

Animals Policy

Battle Memorial Hall

Battle Memorial Hall is a community venue used by people of all ages and abilities. We want everyone who visits the Hall to feel safe, comfortable and welcome.

This policy has been adopted for several reasons:

- To reduce the risk of incidents involving unfamiliar animals in a busy shared environment.
- To maintain high standards of cleanliness and hygiene in a multi-use community setting.
- To support members of our community who have allergies or sensitivities to animals.
- To provide a comfortable environment for people who may be nervous or fearful around dogs.
- To minimise disruption to activities, meetings, and events taking place within the hall.

Public Events

At public events, the Hall can become a busy indoor environment with a mixture of babies, toddlers, children, adults and older people, often moving around in a relatively confined space. This environment is different to a café or restaurant.

For this reason, pet dogs and other animals are not permitted inside the Hall during public events.

This is a safety and consideration measure. Having multiple dogs in a busy indoor environment can increase the risk of trips, falls, unexpected interactions, distress or allergic reactions, particularly for young children, the elderly, those with disabilities and those who may be nervous around dogs.

Assistance Dogs

Assistance dogs are always welcome at Battle Memorial Hall, including at public events.

Under the Equality Act 2010, assistance dogs are dogs that have been trained to assist a disabled person such as visual or hearing impaired, living with mobility or psychiatric disabilities or medical issues requiring medical alerts.

Emotional Support and Therapy Dogs

A dog that provides comfort or emotional support by being present is not covered in the Equality Act 2010 and not automatically an assistance dog. General emotional support animals (ESAs) and therapy dogs do not have the same automatic access rights as trained assistance dogs.

Battle Memorial Hall will therefore welcome genuine assistance dogs while retaining its policy of not permitting pet dogs or other animals at public events.

Private Bookings and User Groups

For private bookings, arrangements regarding animals should be agreed with Battle Memorial Hall in advance.

Any animal permitted into the Hall must be under proper control and must not create a risk, nuisance or hygiene concern for other users of the building.

Our Approach

This policy is intended to balance accessibility, inclusion, safety and consideration for everyone using our community Hall.

We appreciate the cooperation of visitors, hirers and user groups in helping us maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Policy reviewed: June 2026

Next review: June 2027