

Appendices 2 & 3 - Item 10 - Cabinet 20/11/17
Appendix 2
CROYDON TOWN CENTRE
PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)
CONSULTATION

(Live from 30th August to midnight Sunday 15th October)

Get involved and tell us what you think?

We are asking your views on the use of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in Croydon town centre.

A PSPO allows the council and the police to introduce new measures to reduce street drinking and antisocial behaviour which we believe will help to improve this public space for the wider community.

The PSPO will replace the existing Town Centre Controlled Drinking Zone (also known as Designated Public Place Orders) which puts restrictions on street drinking.

The consultation responses received from residents and those who visit, work or study in the town centre, will be analysed and used as part of the council's decision making process at the Cabinet meeting to be held on 20.11.2017.

What is a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)?

PSPOs were created by the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, (section 59) to replace existing legislation and to introduce wider discretionary powers to deal with any particular nuisance or problem that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life.

The legislation is intended to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.

The law requires the order must be in writing, and it must be published. Reasonable signage must also be put up in the area.

A breach of the PSPO is a criminal offence, which can be dealt with, either by way of a fixed penalty notice (FPN) of £80 or prosecution. If prosecuted, an individual could be liable to a fine no higher than £1,000. Only those aged over 18 or over can be issued with a FPN.

How is a PSPO put in place?

The test for issuing the order, is when the local authority believes that ongoing anti-social behaviour harms the local community's quality of life, will be ongoing, or happens regularly, and that the impact is such, that restrictions should be put in place. Any future changes to the order will require further consultation.

What we found

We analysed crime and anti-social behaviour data for the financial year 2016/17, and identified over 3,220 confirmed crimes within the proposed PSPO area.

39% of the violent offences occurred in North End and the High Street, and 33% of all criminal damage offences recorded within the proposed PSPO area, also occurred in these two locations.

597 calls to the police regarding anti-social behaviour were recorded during this period, of which 370 (62%), were classified as rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour. 31% of the calls to the police for this type of rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour were also linked to North End and the High Street.

We also know that street drinking has a negative effect on the general public and that this type of behaviour is under recorded.

What you said

The findings from the consultation exercise about the development of the 2017-2020 Community Safety Strategy, which ran from 19 September to 20th November 2016 received a total of 567 respondents.

57% of respondents identified anti-social behaviour as their first choice, when asked to choose what issues they thought the Safer Croydon Partnership ought to prioritise over the next three years.

When asked, to what extent do you agree or disagree anti-social behaviour is a problem in the Town Centre?

- 25% strongly agreed/think ASB is a problem in the town centre
- 42% agreed/think that ASB is a problem in the town centre

The findings from the PSPO engagement exercise which ran from July 22nd to Aug 19th 2016 received a total of 510 respondents.

42% cited anti-social behaviour as an issue that had impacted on their enjoyment of the town centre.

Drug dealing/drug use, street drinking and anti-social behaviour were identified as the top 3 behaviours respondents supported the use of a PSPO to tackle.

The top 4 issues people also wanted to include in the PSPO were:-

- Spitting in the streets (33)
- Religious preaching on the streets (20)
- Begging (16) and
- Traffic / vehicle nuisance (19).

However, there is already sufficient legislation to tackle spitting, begging and traffic nuisance and religious preaching on the streets is not a criminal offence.

What are we proposing?

Based on the findings from the crime and anti-social behaviour data analysis and previous consultation and engagement exercises, we are proposing to include the following two activities in the town centre PSPO:

- a) Being in possession of a container of, or consuming alcohol, within the restricted public space. This does not include licensed premises.
- b) People or groups of people behaving in a manner which is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress, in the restricted area.

Map of the proposed area



Ways to get involved

We would like to invite anyone who lives, works or visits the town centre to give their views on the use of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in the town centre.

You can complete the survey on the website at www.croydon.gov.uk/getinvolved

If you can't access the online survey and want to have your say, do ring us on 020 8726 6000 and ask for the Safer Croydon Partnership and we will arrange for someone to speak to you.

Town Centre PSPO Consultation Questions

Question 1

Thinking about the map on page 3, do you agree or disagree with the proposed area?

- Agree Disagree

If you disagree, please tell us why and list any additional roads you would want to include:

Question 2

How much of a problem, if at all, do you think each of the following are to those living, working, or visiting the proposed PSPO area in Croydon Town Centre? (see map page 3)

Please cross one answer on each row

Behaviour Type	Very big problem	Fairly big problem	Not a big problem	Not a problem at all	Don't Know Not applicable
Street Drinking					
Anti-social behaviour					

Question 3 Condition a) Consuming Alcohol

(This does not include pubs, or clubs or other licensed premises)

a) Do you support the use of a PSPO to tackle those in possession of a container of, or consuming alcohol, within the restricted public space?

Yes

No

Don't know

If no, please tell us why

Question 3 Condition b) Anti-social behaviour

The definition of anti-social behaviour contained in the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) states:

'Acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as (the defendant)'.

Do you support the use of a PSPO to tackle the way that people behave in public spaces in the proposed area of the town centre as shown on the map page 3?

Yes

No

Don't know

If no, please tell us why

Question 4

Do have any other comments about our proposals for a PSPO in Croydon Town Centre?

The remaining questions are about you: The information provided in this section is used to ensure that local services are developed to meet the needs of all the community. You do not have to complete this section, but please provide as much information as you can.

Question 5: From the list below, which statements apply to you?

- I live in the town centre
- I live in Croydon but outside the town centre
- I don't live in Croydon
- I work in the town centre
- I work in Croydon but outside the town centre
- I am studying in Croydon
- Other

Question 6: Please describe your gender identity:

- Male (including female to male trans men)
- Female (including male to female trans women)
- Non-binary
- Prefer to Self-describe
- Prefer Not to Say

Question 7 Gender Re-assignment

- Is your gender identity different to the sex you were assumed to be at birth?
- Yes
- No

- Prefer not to say

Question 8: What is your age?

Under 18 18 – 24 25 – 34 35 – 44 45 – 54

55 - 64 65 – 74 75+ Prefer not to say

Question 9. How would you describe your ethnic group?

White

- English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
- Irish
- Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- Any other white background – write in.....

Mixed/multiple ethnic group

- White and Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- White and Asian
- Any other mixed/multiple background, write in.....

Asian/Asian British

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Any other Asian background, write in.....

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British

- African
- Caribbean
- Any other Black/African/Caribbean background, write in.....
- Other ethnic group

Arab

Any other ethnic group, write in.....

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey

Appendix 3: Consultation Response Tables

Question 1:

Thinking about the map above, do you agree or disagree with the proposed area?

This single response question was answered by 788 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Agree	519	65.86%
Disagree	269	34.14%

Question 2a): Street Drinking

How much of a problem, if at all, do you think each of the following are to those living, working, or visiting the proposed PSPO area in Croydon Town Centre? (see map above) Please select only one option

This single response question was answered by 739 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Very big problem	253	34.24%
Fairly big problem	316	42.76%
Not a big problem	131	17.73%
Not a problem at all	21	2.84%
Don't know/not applicable	18	2.44%

Question 2b): Anti-social Behaviour

How much of a problem, if at all, do you think each of the following are to those living, working, or visiting the proposed PSPO area in Croydon Town Centre? (see map above) Please select only one option

This single response question was answered by 739 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Very big problem	416	56.29%
Fairly big problem	247	33.42%
Not a big problem	58	7.85%
Not a problem at all	12	1.62%
Don't know/not applicable	6	0.81%

Question 3a) Consuming alcohol (This does not include pubs, or clubs or other licensed premises)

Bearing in mind fixed penalty notices can only be enforced when individuals continue to drink alcohol when asked to stop doing so by an authorised officer.

Do you support the use of a PSPO to require a person to surrender alcohol at the request of an authorised officer in public spaces within the proposed area of the town centre? (see map above).

Please select only one option:

This single response question was answered by 739 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	669	90.53%
No	49	6.63%
Don't know	21	2.84%

Question 3b) Anti-social behaviour

Defined as 'behaving in a way that causes or is likely to cause harassment alarm or distress to any other person'.

(This does not include pubs, or clubs or other licensed premises)

Bearing in mind fixed penalty notices can only be enforced when individuals continue to engage in anti-social behaviour when asked to stop doing so by an authorised officer.

Do you support the use of a PSPO to control the way that people behave in public spaces in the proposed area of the town centre as shown on the map above?

This single response question was answered by 739 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	689	93.23%
No	38	5.14%
Don't know	12	1.62%

Question 5

From the list below, which statements apply to you?

This multiple response question was answered by 712 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
I live in the town centre	108	15.17%
I live in Croydon but outside the town centre	479	67.28%
I don't live in Croydon	46	6.46%
I work in the town centre	188	26.40%
I work in Croydon but outside the town centre	42	5.90%
I am studying in Croydon	6	0.84%
Other	29	4.07%