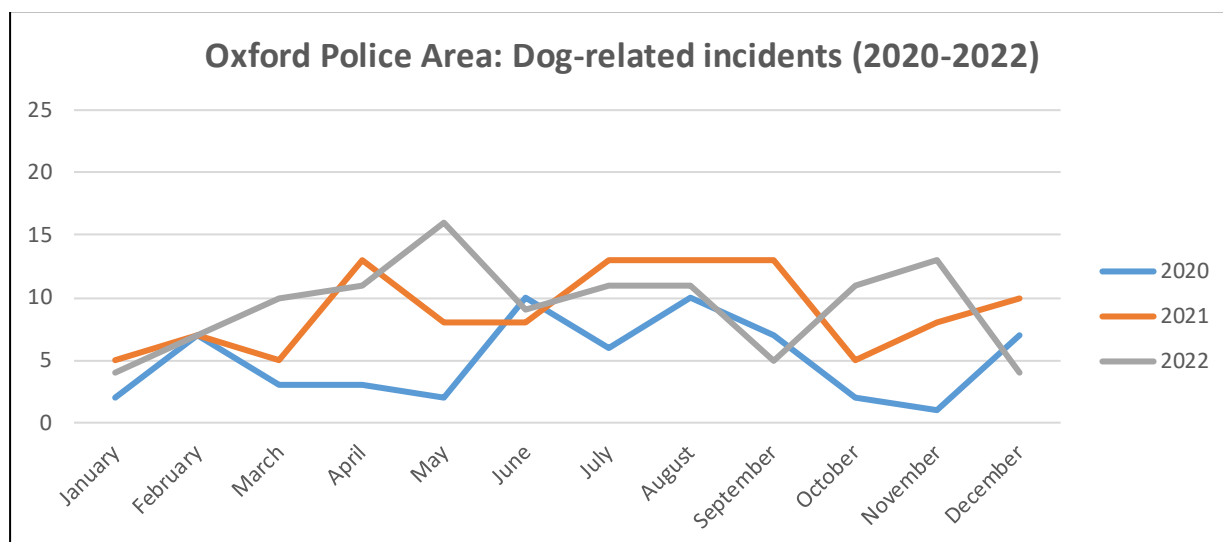


## Appendix 3 Dog control data summary

### Police record dog-related incidents



Source: Thames Valley Police

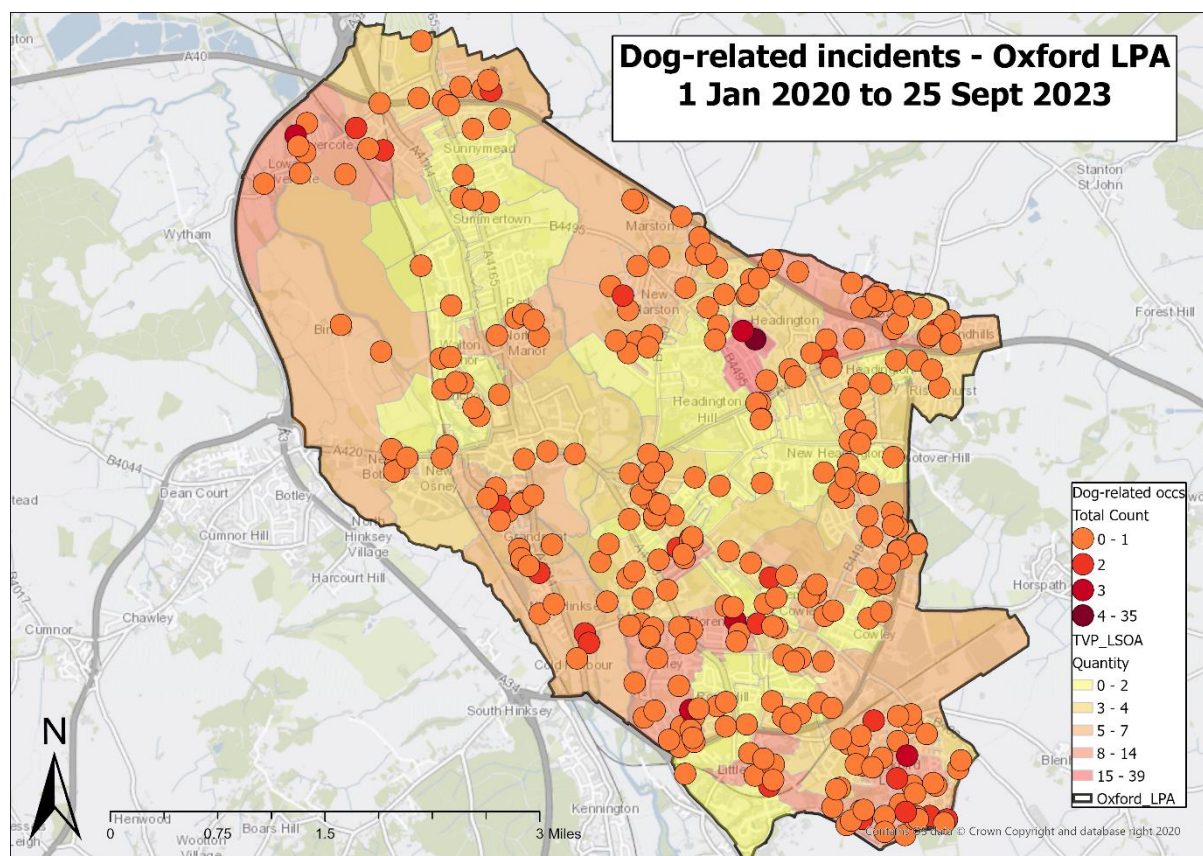
	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
January	2	5	4	5	16
February	7	7	7	7	28
March	3	5	10	11	29
April	3	13	11	8	35
May	2	8	16	21	47
June	10	8	9	13	40
July	6	13	11	14	44
August	10	13	11	11	45
September	7	13	5	11	36
October	2	5	11		18
November	1	8	13		22
December	7	10	4		21
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>381</b>

Notes: The data presented relates to occurrences of dangerous dogs and assaults with injury where a dog is involved.

In 2020 police recorded incidents fell, particularly during the lockdown periods. The following two years experienced an increase to an average of 9 per month.

The monthly average in 2023 is currently 11 incidents per month.

## Map of police locations



The data shows a wide spread of incidents across the city with higher concentrations in parks and open spaces.

## Oxford City Council Dog Warden data

	2021	2022	2023 (to date)
Dog fouling reports	12	90	14
More than 4 dogs with 1 handler	2	1	2
Dogs out of control	1	8	20
Dogs in play areas	2	7	4

## ODS Dog Warden statement

“Since taking on the role of Dog Warden in April [2023] I have found that affixing the PSPO warning stickers and carrying out high visibility patrols of reported fouling hotspots have been successful in at least 11 different cases. I have given warnings to 5 individuals regarding fouling, and feel that without the threat of the FPN this number would be much higher.

The PSPO has also been an invaluable (although not welcome) tool in tackling the problem of individuals/ professionals walking more than 4 dogs. I have had conversations with most of the Oxford Dog walking services staff who admit that without the scheme in place would almost definitely walk more than the limited number which I believe would be a control issue, and following on from that the PSPO also allows an authorised officer to direct a dog to be put on a lead, which is a power that I have used on 4 occasions to prevent a dog from being “Dangerously out of control” and feel that without the threat of the FPN the owner would not of complied.

Although dog owners in Oxford are on the whole responsible we still need the tools to deal with those that are not, and feel that the Public spaces protection orders that deal with any activities that have a detrimental effect on the lives of others is in my opinion the best way to control dog issues in our City.”

### **Green and Blue Spaces team statements**

“There is also a clear need to continue to ban dogs from play areas. These are the only dog free areas in parks where parents can feel safe with younger children. In places where we have play equipment in open settings, such as Rose Hill Rec, we get constant requests from parents to install fencing. There is also the matter of hygiene; dogs would cock their legs up against the equipment, and even when faeces is removed it leaves a residue. these areas are designed for younger children who are most susceptible to diseases which can be contracted through dog urine and faeces.”

“... it is essential that play areas remain dog free. It gives a safe area for children to play away from the risk of infection from dog faeces and urine. It also provides a safe area for people who have a dog phobia and can use the play area as a bolt hole to escape their phobia if a dog is slightly over friendly or being aggressive.

By having the PSPO in place it gives a council officer the power to order a dog and owner out of a play area and to issue a fine thus deterring further infringement.

I have placed No dog signs on all play areas although I cannot give any statistics I have noticed a decrease in the number of dog owner using them to exercise their dogs.“

### **ODS Countryside Supervisor statement**

“The dog PSPOs have been a very good deterrent. I've engaged with lots of dog walkers over the past year and when needed used the ability to issue FPNs for dogs not under control as an educational tool. The need to educate has increased with the winter outbreaks of bird flu and the need for dog owners to maintain control is now year long as opposed to just during bird nesting.”

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