



Equality Screening Assessment

The Equality Screening Assessment form must be completed to evidence what impact the proposal may have on equality groups within our community or workforce. Any proposal that identifies a negative impact must have a full Equality Impact Assessment completed before the proposal progresses further.

1: Proposal

Requirement	Detail
Title of proposal	North Northants Public Space Protection Order for Dog Control
Type of proposal: new policy / change to policy / new service / change to service / removal of service / project / event/ budget	New North Northants Order to replace three existing orders
What is the objective of this proposal?	Harmonisation of 3 existing PSPO's into one NNC wide order with the introduction of the former sovereign area of Corby. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) are already in place for Dog Control in the former sovereign areas of East Northants, Wellingborough and Kettering.• PSPO's require reviewing every 3 years, the current PSPO's in place will expire in 2023.

Requirement	Detail
<p>Has there been/when will there be consultation on this proposal? (List all the groups / communities, including dates)</p>	<p>To renew a PSPO a public consultation is required, and a 2-stage consultation process has been conducted.</p> <p>First stage consultation commenced on 22.06.23 and ended 03.08.23</p> <p>Second stage consultation commenced on 31.08.23 and ended on 28.09.23.</p> <p>Consultees included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public consultation via open access online survey and council social media accounts. • Councillors • Council Officers • Town and Parish Councils • Internal Equalities Team • Northamptonshire Office of Police and Crime Commissioner • Northamptonshire Police • Members of the Public • Local press and media channels • Specified stakeholders in relation to Dog Control e.g., Kennel Club, RSPCA and Dogs Trust.
<p>Did the consultation on this proposal highlight any positive or negative impact on protected groups? (If yes, give details)</p>	<p>Corporate equality monitoring questions were utilised for the consultation and engagement activities.</p> <p>There were no equality monitoring forms completed by respondents as part of this process.</p> <p>Advice was taken from the Kennel Club to review the Equality and Human Rights Commission's guidance for businesses and service provider when providing any exemptions for those who rely on assistance dogs.</p>

Requirement	Detail
	<p>The Kennel Club suggested further consideration of the wording contained within the Order, specifically with reference to ‘prescribed charity’. They advised that while a proportion of assistance dogs relied upon by disabled people are trained by charities, many are not. A number of reputable assistance dog providers are members of Assistance Dogs UK. This umbrella group currently has eight member organisations, which can be viewed here: http://www.assistedogs.org.uk/. It is important to note that the membership of Assistance Dogs UK is not a definitive list of all UK assistance dog organisations and may change during the currency of the PSPO. It also does not provide for owner trained assistance dogs.</p> <p>The Kennel Club also recommended that the Council allowed for some flexibility when considering whether a disabled person’s dog is acting as an assistance dog.</p>
<p>What processes are in place to monitor and review the impact of this proposal?</p>	<p>The implementation of the PSPO can be challenged by any interested person within 6 weeks of the making of the Order, the challenge is made at the High Court. Anyone who is directly affected by the making of the PSPO can challenge the order.</p> <p>All cases will be treated on an individual basis, and any decisions reached will be within existing legislative guidelines, taking into account any equality considerations. Use of the PSPO powers and advice given will be recorded in pocket notebooks and on ECIN’s database (shared case management system). The information will be analysed to determine whether the implementation of the powers has a disproportionate effect upon the equality factors.</p> <p>Enforcement will always be seen as a last resort. Through the multi-agency groups and individual case management, support and intervention will continue to be offered.</p>
<p>Who will approve this proposal? (Committee, CLT)</p>	<p>Executive</p>

2: Equality Consideration

In turn, consider each protected group to ensure we meet our legal obligations of the Equality Act (2010).

Protected Groups	General Equality Duty Considerations	Changes	Impact
Age Different age groups that may be affected by the proposal in different ways.	Children may not understand the requirements within the order.	Where applicable, parent/guardians of under 16's will be spoken to in line with the council's enforcement policy and procedures before any action is taken.	Neutral
Sex Is one sex affected more than another or are they affected the same?	There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person based on their gender.	N/A	Neutral
Disability It is likely to have an effect on a particular type of disability. Why?	<p>People with cognitive impairments or learning disabilities may have difficulty processing the requirements of the order.</p> <p>There would be a benefit for a person who has an assistance dog to understand the requirements and be confident that they are compliant.</p>	<p>The PSPO for dog control is not applicable to registered guide/assistance dogs.</p> <p>Any disabilities will be taken into consideration by the enforcement officer in accordance with the council's enforcement policies and procedures, before a decision is taken on appropriate enforcement action. This includes consideration of any disability, ensuring that there will be no negative equalities impact.</p> <p>The order will be written in accordance with the writing inclusion guidance and appropriate support will be provided where required.</p>	Neutral


Protected Groups	General Equality Duty Considerations	Changes	Impact
<p>Gender Reassignment</p> <p>Will there be an impact on trans males and/or trans females?</p>	<p>There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person based on their gender reassignment.</p>		<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Race</p> <p>Are people from one ethnic group affected more than people from another ethnic group?</p>	<p>There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person based on their race.</p>		<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Sexual Orientation</p> <p>Are people of one sexual orientation affected differently to people of another sexual orientation?</p>	<p>There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person based on their sexual orientation.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Marriage & Civil Partnership</p> <p>Are people in a Marriage or Civil Partnership treated less favourably?</p>	<p>There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person based on their marital status.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Pregnancy & Maternity</p> <p>Are people who are pregnant, or have a baby of 6 months old or younger, effected by this proposal?</p>	<p>There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person based on pregnancy or maternity.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Religion or Belief</p> <p>Does the proposal effect people differently depending on whether they</p>	<p>There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person based on their beliefs or religion.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Neutral</p>

Protected Groups	General Equality Duty Considerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? 	Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? 	Impact Delete as appropriate. There can be more than one answer per protected group.
have or do not have a religion or a belief?			
Health & Wellbeing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health behaviours (E.g., diet, exercise, alcohol, smoking) 2. Support (E.g., community cohesion, rural isolation) 3. Socio economic (E.g., income, education). 4. Environment (E.g., green spaces, fuel poverty, housing standards). 	There is no evidence that the Order will impact on any specific person and their health and wellbeing. However, people who may feel unable to venture out (especially with the issues around some breeds at the moment) may feel more confident to do so, this will have a positive impact on their health and well-being. It will (prevent them from becoming isolated).	N/A	Neutral

3: Equality Impact

Question	Response
What overall impact does the proposal have on the protected groups? If a negative impact is identified anywhere in section 2, the response will be Negative Impact.	Neutral
Does an Equality Impact Assessment need to be completed? (Yes, if any negative impact is found.)	No
Copy attached to relevant report?	Yes
Is this document going to be published with the relevant report?	Yes

4: Ownership

Question	Response
Directorate	Regulatory Services
Service area	Environmental Health
Lead officer's name	Catherine Clooney
Lead officer's job title	Environmental Protection Manager
Lead officer's contact details	01933 231960 Catherine.clooney@northnorthants.gov.uk
Lead officer's signature	
Date completed	13.10.23

Completed forms must be sent to Equalities@northnorthants.gov.uk