

APPENDIX 3 - Consultation plan on proposed Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) – Bolton town centre

The proposed PSPO aims to curtail anti-social / undesirable behaviour within a defined area of Bolton town centre.

Objectives:

- To gather views of residents, visitors, businesses and other stakeholders on the proposed PSPO - within a 6 week consultation period
- To clearly explain why Bolton is considering a PSPO for Bolton Town Centre and communicate the different elements of the proposal utilising print and online media, including social media.
- Enable all stakeholders to easily access maps and clear information around the proposals.
- Effectively manage communication and consultation so that local people and stakeholders are engaged, involved and able to participate in a timely way to influence the outcome.

Key messages

- We have data and anecdotal evidence to show that the level of anti-social / undesirable behaviour [such as begging, chugging, use of skateboards / cycles] is deterring visitors to Bolton town centre.
- The proposed PSPO will help to reduce anti-social / undesirable behaviour in Bolton town centre, making it a more attractive place to live, visit, work, study or do business in.
- We are actively seeking the views of all stakeholders and want to give everyone the opportunity to influence the activities detailed within the PSPO and the proposed boundary (or even determine whether to have a PSPO at all).

Methodology	Stakeholders
Email with link to PSPO proposals and a request to send comments to: consultation@bolton.gov.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Constable [GMP] / Divisional police • Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime • Town centre business / Central Bolton Partnership • Transport for Greater Manchester • Bolton CVS • Charities representing those who may engage in undesirable behaviour e.g. rough sleepers, drug / alcohol abuse, Mental Health, support for ex-forces, Big Issue North • 'Chugger' organisations – charities, utility / internet suppliers etc. • Cycling / skateboarding representatives • Ward Councillors / Town Councils / Local Members of Parliament • Health representatives e.g. Ambulance service, hospital, GP's, Public Health • Council services dealing with antisocial / undesirable behaviour e.g. enforcement officers / licensing • Any local Residents Groups / social housing providers that cover the proposed PSPO area
<p>Online questionnaire designed to gather views on each element of the proposed PSPO (paper version available on request)</p> <p>Current Consultations page on website to host questionnaire and relevant background information</p> <p>Consultation promoted via press releases / social media / email direct to mailing lists</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General public • Residents • Visitors • eView [residents consultation panel] • Business Bolton mailing list • Bolton town centre consultation mailing list • Tourism / Visit Bolton newsletter mailing list
Face to face consultation / focus groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We may undertake face-to-face discussions with residents [recruited via eView] to discuss any issues in further detail [if necessary].

Principles of consultation

The Gunning Principles identified 4 principles to adhere to when consultation is required	Comment
1 Consultation must take place when the proposal is still at a formative stage	Consultees have a real chance to inform and influence the proposals
2 Sufficient reasons must be put forward for the proposal to allow for intelligent and considerate response	Relevant information will be provided so that consultees are able to make an intelligent response
3 Adequate time must be given for consideration and response	A six-week consultation period is thought to be sufficient and should take account of anyone on holiday
4 The product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account	The consultation results will be detailed in the return report for consideration by elected members

Potential risks

Risk	Comment
1 Due to the range of communities across Bolton, there is a risk of accidentally omitting the impact on a particular group / individual	We will try to identify all stakeholders and can add more during the consultation period
2 There is a risk that the consultation could be deemed as not happened at a formative stage because the area / details of the PSPO	There is a real opportunity for consultees to change / influence the proposals
3 Due to the number of aspects included in the PSPO, there is a risk of confusion or lack of understanding	We will endeavour to present the information / questionnaire in an easy to understand way
4 There could be a perception that the council is being overly zealous in the use of powers and in the case of aggressive begging targeting those that are already vulnerable in society	Any concerns will be taken into consideration during the process of consultation

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