


Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **Public Sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people's needs. The Council's Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the Council to better understand the potential impact of proposals and consider mitigating action.

Name or Brief Description of Proposal	The extension of the Public Spaces Protection Orders Controlling street drinking, Aggressive begging and consumption of drugs and psychoactive substances.
Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)	
<p>The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2013 allows a local authority to create Public Spaces Protection. Orders to restrict activities which are carried on in a public place and which are detrimental to the quality of life of those in the locality. The Council and the police receive complaints about street drinking, use of drugs and psychoactive substances, aggressive begging and the associated anti-social behaviour in some parts of the city, particularly in the commercial centres and in public parks. The existing Public Spaces Protection Orders are to be varied and extended in the five where anti-social behaviour associated with street drinking, use of drugs and psychoactive substances and aggressive begging has been identified: City Centre, Portswood, Bitterne, Woolston and Shirley.</p>	
Summary of Impact and Issues	
<p>The public spaces protection orders provide the police with additional powers to tackle street drinking, drug use and aggressive begging. These include directing an individual to stop drinking alcohol or being under the influence of drugs and psychoactive substances or aggressively begging in an area covered by a PSPO and to require the surrender of alcohol if the street drinking continues. (The controls applied by the PSPO's do not apply in areas which are covered by a premises licence permitting the supply of alcohol.) It is an offence to fail to comply with the requirements of a PSPO which may lead to the issuing of a £100 fixed penalty or a prosecution.</p>	

Potential Positive Impacts	
<p>The public spaces protection orders will provide police and accredited community safety officer with additional powers to tackle street drinking, substance misuse and aggressive begging which will reduce the associated anti-social behaviour and will improve the quality of life in localities where the orders take effect.</p>	
Responsible Service Manager	 Francesca Prior Service Manager for Stronger Communities
Date	19/04/25
Approved by Senior Manager	Approved Tim Nelson
Date	22/4/2025

Potential Impact

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
Age	None Identified	Not applicable
Disability	None Identified	Not applicable
Gender Reassignment	None Identified	Not applicable
Care Experienced	None Identified	Not applicable
Marriage and Civil Partnership	None Identified	Not applicable
Pregnancy and Maternity	None Identified	Not applicable
Race	None Identified	Not applicable
Religion or Belief	None Identified	Not applicable
Sex	None Identified	Not applicable
Sexual Orientation	None Identified	Not applicable
Community Safety	Reducing street drinking, substance misuse and aggressive begging will improve community safety by reducing the anti-social behaviour associated with these activities, improving the quality of	Not applicable

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
	life of those living in, working in or visiting the areas covered by the orders.	
Poverty	Street drinking, substance misuse and aggressively begging may be associated with poverty or homelessness, but the issues are not directly linked.	Enforcement of the provisions of the PSPO will be focussed on individuals who are drinking alcohol, under the influence of drugs and psychoactive substances pr aggressively begging and engaging in anti-social behaviour. Enforcement will include, where appropriate, action to direct individuals to engage with the support services that are available within the city.
Health & Wellbeing	Street drinking, substance misuse and aggressively begging will be having a detrimental impact on individuals health and wellbeing, as well as residents and visitors to the city seeing and experiencing the activities and Anti-social behaviour associated with this.	Enforcement of the provisions of the PSPO will be focussed on individuals who are drinking alcohol, under the influence of drugs and psychoactive substances pr aggressively begging and engaging in anti-social behaviour. Enforcement will include, where appropriate, action to direct individuals to engage with the support services that are available within the city. Improving the health and wellbeing of the people undertaking activities that will cause harm.
Other Significant Impacts	None identified	Not applicable