



Record of Delegated Decision

Decision made by	Iain Smith – Assistant Director of Regulatory Services								
Decision Title	Extending a Public Spaces Protection Order (Wellingborough Town Centre)								
Date of decision (same as date form signed)	8 November 2023								
Key Decision	No								
Decision	Approval under the NNC Scheme of Delegation, for extending a Public Spaces Protection Act (PSPO) from 2023 to 2026, under section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, for Wellingborough Town Centre, as set out in the draft order attached.								
Reason/s for Decision	To support the tackling of ASB in the town centre of Wellingborough.								
Alternative options considered and rejected	Not to extend the PSPO – this would have a negative impact on our arrangements in place to take steps to reduce and prevent behaviour that causes nuisance, crime and anti-social behaviour. The PSPO is a critical order that supports the police and NNC authorised officers to take enforcement action against anyone who persistently commits ASB by breaching its restrictions. The public consultation indicated support for the PSPO being extended. Not proceeding with that extension could impact negatively on NNC’s reputation as a key community safety partner and responsible authority in the Community Safety Partnership.								
Legal implications	<p>PSPOs are made in accordance with sections 59 to 75 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.</p> <p>In making, extending or varying a PSPO, NNC must be satisfied that the requirements of the above act are met. These are set out below:-</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Section of the act</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Act requirement</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Conclusion and details</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Section of the act	Act requirement	Conclusion and details			
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	59 (2)	<p>(a) 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</p> <p>(b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect</p>	<p>The PSPO specifies certain prohibitions aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour, all of which are deemed to have a detrimental effect on the local community. There are regular patrols by both police and NNC enforcement officers of the who use the PSPO first and foremost as a tool to engage, advise and encourage people to change their behaviours. If they choose to continue, enforcement action is taken. Former BCW introduced the PSPO and has extended it in 2020. Removal of the PSPO now could result in a sharp rise in ASB and criminal damage from that.</p>
	59 (3)	<p>(a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature</p> <p>(b) is, or is likely to be, such as</p>	<p>Wellingborough town centre does have problems with street drinking and drug</p>

		(c) to make the activities unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by the order.	misuse. The PSPO helps officers, police and other officers to act against persistent offenders.
Financial implications	<p>There are resource costs associated with enforcement action, particularly if an enforcement case requires court action. However, provision for this is contained within existing revenue budgets.</p> <p>There is a potential income stream for the council from FPN fines and if a court awards cost to us.</p> <p>The only other cost implication is associated with replacing any signage stating that a PSPO is in force. The current signage was amended with NNC livery just after Vesting Day.</p>		
Other implications	An Equalities Screening Assessment has been completed for the PSPO. This has identified only positive and neutral impacts.		
Background papers considered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 • Police and Criminal Evidence Act • Crime and Disorder Act 1998 		
Declarations/conflict of interest?	None		
Consultation	<p>A consultation process was put in place with residents and businesses and other stakeholders were asked for comments on the PSPO extension.</p> <p>The consultation was through an online survey for residents and businesses via our NNC website. A very low response was received (five responses) with four agreeing to the extension and one indicating they were not sure.</p> <p>Formal consultations with ward Members, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) and Northants Police took place. One ward Member responded. The OPFCC Director of Delivery stated that he felt the PSPO should continue as set out in the current order. No formal response was received from Northants Police.</p>		
Exempt Decision?	No		

Officer/ Executive member	Assistant Director for Regulatory Services Executive Member for Housing, Communities and Levelling Up.
Supporting documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSPO Wellingborough (Town Centre) 2020 • PSPO Extension Wellingborough Town Centre Ext 2 of 2023 • PSPO Wellingborough Maps • Final data PSPO Ext Wellingborough Town Centre • Equality Screening Assessment
<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>.....</p> <p>Iain Smith – Assistant Director of Regulatory Services</p> <p>Dated: 08.11.23</p>	