

Proposal to extend Public Spaces Protection Orders Consultation Responses

Introduction

A public consultation took place on proposals over a period of 6 weeks from Tuesday 14 July to Monday 24 August 2020.

The consultation pointed to information that was published on the council's website and invited people to complete an online questionnaire with their views. The Authority received **180** responses to the online questionnaire and a further **4** responses by other means.

Equality monitoring undertaken during the consultation stage highlighted that there was strong participation from those identified within the borough as having protected characteristics.

Detailed Outcome

Alcohol:

Consumption- controlling the consumption of alcohol in a public space borough-wide.

- The overwhelming majority of respondents (**87%**) supported the continuation of the borough wide PSPO controlling the nuisance of on street drinking.

<p>Conclusion: Given the huge support, this strongly contributes to Cabinet being able to satisfy the test of being '<i>reasonably satisfied</i>' that extending the PSPO is necessary.</p>

Response comments

- 39 comments were received in relation the proposal to extend this control
- Themes related to; reflections on alcohol-related disorder during the Covid-19 pandemic, levels of enforcement and extending the scope to cover other environmental problems such as littering.

Dog Control:

Fouling – controlling dog fouling and not picking up borough-wide.

- The overwhelming majority (**95%**) supported the continuation of the borough wide PSPO controlling dog fouling and failing to pick up.

<p>Conclusion: Given the huge support, this strongly contributes to Cabinet being able to satisfy the test of being '<i>reasonably satisfied</i>' that extending the PSPO is necessary.</p>

Response comments

- 55 comments were received in relation to the proposal to extend this control
- Themes related to; levels of enforcement and the availability and use of bins.

Excluded areas – excluding dogs from designated play sites at all times and from designated beaches during the period 1 May to 30 September.

- **Play sites** - The overwhelming majority (**92%**) supported the continuation of the PSPO excluding dogs from designated play sites
- **Beaches** - The large majority (**74%**) supported the continuation of the PSPO excluding dogs from designated beaches during the period 1 May to 30 September.

Conclusion: Given the huge support, this strongly contributes to Cabinet being able to satisfy the test of being '*reasonably satisfied*' that extending the PSPO is necessary.

Response comments

- 23 comments were received in relation to the proposal to extend the controls for play sites
- The general theme was positive that this was common sense.

- 69 comments were received in relation to the proposal to extend the controls for beaches
- Themes related to; the council should consider making changes to the scope (including a mix of opposing views seeking a relaxation or an extension of the current controls), levels of enforcement, and a better approach to signage.

Leads – requiring dogs to be on a lead in designated public spaces and requiring a dog to be put on a lead in a public space when directed by a constable or an authorised officer to do so.

- The overwhelming majority (**85%**) supported the continuation of the PSPO requiring dogs to be on a lead in designated public spaces
- The overwhelming majority (**90%**) supported the continuation of the PSPO requiring a dog to be put on a lead when directed to do so.

Conclusion: Given the huge support, this strongly contributes to Cabinet being able to satisfy the test of being '*reasonably satisfied*' that extending the PSPO is necessary.

Response comments

- 39 comments were received in relation to the proposal to extend the controls for the designated areas for leads
- There were no clear themes although there was a suggestion that the scope should be considered for review.

- 20 comments were received in relation to the proposal to extend the controls for the designated areas for leads
- Themes related to; levels of enforcement and nuisance caused by extendable dog leads.

Other Matters

Two respondents used the opportunity during the consultation to request that the council considers new PSPOs to tackle specific nuisance in their local area. Issues related to;

- Controlling the feeding of seagulls; and
- Anti-social behaviour, littering and drugs.