

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Name of activity:	Public Spaces Protection Order	Date Completed:	19.08.20		
Directorate / Division responsible for activity:	Community Services	Lead Officer:	Trish Emmans		
Existing Activity	<input type="checkbox"/>	New / Proposed Activity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing / Updated Activity	<input type="checkbox"/>

What are the aims / main purposes of the activity? (Why is it needed? What are the main intended outcomes?)

Introduction of a new PSPO for alcohol consumption to replace current PSPO when it expires in October 2020. The purpose of the PSPO is to provide the police and authorised officers with powers to prohibit the consumption of alcohol in a public place where the consumption of alcohol is associated with anti-social behaviour or it is believed the consumption of alcohol will lead to anti-social behaviour. The PSPO will target the behaviour of the street drinking community as well alcohol related anti-social behaviour of individuals/groups in parks and open spaces across the borough. The PSPO will contribute to making the town safer and more pleasant place to live, work and visit.

What are the main actions and processes involved?

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 sets out that a local authority can make a PSPO if satisfied, on reasonable grounds that the following two conditions are met: (1) that activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect. (2) that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature; is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable; and justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

The council must carry out necessary consultation, publicity and notification before a PSPO is made. Consultation has been undertaken with the police, OSPCC and WSCC, along with public consultation.

Who is intended to benefit & who are the main stakeholders? (e.g. tenants, residents, customers or staff. How will they benefit?)

Residents, visitors and businesses to benefit through an improved public environment.

All key public sector providers (e.g. ambulance, fire service, A&E) through reduction demand on their resources.

Council and police as they will be the agencies enforcing the order.

Have you already consulted on / researched the activity? (What consultation has taken place & what were the key findings?
What evidence already exists? Are there any gaps that need further investigation? What still needs to be done?)

A four week public consultation was undertaken to find out whether there was public support or not for a new PSPO when the current PSPO expires. 206 responses were received, the key finding were as follows:-

- 97% of all respondents agreed with the proposal to implement the PSPO.
- 100% of business owners and community group representatives agreed with the proposal to implement a PSPO
- An average of 95% stated that implementing the PSPO would have a positive impact for those either visiting or living and working within the town.
- 91% of all respondents thought alcohol related anti-social behaviour was either a big problem or somewhat of a problem in Crawley.
- Respondents emphasised the need to ensure the PSPO is enforced throughout its duration so that alcohol related anti-social behaviour is effectively and properly addressed.

Last year saw an increase in reports and complaints relating to the presence of the street community in the town centre and Memorial Gardens. Although the street community are not a new issue for the council and partners to deal with, last year saw an increase in the number and visibility of the street community in the public realm. The impact was felt by both the public and businesses. The individuals within this community have complex needs and as such there is no quick fix to dealing with this particular cohort of individuals. However their alcohol related behaviour has had and continues to have a significant impact on the wider community.

Data provided by Sussex Police shows that street drinking ASB has increased from 69 reported incidents between 1 June 2018 and 31 May 2019 to 76 reported incidents between 1 June 2019 and 31 May 2020. The majority of reports for both time periods related to the town centre 33 and 29 respectively. Alcohol related public place crime has also increased. In 17/18 there were 462 this increased to 588 in 18/19 and increased again in 19/20 to 605.

Impact on people with a protected characteristic (What is the potential impact of the activity? Are the impacts high, medium or low?)

Protected characteristics / groups	Is there an impact (Yes / No)	If Yes, what is it and identify whether it is positive or negative
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Age (older / younger people, children)	Yes	<u>Positive Impact</u> Although the PSPO is designed to prohibit certain behaviours it also looks to make Crawley a safer and more welcoming place. Anecdotally we know that some sections of the community don't feel that Crawley is a safe and welcoming place and this has a negative impact on these individuals and the likelihood on them choosing to visit the town e.g older people or families with young children. The PSPO could have a positive impact for these individuals. <u>Negative Impact</u>
Disability (people with physical / sensory impairment or mental disability)	Yes	<u>Positive Impact</u> PSPO will positively impact on those individuals with additional support needs, protected or hidden characteristics and or disabilities to feel safer when accessing the town centre and other key public locations. <u>Negative Impact</u> The PSPO could adversely impact those with mental health concerns and those with alcohol dependency, particularly those associated with the street community.
Gender reassignment (the process of transitioning from one gender to another.)	No	<u>Positive Impact</u> <u>Negative Impact</u>
Marriage & civil partnership (Marriage is defined as a 'union between a man and a woman'. Civil partnerships are legally recognised for same-sex couples)	No	<u>Positive Impact</u> <u>Negative Impact</u>
Pregnancy & maternity (Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant & maternity refers to the period after the birth)	No	<u>Positive Impact</u> <u>Negative Impact</u>

Race (ethnicity, colour, nationality or national origins & including gypsies, travellers, refugees & asylum seekers)	No	<u>Negative Impact</u> <u>Positive Impact</u>
Religion & belief (religious faith or other group with a recognised belief system)	No	<u>Positive Impact</u> <u>Negative Impact</u>
Sex (male / female)	No	<u>Positive Impact</u> <u>Negative Impact</u>
Sexual orientation (lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual)	No	<u>Positive Impact</u> <u>Negative Impact</u>
Whilst Socio economic disadvantage that people may face is not a protected characteristic; the potential impact on this group should be also considered	Yes	<u>Positive Impact</u> <u>Negative Impact</u> Homeless/rough sleeper community - The PSPO will be used to address anti-social street drinking which has a detrimental effect on the quality of life for those live, work and visit the town and witness this type of behaviour. Anti-social street drinking is associated with the street community, of which those who are homeless/rough sleeping fall into. The PSPO is not designed to solely target this group. The council work with key partners such as Crawley Open House and CGL to provide support to those who are rough sleeping/homeless off the street and into accommodation and to provide them with the support needed to address their addictions. Positive engagement with this community could mean that this is translated into a positive impact.

What evidence has been used to assess the likely impacts? (e.g. demographic profiles, research reports, academic research, benchmarking reports, consultation activities, staff surveys, customer surveys, public surveys, complaints, grievances, disciplinary cases, employment tribunal cases, ombudsman cases, media reports)

As a PSPO has previously been in place we have evidence of its impact on the wider community and for groups that may have protected characteristic. The evidence has compelled us to propose to make a new PSPO based on the evidence that this disproportionately positively impacts on these groups. Ongoing consultation and engagement with community development services shows that this is a well-received initiative that supports Crawley to be a safer and more welcoming environment for all.

What resource implications are there to deliver actions from this EIA? (Quantify: people, time, budget, etc.)

CBC and public sector partners have been delivering to this PSPO and resources are available to undertake and resource this PSPO.

Outcome following initial assessment

Does the activity have a **positive** impact on any of the protected groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities and improving relations within target groups?

Yes

If yes, record the evidence below. If no STOP and re-examine the activity.
Existing intelligence, data and engagement with these communities demonstrate the need for such an activity and the likely benefits. Ongoing consultation shows the impact on communities and businesses, with increased confidence that authorities are actively taking action to make Crawley a safer and more welcoming place.

Does the activity have a **negative impact** on any of the protected groups, i.e. disadvantage them in any way.

No

If yes, identify necessary changes and record appropriate actions below. If no, record the evidence and assessment is complete.

Decision following initial assessment

Continue with existing or introduce new / planned activity

Yes

Amend activity based on identified actions

Yes / No

Action Plan (Has the EIA identified any positive or negative impact on any of the protected groups which requires action? E.g. adjustments to the approach or documents, changes to terminology, broadening parameters of policy, etc. If so record any actions to be undertaken and monitored)			
Impact identified	Action required	Lead Officer	Deadline
n/a			

Monitoring & Review	
Date of last review or Impact Assessment:	n/a
Date of next 12 month review:	August 2021
Date of next 3 year Impact Assessment (from the date of this EIA):	August 2023

Date EIA completed:	19.08.20.....
Signed by Person Completing:	Trish Emmans.....
Date Sent to HR and Equalities Team:
Approved by Head of Service:

NB – The original signed hard copy & an electronic copy should be kept within your Department for audit purposes. Send an electronic copy to the OD Officer in HR & Development. Also, please complete the summary document overleaf. This will be included on the Council’s website.

The EIA Toolkit provides guidance on completing EIAs & HR&D can provide further advice.

Crawley Borough Council Equality Impact Assessment



Completed Equality Impact Assessment	Key findings	Future actions
<p>Directorate / Division:</p> <p>Function or policy name:</p> <p>Officer completing assessment (Job title):</p> <p>Date of assessment:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•