



South Tyneside Council

Licensing & Regulatory Committee

James Maughan



Public Spaces Protection Orders

- Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) give local councils and the police additional powers and greater flexibility to tackle anti-social behaviour in certain areas.
- They have been designed to help deal with persistent anti-social behaviour which is having a harmful effect on the quality of life of people in the area.
- PSPOs were introduced under the [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#).

PSPOs

- In 2023 Dog Control Orders were now included under the framework of the PSPO legislation for Dog Control and Dog fouling
- These rules are in place to help protect our parks and open spaces against irresponsible dog owners who do not pick up after, or control their dogs properly.
- Due to expire in November 2026

In 2024 five orders were extended for three years

- Motor bikes - Boroughwide
- Drinking Alcohol - Boroughwide
- Psychoactive Substances - Boroughwide
- Fishing in Restricted Areas – Riverside

Due to expire in May 2027

Making PSPOs

- **The legal tests:** The legal tests focus on the impact that anti-social behaviour is having on victims and communities. A Public Spaces Protection Order can be made by the council if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activity or behaviour concerned, carried out, or likely to be carried out, in a public space:
 - has had, or is likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
 - is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature;
 - is, or is likely to be, unreasonable; and
 - justifies the restrictions imposed.

Making PSPOs

- Local Councils are responsible for making PSPOs
- Must consult with the Chief Constable and the Police and crime Commissioner
- Must consult with Members of the public/Community Representatives (CAFS, questionnaires, online, Gazette, Residents Newsletters etc)
- Must consult with interested parties eg Kennel club, licensed premises

Making PSPOs (Continued)

- Before making, varying, extending or discharging a Public Spaces Protection Order, the council must carry out the necessary publicity and necessary notification (if any) in accordance with section 72(3) of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 – this includes publishing the text of a proposed order or variation and publishing the proposal for an extension or variation.
- Publish on Council Website
- Given that the effect of Public Spaces Protection Orders is to restrict the behaviour of everybody using the public place, the close or direct involvement of elected members will help to ensure openness and accountability. This will be achieved, for example, where the decision is put to the Cabinet or full Council.

Process

- Opportunity to include more Orders eg Parking on the Leas
- Let the Dog Control PSPOs lapse in November (least impact)
- Start the review and consultation process now
- Align the PSPO dates and renew and or extend all by May 2027
- Mindful of resources to implement the enforcement

PSPOs

- Any comments , views, questions ?