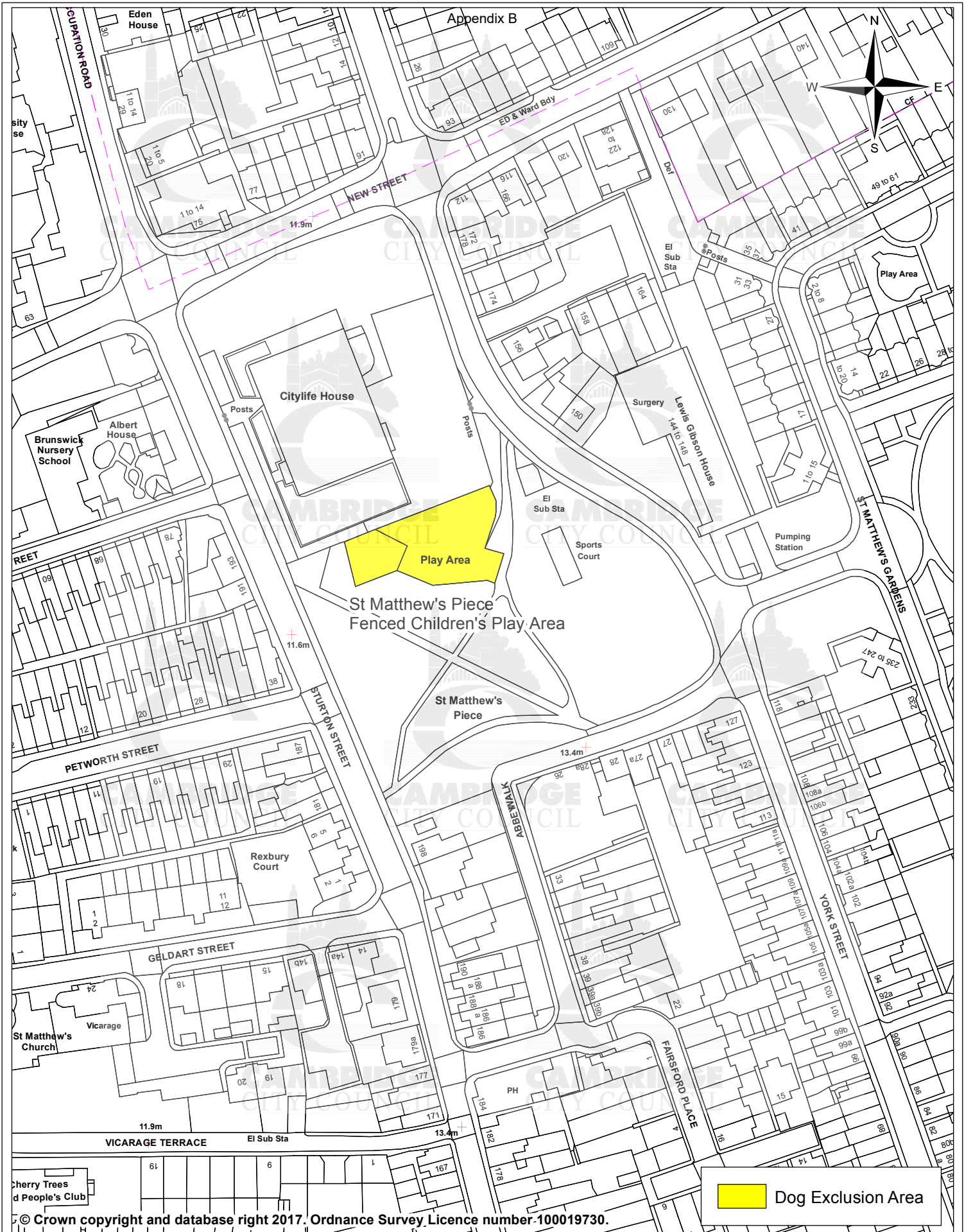
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

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Date:	26 May 2017
Produced by:	
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Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4



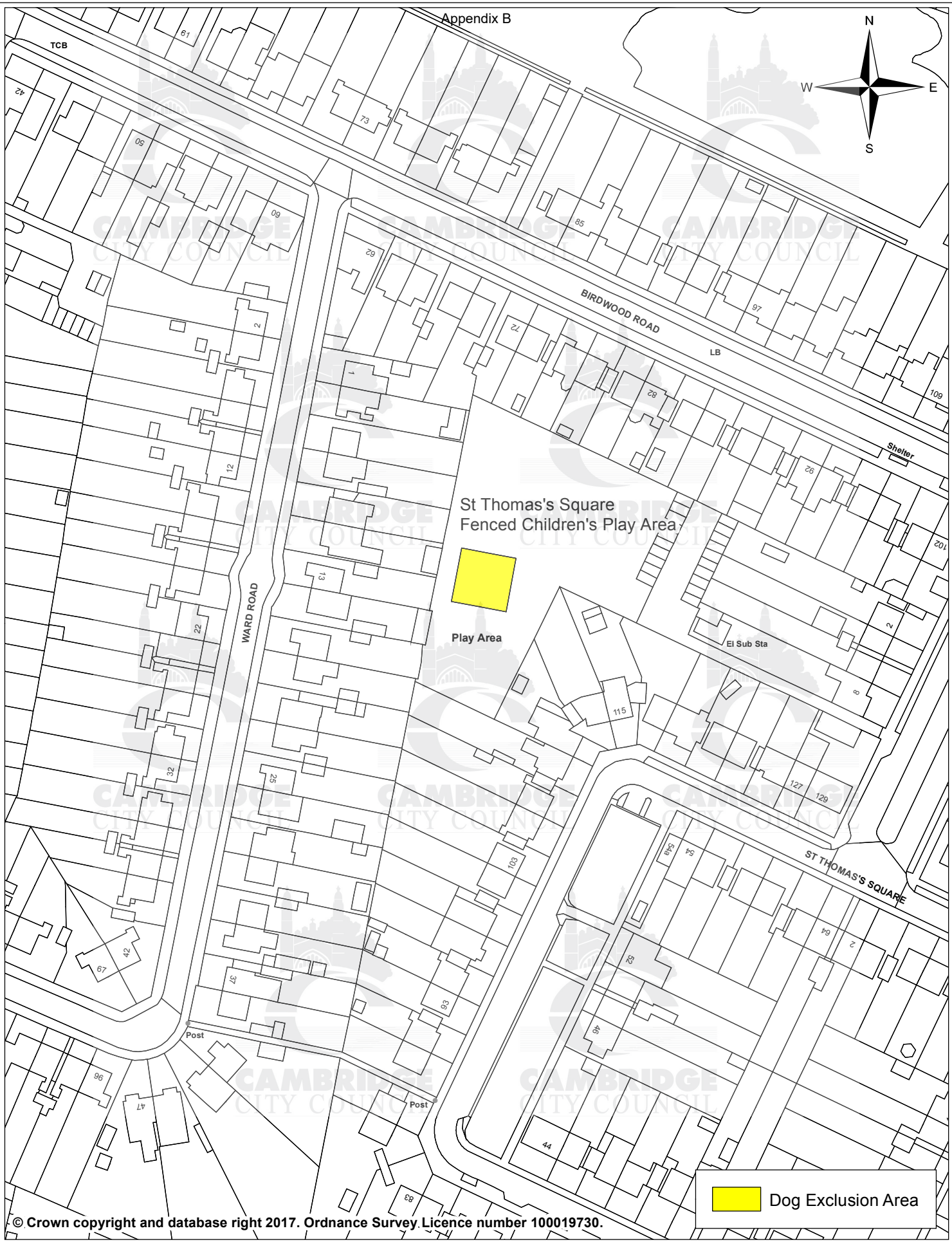
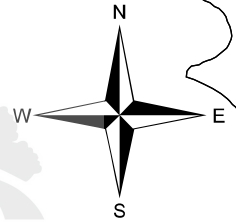
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 119

Date:	26 May 2017
Produced by:	3C Shared Services
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4




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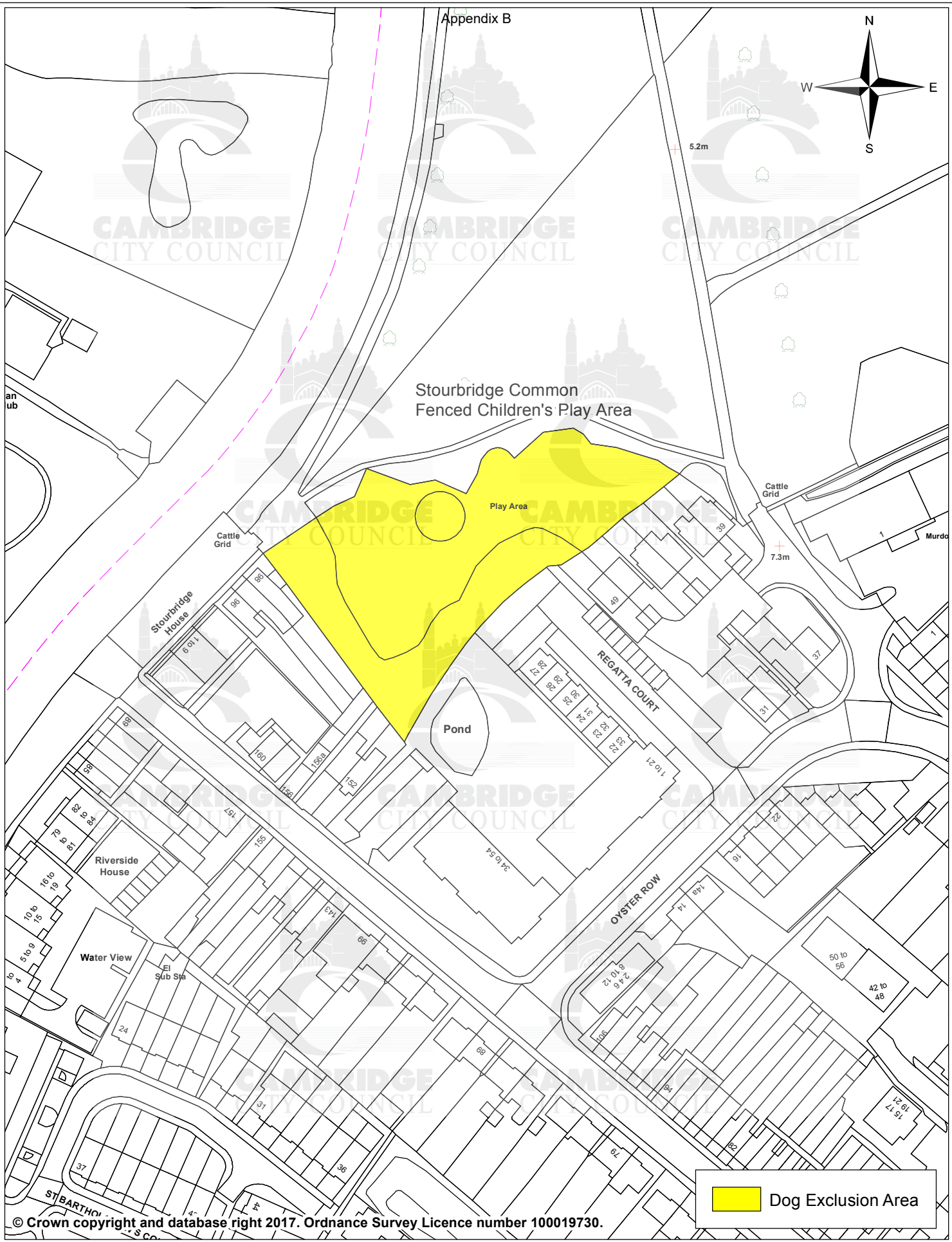
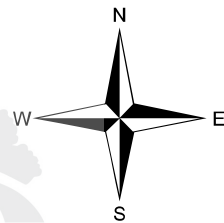
 Dog Exclusion Area




Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Page 120

Date:	26 May 2017
Produced by:	
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4




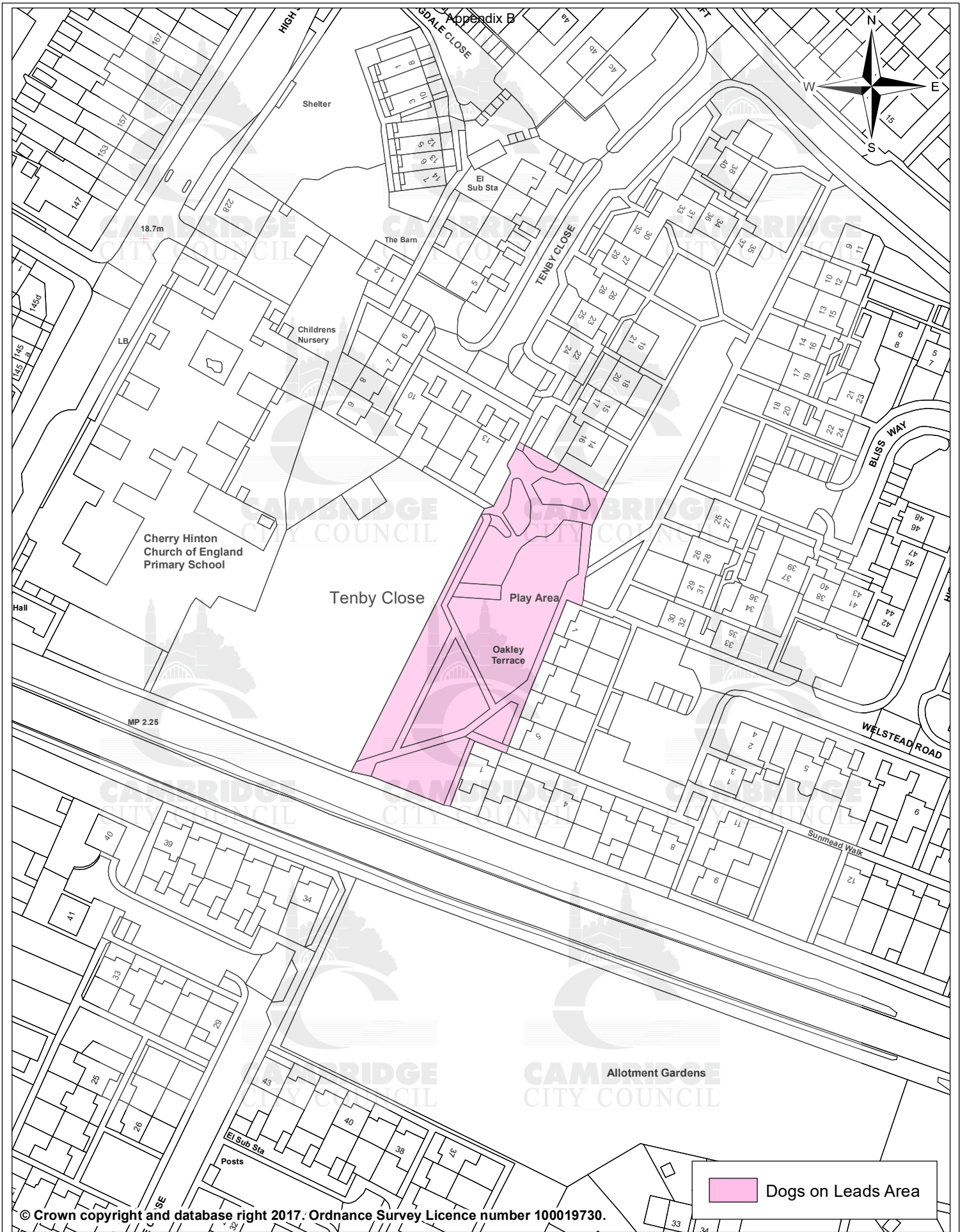
 Dog Exclusion Area

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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control) Page 121

Date:	26 May 2017
Produced by:	
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4




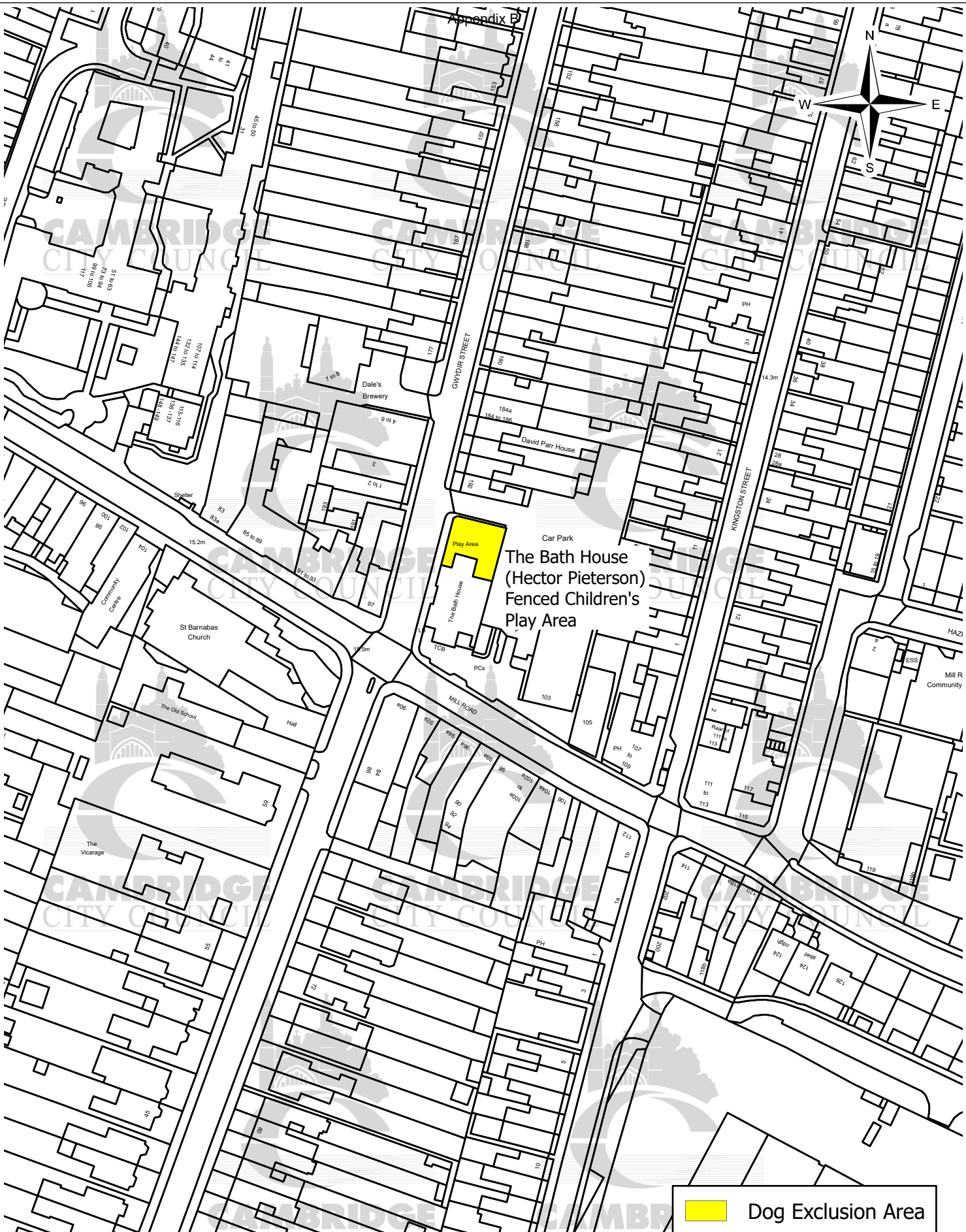
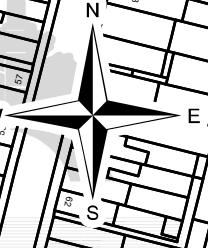
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 Dogs on Leads Area



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Date:	02 June 2020
Produced by:	 Shared Services
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4




 Dog Exclusion Area

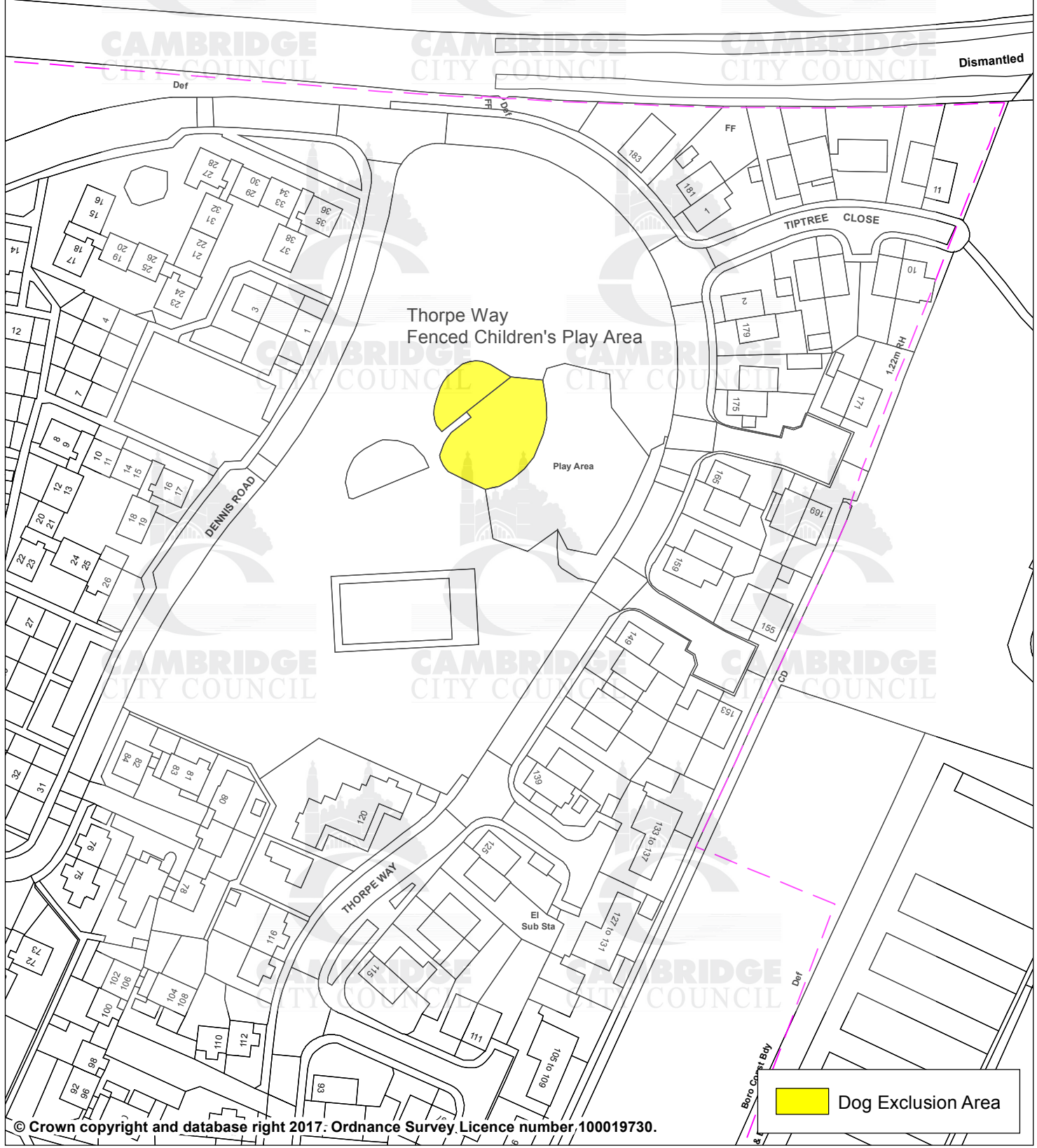
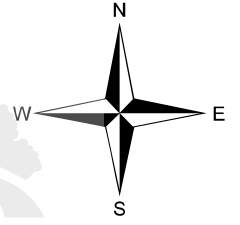
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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

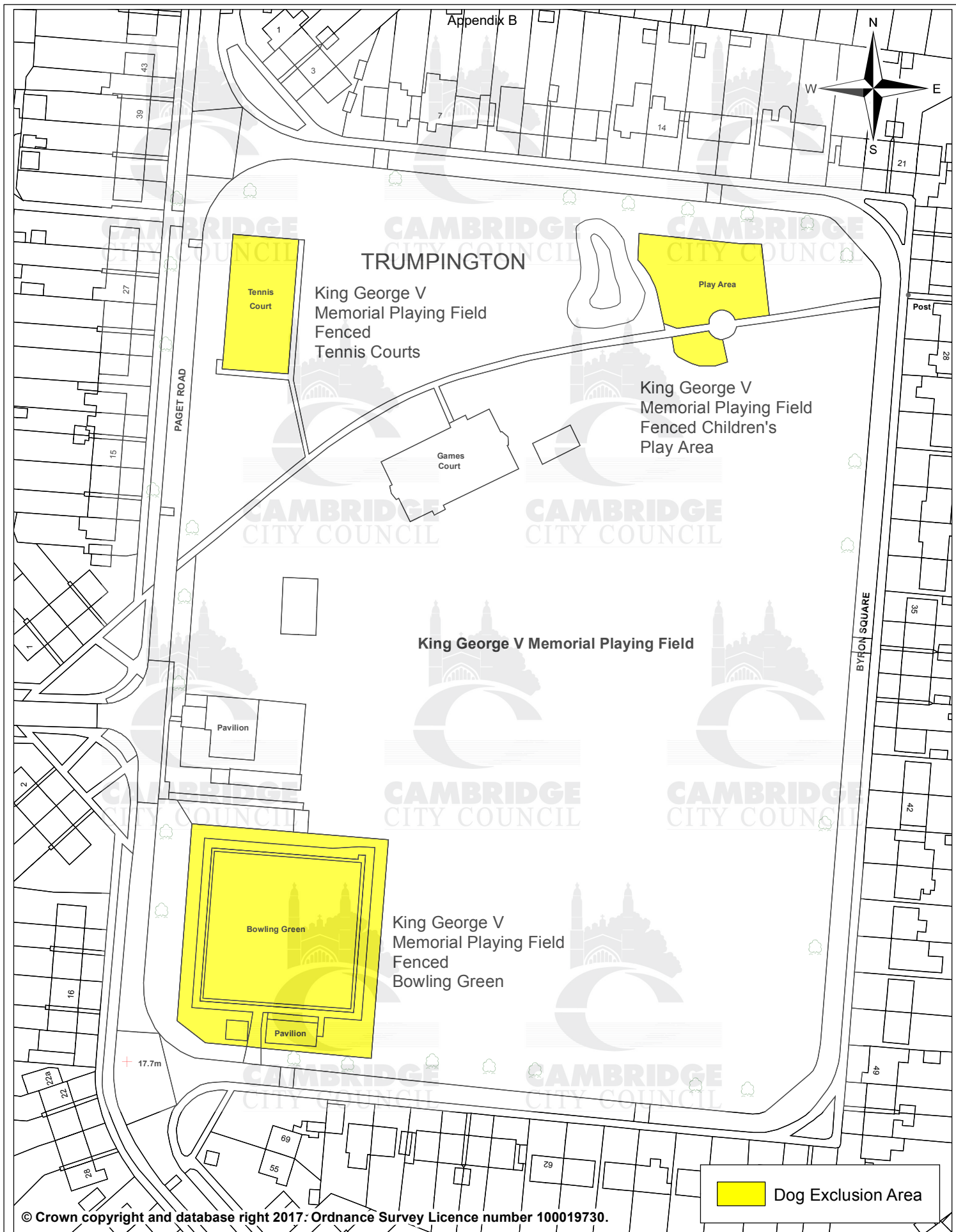
Page 123

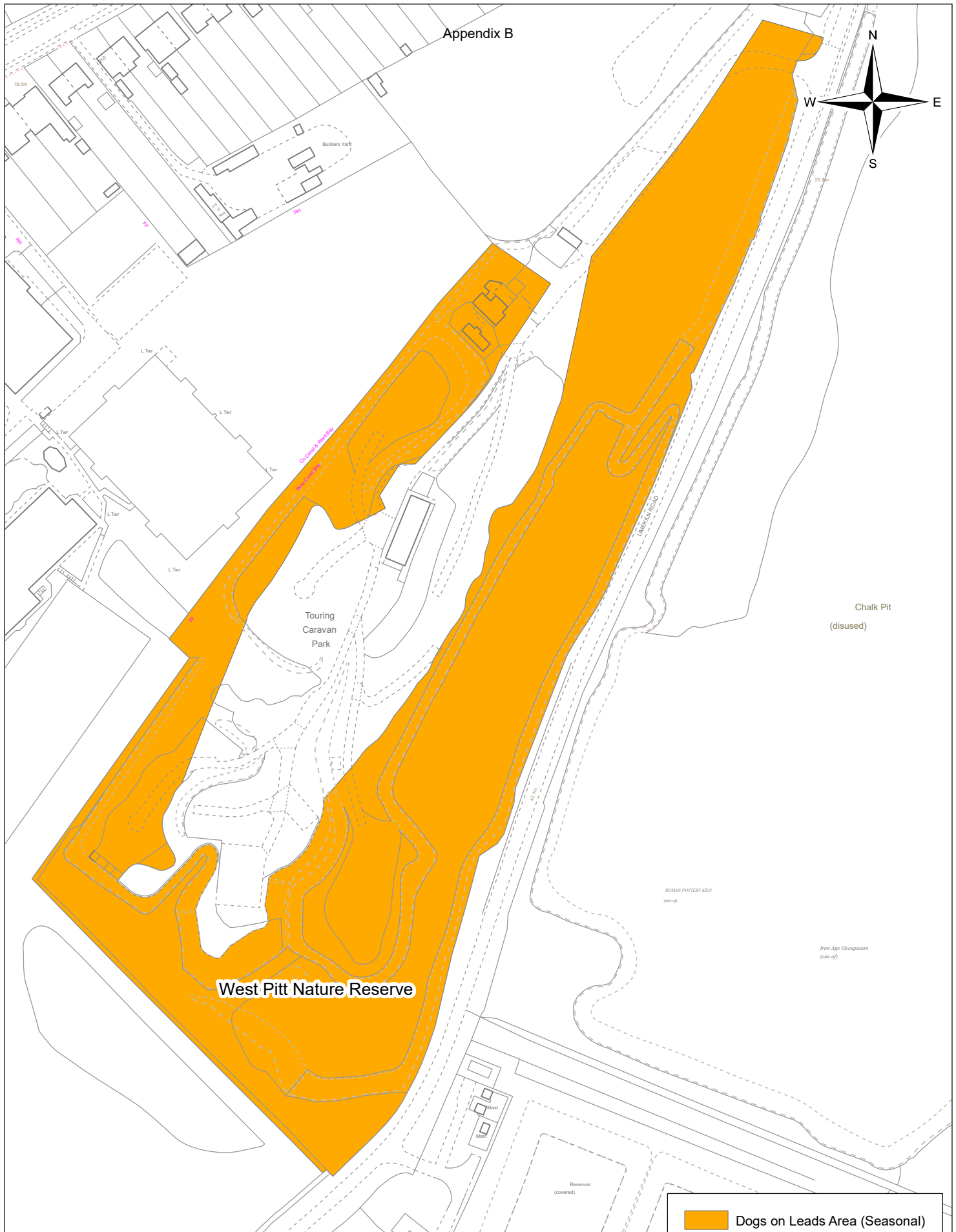
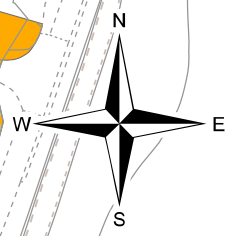
Date:	27 April 2023
Produced by:	 Shared Services
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)
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Date:	26 May 2017
Produced by:	3C Shared Services
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4






West Pitt Nature Reserve

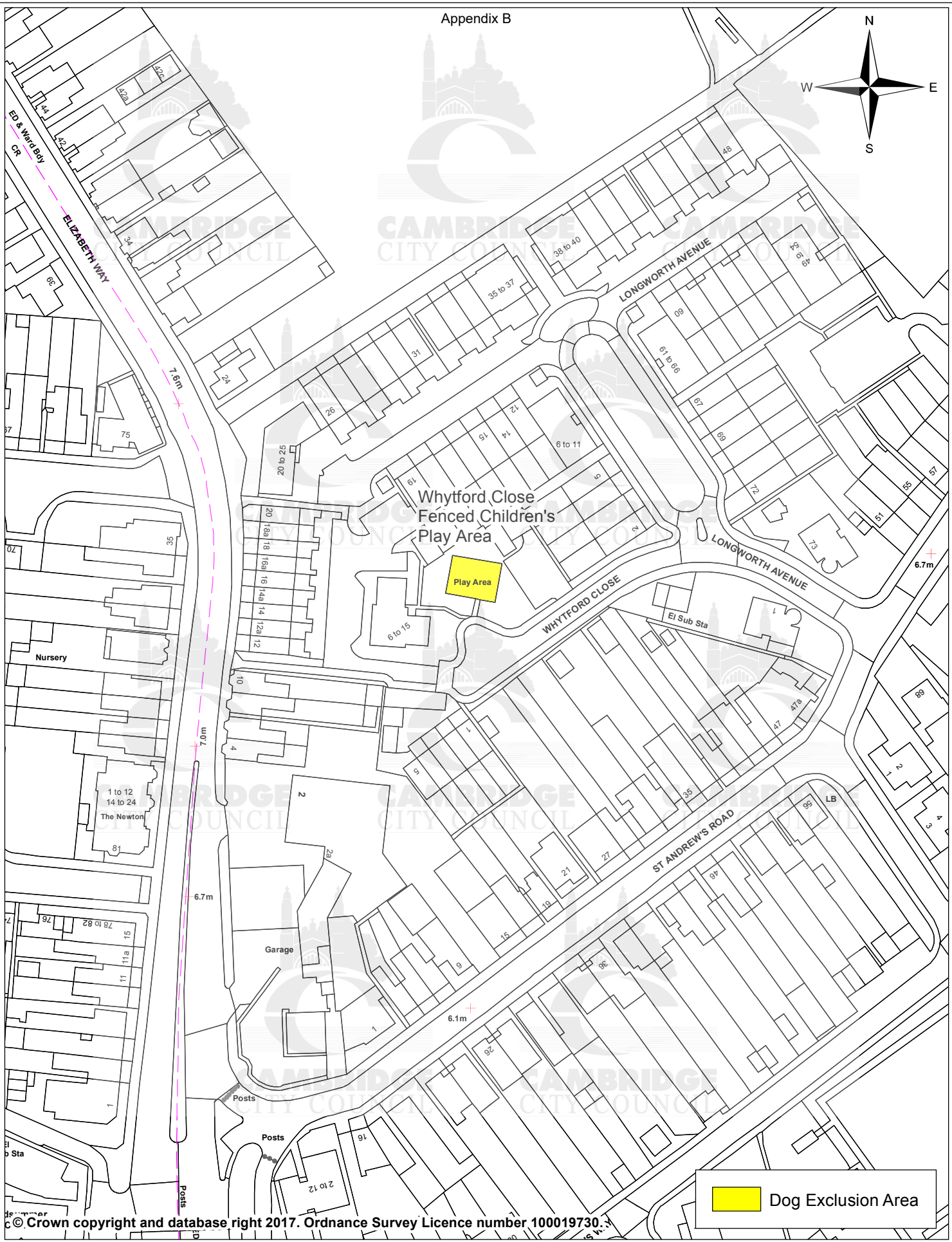
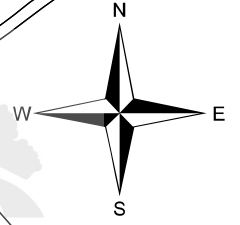
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 Dogs on Leads Area (Seasonal)



Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control)

Date:	08 February 2023
Produced by:	 Huntingdonshire DISTRICT COUNCIL
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,750 @ A4



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Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control) Page 127

Date:	26 May 2017
Produced by:	3C Shared Services
Section/Department:	Spatial Team
Scale:	1:1,250 @ A4

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Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool email Kate Yerbury, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at equalities@cambridge.gov.uk or phone 01223 457046.

Once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to equalities@cambridge.gov.uk for checking. For advice on consulting on equality impacts, please contact Graham Saint, Strategy Officer, (graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk or 01223 457044).

1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service
Extension and variation of Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2017

2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service (if available)
None available – existing order detailed here: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/dog-control
Committee paper for consultation located here: https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s61569/PSPO_Variation_Paper_2022_Report.pdf

3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service?
The Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2017 (“Order”) is due to expire on the 19 October 2023. At any point before expiry of the Order, the Council can vary or extend it by up to three years if they consider it is necessary to prevent the original behaviour from occurring or recurring.
The Activities prohibited by the Order are:

- Failing to remove dog faeces immediately.
- Not keeping a dog on a lead in a designated area.
- Not putting, and keeping, a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer.
- Having more than the maximum number of dogs on designed land; and
- Permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded.

The Order was not put forward as a means of unduly restricting the exercising or recreation of dogs across the city. The reason for making the Order was to address the detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality caused by the irresponsible behaviour of a small minority of dog owners; and to set out a clear standard of behaviour to which all dog owners were required to adhere.

At any point before expiry of the Order, the Council can extend it by up to three years if they consider it is necessary to prevent the original behaviour from occurring or recurring. According to section 60(2) of the Act, before the time when a PSPO is due to expire, the local authority that made the PSPO may extend the period for which it has effect if satisfied on reasonable grounds that doing so is necessary to prevent

1. Occurrence or recurrence after that time of the activities identified in the Order, or
2. An increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

However according to section 61 of the Act, the Order may be varied by increasing or reducing the affected area, or by altering or removing a prohibition or requirement included in the Order or by adding a new one. Where an order is varied if satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met.

The first condition is that:

- a. Activities carried on in a public place within the Council's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality; or,
- b. It is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place

The second condition is that the effect or likely effect, of the activities:

- a. Is or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature.
- b. Is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable; and,
- c. Justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

Any such variations will need to be subject to consultation.

There are several differences between the current sealed Order and the new proposed varied Order, which are:

- a. Introduction of dog exclusion areas in following areas which are fenced: Shelly Row recreation ground, and fenced Coldham's Common Astro turf pitch and MUGA (multi use games area).
- b. Introduction of seasonal dogs on leads restrictions (for the nesting season 1st March to 31st July) in following areas where complaints have been received regarding lack of dog control or dogs straying without owner control, and/or concerns around nesting birds being disturbed: - Local Nature Reserves - Barnwell West, Barnwell East, Bramblefields, Limekiln Pit, Logan's Meadow (part), Paradise and West Pit, and Mill Road Cemetery.

- c. Introduction to restrict number of dogs (maximum of four) to be walked by a person at any one time in following areas where complaints have been received regarding aggressive dogs, lack of dog control or dogs straying without owner control: - Coldham's Common marked sports pitches, and Hobsons Park.
- d. Introduction of a requirement to provide details when requested to do so by an authorised officer.

There is also the proposal to increase the fixed penalty amount to the maximum value of £100 (with a reduced payment amount of £60 i.e., 40% discount if paid within 10 days). This is in line with all the environmental offences fixed penalty notices that are already set to the maximum value.

4. Responsible service
City Services: Operations

5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service? (Please tick all that apply)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitors <input type="checkbox"/> Staff
Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g., City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here): Click here to enter text.	

6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service is this?	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Major change <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor change
--	---

7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service? (Please tick)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes' please provide details below: All council officers and external agencies who are involved with dog control and responsibility gathering can be involved with dog control, including but not limited to Cambridgeshire Police, Wood Green Animal Shelter, RSPCA, and local dog welfare organisations.	

8. Has the report on your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service gone to Committee? If so, which one?

Approved for consultation at Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on 19th January 2023, full consultation took place in February and March 2023 in line with statutory requirements and due back at committee on 29th June 2023 for approval of extended and varied order.

9. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service?

A consultation of the changes took place between February and March 2023 which included invitation to participate to:

- All residents' groups / associations in the city
- Ward and County councillors
- Friends of Groups in the city
- Dog welfare organisations including Wood Green, the RSPCA, and the Dogs Trust
- Organisations associated with assistance dogs including Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Organisations associated with the homeless including Wintercomfort and the Street Outreach Team
- Local Access Forum for Access Land subject to Order
- The Kennel Club

The consultation involved an online survey that was available as all those receiving an email and/or letter, as well as to the public. Posters were displayed at all parks and open spaces and details of the consultation were made available on the website.

Officers will report the outcome of the consultation to the Executive Councillor at the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee meeting on 29th June 2023, including any proposed amendments to the order, together with a recommendation for the order's formal agreement.

10. Potential impacts

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors, and staff members separately.

(a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk

Currently the Order applies to all age groups (including adults and juveniles), and the proposed varied order includes some additional restrictions on parks, including seasonal restrictions where dogs can be walked off lead, and restrictions on the number of dogs that can be walked. Regardless of age, all offenders will be asked to comply, and enforcement action taken..

This may have a negative impact on members of the public that use these areas for walking their dogs, however restrictions are placed on a small number of areas that are not designed for the exercise of dogs and other suitable locations can be found near to areas where restrictions apply. Dog owners are most likely to be ages 55+ (36%).¹

Conversely this may also have a positive impact to family users or other users of these areas, allowing free use of play areas without the fear of dogs sharing the same space such as fenced children's play areas, outdoor paddling pools and fenced tennis courts.

Enforcement action for offences committed by young people (i.e., under the age of 18) will be dealt with in accordance with the Corporate Enforcement Policy and government guidance². The council does not currently have a juvenile policy and, therefore, fixed penalty notices would not be issued, but other avenues of enforcement action would be explored on a case-by-case basis.

(b) Disability

Currently the Order does not apply to all people and nothing in the Order applies to a person in control of a working assistance dog (such as guide dogs or hearing dogs) which has been trained to assist a person who has a disability. For the purposes of the Order, a "disability" means a condition that qualifies as a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010. It is proposed that the same exemptions continue with the varied Order to ensure that the restrictions placed on dog owners / handlers are reasonable and consider conditions where it is not possible to comply. However, the definition of assistance dog has been amended to align with the definition as set out in the Equality Act 2010.

¹ [Pet Populations across the UK - PDSA \(2022\)](#)

² [Code of practice for litter and refuse: Part 1A - effective enforcement \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

(c) Gender reassignment

There are no equality impacts specific to this protected characteristic

(d) Marriage and civil partnership

There are no equality impacts specific to this protected characteristic

(e) Pregnancy and maternity

This may have a positive impact to family users with young children of these areas where dogs are excluded, allowing free use of play areas without the fear of dogs sharing the same space. Such as fenced children's play areas, outdoor paddling pools and fenced tennis courts.

(f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic 'race' refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

There are no equality impacts specific to this protected characteristic

(g) Religion or belief

There are no equality impacts specific to this protected characteristic

(h) Sex

There are no equality impacts specific to this protected characteristic

(i) Sexual orientation

There are no equality impacts specific to this protected characteristic

(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on:

- **Low-income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty**
- **Groups who have more than one protected characteristic that taken together create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Here you are being asked to consider intersectionality, and for more information see: https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1_I59kt25q).**

All enforcement action is undertaken in accordance with the council's Corporate Enforcement Policy.

Currently the option for dealing with dog control is fixed penalty notices, which offers individuals and businesses the opportunity to pay a monetary fine, and in turn discharge their liability to prosecution (they will not end up with a criminal record). The continuation of fines with an option for an early repayment amount continues to offer a lower threshold that individuals and businesses can also take advantage of, reducing financial impacts. The council does not offer payment by instalments or payment plans. Payment for fixed penalties can only be accepted for the full amount. However, in cases of extreme financial difficulties, officers have discretion to be able to extend the lower threshold payment period (subject to legal restrictions) and will work together with those issued fixed penalties to avoid prosecution where possible.

11. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract, or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqlA accordingly.)

Update of EqlA following implementation of any amendments to PSPO once approved at committee or as/when award of any relevant considerations that need to be included. Due anytime over the next three years with an update by October 2026.

12. Do you have any additional comments?

All communication by the Operations team is undertaken in accordance with the [Service Standards](#) which details what customers can expect of us.

Usage and payment of FPNS will be monitored and the EqlA kept under review as required

13. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Wendy Johnston

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: None

Date of EqIA sign off: 28 April 2023

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: October 2026

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: With committee papers for June 2023 committee.

All EqIAs need to be sent to the Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at equalities@cambridge.gov.uk

Appendix D - List of consultees

Statutory Consultee
Police and Crime Commissioner
Cambridgeshire Police
Cambridgeshire County Council
Other organisations
Abbey Action Group
Abbey People
Accordia Community and Resident's Association (ACRA)
Applecourt Residents' Association
Arbury Road East RA (ARERA)
Arbury Road Vets
Ascham Road Residents' Association
Babraham Road Action Group
Barton Close Residents' Association
Bateman Street & Bateman Mews Residents Association
BENERA (Bentley and Newton Road Residents' Association)
Benson Area Residents' Association *1
Birdwood Area Residents' Association
Blinco Grove Residents' Association
Bradmore & Petersfield Residents Association
Bradmore & Petersfield Residents Association
Brookfields & Burnside Residents' Association (BBRA)
Brooklands Avenue Area Residents' Association
Brookside Residents Association
BRUNK (Brunswick and North Kite)
Bulstrode Gardens Residents Association
Cam Sight
Cambridge Deaf Association
Cambridge Veterinary Group
Canine Partners
Cavendish Residents' Association & Romsey RA
Champneys Walk Residents' Association
Cherry Hinton Village/Residents/General
Christs Pieces Residents Association
Citygate Property Partners
Clarendon Street Veterinary Surgery
Clerk Maxwell Road Residents' Association
Concerned Residents Of North West Cambridge (CRONC)

Appendix D

Corfe Close Residents Association (CCRA)
Cranmer Road RA
CREW
Darwin & Akeman St (DEARA)
Dog Aid
Dogs For Good
Dogs Trust
East Mill Road Action Group EMRAG
Eddington Residents' Association (ERA)
Empty Common Allotment Society
Fen Estates and Nuffield Road RA (FENRA)
Fen Road Steering Group
Fenners Lawn Residents' Association
Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook
Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook
Friends of Cherry Hinton Hall
Friends of Coldhams Common
Friends of Coleridge Rec
Friends of Ditton Fields Meadows
Friends of Histon Road Cemetery
Friends of Histon Road Rec
Friends of Jesus Green
Friends of Logan's Meadow
Friends of Midsummer Common
Friends of Mill Road Cemetery
Friends of Mitcham's Corner
Friends of Paradise Nature Reserve
Friends of Queens' Green
Friends of Sheeps Green Learner Pool
Friends of Skaters Meadow Footpath Group
Friends of Skaters Meadow Footpath Group
Friends of Stourbridge Common
Garden Walk Residents' Association
Gazeley Lane Residents' Association
George Street Residents' Association
Gough Way Residents Association
Grantchester Road Residents' Association
Great Northern Road Residents' Association
Greenlands' Residents Association
Greville Road RA
Guest Road Residents' Association

Appendix D

Guide Dogs
Hanover & Princess Court Residents' Association
Hawkins Road Residents' Association (HAWks)
Hearing Dogs for Deaf People
Hedgerley Close RA
Highsett Flats Resident's Association
Highsett Houses Residents' Society
Highworth Avenue CB
Hills Road Residents' Association
Histon Road Area Residents' Association (HRARA)
Hurst Park Estate Residents' Association (HPERA)
Jesus Green Association
Jesus Green Association
Jimmys
Kennel Club
King Street Neighbourhood Association
Local Access Forum
Madingley Road Area Residents' Association MRARA
Madingley Road Group
Medical Detection Dogs
Mill Road Community Improvements Group
Mill Road Society
Millington Road & Millington Lane Residents' Association
Milton Road RA (MRRA)
Monteal Square Residents' Association
Mulberry Close (Leys Road, Cambridge) Residents' Society Ltd
NAFRA 19 Acre Field Residents' Association
Natural England
Newnham Croft Conservation Group
Newnham Croft Residents' Association
Newtown Residents' Association
Nine Wells Residents' Associaton
North Cambridge Community Partnership
North Newnham Residents Association
North Newtown Residents' Association
Norwich Street Residents' Association
Old Chesterton Residents Association
Oxford Road Residents' Association
Parishes Committee Mill Road Cemetery
Park Street Residents' Association
Petersfield Area Community Trust (PACT)

Appendix D

Petersfield Mansions Residents' Association
Pinehurst South Resident's Association
Queen Edith's Community Forum
Queen Edith's Way Residents' Association
Queen Ediths Forum/
Queen's Veterinary School Hospital
Radcliffe Court Residents' Association
Red Cross Area Residents' Association (RARA)
Residents' Association of Old Newnham ROAN
Richmond Road Residents' Association
Riverside Area Residents Association
Riverside Area Residents Association
RNIB
Romsey Action
Royal Deaf Association
RPSCA Clinic
Rustat Neighbourhood Association
Sandy Lane Residents' Association
Save Our Spaces
Seeing Dogs
Shelly Gardens Leaseholder's Association
Sherlock Close RA
South Newnham Neighbourhood Forum (SNNF)
Southacre Latham Road and Chaucer Road RA (SOLACHRA)
St Andrews Road RA
Storeys Way Residents' Association
Support Dogs
Tavistock Road & Stratfield Close Residents' Association
Three Trees Residents' Association
Trumpington Meadows Delivery & Action Group
Trumpington Residents Association
Victoria Park Residents Working Group
West Cambridge Preservation Society
Windsor Road Residents Association (WIRE)
Wintercomfort
Wood Green

From: [ROGERSON, Paul 1668](#)
To: [Wendy Johnston](#)
Cc: [MCKENZIE, Shona 6015](#)
Subject: RE: PSPO Consultation - Dog Control
Date: 02 March 2023 09:56:49

Good morning Wendy

Thank you for sight of this, I can confirm on behalf of the Chief Constable that we have no objections.

Best regards

Paul

From: Wendy Johnston <Wendy.Johnston@cambridge.gov.uk>
Sent: 01 March 2023 15:03
To: ROGERSON, Paul 1668 <Paul.Rogerson@cambs.police.uk>
Cc: Wendy Johnston <Wendy.Johnston@cambridge.gov.uk>
Subject: PSPO Consultation - Dog Control

Hi Paul,

I'm sending a copy of our consultation letter regarding the dog control PSPO that we are consulting on within Cambridge – Keryn suggested you'd be the best point of contact to respond if you wish to.

Please let me know if you need anything further.

Kind regards,

Wendy

Wendy Johnston, Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager, Cambridge City Council | wendy.johnston@cambridge.gov.uk | **01223 458578**

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Formal Response to Cambridge City Council's Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation

Submitted on 7th March 2023 by: The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB, email: kcdog@thekennelclub.org.uk

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare, and training. Our objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners. We campaign for and advocate on behalf of dogs and their owners and, as part of our external affairs activities, engage with local authorities on issues such as Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs).

The Kennel Club is the only national organisation named by the UK Government as a body that local authorities should consult prior to introducing restrictions on dog walkers and is considered the leading canine authority on dog access. As such, we would like to highlight the importance of ensuring that PSPOs are necessary and proportionate responses to problems caused by dogs and irresponsible owners. We also believe that it is essential for authorities to balance the interests of dog owners with the interests of other access users.

We note that the proposal is to extend and vary the Order in respect of dog control, including dog fouling, dog exclusion, seasonal dog on leads requirements, means to pick up faeces, dogs on leads and restriction on number of dogs requirements within Cambridge.

Response to proposed measures

Dog fouling

The Kennel Club strongly promotes responsible dog ownership, and believes that dog owners should always pick up after their dogs wherever they are, including fields and woods in the wider countryside, and especially where farm animals graze to reduce the risk of passing Neospora and Sarcocystosis to cattle and sheep respectively.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ further proactive measures to help promote responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing Orders in this respect.

These proactive measures can include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog faeces can be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events; or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.

Means to pick up

Whilst we support proactive efforts on behalf of local authorities to encourage responsible dog ownership, measures to require owners to pick up after their dogs must be fair and



proportionate. We would not like to see responsible dog owners penalised unfairly. The Kennel Club has concerns regarding the proposal to introduce an offence of not having the means to pick up. Responsible owners will usually have dog waste bags or other means to clear up after their pets. However, if dog owners are approached at the end of a walk they may have already used the bags that they have taken out or given a spare bag to someone who has run out, for example. Such behaviour is encouraged by Green Dog Walker schemes.

It is also plausible that such proposals could, in certain circumstances, perversely incentivise dog walkers to not pick up after their dog. Dog walkers could be made to decide between using their final waste bag and risk being caught without means to pick up, or risk not picking up in order to have a means to pick up should they be stopped later on their walk. It is reasonable to assume a proportion of dog walkers would choose the second option if they believed this was the least likely route to being caught, especially if the penalty for not picking up was the same as not being in possession of a means to pick up.

Local authorities may wish to consider introducing a clause which provides an exemption for those who have run out of bags but are able to prove that they were in possession of and made use of these during their walk. It is essential that an effective communication campaign is launched in the local area to ensure that people are aware of the plans and have an excess supply of dog waste bags with them.

On lead

We can support reasonable 'dogs on lead' Orders which can, when used in a proportionate and evidence-based way, include areas such as cemeteries, picnic areas, or on pavements in proximity to cars and other road traffic.

On lead by direction

The Kennel Club strongly welcomes 'On lead by direction' Orders. These allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst simultaneously giving the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control.

We recommend that the authorised officer enforcing the Order is familiar with dog behaviour in order to determine whether restraint is necessary. There exists the possibility that a dog, through no fault of its own, could be considered a 'nuisance' or 'annoyance' to someone who simply does not like dogs.

We encourage local authorities to make use of more flexible and targeted measures at their disposal, including Acceptable Behavioural Contracts and Community Protection Notices. Kennel Club Good Citizen Training Clubs and our accredited trainers can assist owners whose dogs run out of control due to them not having the ability to train a reliable recall.



Exclusions

The Kennel Club does not typically oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds or enclosed recreational grounds, such as skate parks or tennis courts, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers in the vicinity. Children and dogs should be able to socialise together quite safely under adult supervision, with having a child in the home the biggest predictor for a family owning a dog.

When seeking to restrict access to playing fields, local authorities should consider whether or not it is absolutely necessary. When they are not in use, they can be a vital resource for dog owners to ensure that their dogs get their required daily exercise. As such, time and/or seasonal restrictions may be more appropriate than a continuous exclusion order.

Compliance with playing field exclusions can be difficult for a dog walker if there are no boundaries around the playing field, given that dogs will not understand the difference between playing fields and other grassed areas.

With regards to Coldham's Common specifically, local residents have been in touch to highlight that when the sports pitches are not in use this section is an extremely popular location for local residents to allow their dogs to run off lead. To prohibit exercising dogs off lead in this large, safe, open space, all year round would have a major impact on their ability to properly exercise their dogs. In addition, the restrictions will likely lead to residents being forced into their cars to reach a location to properly exercise their dogs or for those who cannot do this simply to under-exercised dogs, dramatically impacting their welfare.

Displacement

A common unintended consequence of restrictions is displacement onto other pieces of land, resulting in new conflicts being created. It can be difficult to predict the effects of displacement, and so the council should consider whether alternative sites for dog walkers are suitable and can support an increase in the number of dog walkers using them.

The All-Parliamentary Group for Animal Welfare (AGPAW) published a report which provides guidance to local authorities considering PSPOs, highlighting the increased risk to livestock if dog walkers are displaced to farmland.

“When reviewing Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs), local authorities should be careful to consider the availability of open space for use by dogs off lead. To restrict such areas or remove them via a PSPO may increase the risk to livestock in the countryside as more owners and walkers find that location as the only alternative. APGAW believes that local authorities should carefully consider alternative locations for dog owners and walkers to take their dogs when looking at issuing PSPOs and other measures such as introducing car parking charges and conservation grazing.



Given that there is a dog in around a quarter of all homes, as normal good practice, local authorities should seek to ensure adequate provision of green space for dog walkers during planning applications for new developments to avoid adjacent farmland becoming in effect local public amenity areas. Good practice already exists in the provision of such green space when planning to minimize any impacts on sensitive wildlife areas adjacent to new homes arising from dog walking.” (Tackling livestock worrying and encouraging responsible dog ownership, 2017 Page 6 - <http://www.apgaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/APGAW-Livestock-Worrying-Report-2017.pdf>)

Seasonal restrictions

Where a seasonal restriction is proposed, we suggest that local authorities consider whether a time restriction would be an appropriate addition. Many sports pitches are empty in the early mornings, making this a key time for many dog owners to exercise their dogs. Sports pitches are an important local resource for owners to make sure their dogs get the required daily off-lead exercise and we see little reason why it should be restricted during times of the day when it is little used.

Maximum number of dogs

An arbitrary maximum number of dogs that a person can walk is an inappropriate approach to dog control that will often displace and intensify problems in other areas. The maximum number of dogs a person can walk in a controlled manner depends on a number of factors relating to the dog walker, the dogs being walked, whether leads are used and the location where the walking is taking place.

If a maximum number of dogs measure is being considered due to issues arising from commercial dog walkers, we instead suggest that councils look at accreditation schemes – as seen in places such as the East Lothian Council area. These can be far more effective than numerical limits as they can promote good practice, rather than just curb the excesses of one aspect of dog walking. Accreditation can also ensure that dog walkers are properly insured – which will typically cap the number of dogs that they can walk at any one time – and act as advocates for good behaviour by other dog owners.

Appropriate signage

It is important to note that in relation to PSPOs, The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014 makes it a legal requirement for local authorities to –
 “cause to be erected on or adjacent to the public place to which the order relates such notice (or notices) as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that place to -

- (i) the fact that the order has been made, extended or varied (as the case may be); and
- (ii) the effect of that order being made, extended or varied (as the case may be).”



Regarding dog access restrictions, such as a 'Dogs on Lead' Order, on-site signage should clearly state where such restrictions begin and end. This can be achieved with signs that say on one side, for example, 'You are entering [type of area]' and 'You are leaving [type of area]' on the reverse.

While all dog walkers should be aware of their requirement to pick up after their dog, signage must be erected for the PSPO to be compliant with the legislation.

Assistance dogs

We urge the Council to review the Equality and Human Rights Commission's guidance for businesses and service providers when providing any exemptions for those who rely on assistance dogs. The guidance can be viewed here:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/assistance-dogs-a-guide-for-all-businesses.pdf>

We would therefore encourage the Council to allow for some flexibility when considering whether a disabled person's dog is acting as an assistance dog. The Council could consider adopting the definitions of assistance dogs used by Mole Valley District Council, which can be found below from their 2020 PSPO which included the following exemption provisions on dog control:

Nothing in this Order shall apply to a person who –

- a) is registered as a blind person on a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or*
- b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or*
- c) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by any current or future members of Assistance Dogs UK or any other charity registered in the UK with a purpose of training assistance dogs and upon which he relies for assistance*
- d) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities and in the reasonable opinion of the Council that person relies upon the assistance of the dog in connection with their disability. or that of Northumberland County Council:*

"(4) The term "Assistance Dog" shall mean a dog which has been trained to assist a person with a disability.



(5) The expression “disability” shall have the meaning prescribed in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 or as may be defined in any subsequent amendment or re-enactment of that legislation”.

DETAILED PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CAMBRIDGE CITY-CENTRE HEAT NETWORK

To: Cllr Rosy Moore

Executive Councillor for Climate Action and Environment
Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee, 29 June 2023

Report by:

Andrew Limb, Assistant Chief Executive

Tel: 01223 457004, Email: Andrew.Limb@cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

All

Non-Key Decision: subject to a successful feasibility study, approve in-principle match-funding from the Council's Climate Change Fund for the 'Detailed Project Development' stage of the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network.

1. Executive Summary

The Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network Feasibility Study stage, shortly concluding, has had three objectives:

- i) *Demonstrate a viable pathway to zero-carbon for Cambridge's historic city-centre:*

The project aims to help achieve the City Council's target set out in the Climate Change Strategy 2021-2026. "To reduce direct emissions from Council buildings and assets to net zero carbon by 2030". This was our initial primary purpose for starting to explore a heat network with renewable heat for the city centre, to help decarbonize council buildings that would otherwise (because of their location or construction) be difficult to treat.

It quickly became clear that there were opportunities to develop the project jointly and share the task with partners at the University of Cambridge, who face similar challenges in terms of their city centre estate, and potentially other partners in the tightly constrained urban setting of the city centre. In

this way, the project would also help contribute to the Council's vision for Cambridge to be net zero carbon by 2030.

Exploring the development of a city-centre heat network is one of Cambridge city's identified measures to address the causes and consequences of climate change.

The University of Cambridge has a Science Based Target to cut energy related Scope 1 (direct) and 2 (indirect) CO₂ emissions from its operational estate to absolute zero by 2048.

Heating and hot water in buildings typically accounts for one third of UK greenhouse gas emissions. A modern heat network provides a 21st century heating and hot water solution for Cambridge's historic city-centre and beyond.

ii) Feasibility:

The study aims to provide a clear set of recommendations, based on detailed technical and economic analysis of a heat network proposal for the city-centre. It will consider heat sources, energy centre locations, pipe routes and potential customers.

iii) Heat Network Expansion:

To determine if the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network has the potential to physically expand and adapt over time. This would provide a pathway for decarbonising the city more extensively, including, potentially, residential areas in due course, creating the opportunity for the city-centre heat network to act, potentially, as both:

- a) A launchpad for a city-scale heat network that could help decarbonise much of the city and protect Council, University and other customers from rising energy prices.
- b) Creation of an innovation platform by combining big infrastructure with Cambridge's research expertise, science, cleantech and Artificial Intelligence. A super-efficient and environmentally friendly city-scale heat network would enable Cambridge to showcase sustainability leadership at a global level, demonstrating how it is driving both carbon reduction, academic ambition and Cambridge's cleantech economy.

AECOM's 'Mapping and Masterplanning Study' (Work Package 1) suggests that the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network is likely to be feasible. The subsequent 'Feasibility Study' (Work Package 2) is scheduled to report in summer 2023, enabling the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network to move to Detailed Project Development stage.

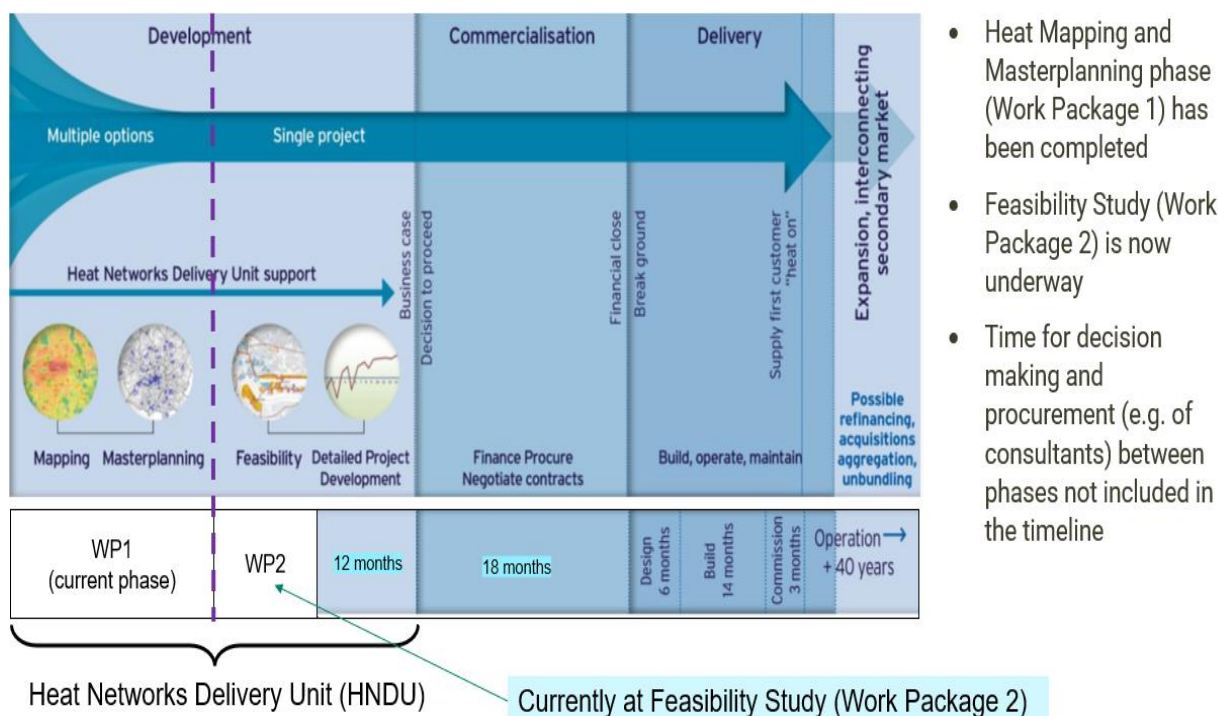
This approach follows government’s well-defined methodology for developing heat networks and large-scale infrastructure projects, in line with HM Treasury’s Green Book Guidance, as shown in Figure 1, overleaf.

The decision required relates to Council approval and match-funding needed to move to the next stage of Detailed Project Development.

The Detailed Project Development would provide a more thorough assessment of the physical and financial aspects of the project. It could include options analysis and advice on governance, financing and commercial models.

Once the Detailed Project Development stage had been completed, a further decision on whether and how to proceed with build-out and delivery of a network, and if, or what investment, would be required.

Figure 1, UK Government’s Methodology for Developing a Heat Network



iv) Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- 1) Provide ‘In-principle’ approval to use up to £180,000 of the Council’s Climate Change Fund for match-funding of the next phase of Detailed Project Development, subject to a satisfactory outcome from the feasibility study; a successful second government Heat Network Delivery Unit grant application; confirmation of a match-funding contribution from the University of Cambridge, clarification of additional expected resourcing requirements and sources and approval from the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources.

- 2) Approve delegated authority to the Assistant Chief Executive (as heat network Project Sponsor) to make the final decision in consultation with the Executive Councillor, chair of Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee and opposition spokes, once the Feasibility Study is completed in summer 2023.
- 3) Note the potential requirement for a further additional council and partner investment in technical assessment, at a later date, subject to exploration of alternative sources of funding (see section on risks and mitigations on pages 9-11).

v) Background

Heat networks have the capability to provide heating and hot water for cities. Heating and hot water in buildings account for around one third of UK greenhouse gas emissions. Gas boilers currently account for greater than an 80% share of the UK's heating market. The government forecasts that at least 18% of the UK's building stock will be connected to heat networks by 2050.¹

The Council declared a climate emergency in 2019. The Council's Climate Change Strategy 2021-26 shares a vision for Cambridge to be net-zero carbon by 2030. The Council's strategy sets out six key objectives for how it will address the causes and consequences of climate change, including reducing carbon emissions from City Council buildings and reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions from homes and buildings in Cambridge. Initial findings demonstrate the feasibility of a 100% renewable and zero-carbon heat network in Cambridge city-centre, which would provide environmentally friendly heating and hot water to the city-centre. Over time, this could be expanded to create a city-scale heat network across Cambridge.

The Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network creates a unique opportunity to bring together collaborative systems thinking and cleantech innovation, where the overall impact is much bigger than the sum of its parts. It could showcase Cambridge's economic, environmental and social sustainability to an international audience, providing a practical demonstration of how to transform a historic city into a truly sustainable and low-carbon city centre.

Cambridge has the ingredients for a successful heat network:

¹ Cambridge District Energy – Heat Mapping and Masterplanning Report (Work Package 1), 15 May 2023.

1. **100% renewable and zero-carbon heating and hot water for connected buildings in Cambridge's historic city-centre, with first 'Heat On' potentially by 2030:** implementation of the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network is likely to be the most efficient way to create a net zero carbon city centre. The annual carbon savings that can be achieved by the Council alone are forecast to be around 1,400 tonnes CO₂/year, with up to 56,000 tonnes being saved over the lifetime of the scheme (40yrs). The annual carbon savings for the full build are forecast to be around 3,200 tonnes CO₂/year, with a forecast 128,000 tonnes CO₂ being saved over the lifetime of the scheme (40yrs).
2. **Scale:** a large city-centre core scheme balances ambition and practical delivery. Implementing a city-centre heat network could efficiently decarbonise more buildings, with a small number of partners controlling most of the anchor heat loads.
3. **Heat pump-led heat networks:** are the new normal, replacing gas Combined Heat and Power (CHP), which were viewed as the clean 'go to' technology only 10 years ago. Heat networks are future-proofed 'Plug and play' systems that have flexibility to add or change heat sources without building level interventions.
4. **City Council, University of Cambridge and Colleges:** are enablers of change, with significant influence in the city as landlords and climate leaders. The Council is also the planning authority. This unique partnership which controls the majority of buildings in the city-centre, has access to funding and the Council has local policy levers.
5. **Significant heat demand and expansion opportunity:** heat networks are either underway or planned for several strategic developments across the city. There would be scope to connect and expand out from the city centre into other commercial/research centres and residential areas in the future, ultimately connecting Council housing stock and private homes.
6. **Listed buildings in historic Conservation Area:** with little or no visual impact, a heat network is likely to be the best (and potentially only) way to fully decarbonise these historic buildings at scale in the Cambridge City-Centre Conservation Area. The alternative approach, attempting to decarbonise individual listed buildings with current technology is likely to be difficult due to tight space and planning constraints.
7. **Clean air:** helps reduce NO_x in 'Clean Air Zone,' which directly responds to the city-centre Air Quality Management Area.
8. **Planning Policy requires connection:** the Council has led the way in UK heat network policy with its 'Strategic District Heating Area,' which requires heat network connections. This fits well with national policy, with forthcoming regulation of heat networks and Heat Zones, which will mandate connection.

9. **Gap funding is available from UK government:** Heat Network Delivery Unit, Green Heat Network Fund and UK Infrastructure Bank.
10. **Cambridge's track record in heat network development:** we are not starting from scratch. The University of Cambridge is developing a heat network in Eddington, West Cambridge, with a peak heating demand of 13MW. A 5MW Water Source Heat Pump takes waste heat from both the West Cambridge Data Centre and the Cavendish III cryostats.

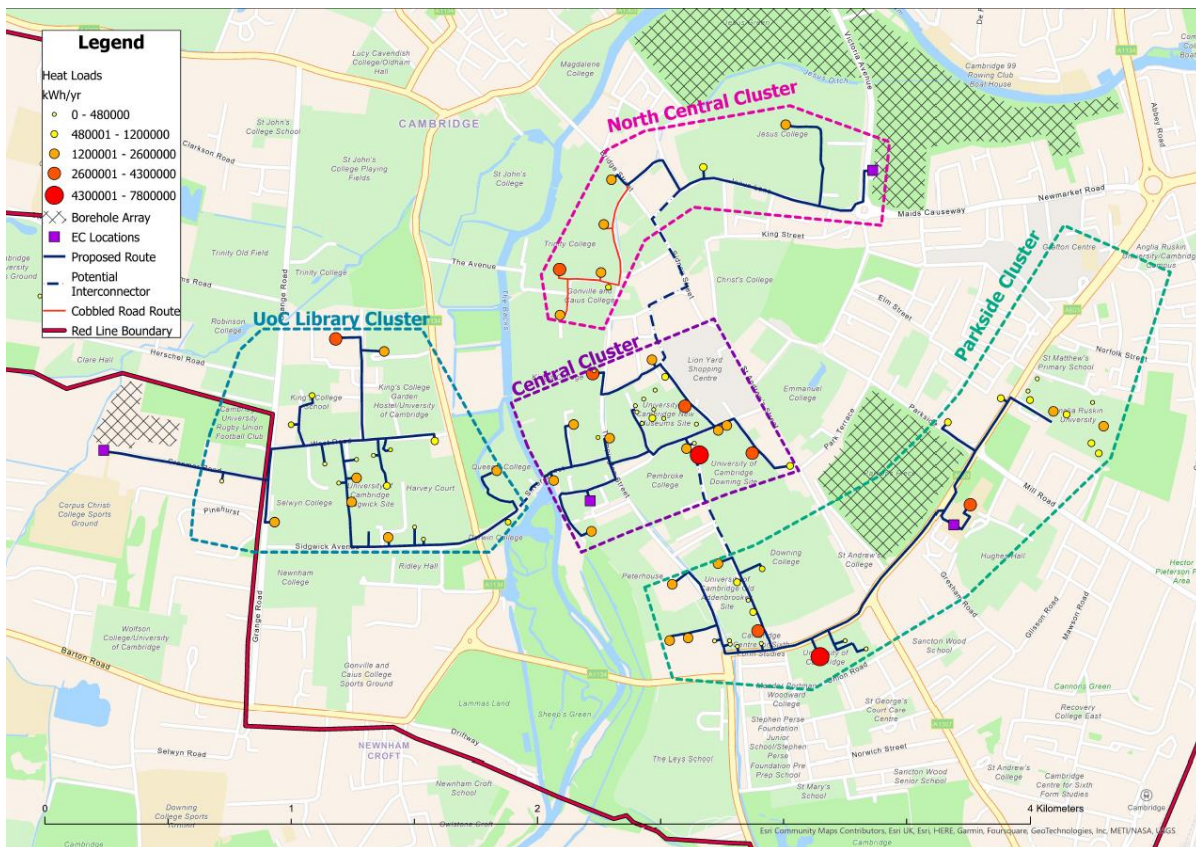
Closed-loop Ground Source Heat Pumps are installed at Homerton College, Jesus College dining halls, and King's College Croft Gardens. Emmanuel College development on Park Terrace uses open-loop ground water sourced heat pumps. Pembroke College is looking to use an Air Source Heat Pump for its site. An Inter Collegiate Climate Group is assessing the potential for water sourced heat pumps using the River Cam.

Cambridge's prosperity is built on networks, innovation and partnerships. It is about systems thinking and city-scale collaboration. As was highlighted at the Cambridge Climate Leader's event in March 2023, delivering the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network is the perfect response to the climate emergency using systemic change.

For the Council the project offers significant carbon savings, a healthy financial return from any subsequent capital investment, and increased energy security as a customer and anchor heat load.

Heat Mapping and Masterplanning (Work Package 1)

Map 1, Four shortlisted clusters for phased development of the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network



Key findings of the feasibility study so far:

- 1. The Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network is looking technically and economically viable:** all 4 Phases in Map 1 (Parkside, Central, North Central and University of Cambridge Library) and Full Build-Out show a positive Net Present Value (NPV), so projected revenues exceed the anticipated costs). Investments should only proceed where there is positive NPV, which is the case here.
- 2. Detailed Project Development requires funding mechanisms to be explored and discussed to identify how the network will be funded:** all 4 Phases and Full Build-Out have an Internal Rate of Return (IRR) of 6 to 9% with no grants. Full Build-Out offers the highest IRR of 9%.
- 3. As a result, the Council and University have maximum flexibility in how to fund the final scheme:** a public sector funded project typically needs at least 6% IRR, whilst a private-funded project is likely to require between 9 to 12%. Detailed Project Development will investigate the opportunities to fund it directly by the Council and/or University, with private-sector partners, with the support of philanthropic donations and/or through community investment in local green infrastructure.
- 4. All 4 Phases and Full Build-Out are eligible for the government’s £288 million Green Heat Network Fund:** a successful capital grant creates the opportunity to reduce tariffs and connection charges for the Council, University & Colleges, whilst maintaining a similar investment return.

5. **The total forecast construction cost is £165m:** each Phase is relatively balanced and is forecast to cost £35-52m, based on today's prices.
6. **The Colleges and University have most of the heat demand:** supported by Council buildings and a small percentage of private customers. This simplifies the process of securing heat network customers.
7. **Full Build-Out is the preferred option as it delivers the highest economic returns and highest carbon savings:** heat networks operate best at scale. More heat sources enable the heat network to account for seasonal variations in the performance of different energy generating technologies. Peak heat is expensive to provide and reduces with a diverse customer base and a range of heat demand profiles.
8. **Parkside Cluster (Phase 1):** this is looking like the most economically advantageous individual cluster and would include all project partners, including Parkside Pool (Council owned), Chemistry Building (University of Cambridge), ARU campus and, potentially, Downing College, Hughes Hall, and Peterhouse (Colleges).
9. **The highest carbon savings would be from Full Build:** North Central with Trinity, Jesus and St John's Colleges (Phase 2) and the University of Cambridge Library Cluster with Queens' College, Selwyn College and the Sidgwick site (Phase 3) offer the highest decarbonisation potential of individual Phases. They also include GSHP capacity to serve the wider network. Central Cluster (Phase 1) is the heart of the network in the iconic historic city-centre. It could include The Guildhall and Corn Exchange (City Council), the New Museums Site and West Building Downing Site (University of Cambridge), St Catharine's, King's and Pembroke Colleges.
10. **The Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network requires 50% less electricity compared to individual Air Source Heat Pumps:** this helps balance the National Grid and reduce the need for expensive electrical upgrades. Heat networks with large centrally powered heat pumps are much more efficient than heat pumps installed at individual buildings.

Other local and social benefits:

1. **Significant carbon savings:** all Phases can deliver around 87% carbon savings compared to individual gas boilers and a 50% carbon saving compared to individual Air Source Heat Pumps.
2. **Faster decarbonisation of heating in the city-centre, enabling buildings to decarbonise:** helps both the Council and University meet their ambitious decarbonisation targets, and work towards the Council's vision for Cambridge to be net zero by 2030.
3. **Reduced complexity in adaptation of the local power grid:** supports the centralised district heating approach which electrifies heating and hot water supply more efficiently.

4. **Improved air quality in the city-centre:** gas fire heating is removed from the City-Centre Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).
5. **No visual impact in the City-Centre Conservation Area:** beyond disruption caused during the build phase, there is an opportunity to make a visual, educational and statement feature of the energy centres. This could potentially add to the public realm and provide a visible and powerful statement of zero-carbon living.
6. **Helps create a circular economy:** the ability to access additional waste heat and/or renewable heat sources as they become available.
7. **Helps protect the Council, University of Cambridge, and other bodies that connect from future energy price hikes:** by reducing their need to buy from the grid.
8. **Creates an innovation platform with global reach:** attracting green investment, commercialising green technologies and accelerating the global transition to a zero-carbon economy.
9. **Creates a launchpad for expansion:** potential for a city-scale heat network across Cambridge. Future expansion could benefit our communities, connecting social housing to the network.
10. **The public sector heat loads act as a catalyst for further growth through private sector connections:** both as infill development and expansion.

Options Analysis

1. *Do nothing:* do not take forward the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network to Detailed Project Development. This would remove any risks, costs or uncertainty associated with proceeding, but stop the project and all its potential benefits listed above. Note that the Council and University would likely have key enabling roles in any heat network, regardless of whether they choose to ultimately invest in and/or own the heat network.

2. *Proceed to Detailed Project Development for Full-Build Out:* this is the preferred option for the reasons listed above. Full build-out makes best use of the Ground Source Heat Pumps, reducing reliance on Air Source Heat Pumps in the space constrained central cluster. Multiple energy centres increase the network's reliability for customers.

3. *Only proceed to Detailed Project Development for an individual phase:* whilst this will deliver benefits and is feasible, it misses the opportunity for Full Build-Out. Heat networks operate best at scale. A more efficient heat network offers better customer tariffs for the Council and University, an accelerated route to decarbonise the city-centre and the opportunity to deliver a city-scale heat network across Cambridge.

Risks and Mitigation

The Recommendations in this report are based upon several assumptions:

	Risk	Mitigation
a	Dependency on a successful second HNDU funding bid for £465k for 18 months of Detailed Project Development, including HNDU confirmation that they deem Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network to be a 'large' project.	Pre-meet with Deputy Director for Heat Networks at Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)
b	The need to complement the heat network project with a robust energy efficiency retrofit programme, to reduce the overall capital investment required in the heat network's energy centres.	The Council's Asset Management and Decarbonisation Plan. Resources to manage and deliver the plan.
c	Proposed energy centres need to be fit-for-purpose and energy sources need to meet the energy supply outlined. The full network route also includes potentially crossing the River Cam. Due to the age, design, and conservation status of many bridges developing a cost-effective solution to the crossing will be key to inclusion of phases beyond the river.	Technical assessments will be required at Detailed Project Development, which is likely to involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Borehole testing at each of the Ground Source Heat Pump locations, to confirm the amount of renewable heat that is available. This is likely to cost £70-£100k per borehole, so could amount to some hundreds of thousand pounds. ○ Structural surveys of the shortlisted locations for the Air Source Heat Pumps, to make sure the rooves are strong enough and to again de-risk the project. This is forecast to cost approx £5k per site (minimum) and up to £50k in total. ○ Any testing required in relation to the river

		crossing, so that the heat network pipe can connect the University of Cambridge Library Cluster (Phase 3) with Central Cluster (Phase 4). This is forecast to cost approx. £20-50k in total.
d	<p>Funding for the technical assessments (see c above) is likely to be subject to a further Council decision during or after the Detailed Project Development stage. To aid this process, the governance and funding options analysis will be prioritised, whereby the Council and other stakeholders determine how much control, risk and financial reward they each seek. Individual organisations will also have the choice to be heat customers only and pay a Connection Charge for each building that connects to the heat network.</p> <p>Once this process has been completed, the Council will know if it needs to help de-risk the project by agreeing to fund or part-fund these technical assessments.</p>	Funding for these mitigations will be explored from a range of sources, including potential partner institutions in the heat network zone, but may require additional Council and University investment, e.g. through a budget bid.
e	Recruitment and capacity to manage and deliver the project	Resourcing needs will be clarified in the next stage, and clear roles / job descriptions developed, utilising existing council and partner capacity where possible, recognising the risk of competing demands.

Implications

a) Financial Implications

The total cost of the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network's Detailed Project Development (DPD) depends on the size and number of phases in the core scheme. The total forecast cost will be confirmed through the Feasibility Study, it is likely to cost around £825,000. This figure excludes additional technical or archaeological surveys that may be required due to the complexity of Cambridge's historic city centre.

£465,000 of the total cost might be able to be funded by HNDU (subject to a successful funding bid), leaving a total estimated additional funding requirement of around £375,000 for the Council, University of Cambridge and any other funding partners. Please note that these are early estimates. Officers, with external advice, will provide more accurate forecasts as the Feasibility Study progresses, taking advice from HNDU on latest market costs. Officers will also scope out exactly what resource requirements are needed, which in turn impacts the funding requirement.

Requirement

Project management	£	180,000.00
Technical study	£	645,000.00
Conservation	TBC	
Technical tests	TBC	
Total	£	825,000.00

Funding

	DPD investment	
HNDU Funding (PM)	£	90,000.00
HNDU Technical	£	375,000.00
Council	£	180,000.00
University of Cambridge	£	180,000.00
Total	£	825,000.00

b) Staffing Implications

There are likely to be a number of roles and functions requiring input from council staff, consultants, contractors, partners and others. These are likely to include:

- Programme Management
- Stakeholder engagement
- Procurement

- Legal advice
- DPD delivery
- Conservation advice
- Exploration of governance models
- Advice on funding models
- Retrofit programme management

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

An Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted on progressing the project to Detailed Development Phase. There is expected to be no impact at Detailed Project Development Phase however there are both positive and negative impacts identified if the project progresses to construction and delivery which will be reviewed and where possible, mitigated. Please refer to Appendix 3: Heat Network Feasibility Study Equality Impact Assessment.

d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

The heat network would have a High Positive impact on climate change as the heat network, (if progressed to construction and delivery) would provide zero carbon heating and hot water to the city-centre creating significant carbon savings. The annual carbon savings that can be achieved by the Council alone are forecast to be around 1,400tonnesCO₂/year, with up to 56,000 tonnes being saved over the lifetime of the scheme (40yrs). The annual carbon savings for the full build are forecast to be around 3,200 tonnes CO₂/year, with a forecast 129,000 tonnes CO₂ being saved over the lifetime of the scheme (40yrs). The full build heat network could deliver around 87% carbon savings compared to individual gas boilers and a 50% carbon saving compared to individual Air Source Heat Pumps. This is due to the efficiency offered by large commercial-scaled heat pumps.

Assuming 100% renewable electricity is used to power the heat pumps, as intended, the Council and University will achieve zero-carbon Scope 1 (direct - fuel) and Scope 2 (indirect - electricity) emissions for the connected buildings from first 'Heat On' potentially in 2029/2030. This would require continued purchase of 100% green electricity, noting that some electricity may be generated locally from roof-mounted solar panels.

The heat network would require, and complement, delivery of the Council's Asset Management and Decarbonisation Plan. This was approved at Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee in March 2023, and provides a phased programme of energy efficiency improvements of Council owned

buildings as part of a wider programme of asset maintenance, to help create a net-zero Estate by 2030.

The Carbon Management Plan 2021 – 2026 sets out how the City Council will reduce emissions from its buildings, land and vehicles.

e) Procurement Implications

The Council will facilitate procurement of consultants and project management teams to undertake Detailed Project Development. There are two procurement options available:

1. Public procurement process.
2. Utilise an appropriate framework to appoint pre-shortlisted consultants by competition (as with the existing Feasibility Study). This is likely to be the preferred option.

f) Community Safety Implications

No community safety implications, the Detailed Project Development stage is primarily a desktop study.

12. Consultation and communication considerations

In addition to the significant level of stakeholder buy-in obtained for the initial government funding bid in Spring 2022 from the Council, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge and 18 University Colleges, significant momentum has built as the project has continued to develop. This has included presentations to:

- The UK heat network industry at Homerton College in November 2022 in partnership with the Danish Embassy
- The City Leaders Climate Change Group event in March 2023, with attendees from the Council, the University of Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University, local tech companies and the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership.

To support the development of Work Package 1 and 2, the Council developed a web page and email address specifically for the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/city-centre-heat-network> This has resulted in several Expressions of Interest from high-profile organisations seeking to connect to the new heat network.

The aims of the project have been communicated publicly via press release and Cambridge Matters.

To demonstrate the level of widespread support from public and private-sector organisations, additional letters of support will be sought for the funding bid from key stakeholders, including Cambridgeshire County Council linked to the Local Area Energy Plan, and significant owners managers of property in the city centre.

Further engagement on the potential benefits of the network is expected to take place in the next stage.

13. Background papers

- 1) City Council's Climate Change Strategy
- 2) University of Cambridge's Carbon Reduction Strategy, 2020 Update
- 3) Committee report on the Asset Management Plan from March's Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee meeting
- 4) Heat Demand and Masterplanning Work Package 1 Study

14. Appendices

Appendix 1, Background

Appendix 2, Highlight Summary of AECOM's Heat Mapping & Masterplanning Report

Appendix 3, Heat Network Feasibility Study Equality Impact Assessment

15. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Catherine Stewart, Climate Change Officer, tel. no 01223 457086 e-mail Catherine.Stewart@Cambridge.gov.uk

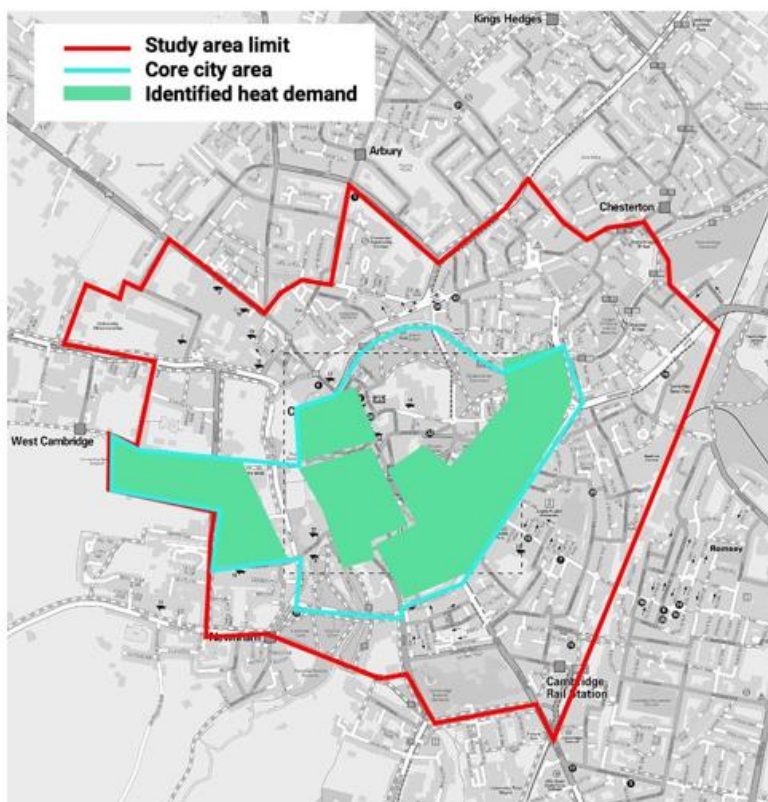
Appendix 1, Background

What's the story so far?

Expert consultants [Sustainability Co.](#) were appointed to develop a collaborative partnership for the initial government Heat Network Delivery Unit (HNDU) funding bid in July 2022, with letters of support from the Chief Executive and Leader of Cambridge City Council, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge and 18 Colleges.

The Council, in partnership with the University of Cambridge secured £97,680 government grant funding to refresh the previous 2019 Heat Mapping and Masterplanning Study (work Package 1) and develop a subsequent Feasibility Study for the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network (Work Package 2). In addition to the £97,680 grant, £33,00 match-funding was provided and equally split between the City Council and University of Cambridge.

The partners developed a scope of works and through a procurement exercise using the GLA's framework of heat network specialists, appointed AECOM to complete the study, which is focused on the phased development of Core City Area outlined in blue, supported by the wider Study Area outlined in red:



Approval is now sought to progress from Feasibility Study to 'Detailed Project Development' stage, in accordance with the government's well-defined methodology for developing heat network projects.

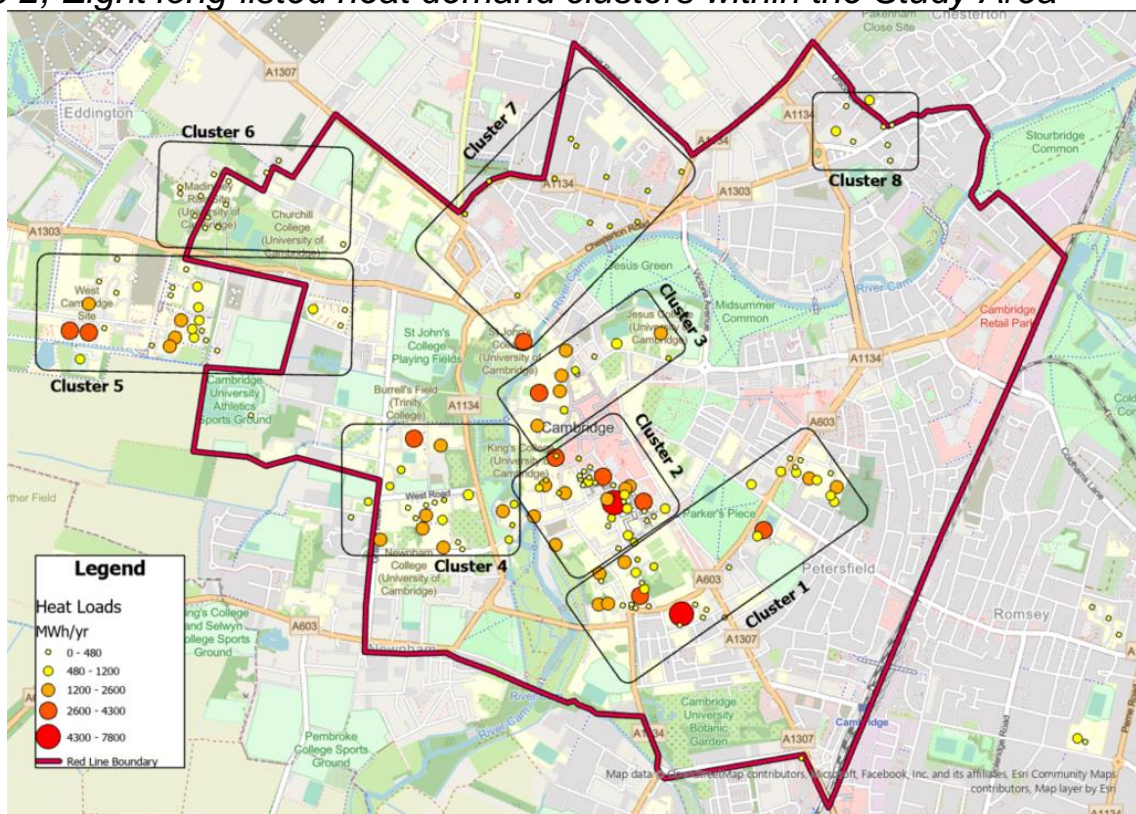
Government grants are available to support this process, which is why a further Heat Network Delivery Unit (HNDU) grant application for £375,000 match funding is being prepared to support 'Detailed Project Development.'

Summary of AECOM's Heat Mapping & Masterplanning

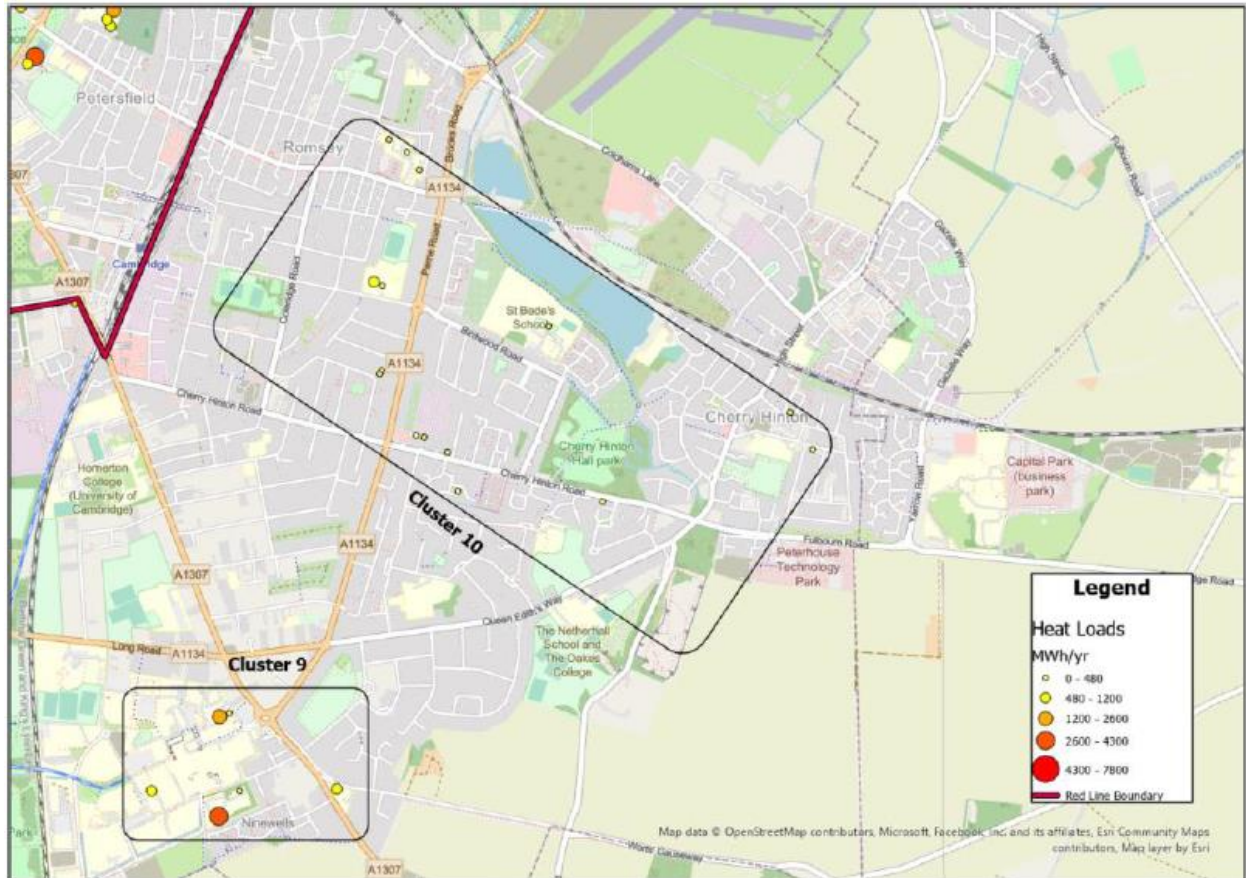
Key Findings from Work Package 1 (WP1):

- 4 individual viable networks can be interconnected into one single large network in Cambridge city-centre.
- Several technically viable locations are identified for Energy Centres.
- 86% of estimated thermal load is based on metered data. Strong data quality provides confidence.
- 113 buildings are identified in the red line boundary with a significant annual heat demand of 113GWh.
- 8 clusters were identified, of which Clusters 1 to 4 were prioritised for immediate consideration due to their heat density and location within the red line boundary.
- Cambridge Science Park has 3.8MW heat demand but is 5.5km from the red line boundary. The Science Park heat capacity available is not sufficient to justify the cost of connecting it to the proposed heat networks in the city centre at this stage. A satellite heat network could be explored to supply existing buildings within the Science Park.
- Cambridge University Hospitals, Addenbrookes, and Royal Papworth have a significant heat load and there is an existing heat network. This is being investigated further through the Feasibility Study.

Map 2, Eight long-listed heat demand clusters within the Study Area



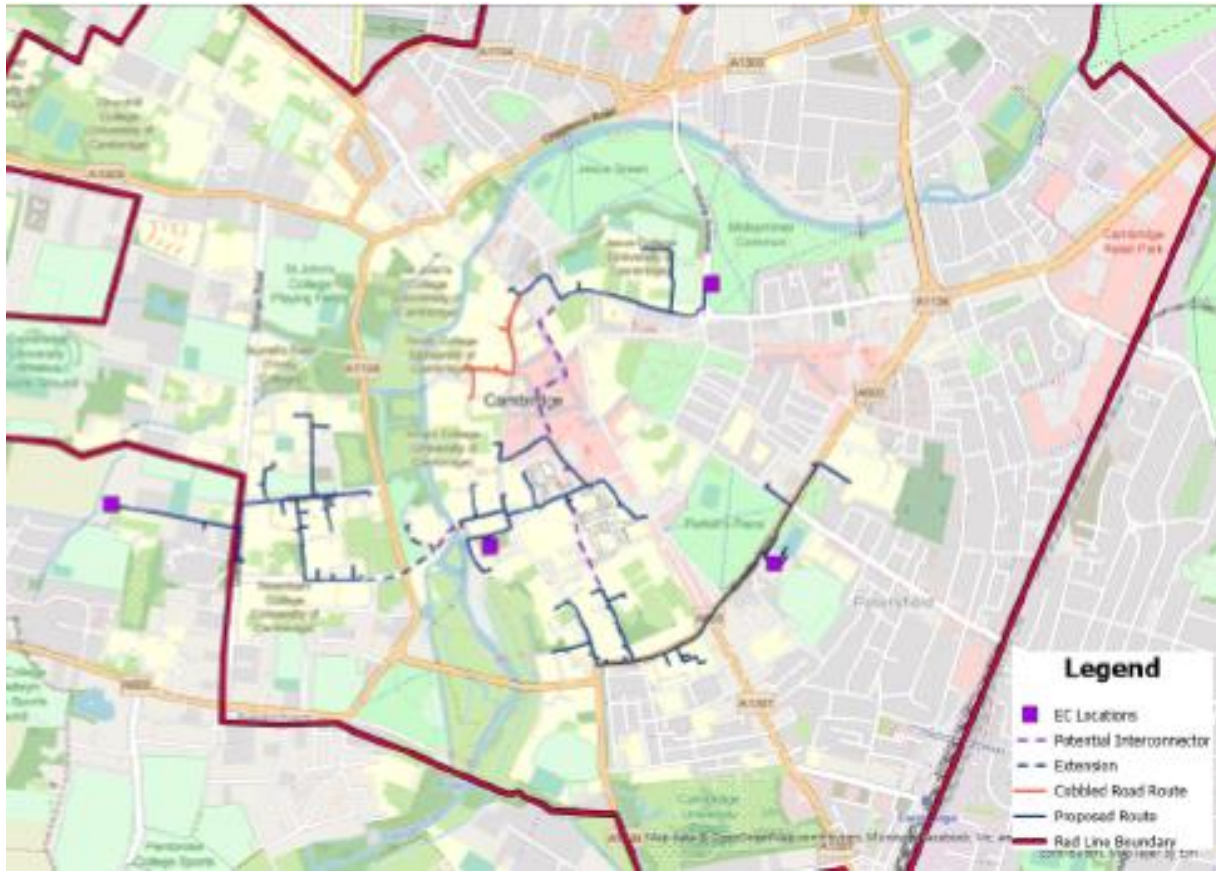
*Map 3, Two other long-listed clusters outside of the Study Area
(Existing heat network at Addenbrookes Hospital and a relatively low density cluster to the east of the railway line)*



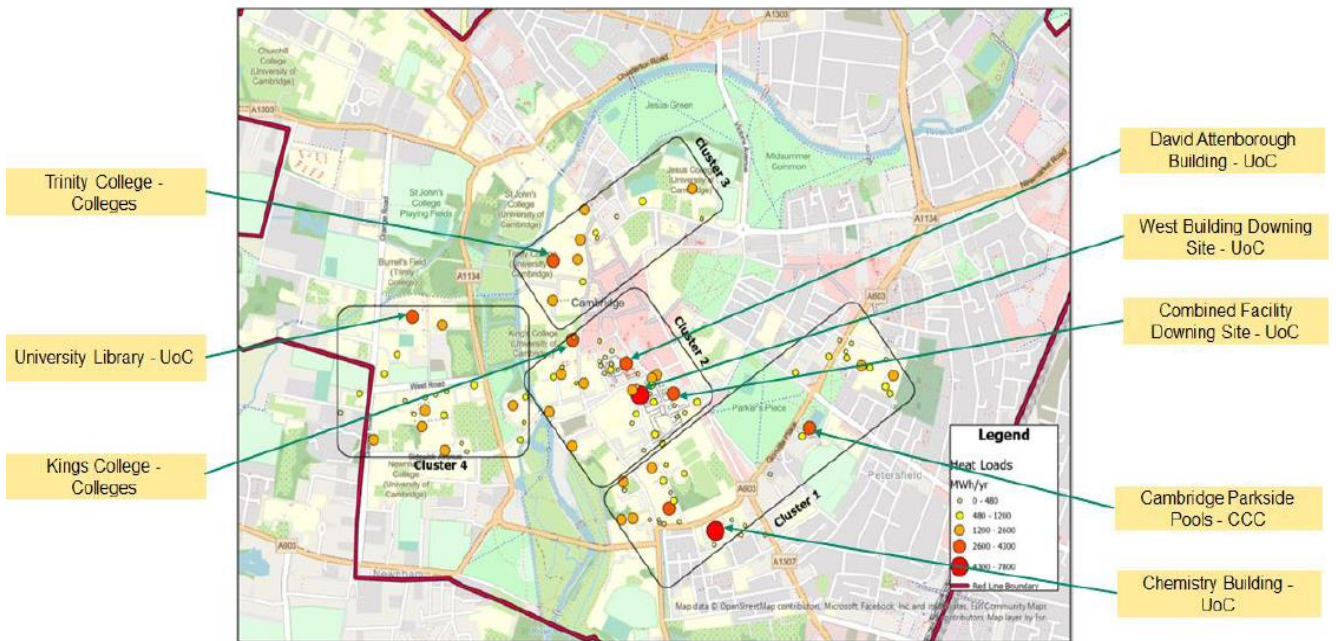
The network routes in Map 4 (overleaf) are based on the following criteria:

1. Taking the shortest route possible from heat source to heat load, reducing capital costs and heat losses.
2. Avoiding constraints such as major roads, rivers, railways and historic roads where possible.
3. Using soft dig where possible to reduce capital expenditure.
4. Follow the route that picks up the most heat load possible.
5. Utilise existing communal heat networks where possible.

Map 4, Proposed pipe routes for the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network



Map 5, Anchor Heat Loads in the 4 shortlisted phases



Preferred heat sources

The 100% renewable heat could potentially be provided by 3 sources of environmental heat, supported by large thermal stores/water batteries so we can purchase the electricity for the heat pumps when it is cheapest:

- 1) Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHPs) and borehole arrays provide around 63% of the heat supply. The boreholes for the Ground Source Heat Pumps are assumed to be located on 3 green spaces in proximity to the main clusters. Once installed, the expectation is that there would be little or no visual impact or loss of amenity to the open spaces:
 - a) Parker's Piece: area of c.80,700m². Assuming 60% of this area is available, this would result in a space of c.48,000m². This could accommodate a GSHP with an estimated maximum capacity of 5MW.
 - b) Midsummer Common & Jesus Green: have a total area of c.140,000m². Assuming 60% of this area is available, this would result in a space of c.84,000m². This could accommodate a GSHP with a conservatively estimated capacity of 6MW.
 - d) End of Cranmer Road area of c.33,300m². Assuming 60% of this area is available, this would result in a space of c.20,000m². This could accommodate a GSHP with an estimated capacity of 3MW, subject to discussions with the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service.
 - e) Additional green spaces at College sites will be considered in the Feasibility Study.
- 2) Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP), account for around 19% of heat supply. The Engineering Building, New Museums sites, and other commercial properties in the city centre were identified as longlisted roof-top locations to accommodate ASHPs.
- 3) Energy centres with electric boilers for top-up and peak demand (18% of heat supply). There is potential to reduce the number of electric boilers as more details about the renewable heat sources become available.
- 4) Thermal stores located outside the energy centre buildings.

Map 6, Renewable heat sources in the 4 shortlisted Clusters

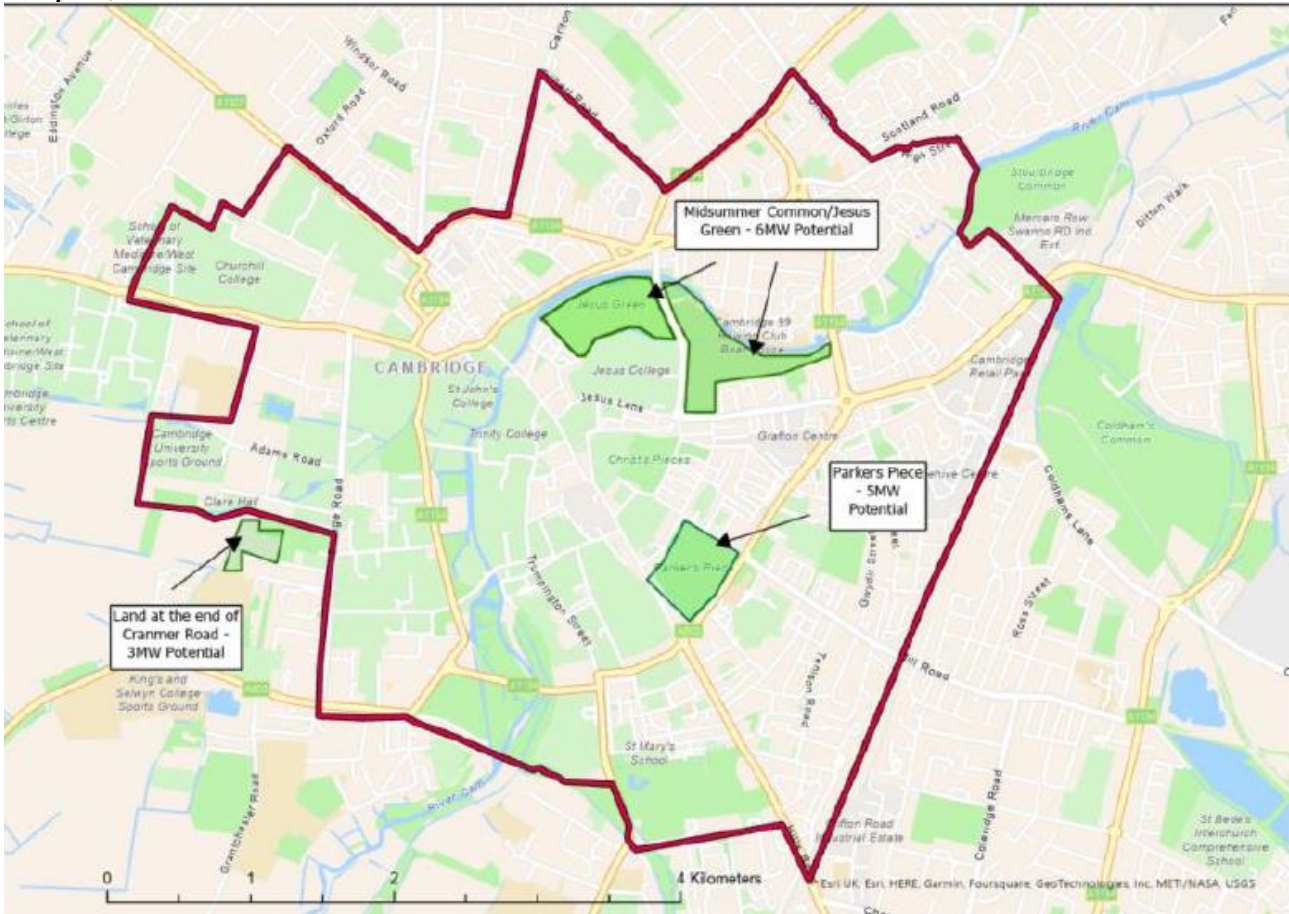


Figure 1, Four shortlisted clusters identified by Heat Mapping & Master planning Study 2023

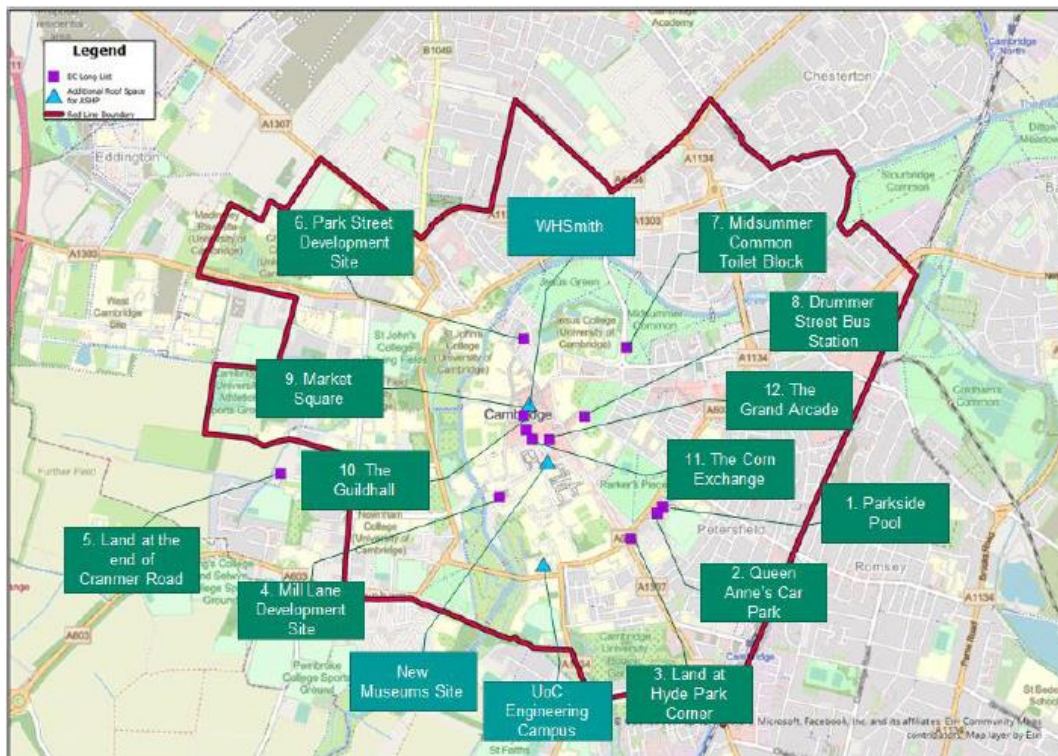
Scenario	Total Plant Installed
Cluster 1 – Parkside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 5MW GSHP – 449m² – 3MW ASHP – 168m² – Electric Boiler Peaking and Resilience Plant – 392m² – 300m³ Thermal Stores – 350m² (external)
Cluster 2 – Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 8 MW ASHP – 411m² – Electric Boiler Peaking Plant – 559m² – 200m³ Thermal Stores - 200m² (external)
Cluster 3 – North Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 6MW GSHP – 473m² – Electric Boiler Peaking Plant – 457m² – 200m³ Thermal Stores - 200m² (external)
Cluster 4 – UoC Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 3MW GSHP – 376m² – Electric Boiler Peaking Plant – 515m² – 200m³ Thermal Stores - 200m² (external)
Full Build	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 14MW GSHP – 600m² – 10MW ASHP – 610m² – Electric Boiler Peaking and Resilience Plant – 840m² – 500m³ Thermal Stores – 1,200m² (external)

Preferred energy centre locations

The long-list of energy centre locations is still being developed, based on a few key principles, which include:

- 1) Seek to design hidden energy centres located in the Conservation Area, design to be in-keeping or enhance current townscape, or seek to make a feature of renewable energy centres in non-sensitive locations, to help showcase the heat network's environmental benefits, zero-carbon living and to promote community buy-in.
- 2) We have complete flexibility to design each energy centre within its local environment, and where appropriate, to improve the public realm e.g. loosening the currently impacted soil on Parker's Piece to help the grass to grow more healthily.
- 3) Consider opportunities to link energy centres into the redevelopment of individual sites, e.g. pavilions, toilet blocks.
- 4) Consider the pros and cons of:
 - Distributed and centralised energy centres
 - Use basement or rooftop locations versus standalone buildings
 - Tall and low-rise buildings

Map 8, Indicative initial long-list of potential energy centre locations



Main customers in the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network

Technoeconomic modelling from the Heat Mapping and Masterplanning will be refined through the Feasibility Study. The initial outputs from Work Package 1 confirm that of the 113 buildings assumed to connect (for feasibility assessment purposes) during Phases 1 to 4, anchor heat loads include:

Phase	City Council buildings	University of Cambridge	University Colleges	Other
Phase 1 Parkside Cluster	Parkside Pool (2.1MW)	Chemistry Building (5.9MW)	Hughes Hall Peterhouse	
Phase 2 North Central			Trinity College (4.6MW) Jesus College (2.3 MW) St. John's College (3.3MW) Sidney Sussex College	
Phase 3 UoC Library site		UoC Library (4.5MW) Sidgwick Site (6.8MW)	Selwyn College Clare College Newnham College Queens' College	
Phase 4 Central	The Guildhall (1.8MW) The Corn Exchange (0.9MW)	New Museums Site (5.2MW)	Downing College (1MW) St Catharine's College (2.3 MW) King's College (3.8MW) Gonville and Caius College Corpus Christi College	

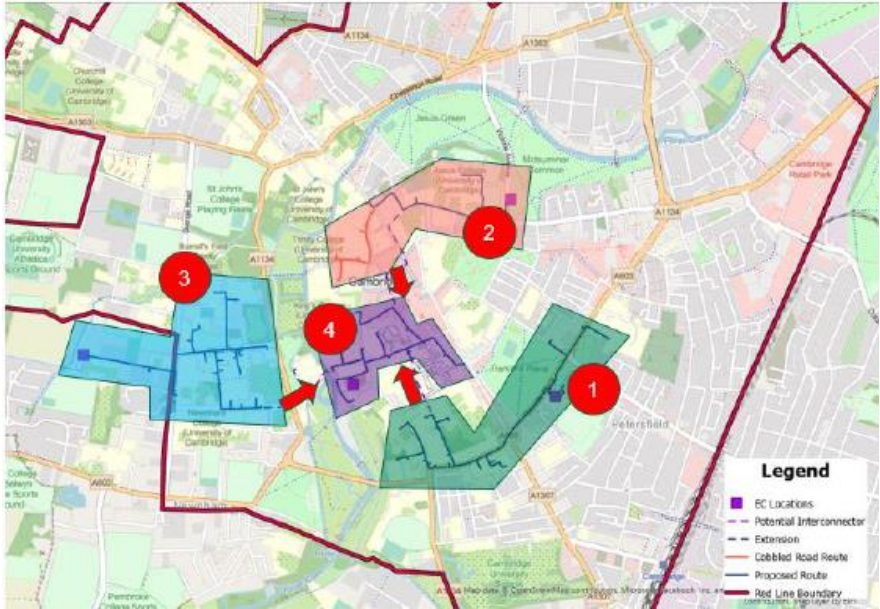
			Trinity Hall	
			Emmanuel College	
			Christ's College	

In addition to these anchor heat loads, many other buildings have been identified as being likely to connect. These can provide potential infill connections as the heat network develops.

Phased development of the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network

The Heat Mapping and Masterplanning Study recommends phased development of the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network, as shown in Map 9. The order of construction is based on prioritising networks which connect to Ground Source Heat Pumps, to reduce sole dependency on Air Source Heat Pumps within the space constrained central cluster.

Map 9, Phased development of the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network



Potential Innovation Platform

Cambridge’s two universities and associated research and innovation cluster have a wealth of academic and technical expertise that could be utilised to harness the innovation potential of this project. Cambridge Zero, the

University's flagship climate change initiative, has identified 'Decarbonising the Built Environment' as a Grand Challenge theme within its research portfolio, which brings together existing cross-disciplinary expertise from the Departments of Engineering, Architecture, Land Economy, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, as well as the Judge Business School, Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership and the Energy Interdisciplinary Research Centre.

Within this theme there is a particular research interest in the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI), digital and sensing technologies to support the decarbonisation of the built environment. Working collaboratively with internal and external partners, a roadmap for a flagship project is being developed. It will focus on using the University estate as a testbed to develop and demonstrate the co-ordinated site-wide use of interoperable cyber-physical infrastructure, sensing and AI technologies, in decarbonising the estate and its buildings.

The outputs of this project could function as a 'Smart Campus' template to other real estate managers on how to implement decarbonisation through the use of cyber-physical infrastructure, providing demonstrable real-world impact. There is the potential to develop innovative systems with the [Cambridge Centre for Smart Infrastructure and Construction](#), and to access national innovation grant funding.

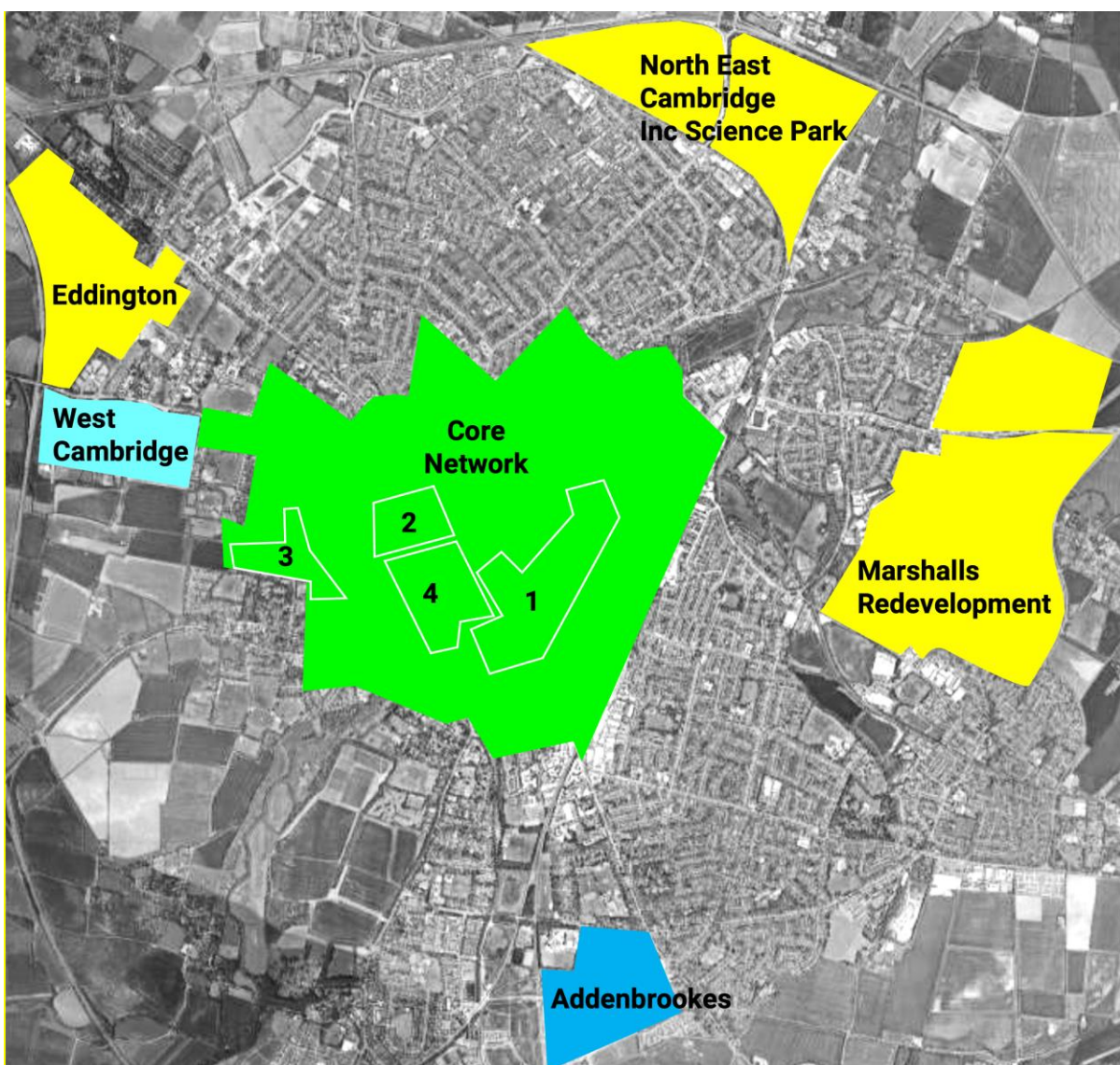
The Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network could ultimately benefit from leveraging cross-departmental academic expertise through Cambridge Zero, while the Cambridge academic and business community would benefit from the heat network as a case study on how to develop and commercialise new research and technologies.

Expansion Opportunities

The Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network will be a key strategic asset that could be expanded to create a city-scale heat network across Cambridge, supporting the Council and University's decarbonisation targets. Expanding the network and operating at scale will improve the operational efficiency of the network and help maintain affordable energy bills for customers, of which the University of Cambridge, Cambridge City Council, and several Colleges will be anchor heat loads in the first instance.

Significant expansion opportunities exist, proving that the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network provides the perfect launchpad for a city-scale heat network in the medium to long-term. Satellite heat networks that could potentially organically grow to ultimately connect with an expanding city-centre heat network include:

- 1) West Cambridge and Eddington (westerly extension)
- 2) Cambridge Science Park and North-East Cambridge (northerly extension)
- 3) East Cambridge (easterly extension)
- 4) Addenbrookes Hospital / Biomedical Campus.



In future phases there is also the opportunity to connect the Council's housing stock, and other housing in the city. To help tackle fuel poverty, by ensuring that residents' energy costs are lower than would otherwise be the

case. Widening access to renewable heating technologies that currently remain unaffordable to many.

This is why the Council is planning for both technical interoperability (via an AECOM guidance note) and to future-proof both new buildings for heat network connection (via the Council's Planning team) and existing buildings (via the council's asset management plan).

What does the draft Feasibility Report say?

The Feasibility Study (Work Package 2) will build upon the Heat Mapping and Masterplanning Study (Work Package 1), which was finalised in May 2023. The Feasibility Study is underway and will report in summer 2023, further developing the Heat Mapping and Masterplanning through:

- Energy demand refinement
- Counterfactual: refine assumptions
- Scheme optimisation: plant, load, operational strategy, de-risk assumptions
- Develop Energy Centre RIBA Stage 2 designs
- Refine distribution system: hydraulic analysis, building connection design and route drawings
- Economic modelling: cashflow, target IRR / NPV, carbon reductions

What are the next steps?

The Council and University of Cambridge's will require an experienced heat network client team to develop the scope of work and procure specialist heat network consultants. Together with relevant stakeholders they will develop the strategic, economic, financial, commercial and management cases for the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network. Collectively the 5 cases form the Outline Business Case, which as the main output from DPD Stage will:

- 1) Demonstrate strategic fit with local, regional and national policy.
- 2) Provide a detailed heat network techno-economic model and design (to RIBA Stage 3).
- 3) Provide a detailed financial model to aid decision making, describe how the heat network project will be financed and confirm the preferred funding option e.g. public sector borrowing, private investment, social

investment, Green Bond, philanthropy and/or community investment in local green infrastructure.

- 4) Detail the contractual and commercial arrangements.
- 5) Show how the project could be governed and the preferred delivery model.

The Outline Business Case would be used to inform a further Council decision on whether to fund Commercialisation Stage. This is when heat network contractors are procured; all legal contracts are drafted and agreed; and the funding is finalised.

Sustainability Co advise that it is best not to combine DPD and Commercialisation Stages as: 1) HNDU match-funding is only available for DPD, with other government funding available for Commercialisation Stage, 2) The Outline Business Case is required to properly define what resource and budget is needed at Commercialisation Stage.

The Commercialisation Stage culminates in Final Investment Decision for the Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network, which is when final heat network designs are completed and heat network construction starts. Delivery of the first phase of a zero-carbon heat network could begin in early 2028, if all stages progressed smoothly:

Indicative timeline

Forecast dates	Heat Network Stage
March 2023	Mapping and Masterplanning completed
Summer 2023	Feasibility Study
Quarter 4, 2023 & Quarter 1, 2023	Develop scope of works, procure client team & procure DPD consultants
Quarter 2 2024 to Quarter 2, 2025	Detailed Project Development Stage
Quarter 3 & Quarter 4, 2025	Develop scope of works, procure client team & procure Commercialisation consultants
Quarter 1 2026 to Quarter 2, 2027	Commercialisation Stage
Quarter 2, 2027	Final Investment Decision

Quarter 3 2027 to Quarter 3, 2028	Detailed technical design (RIBA Stage 4)
Quarter 4, 2028 to Quarter 4, 2031	Construction of Phases 1 to 4 of the Cambridge City- Centre Heat Network

Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool email Kate Yerbury, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at equalities@cambridge.gov.uk or phone 01223 457046.

Once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to equalities@cambridge.gov.uk for checking. For advice on consulting on equality impacts, please contact Graham Saint, Strategy Officer, (graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk or 01223 457044).

1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service

Detailed Project Development phase for the Cambridge City Centre Heat Network

2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service (if available)

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/city-centre-heat-network>

3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

The Council and University of Cambridge are in working in partnership on the City Centre Heat Network project. A district heat network is large-scale plumbing for a city. It supplies space heating and hot water using one or more energy centre and delivers it to a variety of different buildings in a local area, via a network of underground pipes carrying hot water. This project could provide a solution to reduce carbon emissions from historic buildings in the city centre, such as the Corn Exchange and The Guildhall and University buildings, and help the Council work towards its net zero by 2030 target. The first stage of the Cambridge City centre heat Network project, the Feasibility

study, is due to be finished in summer 2023. The Council is seeking to take the project to the next stage of the project, which is the Detailed Project Development Phase. This phase will be a desktop study, building on work completed in the Feasibility study to develop a Detailed Project Development plan for a City Centre Heat Network, up to RIBA Stage 3. If further funding is available to progress the project, a heat network could begin to be built in 2028. This EqIA therefore reviews the impacts of the next phase (Detailed Project Development phase) and also the possible impacts of future stages of the project, if the project progresses to commercialisation, construction and delivery.

4. Responsible service: Democracy, Inclusive Economy & Climate Group

5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

(Please tick all that apply)

- Residents
- Visitors
- Staff

Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g. City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here):

The heat network feasibility study outlines a potential network route and energy centres within the historic core of Cambridge. If the project progresses through Detailed Project Development, and commercialisation phases to construction, it may impact the following groups:

Residents / workers / visitors

- If progressed to construction; pedestrian / bus routes may be temporarily closed.

Residents

- If progressed to construction; there will be major carbon reduction in Cambridge City Centre. This will positively impact the health of residents of Market Ward, where there is currently high deprivation in terms of environmental air pollution. This is largely due to pollution from dependency on gas boilers and vehicles. The reduction in air pollution will be particularly beneficial to children, elderly people, people with a disability and pregnant women who are more vulnerable to the impacts of air pollution. According to Census 2021 data, approximately 23% of the population in Market Ward are aged 0-19.

Staff

- If progressed to construction, staff will work in more energy efficient buildings, likely to be more comfortable and better for wellbeing and productivity

6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service is this?

- New
 Major change
 Minor change

7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? (Please tick)

- Yes
 No

If 'Yes' please provide details below:

Property Services
 Planning Service

Economic Development
 Housing Development Agency

8. Has the report on your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service gone to Committee? If so, which one?

Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee 29 June 2023

9. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

Desktop research:

[Health matters: air pollution - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/health-matters/air-pollution)

[Population - Ward | Market | Report Builder for ArcGIS \(cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk\)](https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/population-ward-market-report-builder-for-arcgis)

City Centre Heat Network Feasibility Study

Also liaised with Heat network consultant with regards to equalities assessment and implications of heat networks to gain their input from lessons learned from elsewhere to ensure that all possible impacts of a heat network are identified and assessed

10. Potential impacts

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors and staff members separately.

(a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk

No impact at Detailed Project Development.

Age should be considered if residential properties are brought into a latter design stage of the heat network development as there may be a positive impact for elderly people as the heat network project could improve the energy efficiency of their home and avoid/reduce any health risks of living in a cold home.

There could also be a positive impact on very children and older people if project progresses to delivery due to the reduction in air pollution as a result of the heat network. This is because long-term exposure to air pollution can adversely affect lung function development and cause asthma and development problems in young people. In older people, long-term exposure to air pollution can also cause lung cancer, accelerate the decline of lung function, can increase the risk of strokes and cardiovascular diseases such as heart attacks.

Age and accessibility should also be considered in the construction phases of any future heat network development.

(b) Disability

No impact at Detailed Project Development.

There is potential for a negative impact if the project reaches construction phases so accessibility within the city centre should be considered at this stage to mitigate any impact.

There are public toilet blocks in the city that might be impacted if the project progresses to construction. A number of these are Disabled toilets so there may be an impact on disabled people who need to use these toilets. Moreover, people who have disabilities or long-term health conditions requiring them to use toilets more might be disproportionately impacted if toilets are out of use during the construction phase. If the project progresses to the construction stage, we will review how these impacts can be mitigated.

There may also be a positive impact on people with a disability if residential properties are brought into a latter design stage of the heat network development as the heat network project could improve the energy efficiency of their home and be a more healthy and comfortable environment to live in and avoid/reduce any health risks of living in a cold home. Reducing air pollution will also have a positive impact on people with pre-existing cardiovascular and respiratory conditions (such as asthma) because short and long-term exposure to air pollution increases the risk of heart failure, heart attacks and strokes for people with these pre-existing health conditions

(c) Gender reassignment

No impact at Detailed Project Development.

There are toilet blocks in the city that might be impacted if the project progresses to construction. A number of these are gender neutral toilet blocks so there might be an impact on people who are under the protected characteristic of gender reassignment who use the gender neutral toilets. If the project progresses to the construction stage, we will review how these impacts can be mitigated.

(d) Marriage and civil partnership

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

(e) Pregnancy and maternity

No impact at Detailed Project Development.

There are toilet blocks in the city that might be impacted if the project progresses to construction. This may have an impact on people with baby's who need to use the baby changing facilities. If the project progresses to this stage, we will review how these impacts can be mitigated. Accessibility for small children, push chairs and bikes within the city centre should be considered, if / when the project reaches construction phases as construction may mean that some areas have restricted access at times if there is construction works taking place.

If progressed to Delivery, the reduction in air pollution as a result of the heat network, will have a positive impact on pregnancy and early childhood because air pollution can adversely affect development, and is also associated with low birth weight and premature birth.

There may also be a positive impact on pregnant women if residential properties are brought into a latter design stage of the heat network development, as the heat network project could improve the energy efficiency of their home and be a more healthy and comfortable environment to live in and avoid/reduce any health risks of living in a cold home.

(f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic ‘race’ refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

No impact at Detailed Project Development.

If the project progresses to construction, we will identify whether the information provided to tenants of buildings about the construction, needs to be translated to other languages. The council has a corporate translation/interpretation service it can use when needed.

(g) Religion or belief

The heat network feasibility study has engaged with owners of Faith-buildings in the city centre. There will be no impact at Detailed Project development.

Heat network connections to these buildings will be offered on a basis of commercial and technical viability in the ‘commercialisation’ stages of the project. As this opportunity may not be available to all faith-based groups, there may be an unequal opportunity in decarbonisation assistance that the Council can offer due to the geographical location of Faith buildings and their proximity to the network.

(h) Sex

There are toilet blocks in the city that might be impacted if the project progresses to construction. A number of these are Female toilet blocks and a number of these are Male toilet blocks so there may

be an impact on Males and Females who need to use these toilets. If the project progresses to the construction stage, we will review how these impacts can be mitigated.

(i) Sexual orientation

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on:

- **Low-income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty**
- **Groups who have more than one protected characteristic that taken together create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Here you are being asked to consider intersectionality, and for more information see: https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1_159kt25q).**

No impact at Detailed Project Development Stage.

If the project progresses to construction and extends to other areas of the city so that domestic homes can connect, it may have a positive impact on those living in fuel poverty where in Market Ward, fuel poverty is 17.6%, higher than the national average (13.2%)

A number of geographical locations are under consideration for energy centres, if some of these locations are confirmed and if the project progresses to construction, this could have temporary or long-term impact upon the homeless community. Locations included for example are toilet blocks that may be used as shelters by this group. Temporary closure, or replacement of services may displace individuals. We will assess the impacts when the location of these energy centres are known.

The heat networks consultant who is also working on this project will bring their knowledge and expertise of the impact of heat networks to identify and mitigate further impacts of the project.

11. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqIA accordingly.)

Detailed Project Development Phase (Q2 2024 – Q2 2025), will include an EQIA review.

Commercialisation phase (Q1 2026 – Q2 2027), will include an EQIA review.

Final design phase (Q3 2027 – Q4 2028)), will include an EQIA review.

Construction phase (Q4 2028 – Q4 2031), will include an EQIA to be reviewed prior to each construction phase.

If at any project stage, the heat network design is changed to include social or private housing, a new EQIA should be prepared at the earliest stage possible.

12. Do you have any additional comments?

N/a

13. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Catherine Stewart, Climate Change officer

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: Helen Crowther, Equality & Anti-Poverty Officer, Janet Hall, Line Undrawn Consultant

Date of EqIA sign off: 14 June 2023

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: Q1 2026

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: 19th June 2023

All EqIAs need to be sent to the Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at equalities@cambridge.gov.uk



Public Space Protection Order: Touting

To:

Cllr Alice Gilderdale, Executive Councillor for Community Wealth Building and Community Safety and Deputy Leader (Statutory)

Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee, 29/06/2023

Report by:

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Wards affected:

Newnham, Market, West Chesterton

Not a key decision

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“2014 Act”) gives local authorities the power to make Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs).
- 1.2 The Cambridge City Council Public Spaces Protection Order (Touting) 2016 is due to lapse on 14th September 2023. The activities prohibited by the Touting Order are verbally: i. advertising or ii. soliciting for custom or iii. otherwise touting for a punt tour or the hire or use of punts boats or similar craft on the River Cam (including any walking tour which includes or involves, whether or not for consideration, a punt tour or hire or use of punts boats or similar craft on the River Cam. A breach of a PSPO is a criminal offence and those in breach can receive a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) fine. The areas covered by the current PSPO can be found in Appendix A.
- 1.3 Before the order lapses, Cambridge City Council must decide to either:
 - a) extend the period of the order for up to three years, b) vary the order or c) discharge the order.

- 1.4 As per legislation this decision should be informed by consultation with:
- The Police and Crime Commissioner,
 - Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the local policing body),
 - Relevant community representatives,
 - Ward Councillors, and
 - The owner/occupier of land the PSPO covers.

In addition to these groups, the Council sought the views of local people via the Council's Citizen Lab consultation platform. 240 people completed the consultation. The consultation questions can be found in Appendix B.

- 1.5 The evidence and consultation results have been used to inform consideration about whether to a) renew the PSPO; b) vary it; or c) discharge it. The report highlights why options B is proposed to be implemented, as summarised in section 2. The EQIA for this report is in Appendix C.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- 1) Extend the PSPO for a period of 3 years on the grounds of:
 - Consultation feedback highlighting concerns about nuisance re-occurring if the order is discharged
 - Support from residents and businesses, including punt operators, for the continuation of the PSPO
 - The need to address the disparity between low reporting to the council and ongoing community concerns about prohibited behaviours. It is proposed that updated signage is put in place to make clearer how people can report punt touting in the prohibited areas.
- 2) Increase the Fixed Penalty Notice issued for breaches of the order from £75 to £100, so that it is in line with all other Fixed Penalty Notices issued by Cambridge City Council as outlined in section 3.17 – 3.25.

3. Background

- 3.1 Between 2006 and 2016 the Council received 268 complaints about punt touting and anti-social behaviour. During this time both licenced and unlicensed organisations and individuals were punt touting in the city.
- 3.2 In 2012 the City Council developed a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Visitor Industry, including punt touts. The aim of this was to address nuisance behaviour from licensed punt touts within the city.

- 3.3 In 2016 the PSPO was introduced to address nuisance punt touting. At the time it was introduced there was an increased number of operators and individuals selling punt tours by way of touting in the city centre. Much of the touting took place in Market Square, King's Parade and the surrounding streets.
- 3.4 The Order is enforced by Cambridge City Council officers who have the power to issue fixed penalty notices to those who breach the PSPO. The number fixed penalty notices issued per year are:

Year	Fixed Penalty Notices Issued
2016/17	27
2017/18	41
2018/19	24
2019/20	3
2020/21	2
2021/22	7
2022/23	2
2023/24	0
Total	106

- 3.5 On 25 May 2018, the Council was granted an Injunction against named and unnamed parties from engaging in unlicensed commercial punt operations, including touting, on Council-owned land. This resulted in operators being unable to punt from Garret Hostel Lane and had a significant impact on illegal touting in King's Parade and the city generally.
- 3.6 The injunction does not have an end date. The wording of the 2018 injunction stipulates that it can be challenged any time, but those challenging the order would need to inform the Council before going to court.
- 3.7 In 2019 the PSPO was renewed for a further 3 years. Covid-19 had a significant impact on the number of visitors to the city during 2020/21 and consequently on the number of people seeking punt tours, again reducing the opportunities to tout for business. In 2022 a decision was made to extend the PSPO for 12 months to assess if punt touting increased as the tourism resumed in the city. The PSPO covers areas of both Council-owned land and non-Council owned land.

- 3.8 The PSPO will lapse in September 2023. Prior to it lapsing the Council must decide whether to renew, vary or discharge the order. All options require some form of consultation.
- 3.9 Renewing the order requires a partial consultation involving Police and Crime Commissioner, the local policing body, relevant community representatives, ward councillors and the owner/occupier of land the PSPOs covers.
- 3.10 Varying the order requires a full public consultation which could be completed using the Citizenlab consultation platform.
- 3.11 Once finalised there is a 6-week period where a varied order may be subject to a High Court challenge on the grounds that the local authority did not have the power either to make the Order or include particular prohibitions or requirements, or that proper processes had not been followed as prescribed by the legislation. The High Court can uphold, quash or vary the PSPO and may decide to suspend the operation of the PSPO pending the verdict.
- 3.12 Discharging would require a partial consultation involving Police and Crime Commissioner, the local policing body, relevant community representatives, ward councillors and the owner/occupier of land the PSPOs cover.
- 3.13 If the order is discharged the City Council would be required to erect signage stating that the order is no longer in place.
- 3.14 A consultation with the public and key stakeholders (as outlined in section 5) was launched on 10th May and ran until 4th June. The consultation has been used alongside evidence to inform the recommendation of this report.
- 3.15 The results of key evidence and consultations are broken down below:
- Complaints about punt touting received by the Council have decreased since the injunction has been in place.

Year	No. of complaints	Average complaints per year	Order / Injunction
2006 – 2016	268	26.8	Order – 15 September 2016
2016 – 2018	164	82	Injunction – 25 May 2018
2018 – 2021	19	6	
2021 – 2023	24	8	

- The Covid-19 pandemic greatly impacted tourist in Cambridge. Evidence from Centres for Cities showed that by April 2022 footfall and spending had returned to pre-pandemic levels.

- The Citizen Lab consultation showed:
 - 197 respondents had witnessed people touting for punt tours in Cambridge in the last 12 months.
 - Most respondent who witnessed punt touting saw it in areas it is prohibited, however 99% of respondents did not report it to the Council.
 - 81.7% (196 respondents) supported the extension of the PSPO.
 - Of those who supported the extension:
 - The majority were residents (83%, 162 respondents)
 - Over a quarter were people who worked in the city (34%, 67 respondents)
 - Most of the business community supported the extension (19 of 22 businesses). This included 4 punt operators that supported the extension.

3.16 The evidence shows that whilst issuing of fixed penalty notices and complaints about punt touting in the prohibited areas have decreased, the consultation showed there remains a persistent presences of unreported nuisance punt touting in the city centre.

3.17 Breach of a PSPO, without reasonable excuse, is a criminal offence. The Police, or a person authorised by the council, can issue an FPN (fixed penalty notice). A person can also be prosecuted for breach of a PSPO and, on conviction; the Magistrates' Court can impose a fine not exceeding Level 3 on the Standard Scale (currently £1000). Alternatively, the opportunity to pay a fixed penalty (currently set at £75 for breaches of the Order) is offered by the council in place of prosecution. An FPN is an 'on the spot' fine for committing criminal offences, such as breach of the Order. Payment of a FPN means that no further action will be taken for that offence, it does not constitute an admission of guilt by the offender, but it does mean that such cases are diverted away from the Magistrates Court, thereby avoiding the risk of the offender receiving a larger penalty fine of up to £1000 and a criminal record.

3.18 Previously there was no requirement for anyone committing an offence to provide their name and address if requested to do so by an authorised officer. Legislation for other environmental offences such as littering makes it an offence to fail to provide details to an authorised officer when the officer proposes to issue a fixed penalty notice. Therefore, a section requiring suspects to provide their name and address when they have breached the requirements has been added to the Order.

- 3.19 To ensure consistency with all other FPNs currently issued by the council, officers are recommending that the FPN for breaches of the Order is increased from £75 to the maximum legal level of £100, and to give a discount of 40% (i.e., discounted fine value) of £60 for early repayment provided payment is made within 10 days of the date the FPN was issued.
- 3.20 There is a set legal standard payment period of 14 days for the payment of fixed penalties. Once an FPN has been issued, an authority cannot prosecute for the alleged offence if the fixed penalty is paid within this period, and this must be stated on the notice itself. For this reason, the period during which a discount for early payment is offered must be less than 14 days and in line with the Regulations cannot be more than 10 days. Again, this will be consistent with the standards set by other local authorities and the approach already in place for other environmental crime fixed penalty notices.
- 3.21 The council will continue not to accept payment by instalments or payment plans. Payment for FPNs can only be accepted by the council for the full amount. However, in cases of financial difficulties, officers will continue to have discretion to be able to extend the lower threshold payment period (subject to legal restrictions) and will work together with those issued fixed penalties to avoid prosecution where possible.
- 3.22 The intention is that the increased level of FPN will function as a deterrent to offenders; and that the council will see a decrease in the number of incidents and the number of prosecutions for these offences.
- 3.23 FPN's are an effective and visible way of dealing with low level environmental crime and will be supported by the public, provided they are used sensibly, enforced fairly, and are seen as a reasonable response to genuine problems.
- 3.24 The council has already approved the use of FPNs as an alternative to prosecutions when dealing with other environmental crimes including littering, illegal advertising, and abandoned vehicles. These FPNs are issued by authorised council officers in accordance with the council's Corporate Enforcement Policy.
- 3.25 FPNs are not appropriate for repeat offenders, for those who are non-compliant or those who do not wish to be issued an FPN. These types of offences will continue to be enforced by prosecution in line with the Corporate Enforcement Policy.

4. Implications

a) Financial Implications

If an extension to the order is agreed the Council must 'cause to be erected on or adjacent to the land in relation to which the public spaces protection order has been made such notice or notices as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that land to –

- (i) the fact that a public spaces protection order has been made; and
- (ii) and the effect of that order being made.

The current signs can remain in place and the City Council will be required to publicise the extension which can be done through press release and publication on our website.

Due to the disparity in witnessed to reported prohibited punt touting, the Council will arrange for updated signage, this can be covered within the Community Safety budget.

b) Staffing Implications

The order is currently enforced by Cambridge City Council officers, this can continue as at present.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

The impact on residents, visitors and businesses is expected to be positive overall, as the PSPOs should continue to act as a deterrent to touting within the relevant areas. This is expected to reduce anti-social behaviour.

The Equality Impact Assessment for this report is in Appendix C.

d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

A climate change rating tool has been completed which shows no net impact on the council's net zero carbon target.

e) Procurement Implications

Costs are highly unlikely to fall within the procurement criteria.

f) Community Safety Implications

The extension of the PSPOs will continue to have a positive effect on community safety in the concerned areas.

5. Consultation and communication considerations

More in depth information about the consultation:

- a) Before considering discharge of the order the Council needs to consult with:
- Police and Crime Commissioner,
 - The local policing body,
 - Relevant community representatives,
 - Ward councillors, and
 - The owner or occupier of land within the restricted area

The Council widened the scope of the PSPO consultation, by making it public and involving key stakeholder such as Cambridge BID, several University of Cambridge colleges, local businesses and punt operators. There were 240 responses the consultation – this is 206 response increase from last year. The consultation questions can be found in Appendix B.

- b) Evidence showed that complaints about punt touting received by the Council have decreased since the injunction has been in place.

Year	No. of complaints	Average complaints per year	Order / Injunction
2006 – 2016	268	26.8	Order – 15 September 2016
2016 – 2018	164	82	Injunction – 25 May 2018
2018 – 2021	19	6	
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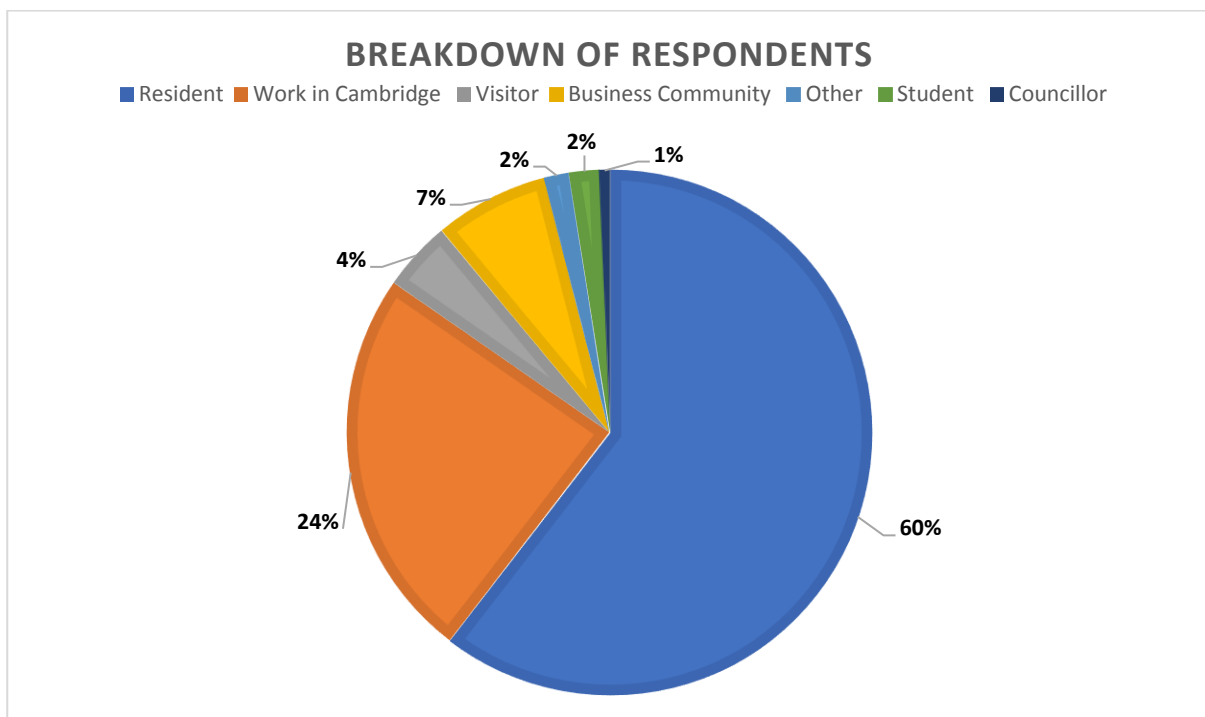
- c) The Order is enforced by Cambridge City Council officers who have the power to issue fixed penalty noticed when they witness people breaching the PSPO. The number fixed penalty notices issued per year are:

Year	Fixed Penalty Notices Issued
2016/17	27
2017/18	41
2018/19	24
2019/20	3

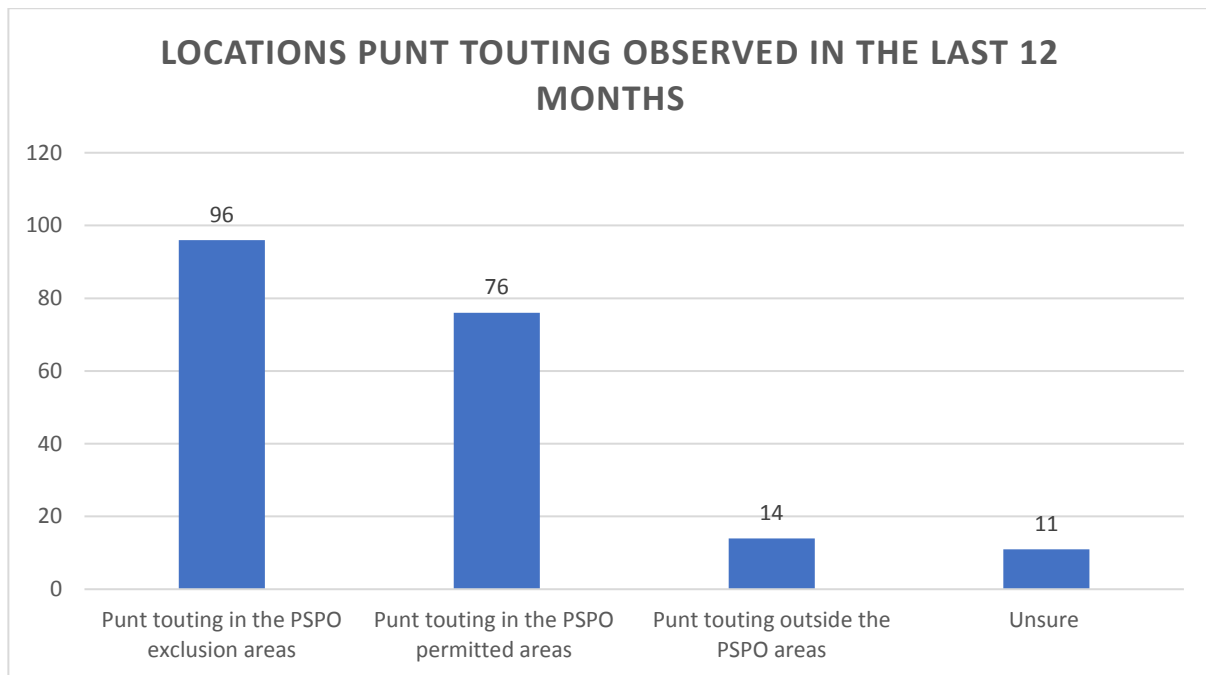
2020/21	2
2021/22	7
2022/23	2
2023/24	0
Total	106

- d) The Covid-19 pandemic greatly impacted tourist in Cambridge. Evidence from Centres for Cities showed that by April 2022 footfall and spending had returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- e) A consultation with the public and key stakeholders (as outlined in section 5) was launched on 10th May and ran until 4th June. The following are findings from consultation responses received.

There were 240 responses to the consultation. The respondent's connection to Cambridge is broken down below:



197 respondents had witnessed people touting for punt tours in Cambridge in the last 12 months. Most witnessed in areas it is prohibited:



The most prominent location for prohibited punt touting was King's Parade.

38% (90 respondents) witnessed punt touting more than 15 times a year. 32% of which (76 respondents) witnesses it more than 20 times a year.

Of those who witnessed nuisance touting the most common types of nuisances reported by consultation respondents were obstruction of pavements and aggressive behaviours.

99% (195) of those who witnessed punt touting did not report it to the council – the most common reason given was that they did not know they could report it.

81.7% (196 respondents) supported the extension of the PSPO. Of those who supported the extension:

- The majority were residents (83%, 162 respondents)
- Over a quarter were people who worked in the city (34%, 67 respondents)
- Most of the business community supported the extension (19 of 22 businesses). This included 4 punt operators that supported the extension.

Reasons given for supporting the extension were:

- *“PSPO protects the city from nuisance touting and also other businesses from the unfair advantage that unregulated touting presents.” – Punt operator*
- *“The touting decreased after the PSPO came into effect. It will increase substantially if the PSPO is removed.” – Resident*
- *It has massively reduced the amount of harassment that visitors and residents receive – Resident*
- *“As a business we feel it is extremely important to interact professionally when touting for business, whilst adhering to the code of conduct for punting companies, set out by the City Council...If the PSPO were to cease, I'm certain that an expansion of the number of touts outside of the permitted touting zones would ensue and there would soon be a return to the days of numerous complaints of nuisance touting the city centre, with no recourse for poor behaviour.” – Punt operator*

12.1% (29 respondents) wanted to PSPO to be varied. 24 of these people were residents. 1 call for variation was from a punt operator. Reasons given for variation were:

- *“It should be better policed” – Resident*
- *“It could be made to be more strict” – Resident*
- *“Expand the allowed tout area to allow punt tour operators to tout a bit more and earn more money which supports the local economy.” – Resident*
- *“It should extend to ban "tourist information" except from official council sources” – Resident, Works in Cambridge*

There is not a strong enough or consistent reasoning to support variation of the order.

6.3% (15 respondents) wanted the PSPO to end, 11 of these people were residents. 0 punt operators who responded to the consultation said that they wanted the order to end. Reasons given for those who supported the order ending were:

- *“Not necessary people will still do the same thing whether they get a fine or not. People nowadays don't care.” – Resident*
- *“The touting was typically good natured and aimed at visitors. They weren't persistent”. – Resident*

6. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- (a) Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents/enacted/data.htm>
- (b) Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers, Statutory guidance for frontline professionals:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/352562/ASB_Guidance_v8_July2014_final_2_.pdf
- (c) Decision details: Public Spaces Protection Orders -
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=476&MId=3971&Ver=4>
- (d) PSPO – Touting 2016 – Sealed:
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/7690/touting-pspo-sealed.pdf>

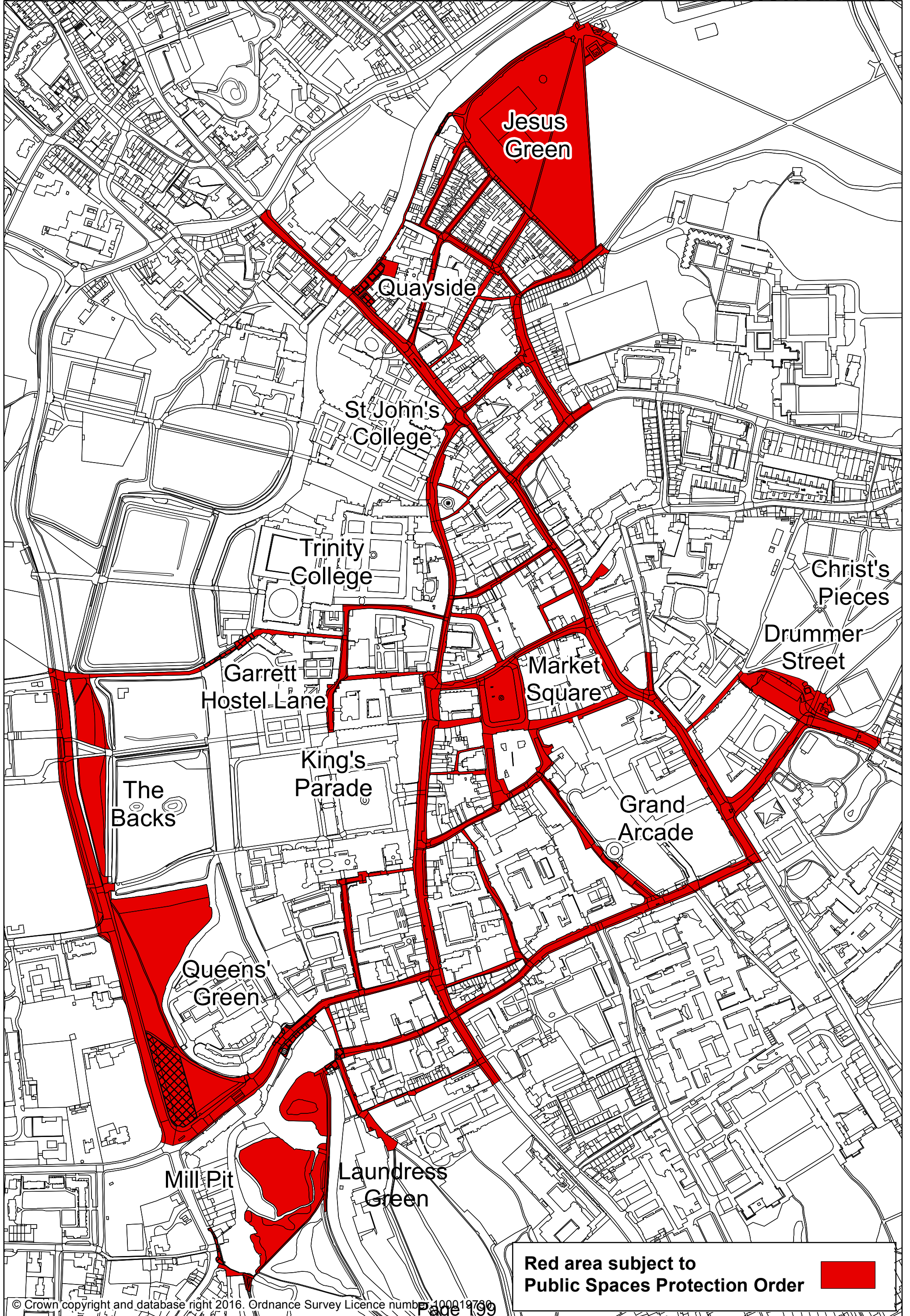
7. Appendices

- A Punt Touting PSPO and Exception Areas Map
- B Consultation Questions
- C Equality Impact Assessment

Inspection of papers

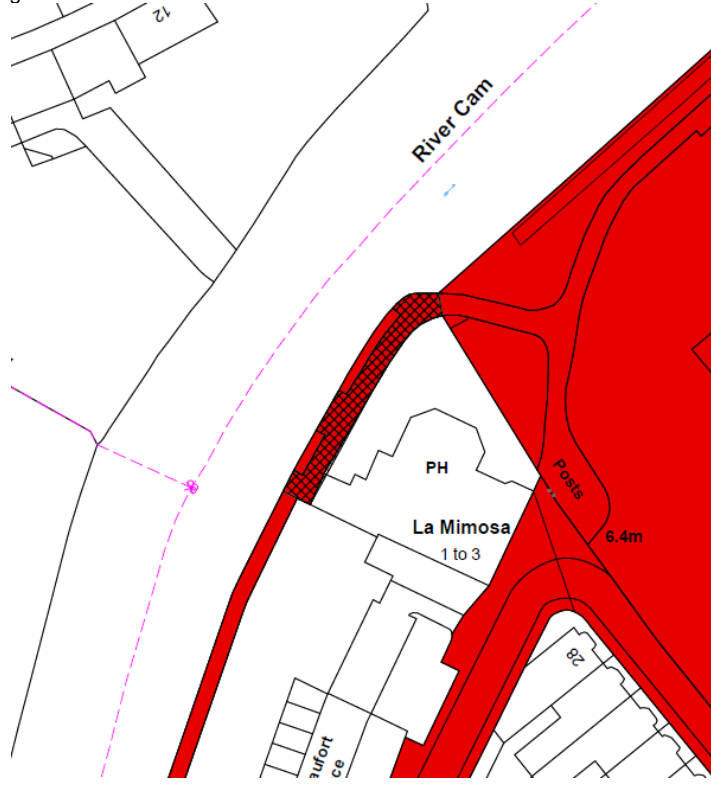
To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Keryn Jalli, Community Safety Manager, tel: 07562 308 141, email: keryn.jalli@cambridge.gov.uk

APPENDIX A: PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER AND EXCEPTION AREAS



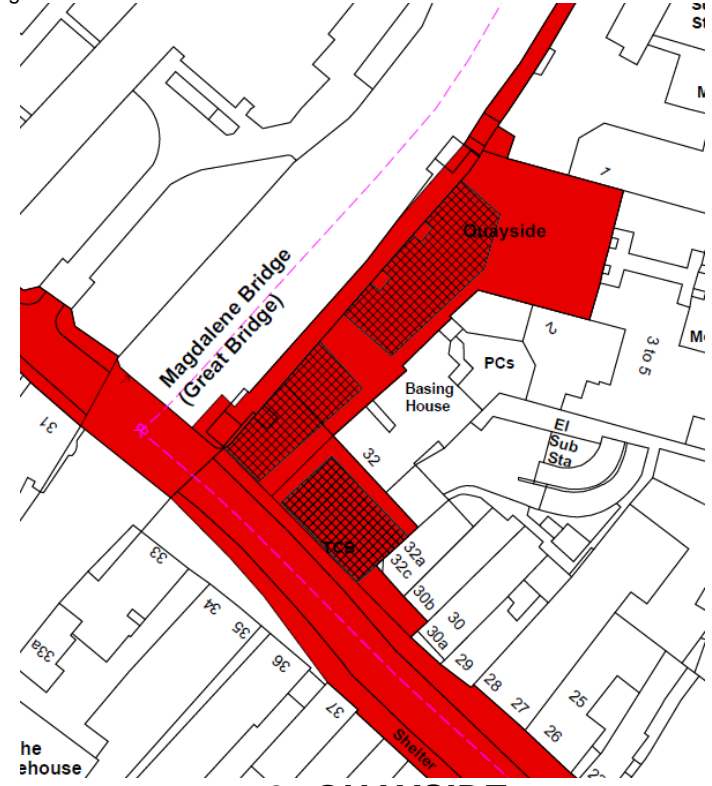
APPENDIX A: EXCEPTION AREAS

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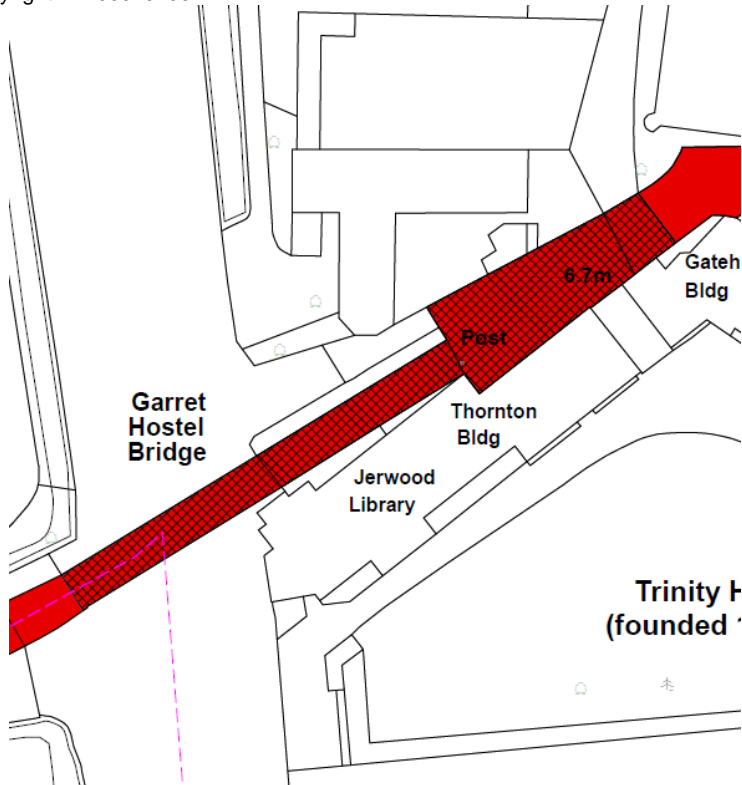
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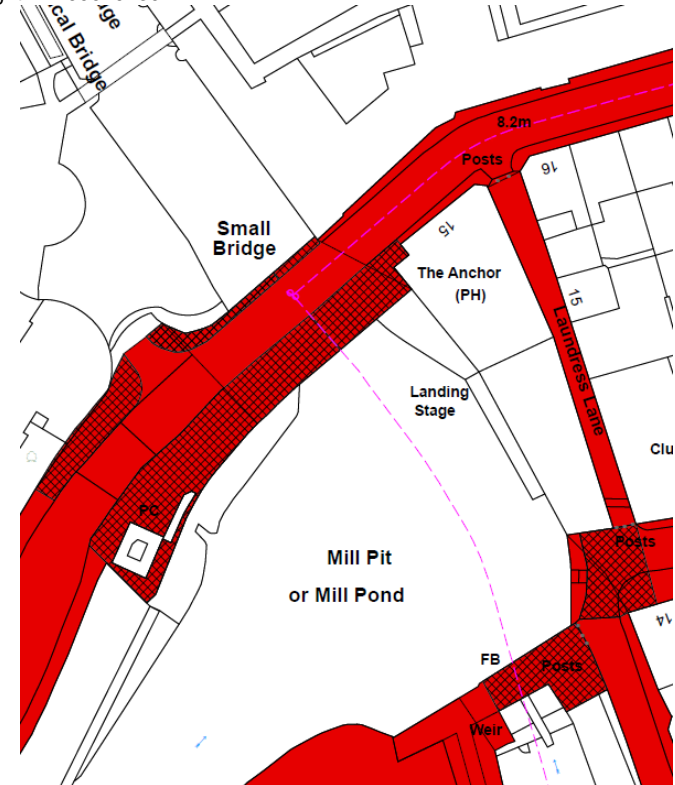
2. QUAYSIDE

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3. TRINITY COLLEGE FRONTAGE

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4. MILL PIT WEST AND 5. MILL PIT EAST

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6. GRANTA MILL POND - QUEENS' GREEN

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6. GRANTA MILL POND

 Red area subject to Public Spaces Protection Order

 Exception Area
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Appendix B - Public Space Protection Order: Touting Consultation

Punt Touting Public Spaces Protection Order

Open for comments from 10 May 2023 to 4 June 2023.

A punt tour along the world-famous Cambridge College 'Backs' is one of the pleasures of a visit to Cambridge. Punt companies operate out of six authorised punt stations in Cambridge. Most authorised traders have signed up to our [voluntary code of practice](#) for the visitor industry which limits touting for customers to areas adjacent to their business.

In 2016, after hundreds of complaints were received about the behaviour of punt touts negatively impacting people's experience when in the city centre, we created a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to restrict where punt tours can be touted from.

We can make PSPOs under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

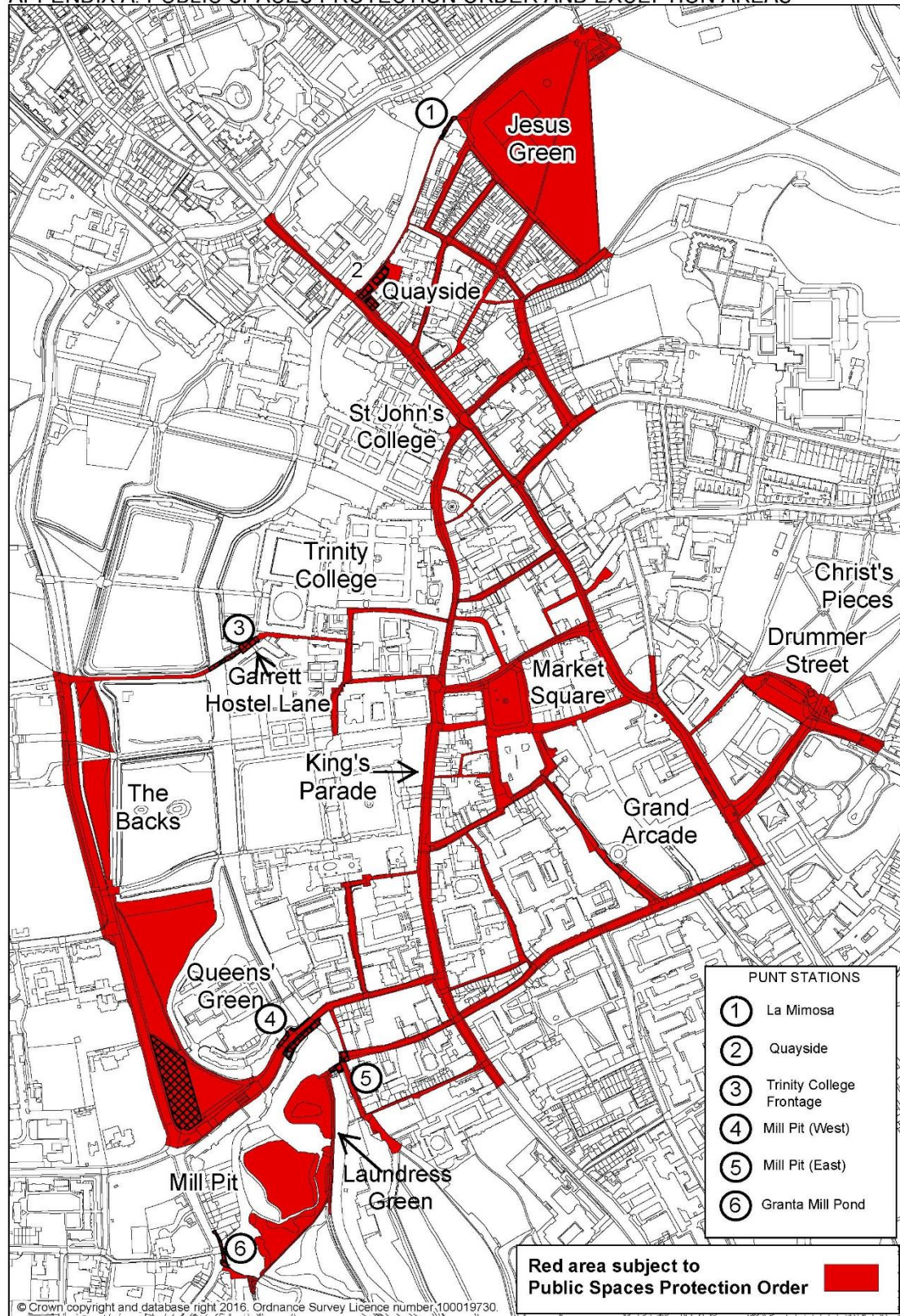
PSPOs were created to deal with problems in public spaces which have a negative impact on the local community's quality of life. A PSPO does this by stopping certain activities in the area it covers. If someone refuses to stop doing the activity covered by the PSPO it is a criminal offence and they will be fined £75.

The current Public Spaces Protection Order (Touting) 2016 prohibits verbally touting, advertising, soliciting for customers or otherwise touting for a punt tour, the hire or use of punt boats (or similar craft) on the River Cam.

This includes touting for walking tours which include or involve a punt tour, the hire or use of punt boats (or similar craft) on the River Cam.

The PSPO prohibits touting in certain parts of the city centre, they are shown in red on this map and are referred to as the Restricted Areas:

APPENDIX A: PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER AND EXCEPTION AREAS



- Read more about the [Public Spaces Protection Order](#). Punt operators are still allowed to sell punt tours from the 6 authorised locations which are also shown on the image above. These are:

- La Mimosa, on the corner of Jesus Green
- Quayside
- Trinity College, inside the college grounds
- The Mill Pond, on Silver Street
- Mill Lane
- The Granta mill pond, near Sheeps Green

This PSPO has been renewed twice since 2016 but is due to end on 14 September 2023. Before this date, we need to decide whether to renew the order, change it or allow it to end. A decision will be made at the Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 29 June 2023.

To renew the PSPO the council needs to show that there is significant evidence that punt touting within the Restricted Areas will be problematic without the PSPO.

To change (or vary) the PSPO the council needs to show that there is evidence to change the spaces that are covered by the PSPO or that there is evidence to stop people behaving in other ways that have a negative impact on the local community.

To end (or discharge) the PSPO, we need to consult on the impact that discharging the order might have and look at whether this impact can be managed in other ways.

On 25 May 2018, we were granted an Injunction against named and unnamed parties from, essentially, engaging in unlicensed commercial punt operations, including touting, on council-owned land.

The table below shows the impact of both the PSPO and the Injunction on touting complaints since the start of available records (2006). The numbers suggests that the Injunction caused a greater reduction in the number of touting complaints than the PSPO.

Year	No. of complaints	PSPO / Injunction
<i>2006 – 2016</i>	<i>268</i>	<i>PSPO introduced – 15 September 2016</i>
<i>2016 – 2018</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>Injunction introduced – 25 May 2018</i>
<i>2019 – 2023</i>	<i>22</i>	

Have your say

We want your opinions on the PSPO and any evidence you may have about punt touting in the Restricted Areas.

Please complete our survey. Your views will inform the Council's decision on the future of the PSPO.

The link to the survey is located under the 'About' section.

Next steps

The results of this consultation will inform a committee report, which will go to the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on 29 June 2023.

Survey

1) Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of a group, organisation or business?

- Individual
- Group/ Organisation/ Business

2) Please let us know your connection to Cambridge

- Resident
- Student
- Visitor
- Councillor
- Business owner
- Work in Cambridge
- Other

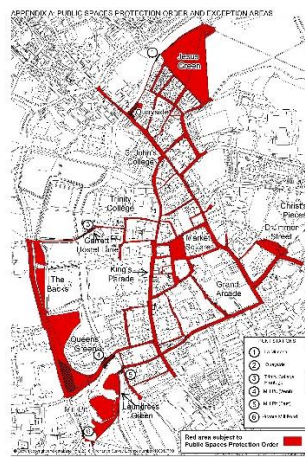
3) Please share the name of your group, organisation or business

4) In the last 12 months, have you witnessed people touting for punt tours in Cambridge?

- Yes
- No

5) Did you witness people tout for punt tours red areas on the map?

Please note licensed punt operators are allowed to tout at the 6 punt stations listed in the image and the cross hatched exception areas



- I witnessed punt touting in the red areas on the map
- I witnessed punt touting outside the red areas
- I witnessed punt touting at the punt stations or cross-hatched areas on the map
- I'm not sure

6) Where have you witnessed the touting take place?

You can add multiple locations where you have witnessed touting

7) Please tell us if you witnessed problematic behaviours by those touting

i.e. obstruction of pavements, nuisance or aggressive behaviour

8) How often have you witnessed punt touting in the last year?

- Once
- 2-3 times
- 4-6 times
- 7- 10 times
- 10- 15 times
- 15- 20 times
- Over 20 times

9) Did you report this to the council?

- Yes
- No

10) If you did not report it, please say why not

- I didn't know I could report this type of behaviour
- I didn't know who to report it to
- I didn't think anything would happen
- I reported it elsewhere
- I did not want to report it
- Other

11) What do you think should happen to the PSPO?

- It should continue
- It should be changed/varied
- It should end

12) Please tell us why you think this

13) What do you think would happen if the PSPO was not in place?

14) Please share any other comments you have about the Touting Public Spaces Protection Order

Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool email Kate Yerbury, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at equalities@cambridge.gov.uk or phone 01223 457046.

Once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to equalities@cambridge.gov.uk for checking. For advice on consulting on equality impacts, please contact Graham Saint, Strategy Officer, (graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk or 01223 457044).

1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service
Public Spaces Protection Order (Touting) 2016 (“PSPO Touting”)

2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service (if available)
Public Spaces Protection Orders - Cambridge City Council

3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?
<p>The PSPO Touting is aimed at tackling verbal touting for punt tours outside of designated areas where legitimate touting can continue (by licensed punt operators). Touting must be verbal and witnessed by either an enforcement officer, police constable or PCSO before the breach of the Order can be sanctioned, by means of a Fixed Penalty Notice.</p> <p>To extend the PSPO Touting for 3 years and increase the fixed penalty notice issued for a PSPO breach from £75 to £100.</p> <p>The purpose of this PSPO is to prohibit verbally:</p>

Advertising or

Soliciting for custom or

Otherwise touting for

a punt tour or the hire or use of punts boats or similar craft on the River Cam (including any walking tour which includes or involves, whether or not for consideration, a punt tour or hire or use of punts boats or similar craft on the River Cam)

The restrictions have certain exemptions, explained in the Order.

By virtue of Chapter 2 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, a local authority can make a PSPO if satisfied, on reasonable grounds that the following two conditions are met:

(1) that activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

(2) that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature; is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable; and justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

A report is presented to Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on 24 March 2022 detailing the responses to consultation and the main substantive issues raised during the consultation process.

Prominent notices are already displayed drawing the attention of members of the public to the fact that the PSPO Touting is in effect.

4. Responsible service

Community Services – Community Safety Team

5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

(Please tick all that apply)

- Residents
- Visitors
- Staff

Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g. City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here):

Unlicensed punt operators and the touts working for them

6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service is this?	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Major change <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor change
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7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? (Please tick)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
--	--

If 'Yes' please provide details below:

The PSPO Touting is enforced by the City Council's enforcement officers (Street and Open Spaces).

8. Has the report on your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service gone to Committee? If so, which one?

The proposals will go to Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on 29 June 2023

9. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?
--

Sources of data used to inform this EqIA include:

- [Cambridgeshire Insight](#)
- [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#)
- [Anti-social behaviour powers - Statutory guidance for frontline professionals](#)
- Public consultation via Citizen Lab

10. Potential impacts

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors and staff members separately.

(a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk

When initially put in place in 2016, it was anticipated that young people may be affected, especially those looking for summertime work selling punt tickets. However, this proposal is a continuation of the existing PSPO. The proposal includes increasing the fixed penalty notice issues for a PSPO breach from £75 to £100, however it allows for a 40% early payment discount, which would reduce the fined to £60 if paid within 10 days. The impact is mitigated as in cases of financial difficulties, officers will continue to have discretion to be able to extend the lower threshold payment period (subject to legal restrictions) and will work together with those issued fixed penalties to avoid prosecution where possible.

(b) Disability

The restriction on tout numbers may improve accessibility and safety for this protected characteristic group.

The primary nuisance caused by punt touts shared by consultation was the obstruction of pavements. A reduction in pavement obstructions would reduce impact of those such as wheelchair users when travelling in the areas covered by the PSPO.

(c) Gender reassignment

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

(d) Marriage and civil partnership

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

(e) Pregnancy and maternity

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

The primary nuisance caused by punt touts shared by consultation was the obstruction of pavements. A reduction in pavement obstructions would reduce impact of those such as buggy users when travelling in the areas covered by the PSPO.

(f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic ‘race’ refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

The notice may not be understood by those whose first language is not English, this would be the same for any Council notice displayed solely in English. Signs will be updated to be more succinct and include images of punting which can be universally understood.

In addition to signage and publication of the PSPO arranged by the City Council it is also the responsibility of punt operators to comply with the local legislation and to inform their employees of how the legislation impacts their work i.e. prohibited behaviours and locations for touting. The negative impact in relation to race may be mitigated by being able to arrange for a translation of the notice, upon request.

(g) Religion or belief

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

(h) Sex

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

(i) Sexual orientation

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on:

- **Low-income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty**
- **Groups who have more than one protected characteristic that taken together create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Here you are being asked to consider intersectionality, and for more information see: https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1_I59kt25q).**

It was anticipated that people punting such as young people or students seeking summertime work are on lower incomes and would be impacted. Enforcement of the prohibition would have to be in line with the City Council's [Enforcement Policy](#).

When initially put in place in 2016, it was anticipated that young people may be affected, especially those looking for summertime work selling punt tickets. However, this proposal is a continuation of the existing PSPO. The proposal includes increasing the fixed penalty notice issues for a PSPO breach from £75 to £100, however it allows for a 40% early payment discount, which would reduce the fined to £60 if paid within 10 days.

The impact is mitigated as in cases of financial difficulties, officers will continue to have discretion to be able to extend the lower threshold payment period (subject to legal restrictions) and will work together with those issued fixed penalties to avoid prosecution where possible.

11. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqIA accordingly.)

In addition to signage and publication of the PSPO arranged by the City Council it is also the responsibility of punt operators to comply with the local legislation and to inform their employees of how the legislation impacts their work i.e. prohibited behaviours and locations for touting. The negative impact in relation to race may be mitigated by being able to arrange for a translation of the notice, upon request.

12. Do you have any additional comments?

The Council has already taken a number of steps to deal with the problems of caused by touts.

A summary of the measures tried:

- Restrictions within leases/licences on the locations and numbers of touts
- A voluntary code of practice covering matters such as behaviour, touting locations and numbers
- A Byelaw to deal with aggressive punt touting
- An Injunction to prohibit use of certain areas of Council-owned land

Despite these steps, public concern about the activities and prevalence of touts in the city continues. The consultation responses showed 81.7% (196 respondents) supported the extension of the PSPO. Of those who supported the extension:

- The majority were residents (83%, 162 respondents)
- Over a quarter were people who worked in the city (34%, 67 respondents)

- Most of the business community supported the extension (19 of 22 businesses). This included 4 punt operators that supported the extension.

Reasons given for supporting the extension were:

- *“PSPO protects the city from nuisance touting and also other businesses from the unfair advantage that unregulated touting presents.” – Punt operator*
- *“The touting decreased after the PSPO came into effect. It will increase substantially if the PSPO is removed.” – Resident*
- *It has massively reduced the amount of harassment that visitors and residents receive – Resident*
- *“As a business we feel it is extremely important to interact professionally when touting for business, whilst adhering to the code of conduct for punting companies, set out by the City Council...If the PSPO were to cease, I'm certain that an expansion of the number of touts outside of the permitted touting zones would ensue and there would soon be a return to the days of numerous complaints of nuisance touting the city centre, with no recourse for poor behaviour.” – Punt operator*

13. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Keryn Jalli, Community Safety Manager

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer

Date of EqlA sign off: 06 June 2023

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: 01 June 2026

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: 14 June 2023

All EqlAs need to be sent to the Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at equalities@cambridge.gov.uk

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Single Equality Scheme Annual Report 2022/23

To:

Councillor Mairéad Healy, Executive Councillor for Communities

Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee 29/06/2023

Report by:

Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer

Tel: 01223 457046 Email: helen.crowther@cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

All

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The current Single Equality Scheme (SES) covers the period from 2021 to 2024. The council produced the SES to set equality objectives and therefore to ensure transparency and assist in the performance of its Public Sector Equality Duty (Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010).
- 1.2 This annual report presents information to demonstrate compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty by providing an update on progress in delivering key actions set in the SES for 2022/23. It also proposes some new actions for delivery during 2023/24 under the Scheme's objectives.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Executive Councillor is recommended to:
 1. Note the progress in delivering equalities actions during 2022/23 (full details set out in Appendix A).
 2. Approve the new actions proposed for delivery during 2023/24 (which are set out in Appendix B).

3. Background

- 3.1 Public authorities are required to demonstrate their compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), Section 149 of the Equality Act

2010, by publishing equality objectives at least every four years and publishing information to demonstrate their compliance with the duty.

3.2 Cambridge City Council has developed a Single Equality Scheme (SES) over a three-year period with 5 equalities objectives applying from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2024. The scheme was approved by the Executive Councillor for Communities at the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on 7 October 2021. The council produces annual reports demonstrating how it is meeting the PSED by reporting back progress on actions set out under the 5 objectives.

3.3 The SES 2021 – 2024 objectives are:

- To further increase our understanding of the needs of Cambridge’s growing and increasingly diverse communities so that we can target our services effectively
- To continue to work to improve access to and take up of council services from all residents and communities
- To work towards a situation where all residents have equal access to public activities and spaces in Cambridge and are able to participate fully in the community
- To tackle discrimination, harassment and victimization and ensure that people from different backgrounds living in the city continue to get on well together
- To ensure that the City Council’s employment and procurement policies are non-discriminatory and work towards a more representative workforce within the City Council.

3.4 Appendix A to the report provides detailed updates on actions under the objectives for year two of the scheme (2022/23). Appendix B sets out actions the Council is working on for the third year of the scheme (2023/24). Many of these actions have applied since 2020/21 and there were also some additional actions identified for 2022/23. Below from paragraphs 3.5 to 3.9 are:

- some key achievements over the last year (2022/23) related to the Scheme’s objectives
- new actions that have been identified under objectives for delivery in 2023/24 (there are many more actions under the objectives set out in Appendix B carried over from last year too)

3.5 Objective One: To further increase our understanding of the needs of Cambridge's growing and increasingly diverse communities so that we can target our services effectively

Key achievements for 2022/23:

- The Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer provided feedback and support with 26 equality impact assessments from a range of services – including Commercial Services, Community Services, Customer Services, Corporate Strategy, Environmental Services, Housing Services, the Housing Development Agency, and Revenues and Benefits.
- Cambridge City Council supported Cambridgeshire County Council to complete the older people's accommodation needs assessment.

New actions identified for delivery in 2023/24:

- Undertake a review into the effectiveness of the Equalities Panel. Identify how and if the Panel, or another formalised partnership, can help develop a whole systems approach to tackling inequality and discrimination.
- Develop a children and youth strategy to help ensure young people's voices are heard and to meet their needs in the city including but not limited to:
 - Developing a City-wide Youth Panel for children aged 10 to 16 to empower young people, help them to develop skills, and work towards the changes that they would like to happen in Cambridge.
 - Exploring a means to provide safe spaces for children and young people (aged 11+) in the city. Create a unified approach and messaging to welcome children and young people into Cambridge City Council community centres and provide training for centre staff to increase their confidence to identify and support the needs of children and young people.
- Develop an action plan around race equality and anti-racism for Cambridge City Council that continues to build on work relating to the Black Lives Matter Council motion passed in the summer of 2020, and that is based on recommendations from findings to the needs assessment for ethnic minority people undertaken by Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum.
- Deliver on the Integrated Care System funded project about preventing ill health relating to:
 - Young people's mental health
 - Frailty and preventing frailty for older people

- Identifying joined up ways to support frequent service users
- Employ a Community Development Officer to support Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller people in the city to access services they need, to help reduce social isolation, and improve health outcomes.
- Work in partnership with other public sector organisations on Changing Futures to identify means to better support homeless people who have multiple disadvantages relating to disability, mental health, and addiction.

3.6 Objective Two: To continue to work to improve access to and take up of council services from all residents and communities

Key achievements for 2022/23:

- Provided 319 opportunities for translation and interpretation support – not including people the council supported through its British Sign Language interpretation support to the Customer Services Contact Centre.
- By the start of 2023, the council had matched over 590 Ukrainian refugees to houses in Cambridge and 500 had arrived.
- Completed 208 new council homes for rental that are adaptable and approved a further 137 more adaptable and affordable homes to be built. The council is on track to ensure that 5% of houses built by 2024 are wheelchair accessible.

New actions identified for delivery in 2023/24:

- Create an Asylum Seeking and Refugee Team across Community Safety and Housing Advice to respond fluidly to emerging needs of refugees and asylum-seeking people.

3.7 Objective Three: To work towards a situation where all residents have equal access to public activities and spaces in Cambridge and are able to participate fully in the community

Key achievements for 2022/23:

- Introduced a simple small grant application process to Community Grant Funding, which led to an increase in the number of grant applications received from groups supporting people from different ethnic minority backgrounds. Of the 24 applications received, 10 were from such groups. Several of these groups had not applied for Community Grant funding before.
- As part of the Vote#100 programme, on 28th March 2023 an event was held at the Corn Exchange to unveil portraits of

Cambridge women of note, with stories celebrating their lives told by actors. Cambridge City Council commissioned a digital colourist and artist to produce the images in large, printed format. The images will be taken into schools for pupils to choose an image to display permanently on their premises.

New actions identified for delivery in 2023/24:

- Host community picnics where additional wrap-around services or thematic activity can be included, supporting children, young people, and families to positively engage in their local communities.
- Work with Form the Future and My Cambridge steering group to explore the potential of trialling a flexible apprenticeship offering with 4 or 5 creative and culture organisations.
- Offer workshop facilitation support and activities for the Castle School's Diversity Day and to voluntary and community sector organisations supporting disabled people around the city.
- Support the development of a co-produced women's network for the city as a means for women to socialise and seek support from one another.
- Support Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre (CRCC), Cambridge Women's Aid, and the Cambridge Women's Resources Centre (CWRC) to bring their archived materials together showing how they have supported women locally over 40 years or more.

3.8 Objective Four: To tackle discrimination, harassment and victimization and ensure that people from different backgrounds living in the city continue to get on well together

Key achievements for 2022/23:

- Cambridge was reaccredited in October 2022 to the Purple Flag. Some examples of the council's work in this area for 2022/23 were increasing CCTV presence across the city and successfully bidding for funding to introduce further predator identification training for door-staff and CCTV staff on licenced premises.
- The Council continued to monitor the standards of work relating to the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance. For instance, it held a 'Survivors Conference' in partnership with Cambridge Women's Aid to gather feedback for service improvements. It also updated the DASH form it

uses with optional equalities monitoring questions for victims/survivors and its guidance for staff on supporting people with different protected characteristics who experience domestic abuse.

New actions identified for delivery in 2023/24:

- Plan activities to mark Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week (February 2024) to raise awareness amongst staff and share information on support services available.
- Provide funding to Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services and Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum to support the running of training sessions to help local community groups and volunteers challenge discriminatory behaviour.
- New activities have been identified as part of Cambridge's Purple Flag reaccreditation work with Cambridge BID and other partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and increase perceptions of safety at night by:
 - installing CCTV in taxis
 - introducing an accreditation scheme for licenced premises to meet certain standards above licensing conditions to improve safety of people visiting their premises and surrounding their premises
 - providing training on inclusivity for door-staff and bar-staff of licenced premises
 - increasing the number of taxi marshalls
 - looking at medical provision in the city at night-time to keep people safe
 - introducing two "CCTV refuge points" at either end of the market square

3.9 Objective Five: To ensure that the City Council's employment and procurement policies are non-discriminatory and work towards a more representative workforce within the City Council.

Key achievements for 2022/23:

- Increased representation of ethnic minority staff members as a proportion of the workforce to 9.09% as at March 2023, up from 8.32% for March 2022.
- Related to the Wellbeing at Work Programme, staff had access to a wide range of online and in person physical activity opportunities and

healthy lifestyle webinars and workshops as part of this. New material identifying work related stress and stress assessments, and guides for managers and staff on Wellness Action Plans (WAPs)/ Wellness Recovery Action Plans (WRAPS) were made available. A Wellbeing App was implemented to enable staff to access the Employer Assistance Programme more easily. The App also assists staff to take responsibility for their wellbeing and track their wellness journey.

- There were ten sessions provided each for Equality Awareness training and Equality Policy in Practice training for new staff members. The training provides staff with awareness of good practice on equality and diversity relating to their roles and the Public Sector Equality Duty. It also raises awareness of issues experienced by disabled people and reasonable adjustments that can be made to support disabled people to access services. The Equality Awareness sessions were attended by a total of 82 people and the Equality Policy in Practice sessions were attended by a total of 88 people.

New action identified for delivery in 2023/24:

- Develop and review external relationships and build networks, links, and platforms to regularly engage with groups of people with protected characteristics currently under-represented in the council's workforce.

4. Implications

a) Financial ImplicationsPage: 7

Equalities has been mainstreamed across all council services. This means that activities and actions identified in the action plan will primarily be delivered through existing service budgets, but services sometimes fund specific initiatives. The Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group has a small budget to support equalities projects and publications, and it funds interpreting services to enable fair and equal access to council services. The council works extensively with partner organisations to maximise the impact of our resources.

b) Staffing Implications

As equalities has been mainstreamed across all council services, the activities and actions identified in the action plan will primarily be delivered as part of the core responsibilities of staff within the relevant services.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

No Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been carried out for SES itself or this annual report. The SES 2021-24 forms the framework for the council's work to challenge discrimination and promote equal opportunities in all aspects of its work.

d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

The actions that have been identified for 2021-24 to help meet the Scheme's objectives are not anticipated to have any environmental impact.

e) Procurement Implications

The City Council has taken steps to ensure that equalities considerations are embedded in its procurement processes through implementing The Public Services (Social Value) Act (2012). This means that a key part of our assessment process in procuring contracts is to consider economic and social benefits that suppliers can bring to Cambridge. Additionally, when procuring services, commissioners are required to abide by our Equality Value Statement.

f) Community Safety Implications

Objective 4 of the Single Equality Scheme is "to tackle discrimination, harassment and victimisation and ensure that people from different backgrounds living in the city continue to get on well together". All of the actions under this objective in the SES have positive community safety implications.

5. Consultation and communication considerations

- 5.1 Consultation took place on the Single Equality Scheme 2021 – 2024. Cambridge City Council undertook an Inclusion and Engagement Questionnaire open to all members of the public about people's experiences of living in, working in, studying in, or visiting the city. The council also consulted its staff, 21 voluntary and community sector partners supporting different equality groups, and the Equalities Panel.
- 5.2 Since the 2021 – 2024 Scheme was produced:
 1. The Encompass Network was commissioned by Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council to undertake community needs assessments questionnaires aimed at LGBTQ+ people living in, working in, or studying in Cambridgeshire.
 2. The Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum was commissioned by Cambridge City Council to undertake community needs assessment

questionnaires for ethnic minority people living in, working in, studying in, or visiting Cambridge. The report of findings is currently being produced alongside recommendations that will inform council actions to promote race equality in 2023/24 and beyond. The findings will be presented at the Equalities Panel on 4 July 2023 and further recommendations will be drawn from this.

- 5.3 The content of this annual Single Equality Scheme report will be communicated to residents through the media using a news release, and on the council website and Twitter.

6. Background papers

Background paper used in the preparation of this report: Carey-Stuart C, Meads C. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough LGBTQ+ Needs Assessment 2022. Encompass Network, Cambridge, UK, 2022

7. Appendices

- Appendix A: Progress on actions of the Single Equality Scheme (2021-2024) – Year Two 2022/23
- Appendix B: Actions of the Single Equality Scheme (2021-2024) to report back on for 2023/24 (Year Three of the Scheme)

8. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer
Tel: 01223 457046 Email: helen.crowther@cambridge.gov.uk

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Appendix A: Progress on actions of the Single Equality Scheme (2021-2024) – Year Two 2022/23

Details of actions for the second year of the Single Equality Scheme (2022/23) and the progress we have made in delivering them are set out in the tables below. The actions and accompanying updates or achievements are listed under their relevant objectives. Here are the page numbers for the updates per objective:

Contents

Objective One: To further increase our understanding of the needs of Cambridge’s growing and increasingly diverse communities so that we can target our services effectively.....Page 2

Objective Two: To continue to work to improve access to and take-up of Council services from all residents and communities.....Page 8

Objective Three: To work towards a situation where all residents have equal access to public activities and spaces in Cambridge and are able to participate fully in the community.....Page 10

Objective Four: To tackle discrimination, harassment and victimisation and ensure that people from different backgrounds living in the city continue to get on well together.....Page 21

Objective Five: To ensure that the City Council’s employment and procurement policies and practices are non-discriminatory and to work towards a more representative workforce within the City Council.....Page 24

Objective One: To further increase our understanding of the needs of Cambridge’s growing and increasingly diverse communities so that we can target our services effectively.

In the Single Equality Scheme for 2021-24 we aimed to:	In the second year (2022/23) we:
Support Cambridgeshire County Council in their older people and physical and learning disability accommodation needs assessment.	The older people’s accommodation needs assessment has been completed and published on the County Council’s website. Officers from Cambridge City Council and the other District Councils have been working with the County on a statement to clarify where and why differences arise between this assessment and the Housing Needs of Specific Groups report carried out to support the development of the Local Plan. The learning disability accommodation assessment work is still ongoing.
Develop a bid for Changing Futures funding to better support homeless people who have multiple disadvantages relating to disability, mental health, and addiction.	<p>The bid for government funding was unsuccessful but the Public Services Board decided to fund Changing Futures work between 10 local public sector organisations over a three-year programme at a smaller scale. This project will cover Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In 2022/23 organisations have been working together to set up structures and an agreed way to support people with multiple disadvantages. The key principles underlying the project are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embedding a Trusted Person Model to support people with multiple disadvantages to develop and maintain relationships with the people that they trust • Embedding a trauma informed approach to support people

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing mechanics across the system to support shared learning and address identified barriers • Embedding co-production and co-design across the system
<p>Work with Future Parks Accelerate and local public sector and voluntary and community sector partners to identify new, innovative and collaborative ways to use parks and open spaces to help support people’s health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Future Parks Programme (CPFP) closed in September 2022. The programme was externally funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, National Trust, & The Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities. From 1st October, the more formalised Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Parks Partnership was developed. The partnership is made up of the Local Nature Partnership, Nene Park Trust, The National Trust, Public Health, and Cambridgeshire’s seven local authorities (including Cambridge City Council). One of the key themes of the new partnership is to promote health and wellbeing. It will do so by looking into opportunities to support Primary Care Networks to deliver social green prescribing services, and supporting organisations wishing to develop health and wellbeing related activities in parks.</p>
<p>Provide Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Cultural Awareness training for staff to broaden their awareness of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller cultures and how to support people from these communities by making their services more inclusive.</p>	<p>In 2022/23 a session was held attended by six council officers from the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Services • Community Services • Environmental Services • Housing Development Agency • Housing Services • Transformation Service

<p>Exploring potential temporary and/or permanent accommodation options for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities; and using the results of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs assessment currently under way, along with other evidence, to inform whether sites and/ or places for temporary stopping are needed locally for these communities.</p>	<p>A Working Group made up of officers from Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council has been looking for suitable land, although no potential sites have yet been identified. Arrangements are being strengthened further to ensure that Officers and Members are working together effectively to explore all options. Any delivery of a permanent or transit site would need to be based on evidence from the needs assessment. However, making occasional use of land as a place for communities to stop, rather than providing a formal site, would not need to wait until the needs assessment is completed.</p>
<p>Continue the Council's work to address period poverty. In 2020/21 this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking research into the current need for free sanitary provision following Covid19 lockdowns, including what other public sector and voluntary and community sector partners have been providing. • Launching a local social media campaign to receive donations to help tackle period poverty. • Exploring the potential of using Lion Yard and Drummer Street public toilets as donation and collection points for sanitary provision. 	<p>In 2022/23 a working group was established to research local initiatives to tackle period poverty and this research was completed. Based on findings around the need for free sanitary supplies, all council-run community centres have free supplies, which will continue as an ongoing practice.</p>
<p>Seek the views of female rough sleepers as to their experience of homelessness and local service provision.</p>	<p>This research has not been undertaken and there are no current plans to do so as there is no evidence women are not sufficiently catered for. Women make up around 20 to 25 percent of the local rough sleeper</p>

<p>Informed by this, consider any actions to ensure that the needs of homeless women are met.</p>	<p>population and use rough sleeper services at roughly that level. Judged by usage, women seem more confident about using winter provision now that this provides greater privacy and security.</p>
<p>Continue to use Equality Impact Assessments (EqIAs) to ensure that the Council considers the needs of different communities in the city and how new policies or plans meet these needs and our Public Sector Equality Duty obligations. Action will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Council services to complete EqIAs • Helping services to consider the impacts of policies or plans on groups of people with more than one protected characteristic which combine to create greater discrimination and inequality (intersectionality). • Provide training for Council services on how to undertake EqIAs. 	<p>The Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer provided feedback and support with 26 equality impact assessments from a range of services – including Commercial Services, Community Services, Customer Services, Corporate Strategy, Environmental Services, Housing Services, the Housing Development Agency, and Revenues and Benefits.</p> <p>No EqIA training was provided in 2022/23 as there was not capacity given that the Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer post had temporary cover over a one-year period whilst the officer normally in the post was seconded to another service.</p>
<p>Organise bi-annual meetings of the Equalities Panel to discuss the Council’s equalities progress and support Council-led initiatives that play a role in the promotion of equalities and diversity. Explore the potential of expanding the remit and/ or membership of the Equalities Panel to</p>	<p>The Equalities Panel met twice during 2022/23. The topics for the meeting on 5th July 2022 were Cambridge City Football Club’s equalities work, the Single Equality Scheme annual report 2021/22, and analysis of 2021/22 data and trends on the Council’s workforce relating to age, disability, ethnicity, sex, and religion and belief. The topics for the 10th January 2023 meeting were the LGBTQ+ needs assessment for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, the Council’s cost of living response, and refugee support</p>

<p>identify further opportunities for collaboration with partners to tackle discrimination and promote equality in the city.</p>	<p>in Cambridge. The next meeting of the Panel is scheduled for 4th July 2023.</p>
<p>Support and encourage other organizations to promote equality and tackle discrimination, including by promoting the Equality Pledge and providing opportunities to organizations signed up to the Pledge to share good practice.</p>	<p>Cambridge City Football Club, a signatory of the Equality Pledge, was invited to speak about their equalities work at the Equalities Panel meeting on 5th July 2022. This included sharing good practice relating to establishing an Equality and Diversity Review Board for the club, supporting LGBTQ+ people to feel welcome and included, marking Black History Month and International Holocaust Memorial Day, and supporting disability access.</p> <p>However, there was not capacity to convene the Equality Pledge signatories in 2022/23 given that the Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer post had temporary cover over a one-year period whilst the officer normally in the post was seconded to another service.</p>
<p>Trial the use of the Low-Income Family Tracker (LIFT) system to help identify low-income households that may need support from Council services (such as by assisting with homelessness prevention or ensuring households claim benefits they are entitled to).</p>	<p>The council received permission from The Department for Work and Pensions to transfer their data into the LIFT system and the system became viable in October 2022. Officers are learning about the system's functionality and capability. The council has started to use the information to enhance its impact of 'business-as-usual' work, run local campaigns, and improve partnership working to support vulnerable people. It is expected over the next year that the system will capture the outcomes from the council's interventions. All data in the system will be anonymous, which means it cannot be traced back to individuals.</p>

<p>Provide two Transgender Awareness training sessions for staff and a Transgender Awareness briefing session for Councillors to create a greater understanding of the experiences of trans and gender variant people and increase staff and Councillors' confidence to support them effectively.</p>	<p>Only one Transgender Awareness training session was provided for staff in 2022/23 that was attended by nine people from the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Services • Community Services • Corporate Strategy • Customer Services • Housing Services • Human Resources
<p>Identify opportunities to hear from and increase our understanding of the needs of people from different equality groups and use this information to identify opportunities to improve our service provision and to influence and facilitate partners to tackle discrimination and disadvantage.</p>	<p>In 2022/23, The Council has been working with Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum (CECF) to analyse findings of the inclusion and engagement questionnaire that CECF undertook with ethnic minority people in Cambridge in 2021/22. A report will be produced of the analysis and presented at the Equalities Panel on 4th July 2023. Recommendations will be drawn from the findings in partnership with CECF to help inform the Council's own work and partnership working with other organisations and communities.</p>

Objective Two: To continue to work to improve access to and take-up of Council services from all residents and communities.

In the Single Equality Scheme for 2021-24 we aimed to:	In the second year (2022/23) we:
Help improve digital inclusion of older residents in the council's sheltered housing scheme	Cambridge City Council has been working with Cambridge Online to identify further opportunities to tackle digital exclusion. Cambridge Online has continued to provide a volunteer at Talbot House and at Brandon Court to support residents to use ICT. The council is working with Cambridge Online to develop activities for residents to use the internet to research works by an artist or artistic designs to be able to recreate them. The council is installing computer kiosks at Brandon Court and Mansel Court – and there is already a kiosk at Ditchburn Place.
Provide training for Council staff on best practice in supporting service users with mental health problems, including running two Mental Health Awareness training sessions, two Mental Health First Response training sessions and a STOP Suicide workshop.	Two Mental Health Awareness courses were run and attended by a total of ten people. A total of 17 people attended the Mental Health First Response training. A STOP Suicide workshop was not run in 2022/23 due to cost and the fact that a lot of content is covered by Mental Health First Response.
Build 500 new homes that can be adapted to become wheelchair accessible and 25 new homes (5% of the 500) that are wheelchair accessible from the outset by 2024.	During 2022/23 there were 208 new Council homes for rental completed and a further 137 more affordable homes were approved to be built as part of the Council's housing programme. All homes will be adaptable, barring 2 which have been purchased additionally and which did not conform to M4(2). The target remains for 5% of all affordable housing delivery to be wheelchair accessible.

<p>Develop protocol for dealing with homeless adults between the City Council’s Housing Services, mental health services and Cambridgeshire County Council’s Social Care services, similar to that developed for people under 18</p>	<p>The protocol has not been drafted. However, this has been raised at senior management level because it would need senior management input for this to be part of a strategic partnership commitment.</p>
<p>Continue to provide an interpretation and translation service to ensure that language barriers do not prevent people from accessing Council services and continue to provide a British Sign Language interpretation service for Deaf people who need to contact our Customer Service Contact Centre.</p>	<p>In 2022/23 there were 319 interpretation and translation assignments provided by the interpretation and translations service – the most common assignments were telephone interpretation assignments. The top five most common languages we needed interpretation or translation support from the service in order of numbers of assignments are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ukrainian (71) • Polish (36) • Arabic (28) • Bengali (27) • Romanian (26) <p>The Council’s Community Safety Team also employ Arabic and Farsi Project Support Officers working with refugees.</p> <p>The council continues to provide a British Sign Language interpretation service for Deaf people needing to contact Customer Services.</p>

Related to objective two, Cambridge City Council has been working on supporting refugees by taking part in the following government schemes:

- Syrian Refugee Resettlement Schemes
- Afghan Resettlement Schemes
- Ukraine Family Visa Scheme
- Homes for Ukraine Scheme
- Full Asylum Dispersal
- Bridging Serviced Accommodation
- Community Resettlement

Back in 2021 support for Aghan and Ukranian refugees were not picked up as an action in the Single Equality Scheme 2021-2024 because the schemes supporting these communities were developed in 2021 and 2022 respectively. In 2021, Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council pledged to support 200 Syrian and Afghan refugees over 5 years. At the start of 2023, over 590 Ukrainian refugees were matched to houses in Cambridge and 500 had arrived.

Initially the Refugee Resettlement Team at Cambridge City Council was created to support Syrian families from 2014 and has expanded for Afghan families in 2021. The Council commissions Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum to deliver an advice service for asylum seekers and refugees, this include OISC accredited immigration advice. The Ukraine response is cross-council and involves a range of different teams in Cambridge City Council alone. It has included stronger involvement of the voluntary and community sector than the other refugee resettlement schemes have had with grants made available to them.

Objective Three: To work towards a situation where all residents have equal access to public activities and spaces in Cambridge and are able to participate fully in the community.

In the Single Equality Scheme for 2021-24 we aimed to:	In the second year (2022/23) we:
Plan a series of 'Make a Difference Days' in which children aged 9-14 will be given the opportunity to 'make a difference' to their local community.	There were three Make a Difference days on themes around community safety and wellbeing that were held in Abbey, East Chesterton and Trumpington. A key learning point was that communities wanted events to be developed and hosted on a local basis with local champions leading the way. Going forward, the council will also be developing a different approach to advertising and engaging communities in thematic events. In 2023/24 there will be a focus on holding community picnics where additional wrap-around services or thematic activity can be included.
Develop a City-wide Youth Panel for children aged 10 to 16 to empower young people, help them to develop skills and work towards the changes that they would like to happen in Cambridge.	The current provision of youth engagement and local decision-making activities has been mapped. Discussions with Cambridgeshire County Council on developing a city-wide Youth Panel are ongoing – these have been delayed due to staffing restructures in the Cambridge City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council but will be taken forward into 2023/24.
Provide a mixture of online and face to face open access play activities for children, young people, and their families in local neighbourhoods (including low-income neighbourhoods) across Cambridge.	Following a service review, the council has re-aligned resources to focus on improving outcomes for children/young people and families. This includes workstreams related to but not restricted to developing a network of safe spaces for young people across the city, supporting a programme

	of engaging activities and provision across the city throughout school holidays, and enabling the expansion of the holiday lunch programme.
Provide four Kickstart placements for young people aged 16 to 24, who are receiving Universal Credit, which will focus on gaining experience, skills and contacts in the arts and cultural sector.	<p>The Kickstart scheme was withdrawn on 3rd January 2023.</p> <p>Both placements were successfully completed by 6th June 2022.</p> <p>One of the participants used their earnings from Kickstart towards university course fees. The other enrolled for a level 2 teaching assistant course with the aim of working in a primary school.</p>
Work with the Social Mobility Business Partnership to deliver a 'Work Insight & Skills Week' for around 30 young people from low-economic backgrounds in years 11 and 12, introducing local creative industries and useful contacts for future employment opportunities.	A Social Mobility Business Partnership (SMBP) Work Skills and Insight Week took place from 18 th to 22 nd July 2022. The cultural partners were University of Cambridge Museums, Cambridge City Events, Cambridge Film Festival, Long Road Sixth Form College, and Cambridge Regional College.
Work with Form the Future to explore the feasibility of developing a Creative Industries Apprenticeship Training Agency, which would provide an apprenticeship opportunity across a number of smaller creative businesses.	<p>With partnership investment support from Festival Bridge, Form the Future led on research around the feasibility of this. The report was completed and is available via akua.obeng-frimpong@cambridge.gov.uk</p> <p>Recommendations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing creative careers insight from primary school age • Increasing promotion of available creative careers opportunities in Cambridge

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the capacity of Creative SMEs to employ trainees.
<p>Implement and deliver the next stage of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Region of Learning project to help increase young people’s cultural engagement and help young people to acquire skills for future learning and career opportunities.</p> <p>As part of the Region of Learning project, developing digital badges as micro-credentials that can be awarded to young people as evidence of skills, competencies, interests, and abilities that are outside of formal education; and forging partnerships with employers and businesses to recognise digital badges as part of their inclusive recruitment practices</p>	<p>To date, Region of Learning has recruited 205 females (from target of 237) and 316 males (from a target of 334) aged 15 to 24. A total of 114 young people from ethnic minority backgrounds have been recruited from a target of 120. The project has also recruited 135 young people with a disability and the target was 110. For young people without basic skills, there is a target at this stage of the project of 22 but so far it has only engaged 9. The project is funded until December 2023 so the targets apply up to then. Note that the targets are set for participants to the programme for Region of Learning which is run and managed by Form the Future in conjunction with Shift Momentum and isn’t necessarily linked to the digital platform itself.</p> <p>The digital badge platform is looking to develop its facility to support those with special educational needs and disabilities by allowing parents and carers to sign up and manage their accounts for them. The project is getting advice on this from Information Governance but should potentially take the form of a checkbox to acknowledge the young person’s profile is managed by a trusted adult. The Preparing for Adulthood team is also offering support through discoveries to enhance and improve accessibility of the site through consultation for key special educational needs and disabilities groups to improve accessibility.</p>
<p>Continue to provide sheltered housing schemes for people aged over 60 who wish to carry on living independently but</p>	<p>In September 2022, the Independent Living Service (ILS) agreed a further three year collaboration agreement with Cambridgeshire County Council to continue providing support services to older people both across</p>

<p>who require some support to do so and help the schemes to run their own social clubs, activities, and events.</p>	<p>Cambridge City Council's sheltered housing schemes, plus via a tenure neutral Visiting Support Service. The service also benefited from a temporary member of staff for 6-months to begin exploratory work around tackling loneliness and social and digital exclusion in our sheltered housing schemes, which has led to greater coordination of these activities.</p>
<p>Organise visits from a local school to Ditchburn Place sheltered housing scheme and explore opportunities to extend this intergenerational project to other schools and sheltered housing schemes across the city.</p>	<p>Four students from The Leys visit Ditchburn Place each Wednesday for games and activities – and this has been happening for the last two years.</p> <p>Cambridge City Council mapped out where each sheltered housing scheme is in relation to surrounding primary schools. Primary schools were contacted about their capacity and interest in setting up regular visits with the sheltered housing scheme residents for their pupils. However, none were able to organise anything on a regular basis.</p>
<p>Re-establish the Community Hub at Mansel Court (when coronavirus restrictions allow for this) and set up new hubs at schemes identified across the city.</p>	<p>Due to resource issues, the Community Hub at Mansel Court cannot be reinstated. The council plans to periodically review capacity to do so and still has an aspiration to reinstate it.</p>
<p>Continue to provide the Shopmobility service at the Grand Arcade and Grafton East car parks to support disabled people to access the city.</p>	<p>The usage figure for Shopmobility for 2022/23 was 3,989 – an increase of over 700 on 2021/22 (where the usage figure was 3,266).</p>
<p>Promote the Council's exercise referral programme (which provides doctors referrals to gym, sports centres and other</p>	<p>The exercise referral service is running across all the venues it was present at before the pandemic, except for Netherhall which has been</p>

<p>physical activities) to inactive people whose medical conditions would benefit from guided exercise.</p>	<p>found not to be sufficiently accessible. Numbers of people using the service are around 80 a year lower than pre Covid-19 (which was around 300 new referrals in 2018/19). Free referrals are not provided any longer but physical activities and access to gym/sports centres is subsidised. The service supports people with a wide range of medical conditions and disabilities for adults of all ages.</p>
<p>Explore the feasibility of including Changing Places provision when redeveloping existing toilets to provide the highest accessibility standards possible within building dimensions and constraints.</p>	<p>There are two proposed Changing Places schemes - at Drummer Street and Cherry Hinton Hall. The Drummer Street redevelopment is progressing well with all surveys now complete and a draft design ready to go to the planning committee. Subject to planning approval it is hoped that completion of Drummer Street will be by the end of July. At Drummer Street, planning has identified that there can be a far greater number of standard toilet units than was first thought that will be all be gender neutral.</p> <p>Cherry Hinton Hall has also been surveyed and the council shall be progressing the draft design this Summer.</p>
<p>Continue to provide holistic support to City Council tenants with mental health issues to remain in their tenancies and help link people to meaningful activities and groups in order to help reduce social isolation. Produce a new Tenancy Sustainment Service Policy to support this work.</p>	<p>The tenancy sustainment service (TSS) continues to expand its reach to residents across the city. Not only does it provide support to City Homes tenants (people in Cambridge City Council tenancies), the TSS also works closely with the council's Housing Advice Service to provide support to those in the Private Rented Sector to maintain their tenancies. Additionally, TSS employs three Neighbour Support officers as part of the County Council's Housing First programme and this will expand to five by</p>

	the end of 2023/24. Over the coming year a service policy for the TSS will be developed
Continue to provide 17 units of move-on accommodation for people receiving support under the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust's mental health team to help them move onto living independent living.	Through Cambridge City Council's partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council and the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Foundation Trust (CPFT) it continues to provide 16 supported units of move-on accommodation. Three of these units are now specifically allocated to those with Learning Disabilities, and as part of the partnership Cambridge City Council continues to look at other ways it can expand support offered.
Continue to hold Disability Panel meetings to monitor planning applications relevant to disabled people, focussing particularly on large housing developments, infrastructure, the public realm and public buildings in the Greater Cambridge area.	The Disability Panel has been meeting in 2022/23 and has provided insights into impact for disabled people for development related to the Grafton Centre, some planning applications relating to developments in Eddington, the Mill Road bridge closure, and the Greater Cambridge Partnership Making Connections programme.
Ensure that all City Council buildings are breastfeeding-friendly and encourage other employers and venues to do the same.	In 2022/23 there was not capacity to work towards other council buildings joining the breastfeeding friendly scheme as the individual in the Equality and Anti-Poverty Office post who started this work was seconded to another team. However, a space to support people to breastfeed privately if they wish to has been created on the ground floor of Mandela House.

<p>Support and help coordinate Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month activities.</p>	<p>In 2022/23 the council visited Midsummer Fair alongside Cambridgeshire County Council's Public Health service and spoke to many of the traders. This also helped Cambridge City Council to get feedback on a social event that it organised in the Corn Exchange for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people that took place on 4th December. The event in December was well received and attended by about 200 people. It included live music and Karaoke.</p> <p>There will be a Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller Community Development Officer in post from April 2023 to help coordinate activities for Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller History Month 2023.</p>
<p>Coordinate a Celebration of Women 2020 Exhibition and community activities complementing the Vote#100 programme.</p>	<p>On 28th March 2023, an event was held at the Corn Exchange to unveil portraits of Cambridge women of note, with stories celebrating their lives told by actors. Cambridge City Council commissioned a digital colourist and artist Marina Amaral to produce the images in large, printed format. The images will be taken into schools for pupils to choose an image to display permanently on their premises. At the event it was announced that there will be a women's network developed for the city as a means for women to socialise and seek support from one another. Cambridge City Council will support the development of this co-produced women's network in 2023/24.</p>
<p>Provide Community Grants for 2023/24 to support the voluntary and community sector to reduce social and</p>	<p>The core budget for Community Grants approved for activities taking place in 2023/24 was £1,094,000. An inflationary increase of £94,000 was applied to the usual budget of £1,000,000 in recognition of the challenges faced by the voluntary and community sector as a result of the cost-of-</p>

<p>economic exclusion, which can disproportionately affect particular equality groups.</p>	<p>living crisis. For 2023/24, funding was awarded to around 50 voluntary and community sector organisations that support people with specific protected characteristics for a wide range of different activities – this included some activities funded by small grants of £2,000 and under, and some funded by larger main Community Grants.</p>
<p>Carrying out the second phase of a review of the Council’s Community Grants, aiming to encourage more applications from minority groups by simplifying the process with a lighter touch application process.</p>	<p>The small grant application process was introduced for the 2023/24 round of Community Grant Funding. This was piloted as an online only process. There was an increase in the number of small grant applications received – particularly from groups supporting people from different ethnic minority backgrounds. Of the 24 applications received, 10 were from such groups. Several of these groups had not applied for Community Grant funding before, suggesting that the simplified process was more accessible. The council plans to continue with the small grants process and will consider the potential impacts of any further changes on people with different protected characteristics.</p>
<p>Continue to work with Food Poverty Alliance partners to help tackle food poverty, including that experienced by children. Work with partners to support the cultural requirements of ethnically diverse communities and dietary requirements of people with long-term health conditions in the city’s response to food poverty.</p>	<p>In 2022/23 the council has helped establish the Food Distribution Hub and community kitchen into their new premises in Cambridge. It continues to provide funding and support for this important programme of work. In 2023/24 Cambridge City Council will support the expansion of holiday lunches across the city.</p> <p>After raising awareness of the lack of ethnically diverse foods at Food Banks and food hubs, providers have improved their offer. The Karim Foundation and Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum have joined the Cambridge Food Poverty Alliance. A strong relationship has been forged</p>

	<p>with Cambridge Central Mosque and the Bangladeshi Community Welfare Association who continue to support emergency food programmes across the city. The council continues to build on this collaborative approach, seeking to build connections with communities and the voluntary sector.</p>
<p>Developing and expanding existing physical activity programs for targeted groups, including activities specifically aimed at improving mental health and well-being, women and girls, young people, families, adults with long term medical conditions and strength and balance activities for the 50–65-year age group. We will aim to ensure that all activities are inclusive and accessible to minority ethnic groups.</p>	<p>Physical activity programmes that are accessed by different equality groups have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Invigorate Programme available for mental health service users and residents interested in improving their mental health and wellbeing, through exercise. Weekly sessions are provided for different sports for free or at a low-cost for all Invigorate members. Invigorate members who are referred by a mental health professional also get 50% reduced entry for the gym and pools at Parkside and Abbey. There has been a large increase in membership to the Invigorate Programme since the pandemic. - Initiatives supporting women to get more active have included ‘introduction to strength training’ and ‘bike maintenance’ and ‘staying active through the menopause’ workshops. There has also been some return to fitness programmes specifically for women and sessions for mothers with young babies. - The Healthy You Festival, although not aimed exclusively at women, saw between 80 to 90% female participation. There were 100 online sessions in January across 30 activities attended by 400 people. - The council has supported Strength and Balance sessions for people aged 65 and over delivered by Forever Active.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The council seeks out opportunities to ensure sports and fitness sessions are open and inclusive for people with a range of disabilities and long-term health conditions who will have different physical abilities. As a result, 21% of people attending the virtual festival had a disability or long-term health condition. - The council has supported various projects aimed at young people aged mostly between 11 and 16 by working with partners like Romsey Mill and youth clubs. - Opportunities aimed at families have included Families Moving short courses and the Grassroots Physical Activity Fund (funded by The Leys school) providing up to £250 per family for children from low-income families to take part in grassroots sports activities - For people under 11 and their families, the council has been running popular Healthy Weights sessions under its Families Moving funding for families to engage in different sports together. There are two or four courses during term time and one to two over school holiday periods. There are also courses specifically for families where a parent or child has a disability or long-term health condition.
<p>Liaise with Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum, Cambridge Women’s Resource Centre and other relevant partners about setting up a group for South Asian women to socialise, to discuss matters of concern to them, and potentially to bid for funding for projects to support South Asian women.</p>	<p>The Council has initiated conversations with these organisations. In 2023/24 it is supporting the development of a co-produced women’s network for the city, open to all women, as a means for women to socialise and seek support from one another. In 2023/24 the Council will also liaise with community leaders working with South Asian women to see if there is appetite for setting up a South Asian women’s section for the wider network.</p>

<p>Improving wheelchair accessibility for taxis by working with taxi providers to implement Section 165 to Section 167 of the Equality Act and ensure that taxis are honouring bookings and providing adequate support to those with disabilities.</p>	<p>The council has found that taxi drivers are not taking wheelchair access bookings as jobs because they cost taxi drivers more: taxi drivers cannot legally put the meter on until they set off on a journey and it takes longer to support people in wheelchairs and mobility scooters into taxis.</p> <p>Officers continue to investigate if the council can implement any easy resolutions to this problem. Over the past year the council has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertaken research into how many wheelchair access bookings are taken as jobs by taxi drivers • looked at existing legislation to identify opportunities for identifying any resolutions • started to speak to users with wheelchairs as to what their experiences are • supported the MP to raise the issue in the political arena given that it relates to national legislation.
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Objective Four: To tackle discrimination, harassment and victimisation and ensure that people from different backgrounds living in the city continue to get on well together.

<p>In the Single Equality Scheme for 2021-24 we aimed to:</p>	<p>In the second year (2022/23) we:</p>
<p>Continue to provide a Racial Harassment service, working with Cambridgeshire Police to tackle hate crime/incidents</p>	<p>The Council continues to offer advice and help to anyone living in or visiting Cambridge suffering racial harassment. The service looks at what</p>

<p>motivated by hatred towards someone's race, and using civil remedies in line with the Harassment Act 1997 to tackle hate crime and harassment.</p>	<p>support the person needs and assesses the danger of further incidents. It can take emergency action to increase the security of people's homes and supports people to seek help from the Police.</p>
<p>Continue to monitor standards of work related to the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the council's compliance with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. • Preparing for the DAHA re-accreditation process in December 2022. • Using intelligence from Cambridgeshire County Council's Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Needs Assessment on safe accommodation services across Cambridgeshire to identify gaps in support that Cambridge City Council may help address. • Engagement in the White Ribbon campaign. 	<p>In 2022/23 the council has undertaken the following actions to monitor the standards of work relating to DAHA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly audits of all cases where domestic abuse is 'flagged'. This includes cases where officers have completed DASH risk assessments, and/or cases that have been referred to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Centre. It also includes ensuring the council complies with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and responds in a manner that would be expected as a DAHA accredited local authority. • Held a public Domestic Abuse Conference to mark White Ribbon Day 2022 • Held a 'Survivors Conference' in September 2022 in partnership with Cambridge Women's Aid to gather feedback for service improvements. • Updated the DASH form the council uses with optional questions for victims/survivors to advise on their protected characteristics, and how their identities impact on their experience of domestic abuse. The council intends to use this information to better inform its service provision going forward.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council has also updated its guidance for staff on supporting people with different protected characteristics who experience domestic abuse. <p>Cambridge City Council is currently recruiting a fixed-term Specialist Housing Worker (Domestic Abuse) to collate and analyse feedback directly from victims/survivors of domestic abuse.</p>
<p>Continue to work with partners in the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) to improve public safety and raise concerns of people with protected characteristics. The Partnership’s priorities for 2021/22 will continue to relate to safeguarding young people against violence and exploitation and listening to community needs and responding together to reduce harm.</p>	<p>The Partnership’s priorities for 2022/23 will be agreed in July 2023 once further relevant data is available, such as Cambridgeshire County Council’s new Serious Violence Duty Needs Assessment. In the meantime, the CCSP’s priorities will continue to be related to safeguarding young people against violence and exploitation, listening to community needs and responding together to reduce harm. The Partnership will continue to raise awareness of domestic abuse and child exploitation.</p>
<p>As part of Cambridge’s Purple Flag reaccreditation work with Cambridge BID and other partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and increase perceptions of safety at night by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> installing CCTV in taxis resurrecting the Ask for Angela campaign 	<p>Cambridge was reaccredited in October 2022 to the Purple Flag. In 2022/23, the council has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased CCTV presence across the city as a whole and has been working on a practical plan to introduce CCTV into taxis in 2023/24. Continued to promote Ask for Angela

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participating in any other initiatives helping people be safe in the city as behaviours and perceptions of safety have since the pandemic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invited the student unions from both universities to sit on the Purple Flag steering group after students shared safety concerns of the city centre at night Been awarded Safer Street funding of £26,000 to introduce further predator identification training for door-staff and CCTV staff on licenced premises. Started to develop further training on inclusivity for bar staff and door-staff at licenced premises to ensure people feel comfortable approaching staff if they need support – this has included working with The Encompass Network on LGBTQ+ people’s safety. Looked into bringing in another accreditation scheme for licenced premises to meet certain standards above licensing conditions to improve safety of people visiting or near their premises.
<p>Undertake training on tackling lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT+) discrimination for front-of house staff in Council buildings and Councillors, and work with the Encompass Network to promote Safer Spaces to more organizations in the city.</p>	<p>Councillors received Transgender Awareness training on 13th June 2022, and this was attended by 19 people. Councillors did not receive the training on tackling lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT+) discrimination and neither did staff members. This is because The Encompass Network who developed the training did not have the capacity to deliver it. Also, the individual who was normally in the Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer post and trained to deliver the sessions was seconded to another service. The Encompass Network did not have the capacity to work with the council to promote Safer Spaces to more organizations in the city.</p>

Objective Five: To ensure that the City Council’s employment and procurement policies and practices are non-discriminatory and to work towards a more representative workforce within the City Council

In the Single Equality Scheme for 2021-24 we aimed to:	In the second year (2022/23) we:
<p>Develop, promote, and deliver the ‘Wellbeing at Work’ programme, providing a range of wellbeing classes, activities, information campaigns and promotions to encourage a healthy active Council workforce.</p>	<p>In 2022/23 staff had access to a wide range of online and in person physical activity opportunities and healthy lifestyle webinars and workshops as part of the programme. These included Pilates/yoga/core and back programmes, a rock-climbing taster session, wellbeing and mindfulness sessions, nutrition workshops, and sessions on looking after bones and joints. New material regarding identifying work related stress and stress assessments, and guides for managers and staff on Wellness Action Plans (WAPs)/ Wellness Recovery Action Plans (WRAPS) were made available. The Active Lifestyle Team also supported an organisation wide step challenge to help keep staff active. Also, in 2022/23 a Wellbeing App was implemented to enable staff to access the Employer Assistance Programme more easily. The App also assists staff to take responsibility for their wellbeing and track their wellness journey.</p>
<p>Providing two ‘Managing Mental Health’ sessions for managers to identify practical ways to manage and support positive mental well-being for all staff including employees who are experiencing stress and distress.</p>	<p>One Managing Mental Health session was provided on 8th December 2022, and it was attended by four staff members. Due to low booking numbers, the session booked for March 2023 was postponed till May 2023.</p>

<p>As part of our Disability Confident commitment, undertake steps to help increase representation of disabled staff members as a proportion of the workforce.</p>	<p>Cambridge City Council continues to take steps to help increase representation of disabled people across the workforce but recognises that there is more to be done in this area. The percentage of staff declaring themselves as being disabled has decreased from 8.15% in 2021/22 to 7.37% for 2022/23. This is the equivalent of a decrease of 5 individuals.</p> <p>The Council has continued to build and maintain connections with external organisations who work with disabled individuals who are looking to get into and/ or remain in work. This includes The Department for Work and Pensions, Individual Placement and Support Service, Reed in Partnership Restart Programme and Pinpoint. The Council will be hosting a 'Be Inclusive' event in partnership with The Department for Work and Pensions in May 2023 and will have a chance to talk about the processes and systems it has in place around being a Disability Confident Employer.</p>
<p>Take steps to increase representation of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) employees as a proportion of the council's workforce.</p>	<p>Cambridge City Council continues to work to increase the representation of ethnic minority people as a proportion of its workforce. In 2022/23 there were 09.09% of staff with an ethnic minority background compared to 8.32% for the previous year. Analysis has shown that the council continues to attract applications from ethnic minority people into a wide variety of roles and service areas. Shortlisted ethnic minority applicants (as a percentage) increased and successful applicants (as the number of individuals) has increased. The council has widened its advertising platforms for roles, including expanding its presence on LinkedIn.</p>

<p>Take steps to increase retention of BAME employees, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to support the BAME staff group to provide a secure, safe, and supportive environment for BAME staff to discuss issues and share experiences. • Identifying ways to encourage internal applications and promotion at the council, including providing training courses on applying for jobs and interview skills. 	<p>The Council continues to review its recruitment and retention strategies and has changed the way it publicises roles to be more accessible to all, which has included changes in advert text and key words, ensuring role profiles are clear and simple, and using recruitment for progression to grow individuals in the organisation. Looking at the workforce information, the number of internal promotions has increased from the previous year with 12.5% of the promotions being staff who identify themselves as being from an ethnic minority background.</p> <p>The staff group has not met in 2022/23 because the chair did not have capacity to organise meetings. However, the council continues to support and encourage staff to set up staff groups.</p>
<p>In determining the future use of council buildings following Covid-19, provide staff with a Prayer Room.</p>	<p>The council is still in the process of determining the future use of its buildings and this is part of the council's wider transformation programme. In the meantime, the council is going to provide a prayer room at Mandela House.</p>
<p>Provide an 'Understanding Menopause' workshop open to all who wish to gain a better understanding of the menopause, its impact in and out of the workplace, and how best to support each other.</p>	<p>Two 'Understanding Menopause' workshops were provided and attended by a total of 18 people from the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer Services • Environmental Services • Estates and Facilities • Finance • Housing Services

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Service
Run the Equality, Diversity and Disability Awareness course for new members of staff (two sessions per course provided 9 times in the year) to raise understanding of equality and diversity issues, awareness of relevant diversity and disability legislation, and the Council's responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty.	There were ten sessions provided each for Equality Awareness training and Equality Policy in Practice training for new members of staff. The training provides staff with awareness of good practice on equality and diversity relating to their roles and the Public Sector Equality Duty. It also raises awareness of issues experienced by disabled people and reasonable adjustments that can be made to support disabled people to access services. The Equality Awareness sessions were attended by a total of 82 people and the Equality Policy in Practice sessions were attended by a total of 88 people.
Set new targets for the percentage of disabled people and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people as a proportion of the workforce in light of the findings from the Census 2021.	With the collation of data for the 2022/23 Equality in Employment Workforce report, the Council will review the Census 2021 data to set the new targets. The targets will be shared at the Equalities Panel meeting on 4 th July.

Appendix B: Actions of the Single Equality Scheme (2021-2024) to report back on for 2023/24 (Year Three of the Scheme)

Details of actions for the third year (2023/24) of the Single Equality Scheme (2021-2024) are set out in the tables below under their relevant objectives. Some of these actions are new for 2023/24 and some actions have applied for the council across the whole duration of the Scheme (1st April 2021 to 31st March 2024). Here are the page numbers for the 2023/24 actions per objective:

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Objective One: To further increase our understanding of the needs of Cambridge’s growing and increasingly diverse communities so that we can target our services effectively.

<p>In the third year of the Single Equality Scheme (2023/24) we will:</p>	<p>Service(s) leading on this action:</p>
<p>Organise two talks for staff members to increase their awareness of the needs of Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities to better target our support.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Continue to use Equality Impact Assessments (EqIAs) to ensure that the Council considers the needs of different communities in the city to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty, and to assess the effect of decisions on people experiencing poverty or on low incomes. Action will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Council services to complete EqIAs • Helping services to consider the impacts of policies or plans on groups of people with more than one protected characteristic which combine to create greater discrimination and inequality (intersectionality). • Provide training for Council services on how to undertake EqIAs. 	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Support and encourage other organizations to promote equality and tackle discrimination, including by promoting the Equality Pledge and providing opportunities to organizations signed up to the Pledge to share good practice.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Hold a meeting of the Equalities Panel on 4th July 2023 to discuss the findings of the inclusion and engagement questionnaires for ethnic minority people, and of Cambridge Together. For the latter, explore lessons learnt around the engagement approach and feedback around things that matter about Cambridge to people with different protected characteristics. For the former ask the Panel for recommended actions in relation to the findings.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>

<p>Undertake a review into the effectiveness of the Equalities Panel for supporting Council-led initiatives that play a leading role in the promotion of equality and diversity, consulting current Equalities Panel members. Identify how and if the Panel or another formalised partnership can help develop a whole systems approach to tackling inequality and discrimination – an approach that recognises the council must work with partners and communities to effectively tackle these issues given their complexity.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Develop an action plan around race equality and anti-racism for Cambridge City Council that continues to build on work relating to the Black Lives Matter Council motion passed in the summer of 2020, and is based on recommendations from findings to the needs assessment for ethnic minority people undertaken by Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Identify further opportunities to hear from and increase our understanding of the needs of people from different equality groups. Use this information to identify opportunities to improve our service provision and to influence and facilitate partners to tackle discrimination and disadvantage.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Continue to support Cambridgeshire County Council with their learning disability accommodation needs assessment.</p>	<p>Communities Group, & Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Develop a children and youth strategy to help ensure young people’s voices are heard and to meet their needs in the city including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a City-wide Youth Panel for children aged 10 to 16 to empower young people, help them to develop skills, and work towards the changes that they would like to happen in Cambridge. • Exploring a means to provide safe spaces for children and young people (aged 11+) in the city. Create a unified approach and messaging to welcome children and young people into Cambridge City Council community centres and provide training 	<p>Communities Group</p>

<p>for centre staff to increase their confidence to identify and support the needs of children and young people.</p>	
<p>Deliver on the Integrated Care System funded project about preventing ill health relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people’s mental health • Frailty and preventing frailty for older people • Identifying joined up ways to support frequent service users 	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Employ a new Community Development Officer (CDO) to support Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller people in the city. The CDO will help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people who live in Cambridge and their needs to help ensure that the council can make the most difference in supporting the communities to access services and to reduce social isolation • Work with Cambridgeshire County Council’s Public Health team to set up outreach opportunities and conversations to improve health outcomes of Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller people 	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Work in partnership with other public sector organisations on Changing Futures to identify means to better support homeless people who have multiple disadvantages relating to disability, mental health, and addiction.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Exploring potential temporary and/or permanent accommodation options for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. Use the results of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs assessment for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire currently under way, along with other evidence, to inform what sites are needed locally for these communities. Identify negotiated stopping solutions for Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>

Objective Two: To continue to work to improve access to and take-up of Council services from all residents and communities.

<p>In the third year of the Single Equality Scheme (2023/24) we will:</p>	<p>Service(s) leading on this action:</p>
<p>Create an Asylum Seeking and Refugee Team across Community Safety and Housing Advice to respond fluidly to emerging needs of refugees and asylum-seeking people. Continue working on the cross-council response to supporting Ukrainian refugees that was started in 2022.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Continue to provide an interpretation and translation service to ensure that language barriers do not prevent people from accessing Council services and continue to provide a British Sign Language interpretation service for Deaf people who need to contact our Customer Service Contact Centre.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>
<p>Develop protocol for dealing with homeless adults between the City Council's Housing Services, mental health services and Cambridgeshire County Council's Social Care services, similar to that developed for people under 18.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Help improve digital inclusion of older residents in the council's sheltered housing scheme.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Provide training for Council staff on best practice in supporting service users with mental health problems, including running two Mental Health Awareness training sessions, and two Mental Health First Response training sessions.</p>	<p>Corporate Group</p>
<p>Build 500 new homes that can be adapted to become wheelchair accessible and 25 new homes (5% of the 500) that are wheelchair accessible from the outset by 2024.</p>	<p>Place Group</p>

Objective Three: To work towards a situation where all residents have equal access to public activities and spaces in Cambridge and are able to participate fully in the community.

<p>In the third year of the Single Equality Scheme (2023/24) we will:</p>	<p>Service(s) leading on this action:</p>
<p>Continue to provide the Shopmobility service at the Grand Arcade and Grafton East car parks to support disabled people to access the city.</p>	<p>City Services</p>
<p>Continue to support the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Parks Partnership's efforts to promote health and wellbeing by supporting a funding bid to the Integrated Care System's Communities and Prevention Fund.</p>	<p>City Services</p>
<p>Subject to planning approval, provide the Changing Places facility at Drummer Street toilets. Undertake design work of Cherry Hinton Hall toilets to include a Changing Places facility.</p>	<p>City Services</p>
<p>Host community picnics where additional wrap-around services or thematic activity can be included, supporting children, young people, and families to positively engage in their local communities.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Enable the expansion of the holiday lunch programme</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Promote the Council's exercise referral programme (which provides doctors referrals to gym, sports centres and other physical activities) to inactive people whose medical conditions would benefit from guided exercise.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Develop and expand existing physical activity programs for targeted groups, including activities aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving mental health and well-being • Young people • Families • Adults with long term medical conditions • Strength and balance activities for the 50 to 65 year age group: by developing further opportunities 	<p>Communities Group</p>

<p>for older people in the supported housing that is council-run to take part in activity to prevent falls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping support refugees to access bikes for easier travel and fitness 	
<p>Support an annual programme of events which celebrate diversity and/or promote community cohesion, in partnership with local equality and diversity organisations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black History Month • Disability History Month • Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller History Month • International Holocaust Memorial Day • LGBTQ+ History Month • South Asian Heritage Month 	Communities Group
<p>Offer workshop facilitation support and activities for the Castle School's Diversity Day and to voluntary and community sector organisations supporting disabled people around the city.</p>	Communities Group
<p>Support the development of a co-produced women's network for the city as a means for women to socialise and seek support from one another.</p>	Communities Group
<p>Support Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre (CRCC), Cambridge Women's Aid, and the Cambridge Women's Resources Centre (CWRC) to bring their archived materials together showing how they have supported women locally over 40 years for CRCC and CWRC, and 44 years for Cambridge Women's Aid.</p>	Communities Group
<p>Improving wheelchair accessibility for taxis by working with taxi providers to implement Section 165 to Section 167 of the Equality Act 2010 and ensure that taxis are honouring bookings and providing adequate support to those with disabilities.</p>	Communities Group
<p>Continue to provide sheltered housing schemes for people aged over 60 who wish to carry on living independently but who require some support to do so. Help the schemes to run their own social clubs, activities, and events.</p>	Communities Group

Continue to provide 16 units of move-on accommodation for people receiving support under the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust's mental health team to help them move onto living independently.	Communities Group
Continue to provide holistic support to residents with mental health issues to remain in their City Council and private rented sector tenancies. Develop a service policy for the Tenancy Sustainment Service supporting this work.	Communities Group
Provide Community Grants for 2024/25 to support the voluntary and community sector to reduce social and economic exclusion, which can disproportionately affect particular equality groups.	Corporate Group
Work with the Social Mobility Business Partnership to deliver a 'Work Insight & Skills Week' from 10th to 14th July 2023 for young people from low-economic backgrounds, introducing local creative industries and useful contacts for future employment opportunities. As well as University of Cambridge Museums, City Events and Cambridge Junction, this year's Cultural Partners will include Kettle's Yard and Cambridge University Press.	Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group
Work with Form the Future and My Cambridge steering group to explore the potential of trialling a flexible apprenticeship offering with 4 or 5 creative and culture organisations.	Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group
Implement and deliver the next stage of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Region of Learning project to help increase young people's cultural engagement and help young people to acquire skills for future learning and career opportunities. As part of the Region of Learning project, developing digital badges as micro-credentials that can be awarded to young people as evidence of skills, competencies, interests, and abilities that are outside of formal education; and forging partnerships with employers and	Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group

businesses to recognise digital badges as part of their inclusive recruitment practices	
Continue to hold Disability Panel meetings to monitor planning applications relevant to disabled people, focussing particularly on large housing developments, infrastructure, the public realm, and public buildings in the Greater Cambridge area.	Greater Cambridge Shared Planning

Objective Four: To tackle discrimination, harassment and victimisation and ensure that people from different backgrounds living in the city continue to get on well together.

In the third year of the Single Equality Scheme (2023/24) we will:	Service(s) leading on this action:
Continue to provide a Racial Harassment service, working with Cambridgeshire Police to tackle hate crime/incidents motivated by hatred towards someone's race, and using civil remedies in line with the Harassment Act 1997 to tackle hate crime and harassment.	Communities Group
Continue to work with partners in the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) to improve public safety and raise concerns of people with protected characteristics.	Communities Group
Plan activities to mark Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week (February 2024) to raise awareness amongst staff and share information on support services available.	Communities Group
Provide funding to Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services and Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum to support the running of training sessions to help local community groups and volunteers challenge discriminatory behaviour.	Communities Group

<p>As part of Cambridge’s Purple Flag reaccreditation work with Cambridge BID and other partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and increase perceptions of safety at night by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • installing CCTV in taxis • introducing an accreditation scheme for licenced premises to meet certain standards above licensing conditions to improve safety of people visiting their premises and surrounding their premises • providing training on inclusivity for door-staff and bar-staff of licenced premises • increasing the number of taxi marshalls • looking at medical provision in the city at night-time to keep people safe • introducing two “CCTV refuge points” at either end of the market square 	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Continue to improve the council’s support for people experiencing domestic abuse related to its work on the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA), including meeting needs of people with different protected characteristics who experience abuse.</p>	<p>Communities Group</p>
<p>Undertake training on tackling lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT+) discrimination for staff from a range of services.</p>	<p>Democracy, Inclusive Economy and Climate Group</p>

Objective Five: To ensure that the City Council’s employment and procurement policies and practices are non-discriminatory and to work towards a more representative workforce within the City Council

<p>In the third year of the Single Equality Scheme (2023/24) we will:</p>	<p>Service(s) leading on this action:</p>
<p>Develop, promote, and deliver the ‘Wellbeing at Work’ programme, providing a range of wellbeing classes,</p>	<p>Communities Group and Corporate Group</p>

activities, information campaigns and promotions to encourage a healthy active Council workforce.	
Run the Equality, Diversity and Disability Awareness course for new members of staff (two sessions per course provided up to 10 times in the year) to raise understanding of equality and diversity issues, awareness of relevant diversity and disability legislation, and the Council's responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty.	Corporate Group
Provide two 'Managing Mental Health' sessions for managers to identify practical ways to manage and support positive mental well-being for all staff including employees who are experiencing stress and distress.	Corporate Group
Provide an 'Understanding Menopause' workshop open to all who wish to gain a better understanding of the menopause, its impact in and out of the workplace, and how best to support each other.	Corporate Group
As part of our Disability Confident commitment, undertake steps to help increase representation of disabled staff members as a proportion of the workforce.	Corporate Group
Take steps to help increase representation and retention of people from Ethnic Minority Groups as a proportion of the council's workforce and monitor the ethnicity pay gap.	Corporate Group
Develop and review external relationships and build networks, links, and platforms to regularly engage with groups of people with protected characteristics currently under-represented in the Council's workforce.	Corporate Group
Continue to monitor, analyse, and publish data in respect of our recruitment activity and workforce in relation to age, disability, ethnicity, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.	Corporate Group
Provide a prayer room/ quiet reflection space for staff at Mandela House.	Place Group

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ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY 2022/23 ANNUAL REPORT

To:

Councillor Mairead Healy, Executive Councillor for Communities
Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee 29/06/2023

Report by:

David Kidston, Strategy and Partnerships Manager

Tel: 01223 457043 Email: David.Kidston@cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

All

Non-Key Decision

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides an update on delivery of key actions in the Council's third Anti-Poverty Strategy, which covers the period 2020-2024.

1.2 During 2022/23 the Council has delivered a range of planned actions to help address issues associated with poverty, including low pay, debt, food poverty, fuel poverty, digital inclusion, skills, employment, housing affordability, homelessness, and poor health outcomes. The report also provides an update on a range of activities that the Council delivered and helped facilitate to support residents with the rising cost of living.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

1. Note the progress in delivering actions to reduce poverty in Cambridge during 2022/23 (as set out at 4.1 in this report and in the full APS annual report at Appendix A)
2. Note the activities that were delivered during 2022/23 to support residents with the rising cost of living (as set out at 4.2 in this report and in the full APS annual report at Appendix A)

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council has produced two previous Anti-Poverty Strategies covering the periods from 2014-2017 and 2017-2020. The Council produced a revised and updated Anti-Poverty Strategy for the period from April 2020 to March 2023, which was approved by the Executive Councillor for Communities on 3 July 2020.
- 3.2 The Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing agreed to extend the end date of the strategy to 31 March 2024 at the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee meeting on 30 June 2022. This allowed officers to focus on new challenges that have emerged since the strategy was first approved in July 2020, including responding to increases in the cost of living and the arrival of Ukrainian refugees in Cambridge.
- 3.3 It will also ensure that the new strategy is informed by a number of wider changes to the Council's ways of working, including:
 - the Our Cambridge transformation programme
 - work to develop the Council's approach to Community Wealth Building
 - access to new sources of data, such as the Low Income Family Tracker (LIFT) system, the progressive publication of Census 2021 data by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) from summer 2022 onwards, and the development of the City Portrait.
- 3.4 The current Anti-Poverty Strategy sets out an evolution of the Council's broad strategic approach to tackling poverty. It sets out three underpinning themes for the Council's future approach:

1. Combining our ongoing efforts to address the effects of poverty, with a further focus on preventative work (often in partnership with other organisations) to address some of the root causes of poverty.
2. Balancing direct Council service delivery, with partnership-working and influencing and lobbying activity where this will have greater impact.
3. Building the capacity and resilience of residents and communities and facilitating community action.

3.5 These three themes set are woven through the five strategic objectives for the Anti-Poverty Strategy 2020-2023, which are:

1. Helping people on low incomes to maximise their income and minimise their costs
2. Strengthening families and communities, including supporting groups of people that are more likely to experience poverty
3. Promoting an inclusive economy, by raising skills and improving access to a range of employment opportunities for people on low incomes
4. Addressing the high cost of housing, improving housing conditions, and reducing homelessness
5. Improving health outcomes for people on low incomes

4. Anti-poverty and cost of living actions delivered in 2022/23

- 4.1 The Anti-Poverty Strategy includes an action plan, which sets out 58 key activities that the Council currently plans to undertake to help achieve the above objectives. The action plan is intended to be a 'living document' that will be regularly reviewed and updated. It is anticipated that new activities may be identified over the course of the strategy period to respond to emerging issues relating to poverty in the city.
- 4.2 Full updates on activity carried out during 2022/23 to deliver these actions are provided in the APS annual report in Appendix A, but key actions included:

- Continuing to pay all directly employed Council staff at least the Real Living Wage, continuing to pay all agency workers at least the Real Living Wage after 4 weeks, and continuing to promote Living Wage accreditation to local employers.
- Allocating just over £1m worth of Community Grants to 65 organisations to deliver projects aiming to reduce social and economic deprivation in Cambridge.
- Supporting benefits claimants to receive a total of £27.4m in Housing Benefit and £158,737 in Discretionary Housing Payments, and providing £8.2m in Council Tax Support to 6,800 households.
- Organising a food justice event in May 2022 to bring together local partners to discuss opportunities to collaborate and progressing the food distribution and community kitchen project. The project has relocated from Buchan Street Neighbourhood Centre to new accommodation at Barnwell Drive.
- Continuing to partner with Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) to provide tailored energy advice and grant support to residents.
- Working with Cambridge Online to support Council tenants to access the internet and use digital technology: awarding a £40,000 grant to Cambridge Online to provide a range of outreach digital inclusion support during 2023/24: and working with the Cambridgeshire Digital Partnership, which brings together local voluntary and community groups providing support to digitally excluded households.
- Promoting volunteering by continuing to fund the Tempo ‘time-credit’ scheme, which provides incentives for volunteering, and funding Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service (CCVS) to support people to volunteer and to build the capacity of local organisations to work with volunteers.
- Working with a range of partner organisations to recruit 521 young people to take part in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough ‘Region of Learning’ project, which will promote learning pathways, evidence formal and informal learning and skills through digital badges, and link to live labour market opportunities.
- Working with members of the My Cambridge local cultural

partnership and the national charity Social Mobility Business Partnership (SMBP) to deliver a Work Skills and Insight Week in July 2022, which introduced 30 young people from low-income backgrounds in years 11 and 12 to local creative industries.

- Completing 208 new Council homes to rent, starting on site with a further 144 new homes and approving 137 more homes to be built as part of the Council's affordable housing programme.
- Approving the Greater Cambridge Affordable Rents policy in June 2022. The policy is not enforceable, but it sets an expectation that affordable rents will be set at or below 60% of the medium market rents or the current Local Housing Allowance rate, whichever is lower.
- Improving energy efficiency in existing Council homes. This has included installing external wall insulation and solar PV to 96 existing Council homes and launching a £5m pilot project to retrofit up to 50 Council homes to net zero carbon emission standards.
- Working in partnership with all the Cambridgeshire local authorities through the Action on Energy Partnership, to use a total of £2.4m in Government funding to retrofit energy efficiency measures in 271 privately-owned homes across Cambridgeshire, with 101 of these in Cambridge.
- Continuing to provide 50% reductions on memberships at our leisure centres for people receiving Means Tested Benefits, leading to 56,878 discounted entries during 2022/23.
- Supporting an exercise referral scheme, under which health professionals referred 251 people for subsidised 12-week exercise programmes at local gyms and sports centres.

4.3 During 2022/23, increases in energy costs, food prices, fuel prices and other costs had a significant impact on household budgets in Cambridge and across the UK, particularly for residents on low incomes.

4.4 The Anti-Poverty Strategy already includes a number of actions that will help address the rising cost of living by supporting residents to maximise their incomes and reduce their outgoings. We also took a number of additional steps over the past year to help address the cost

of living for local residents on low incomes. We worked closely with a range of partner organisations in the city to deliver this response, with voluntary and community organisations playing a key role.

4.4 Full updates on cost-of-living support activities are provided in the APS annual report in Appendix A, but key actions included:

- Organising a series of 11 Cost of Living Support Pop-Up events at community venues across the city.
- Providing regular Warm and Welcoming Spaces at 5 Council community centres, which offered community events, quiet spaces and meals to local people, and promoting additional warm spaces at Cambridgeshire County Council's public libraries and venues run by voluntary and community partners.
- Providing £1,000 grants to support 43 voluntary and community partners to provide warm spaces and community meals.
- Distributing 500 hot water bottles, 130 blankets and 89 air-fryers to households in need free of charge.
- Administering the Government's initial £150 energy rebate scheme and providing £22.50 top-ups for households living in Council Tax bands A-D and disabled and low-income people living in band E-H properties.
- Providing £20,000 funding to the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme (CLAS) to help ensure that they could meet increased demand for energy vouchers from Cambridge residents in urgent financial need.
- Providing £10,000 match funding for Cambridge Sustainable Food and Cambridge Food Poverty Alliance's "Cost of Food and Living Crisis Campaign".
- Carrying out a wide range of communication activity through the autumn and winter to help residents access support available with the cost of living.

4.5 The Council is using the Low Income Family Tracker (LIFT) data system on a trial basis for an 18 month period from September 2022-

March 2024. LIFT uses benefits data held by the Council (including housing benefit, council tax reduction and some Universal Credit data) to drill down from a citywide level, to ward and individual household level. It also provides dynamic datasets which are updated as claimants' circumstances change, enabling the Council to monitor change over time. All data is anonymised and cannot be matched with people or addresses in the system.

- 4.6 We are intending to use the system to help strategic decision-making. For example, we have recently produced an updated [Mapping Poverty](#) report based on LIFT data to provide a city-wide and ward-level analysis of poverty in the city, which will inform the Council's approach to tackling poverty.
- 4.7 We are also intending to use the system operationally to improve the Council's "business as usual" support for low-income households and to help identify opportunities for targeted campaigns. This will include using the system to target a range of support to low-income households, including the Council's work on homelessness prevention, maximising income and reducing debt, providing energy support, and raising skills and employability.

5 Implications

a) Financial Implications

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The Anti-Poverty Strategy primarily seeks to co-ordinate and refocus City Council activity so that it focuses on tackling poverty where possible. The actions in the Anti-Poverty Strategy are being delivered by:

- the Council's mainstream services, either directly or in partnership with other organisations. This activity is funded through mainstream service budgets.
- providing grant funding through the Council's Community Grants and Homelessness Prevention Grants to support activity by voluntary and community organisations

b) Staffing Implications

Much of the work to deliver the Anti-Poverty Strategy is being achieved within existing staff resources. However, some of the initiatives being taken forward have involved the recruitment of a limited number of additional staff, usually on fixed-term contracts.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was produced for the current APS and is published for information on the Council's website here:

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/equality-impact-assessments>

d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

Some of the activities being delivered as part of the Anti-Poverty Strategy and other Council strategies will have a medium positive environmental impact. For example, work to improve the energy efficiency of existing Council homes, build new Council homes to high sustainability standards, and enforcement action against private landlords whose properties do not meet nationally-set Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES).

e) Procurement Implications

The Council has achieved accreditation from the Living Wage Foundation as a Living Wage Employer. As part of this, the City Council has adopted a Living Wage policy in respect of contractors. This policy requires contractors to pay the Living Wage to Qualifying Staff unless it would be unlawful or inappropriate to do so.

f) Community Safety Implications

There are no community safety implications associated with the updates provided in this report.

6 Consultation and communication considerations

The Council's first two Anti-Poverty Strategies were informed by available

data and evidence and extensive consultation with partner organisations, stakeholders and local residents. In developing the current strategy in 2019 and 2020, we built on this evidence base using updated data and further consultation. This included: engagement with residents at a range of community group meetings; a stakeholder workshop; meetings with key partner organisations; workshops for City Council frontline staff who support residents in poverty; and engagement with management teams in key Council services.

The content of this annual report will be communicated to residents through the media using a news release, and on the council website and Twitter

7 Background papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

8 Appendices

Appendix A – Anti-Poverty Strategy Annual Report

9 Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact David Kidston, Strategy and Partnerships Manager, tel: 01223 457043, email: david.kidston@cambridge.gov.uk.

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Appendix A

Anti-Poverty Strategy Annual report 2022/23

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report provides an update on delivery of key actions in the Council's third Anti-Poverty Strategy, which covers the period 2020-2024. During 2022/23 the Council has delivered a range of planned actions to help address of issues associated with poverty, including low pay, debt, food poverty, fuel poverty, digital inclusion, skills, access to employment, housing affordability, homelessness, and poor health outcomes. The Council has also worked with local communities and partner organisations to deliver additional activity to respond to the impacts in Cambridge of the rising cost of living in this period.

2.0 Cost of Living response

2.1 During 2022/23, increases in energy costs, food prices, fuel prices and other costs had a significant impact on household budgets in Cambridge and across the UK, particularly for residents on low incomes. The [Centre for Cities estimate](#) that the local inflation rate in Cambridge increased from 2.1% in March 2021 to 9.1% in January 2023. This rise in the cost of living has resulted in significant economic hardship for some local residents who are on low incomes. Over 2022/23, a record 13,121 food parcels were distributed by food banks to residents in Cambridge, a large increase on the previous record of 9,467 distributed in 2020/21.

2.2 The Anti-Poverty Strategy already includes a number of actions that will help address the rising cost of living by supporting residents to maximise their incomes and reduce their outgoings, particularly under Objective 1 (see 3.0 in the report below for an update on actions delivered during 2022/23 under Objective 1 of the APS).

2.3 We also took a number of additional steps over the past year to help address the cost of living for local residents. Much of this activity was delivered through the 'Heating and Health' project, which worked with communities to co-produce an approach to support residents who are experiencing damp and mould and associated health conditions as a result of not being able to heat their homes fully. The project was delivered using £179,000 funding from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care System (ICS), as part of a combined total of £500,000 awarded to the City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council.

2.4 Key activities delivered through the Heating and Health project to help residents with the cost of living included:

- Organising a series of 11 [Cost of Living Support Pop-Ups](#) at community venues across the city from October 2022-February 2023. These events gave residents the opportunity to access support from a range of organisations in a single location, including Council services, the County Council's Think Communities team and a wide range of statutory and voluntary sector partner organisations, such as Citizens Advice, Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) and Cambridge Water.
- Providing regular [Warm and Welcoming Spaces](#) at the Council's 5 community centres from November to March, which offered community events, quiet spaces and meals to local people.
- Promoting [additional warm spaces](#) at Cambridgeshire County Council's public libraries and 17 venues run by voluntary and community partners.
- Supporting partners to provide warm spaces and community meals by awarding £1,000 [winter support grants](#) to 43 voluntary and community organisations.
- Distributing hot water bottles, blankets and air-fryers to people in need. A total of 500 hot water bottles were distributed at the [Cost of Living Support Pop-Up](#) events. 130 heated blankets and 89 air fryers were distributed to residents in Council-managed assisted living schemes, and we identified 250 households who may benefit from additional support to reduce heating and cooking costs and offered them a free air fryer, with a 74% uptake.

2.5 In addition to the activity delivered through the Heating and Health project, the Council also took a number of other steps to support residents with the cost of living, including:

- Attending meetings of a multi-agency City Community Reference Group, which coordinated measures to help alleviate cost of living issues across partners in Cambridge.
- Carrying out a wide range of communication activity through the autumn and winter to help residents access support available with the cost of living, including a 4-page pull-out in the Council's residents magazine Cambridge Matters, a leaflet, social media messaging and dedicated [Cost of Living](#) webpages signposting people to support.
- Administering the Government's initial £150 energy rebate scheme, making over 40,000 payments to residents with a total value of £6 million.

- Providing a £240,000 local energy rebate scheme, which gave £22.50 top-ups for people on Council Tax bands A-D and disabled and low-income people living in band E-H properties.
- Providing a total of £20,000 to the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme (CLAS) to ensure that they could meet increased demand for [energy vouchers](#) from Cambridge residents in urgent financial need. The vouchers could be used by people paying for energy by pre-payment meters or direct debit.
- Supporting Cambridge Sustainable Food and Cambridge Food Poverty Alliance’s “[Cost of Food and Living Crisis Campaign](#)”. The Council offered to match public donations up to £10,000 to the campaign, which aimed to raise funds for organisations providing frontline support to communities in Cambridge over the winter.

4.0 Objective 1 - Helping people on low incomes to maximise their income and minimise their costs

4.1 The following sections of this report provide a summary of the key actions delivered during 2022/23 under each of the 5 objectives of the Council’s current Anti-Poverty Strategy for 2020-2024. Key activities which helped deliver Objective 1 during 2022/23 included:

- Continuing to pay all directly employed Council staff at least the Real Living Wage. In October 2022, the Council implemented the new £10.90 per hour rate, which was introduced by the Living Wage Foundation in response to the increasing cost of living.
- Continuing to pay all agency workers the Real Living Wage after 4 weeks, and all Council tenders and contracts require contractors to meet the Living Wage Foundation’s criteria (any staff employed by contractors who work for a minimum of 2 hours or more for 8 consecutive weeks on Council premises are paid the Real Living Wage).
- Continuing to promote Living Wage accreditation to local employers. The council held two events and carried out a range of other promotional activity during national Living Wage week in November 2022. There were 73 employers accredited with the Living Wage Foundation in the Greater Cambridge area in March 2023.
- Allocating just over £1m worth of Community Grants to 65 organisations to deliver projects aiming to reduce social and economic deprivation in Cambridge.

- Supporting benefits claimants to receive their full entitlement. In 2022/23 the Council helped households to receive a total of £27.4m in Housing Benefit, £158,737 in Discretionary Housing Payments and provided £8.2m in Council Tax Support to 6,800 households.
- Organising a food justice event in Cambridge in May 2022 to bring together local partners to discuss opportunities to collaborate.
- Progressing the food distribution and community kitchen project (formally known as Food Hub project). The project relocated from Buchan Street Neighbourhood Centre in 2022, moving into temporary accommodation on Barnwell Drive. Following this, the project plans to be housed at the North-East Cambridge meanwhile site for up to 15 years (subject to planning approvals).
- Continuing to partner with Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) to provide tailored energy advice and grant support to residents. External funding was secured to continue this support for 18 months, starting from March 2023 onwards.
- Working with Cambridge Online to support Council tenants to access the internet and use digital technology, including providing volunteers (at Talbot House and Brandon Court) and new computer kiosks (at Brandon Court and Mansel Court) at several of our sheltered housing schemes.
- Awarding £40,000 from the Community Grants in 2023/24 to Cambridge Online to provide a range of digital inclusion support, including: providing a digital inclusion hub; running weekly digital outreach sessions at the Meadows Community Centre and Browns Field Community Centre, and investigating opportunities in Romsey, Cherry Hinton and Queen Edith's; providing 7 digital hubs for older people across the city; and running a laptop and tablet donation scheme.
- Working with the Cambridgeshire Digital Partnership, which brings together local voluntary and community groups providing support to digitally excluded households.

5.0 Objective 2 - Strengthening families and communities, including supporting groups of people that are more likely to experience poverty

5.1 Key activities which helped deliver this strategic objective during 2022/23 included:

- Funding Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service (CCVS) to support people to volunteer and to build the capacity of local organisations to work with volunteers. In 2022/23 CCVS provided 1:1 advice to 82 people, organised 15 volunteering events, advised 17 organisations and delivered training for volunteer managers.

- Providing five weeks of free holiday activities for families with primary-school aged children in Cambridge's parks during July and August 2023. At a time when the cost of living was increasing, the sessions provided free access to physical activities such as orienteering, table tennis and outdoor play, and also crafts, games and other activities inspired by the collections of the University of Cambridge Museums.
- Providing 10 community days, and 11 skip days to save residents money from disposing of almost 150 tonnes of bulky waste and encourage residents to have a sense of pride in their neighbourhood.
- Awarding a total of over £18,000 in small grants to 40 community groups that organised events to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which were attended by over 6,000 people. The Council also awarded Community Grant funding to other events that promoted community cohesion and community pride such as the Mill Road Winter Fair.
- Working with local organisations and communities to provide events to celebrate diversity and promote community cohesion. These included events during South Asian History Month, Black History Month, Disability History Month, Women's Heritage Month, and LGBTQ History Month. The Council was unable to hold a civic event to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in January 2023 due to an increase in coronavirus rates, but an event is planned in June 2023 during Refugee Week.
- Launching a new round of the Council's Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP), following a review of the process in 2021/22. 70 viable submissions for small capital improvement schemes in local communities were received. These have been prioritised and approved projects are now under development. A further round of project applications is planned for 2023.
- Developing regeneration proposals for East Barnwell. Following community engagement, the East Barnwell Framework for Change was completed. Proposals for a regeneration scheme for the East Barnwell Centre were presented to the Council's Housing Scrutiny Committee in September 2022, which would include a new community centre, library, pre-school facility, commercial premises, affordable housing and public open space.
- Securing £1.3m funding from the national Sharing Prosperity Fund (SPF) via Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) to deliver a number of projects in Cambridge from April 2023 to early 2025. One of these SPF supported projects is the Focus on Abbey project, which will bring people together from across the community, voluntary, public and private sectors to identify opportunities to work together to improve quality of life in the Abbey area, address entrenched inequalities and empower the community. The project seeks to move away from a deficit model description of Abbey:

building on a shared understanding the strengths and assets of the area and the opportunities; and taking a wealth-building approach. The project will build on work done to create the East Barnwell Framework for Change masterplan and planned regeneration and development in the area through the East Barnwell Regeneration Project.

- Progressing plans for the proposed development and regeneration of the North East Cambridge area. The North East Cambridge Area Action Plan (NEC AAP) proposed submission plan was approved by Councillors in Autumn 2021. The plan sets out policy proposals regarding social, community and cultural infrastructure, shops and local services, and improving connectivity between North East Cambridge and neighbouring areas. The outcome of the Development Consent Order process is now awaited before the AAP moves onto consultation and submission for adoption.
- Developing policies for inclusion in the draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan. The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service consulted on the first policy proposals in for Local Plan in 2021, including proposals regarding transport and connectivity and the design of new developments. The next stage for the Greater Cambridge Local Plan is production of a draft plan, which will be considered by members later in 2023 prior to consultation.

6.0 Objective 3 - Promoting an inclusive economy, by raising skills and improving access to a range of employment opportunities for people on low incomes

6.1 Key activities which helped deliver this strategic objective during 2022/23 included:

- Working with a range of partner organisations to develop the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough 'Region of Learning' project to promote learning pathways, evidence formal and informal learning and skills through digital badges, and link to live labour market opportunities. The project has recruited 521 young people to date and achieved its targets for participation by disabled people (135 young people) and minority ethnic people (114 young people).
- Working with members of the My Cambridge local cultural partnership and the national charity Social Mobility Business Partnership (SMBP) to deliver a Work Skills and Insight Week in July 2022, which introduced 30 young people from low-income backgrounds in years 11 and 12 to local creative industries. The Council has worked with My Cambridge and SMBP to organise a free work experience week in July 2023 for young people in years 12 and 13 with a focus on careers in the arts and culture.
- Developing policies for inclusion in the draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan. The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service consulted on the first policy

proposals in for Local Plan in 2021, which included approaches to ensuring a mix of employment sites, protecting industrial land, delivering affordable workspace, and providing employment opportunities through new developments. The next stage for the Greater Cambridge Local Plan is production of a draft plan, which will be considered by members later in 2023 prior to consultation.

- Progressing plans for the proposed development and regeneration of the North East Cambridge area. The North East Cambridge Area Action Plan (NEC AAP) proposed submission plan was approved by Councillors in Autumn 2021. Policy 29 in the plan sets out how development should create meaningful employment and training opportunities for existing residents in neighbouring disadvantaged communities during both the construction and operational phases of the development. The outcome of the Development Consent Order process is now awaited before the AAP moves onto consultation and submission for adoption.
- Continuing to fund the Tempo ‘time-credit’ scheme from the Council’s Community Grants. Time credits are awarded to volunteers for hours spent volunteering and they can be redeemed in a local and national network of venues. In 2022/23 Tempo were funded to offer time credits to at least 100 volunteers working with 13 small local voluntary and community groups, and to build the capacity of these groups to support volunteers.
- Supporting a £2m, 4-year Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) skills and apprenticeship service being delivered by Form the Future and Cambridge Regional College from 2020/21. In 2022/23 the service supported 223 apprenticeship starts, 332 adults with careers information advice and guidance, 53 students to access work experience and industry placements, 50 students accessing a mentoring programme and 977 careers guidance activities for children and young people.
- Continuing to work with partners in the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority to ensure the delivery of transport infrastructure that connects more deprived wards of Cambridge with the city centre and that economic development, employment and skills investment supports people on low incomes and reduces inequalities. During 2022/23 GCP:
 - Carried out public consultation on the Making Connections scheme which proposes to improve bus services across the city and reduce congestion by introducing a Sustainable Travel Zone;
 - Continued construction of the Milton Road improvement scheme;
 - Completed phase 1 of the Chisholm Trail cycling route (including the Abbey-Chesterton Bridge) and consultation on phase 2 schemes (Coldhams Lane and Cromwell Road).

- Contributing to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority's (CPCA) new Economic Growth Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, which will inform investment decisions with a primary goal to reduce inequality and drive levelling up within and between the three economies of Peterborough, Fenland and Greater Cambridge.

7.0 Objective 4 – Addressing the high cost of housing, improve housing conditions, and reduce homelessness

7.1 Key activities which helped deliver this strategic objective during 2022/23 included:

- Completing 208 new Council homes to rent, starting on site with a further 144 new homes and approving 137 more homes to be built as part of the Council's affordable housing programme. 21 of the council homes started on site are to be Passivhaus Certified, and a further 84 received planning approval targeting Passivhaus performance standards.
- Approving the Greater Cambridge Affordable Rents policy in June 2022. The policy is not enforceable, but sets an expectation that affordable rents will be set at or below 60% of the medium market rents or the current Local Housing Allowance rate, whichever is lower. Monitoring processes are being put in place to assess to what extent the policy is being followed for homes completed during 2023/24 onwards.
- Improving energy efficiency in existing Council homes. This has included installing external wall insulation and solar PV to 96 existing Council homes with poor energy efficiency ratings. The Council also launched a £5m Net Zero Carbon Homes pilot project, where up to 50 Council homes will be retrofitted to net zero carbon standards. During 2022/23, the Council has actively engaged with interested council tenants to join the pilot project, and work is expected to take place during 2023 and 2024.
- Supporting energy efficiency improvements in privately-owned homes in Cambridge. Working in partnership with all the Cambridgeshire local authorities through the Action on Energy Partnership, during 2022/23 we used a total of £2.4m in Government funding (from the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme and the Sustainable Warmth scheme) to retrofit energy efficiency measures in 271 homes across Cambridgeshire, with 101 of these in Cambridge.
- Taking action to ensure that private rented properties in Cambridge meet energy efficiency standards. This included contacting the landlords of 277 rental properties in the city regarding Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards Regulations, (MEES), bringing 21 private rented properties up to at least an

'E' energy performance rating, issuing 3 compliance notices and issuing 3 financial penalty notices for £1,000 each.

- Ensuring Houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) are licenced where required and proactively taking enforcement against landlords or property managers that are not complying through:
 - Issuing and renewing 167 mandatory HMO licences
 - Investigating 112 complaints relating to HMOs
 - Revoking 20 mandatory HMO licences.

- Continuing the 'Housing First' approach which provides self-contained accommodation and support for rough sleepers. An interim review in June 2022 showed that 14 Housing First units had tenants and a further 8 Housing First properties had been earmarked on new housing development sites.

- Continuing to implement actions to address domestic abuse as part of the Council's existing Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation. A public Domestic Abuse Conference was held to mark White Ribbon Day in 2022 and a Survivors Conference was held in September 2022 in partnership with Cambridge Women's Aid to gather feedback for service improvements. The Council is currently recruiting a fixed-term Specialist Housing Worker (Domestic Abuse) to collate and analyse feedback directly from survivors of domestic abuse.

8.0 Objective 5 - Improving health outcomes for people on low incomes

8.1 Key activities which helped deliver this strategic objective during 2022/23 included:

- Continuing to provide 50% reductions on entry prices at our leisure centres for people receiving Means Tested Benefits, leading to 56,878 discounted entries during 2022/23.

- Supporting swimming lessons for pupils from low-income households. The Council has provided funding for five primary schools, to deliver additional teaching resource in swimming lessons for pupils in year 4, 5 and 6. Funding has also been provided for up to 100 pupils in year 5 and 6 who are not predicted to reach Key Stage 2 swimming standard requirements, to access lessons.

- Supporting an exercise referral scheme, under which health professionals referred 251 people for subsidised 12-week exercise programmes at local gyms and sports centres.

- Supporting physical activity programmes for low income households. In 2022/23, this included:
 - Running free or low-cost weekly sports sessions through the Invigorate programme for mental health service users and residents interested in improving their mental health and wellbeing through exercise.
 - Promoting the Grassroots Physical Activity Fund (funded by The Leys school), which provides up to £250 per family for children from low-income families to take part in grassroots sports activities.
 - Inviting local community groups and fitness instructors to apply for £300 grants from the Community Kickstart Fund to help set up or run inclusive sports or fitness sessions for people in Cambridge. Funded by Cambridgeshire County Council, and administered by Cambridge City Council, the £300 grants can be used to cover costs such as hiring facilities, paying a coach or instructor or purchasing equipment.
 - Running popular Healthy Weights sessions people under 11 and their families to engage in different sports together. There are also courses specifically for families where a parent or child has a disability or long-term health condition.
- Promoting a free, online, month-long health and wellbeing festival in January 2023. The festival included a range of physical activity and wellbeing activities suitable for beginners. The festival is organised by the Healthy You service, which is funded by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council and run in partnership with the City Council and other district Councils.
- Working with local partners to provide a regular programme of free lunches in Council community centres and other community venues during the school holidays, when costs tend to increase for families.
- Piloting a free six-week family cooking course by a nutritionist which was targeted at low-income families, funded by the Healthy You service.