

# Management Rules for Public Parks and Outdoor Areas

## Interpretation

Aberdeen City Council ('the Council') by virtue of the powers conferred on them by Section 112 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 ('the Act') have made the following Management Rules ('the Rules') to regulate the conduct of persons within Parks, (Recreational and Open Areas, Outdoor Sports Areas, Play Areas and Local Nature Reserves) owned, occupied or managed by the Council.

"Code" means the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, the guidance on the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003

## Summary

A person who persistently contravenes or attempts to contravene these Management Rules and is, in the opinion of the Council, likely to contravene them again, shall be liable to be made the subject of an Exclusion Order by the Council under Section 117 of the Act for a period not exceeding one year.

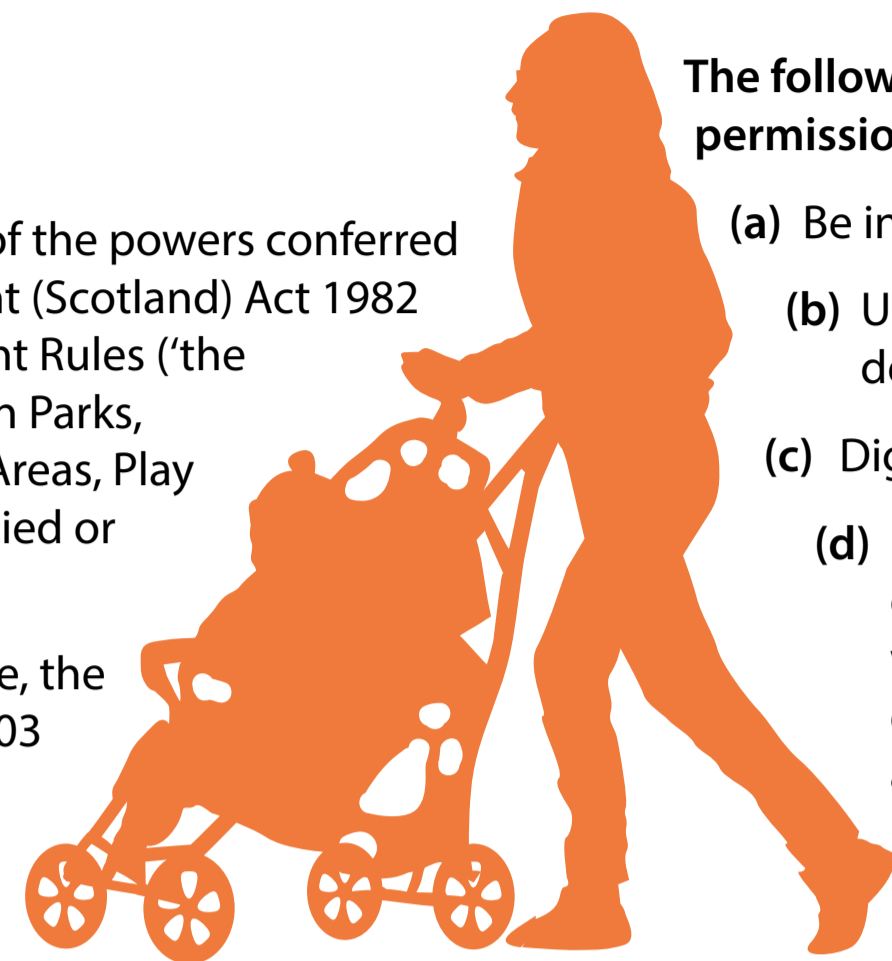
1. Any person who fails to comply with expulsion, exclusion or an Exclusion Order as set out shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding Level 1 on the Standard Scale.
2. Any written permission required by these rules must be shown on request to a Council Official.
3. Any employee of the Council or any other person authorised by the Council may enforce these rules

## General

### The following acts are prohibited:

No person within any of the Parks described above shall:

- (a) Erect any hoarding or similar structure, placard, poster, bill, notice or other similar material.
  - (b) Be in possession of a firearm or any other weapon.
  - (c) Release any animal, plant or seed on to the site.
  - (d) Swim or wade in ornamental ponds or in water bodies specifically managed for horticulture or wildlife.
  - (e) Attach or leave permanent memorials such as plaques, vases, plastic flowers, ornaments or other forms of memorabilia.
  - (f) Operate a drone in such a way that it annoys or frightens other users, animals or wildlife and must follow UK Civil Aviation Authority drone code at all times.
- Fitness training services may use these areas described as above, under the expectation that they will comply with the responsibilities set out in the Scottish Outdoor Access code.



The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

- (a) Be in possession of or light any fireworks.
- (b) Use of any form of metal or mineral detecting equipment.
- (c) Dig or otherwise interfere with any ground surface.
- (d) Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure, capture or disturb any animal or disturb or interfere with their places of shelter or nests. This rule does not apply to fishing undertaken with appropriate permits.
- (e) Intentionally or recklessly uproot or damage any tree or plant, or attach any structures or ropes to them.
- (f) Organise or participate in a public performance of any literary, dramatic, musical or other work.

## Dogs and Horses

### The following acts are prohibited:

Allowing dogs to foul in a public Park unless the person in charge of the dog immediately removes the fouling (within the provisions of the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003).

Failing to keep a dog under close control in any Park.

Failing to keep a dog under close control, at heel or on a short lead when near young farm animals and at nesting time (April – July) in woodlands, grasslands, moorland and at the seashore.

Allowing a dog to run onto sports pitches when these are in use.

Leading, riding, training or exercising a horse in a manner which falls short of the responsibilities in the Code.

## BBQs Camping and Fires

### The following acts are prohibited:

Lighting barbecues or fires outwith designated barbecue sites, where these are provided.

Failing to remove litter associated with picnics or other activities.

Release balloons, sky lanterns and/or any other uncontrolled items in or onto land, air or water

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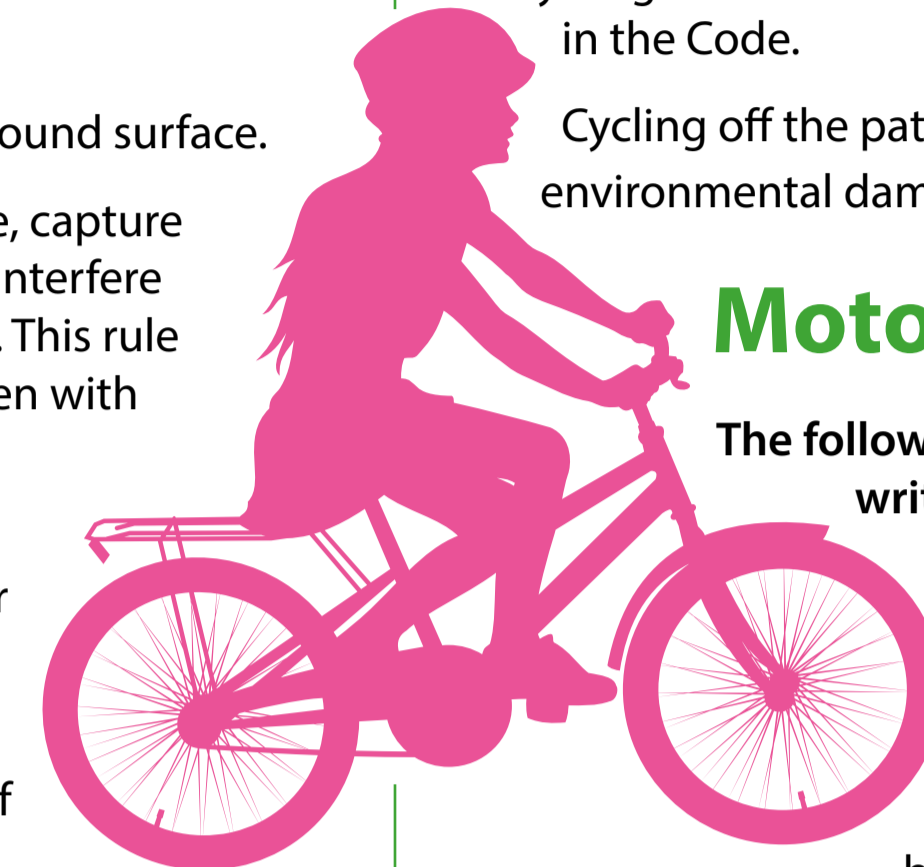
Erect, occupy or use any tent, shed, caravan or other structure except in areas designated for that purpose. This rule does not apply to unenclosed countryside sites where wild camping may be undertaken in compliance with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and leaves no trace behind.

## Cycling

### The following acts are Prohibited:

Cycling in a manner which falls short of the responsibilities in the Code.

Cycling off the paths in woodland and other areas sensitive to environmental damage.



## Motor Vehicles

### The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

Ride, drive or wheel any motorised vehicle except in areas designated for that purpose. This rule does not apply to vehicles adapted for use by a person with a disability provided the adapted vehicle is being used by such a person.

## Events and Other Activities

### The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

Use drones for commercial activities such as filming and surveying purposes.

Undertake any archaeological study, or wildlife or wildflower survey or recording.

Holding an event, performance, ceremony in any Park, or a demonstration or public meeting in any Park.

Undertake commercial sound recording, photography or filming. This rule does not apply to commercial sound recording, photography or filming of features of natural and cultural heritage, provided such actions

are carried out in a responsible manner and without disruption to other people visiting such features or any wildlife within such features

Carrying, or discharging any firework or firearm.

Playing any organised game or sport on pitches provided by the Council.

[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/parksmanagementrules](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/parksmanagementrules)



## Expulsion & Exclusion from Parks

Any employee of the Council or any person authorised by the Council may enforce these rules.

If he or she has reasonable grounds for believing that a person has contravened, is contravening or is about to contravene any of these Management Rules, they may expel that person from the area.

A person who persistently contravenes or attempts to contravene these Management Rules and is, in the opinion of the Council, likely to contravene them again, shall be liable to be made the subject of an Exclusion Order by the Council under Section 117 of the Act for a period not exceeding one year.

Any person who fails to comply with expulsion, exclusion or an Exclusion Order as set out above shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding Level 1 on the Standard Scale.

The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply to the interpretation of these Management Rules as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

These Management Rules shall be cited as the Aberdeen City Council (Parks and Outdoor Areas) Management Rules 2024.

These Management Rules shall come into force on the date of their execution and shall remain in force for a period of ten years thereafter unless earlier revoked or amended.

The full Aberdeen City Council (Parks and Outdoor Areas) Management Rules 2024 can be viewed at [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/parksmanagementrules](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/parksmanagementrules)

