

27. Proposals for the Extension of Existing Public Space Protection Order in the City Centre

Ben Jackson, Public Protection, Anti-Social Behaviour and Licensing Services Manager

- a. presented a report to:
 - i. brief Policy Scrutiny Committee on the process and consideration given to date, to extend an existing Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in the City Centre
 - ii. seek the views of the Policy Scrutiny Committee on proposals regarding the extension of the existing PSPO prior to consideration by the Executive
- b. advised that in February 2021 the Executive approved the extension of an already implemented PSPO that covered the City Centre
- c. explained that the current PSPO prohibited the following behaviours within the designated areas (Appendix A):
 1. *No person in the restricted area shall engage in any of the following activities: ingesting, inhaling, injecting, smoking or otherwise using an intoxicating substance unless for an exempted use;*
 2. *Any person within the restricted area who breaches the prohibition in paragraph (1) shall surrender any intoxicating substances in their possession to an authorised person*
- d. explained that a PSPO had a maximum duration of three years therefore it was advisable to review the order after 3 years to determine whether it should be subject to extension or variation
- e. summarised the consultation that had taken place with both public and partner agencies and explained that 4 partner and 12 public responses had been received. All 4 of the partner responses called for the existing PSPO to remain in place, 9 of the public responses also called for the PSPO to remain with the other 3 disagreeing
- f. referred to paragraph 7 of the report and detailed the evidence that had been gathered from Lincolnshire Police, the CCTV Team and the Rough Sleeping Team
- g. proposed that the existing PSPO be renewed without any further variations for a further 3 years
- h. referred to paragraph 9 and 10 of the report and advised how the PSPO would be implemented and enforced
- i. invited Committees views on the proposal:

Question: Was there any data available on how many times the PSPO had been used and was there any comparable data from before the PSPO came in to force?

Response: There was not any data available for the amount of times that the PSPO had been used for enforcement. An example of how the PSPO was used was that the police would ask someone to surrender alcohol. This would not be recorded by the Police, therefore there was not data available.

Question: Who was responsible for enforcing the PSPO?

Response: Both the Council and the Police could enforce the PSPO. The Council had lacked resources for enforcement, however more staff had been recruited to the team and therefore there would more resource available to enforce the PSPO once training had taken place.

Question: Were cameras used for enforcement?

Response: CCTV cameras were used as well as body worn cameras.

RESOLVED that the proposal to extend the current PSPO without variations to the prohibition or location be supported and referred to Executive for approval.