

Swindon Community Safety Partnership Board

19th July 2016

5. Public Space Protection Orders, Draft Guidance – Michael Ash/ Sophie Crawford

(Report circulated in advance of meeting for Member review)

The Board was requested to review the statement of procedures that standardise the process of introduction, consultation, variation and discharge of public spaces protection orders (PSPO) across the Council.

The report also sets out:

- a) How a PSPO would be enforced
- b) Appeals and withdrawals

So as not to cause disruption to the Lydiard Park PSPO currently in progress due to be signed off in August, the guidance document would apply to any PSPO's henceforth.

A number of local authorities have been implementing these orders, however at present evidence of effectiveness is still anecdotal and the Home Office is yet to issue an evaluation, however it is anticipated that the outcomes will be positive for Swindon. Some questions were raised around:

- a) How it would be enforced
- b) The "10-17" age group – The Operational Policy for the Issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) recently passed through Cabinet makes reference to the issuing of FPN's to young people and has been written in full consultation with the YOT team. It takes an educational stance to young people as a deterrent rather than the issuing of an FPN.
- c) Language – how would penalty notices be issued and enforced? - Officers tend to have a translation sheet they can use as reference.
- d) Consideration for disabilities and mental health issues
- e) PCSOs have all been trained on the application and relevance of these orders and can issue notices. The Operational Policy for the Issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) makes reference to the exclusion of issuing to vulnerable people and each individual PSPO

makes reference to the disability exclusions that apply to certain restrictions.

The Board agreed the Draft Guidance and asked partner agencies to refer it to their respective decision making bodies to note and comment.