

Burnley Borough Council

Metal detecting on council land policy

Metal detecting on land owned or tenanted by Burnley Borough Council is not permitted apart from where a metal detecting survey is part of an approved archaeological investigation.

This policy has been adopted to provide a consistent approach to the management of the Council's assets.

Why it is not permitted

A number of problems can result from metal detecting, including the following:

- Disturbance to archaeological deposits
- Disturbance to listed parks or in proximity of listed buildings
- Damage to tree roots, plants and wildlife
- Creating risk of trip hazards where land is disturbed and not correctly reinstated or where settlement subsequently occurs
- Removal of artefacts from their original location resulting in loss of information
- Partial recovery of assemblages which often neglects non-metal finds
- Risk of disturbance of utility services (recorded or otherwise)
- Unreported discoveries

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