

## **Guidelines for Coordinators about members with dogs, who wish to join Sheffield U3A Walking Groups**

It is the Group Coordinator's decision as to whether a member may be accompanied by his/her dog on a group walk.

However, please be aware that the following guidelines need to be adhered to.

The existing members of the group must be consulted and their views taken into consideration, before a decision is made to include a member with a dog. This consultation should be done with each member privately and not as a group to ensure that all members feel comfortable enough to give their honest opinion.

The Leader of a walk to include a dog(s) must have checked that the walk is 'dog friendly' as well as being suitable for the whole group.

The dog owner must be advised, in writing, that:

- The dog is to be kept on a lead at all times
- Should any incident occur e.g. dog chases sheep or dog trips up a fellow member of the walking group, that there is no insurance cover by the U3A for the dog owner should any legal action be taken against them. The dog owner will be responsible legally and financially for any action taken against him/her by any member of the walking group or general public.

Any further queries please contact your General Coordinator.