

Officer Decision Record - Key Decision

Key decisions taken by an officer are subject to the 5 day call in period from circulation to Members, and therefore the decision will be released for implementation following the call-in period and no call in being received

1. Cabinet date and copy resolution this key decision relates to

The decision to implement these PSPO's was initially taken by Cabinet on the 16th January 2019, where Cabinet approved the following recommendations:

- 1. Approves the request for additional PSPO's and the conditions as defined for each of the areas.
- 2. Approves the tariff of £100 penalty for each breach of the conditions as defined to be paid within 14 days of issue in the form of a fixed penalty notice with no early repayment discount.
- 3. Approves the removal of the early repayment discount (£100 reduced to £75) for alcohol related PSPO breaches in order to be consistent with tariffs set in recommendation 2 above.
- 4. Authorises the Director of Finance, Operations & Resources in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Safer Communities and Public Protection to approve all future renewals, variations and extension to these PSPO's, where evidence supports the application.
- 5. Agree to further explore closer working partnership with Doncaster Metropolitan Council for them to undertake additional enforcement and prosecution of the antisocial related conditions as defined.

2. Subject and details of the matter (to include reasons for the decision)

Approval is now sought to extend the Public Spaces Protection Orders for Dog Control and the seven-location based ASB PSPO's which are due to expire on the 19th July 2025 unless extended.

Both the Dog Control and ASB PSPO's were originally implemented on 14th July 2019 for 3 years to 19th July 2022 and were extended and will remain effective until 13th July 2025 unless extended.

It is anticipated the renewed PSPO's will come into effect on 14th July 2025 and remain in place until 13th July 2028.

In order to authorise the extension of these PSPO's the Council have to be satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activities that are being carried out, or are likely to be carried out across the public spaces concerned have, or are likely to have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those living in or visiting the localities.

The Council have to be satisfied that effect of the behaviour 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.

Issuance and Outcomes

Their introduction was done to curb a range of anti-social behaviour within the borough. Since that time, in excess of 2000 fixed penalty notices have been issued for breaches of these PSPO's, the majority being for dog owners breaching the restrictions on the Cleethorpes beach and for cyclists failing to comply with the No cycling conditions around the town centre.

The table below shows the number of FPNs issued by WISE/LA Support under the Dog Control and Grimsby Town Centre ASB PSPO between September 2023 and March 2025. It also shows those paid, withdrawn, referred to NELC for prosecution, those successfully appealed and those still ongoing.

Type of PSPO	Issued	Paid	Withdrawn / Not pursued (includes accepted appeals)	Referred to Prosecution	Open or Ongoing	Total	Appealed (total number of appeals received)	Appeals Accepted
Dog Control PSPO	327	190	130	7	0	327	156	69
Grimsb y Town Centre PSPO	314	130	169	15	0	314	52	14

The below table shows the issuance and outcomes in relation to the Grimsby Town Centre ASB PSPO contract with WISE, which sits outside of the Doncaster CC contract as detailed above. This contract commenced 10-10-2024 runs to 31-03-2026 and concentrates on Victoria Street in an attempt to reduce cycling in the pedestrianised area.

Type of Offence	Issued	Paid	Withdrawn / Not pursued (includes accepted appeals)	Referred to Prosecution	Open or Ongoing	Total	Appealed (total number of appeals received)	Appeals Accepted
Littering	41	22	11	3	8	41	7	1
PSPO- Cycling	39	10	4	12	25	39	5	0
Smoke Free (Vehicle)	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0

Anti-social behaviour PSPO

The Anti-social behaviour PSPO locations were selected because of recorded antisocial behaviour within those areas and after consultation with Humberside Police.

The PSPO's have been effective in that there are dispersal conditions attached and allow warnings to be given to deter behaviours and provide community reassurance.

These have assisted and continue to assist with the improvement of areas and amenities for the benefit of the community in conjunction with the town improvement plans. There are still recurring problems within the ASB PSPO areas and it is the wish of Humberside Police and NELC ASB Team to continue the PSPO's to continue to deter anti-social behaviour in the specified areas.

The locations for the renewed PSPOs to curb recurring and unreasonable anti-social behaviour within small defined areas are defined below:

ASB related - these locations have not changed.

- 1 Grimsby Town Centre
- 2 Peoples Park
- 3 Cleethorpes Town Centre and Sea Front (from Wonderland to the Leisure Centre)
- 4 Cleethorpes Sea front from the Leisure Centre to North Sea Lane Roundabout
- 5 Cleethorpes Country Park
- 6 Sidney Sussex Recreation Ground
- 7 Haverstoe Park

Dog Control PSPO

The above table demonstrates the extensive use of the Dog Control PSPO across the borough and confirms the activities such as dog fouling on land are still occurring and continues to have a detrimental effect on residents. Therefore, the extension of the Dog Control PSPO and the continuation of the restrictions imposed are justified.

A summary of the Dog Control provisions to be covered by this renewed PSPO are shown below:

Dog Control Provisions

Borough wide prohibitions when in charge of a dog:

- Failure to pick up dog mess
- Failure to carry the means to pick up dog mess
- Leads by order Where an authorised officer has directed that a dog should be kept on a lead.

Restrictions in a certain area when in charge of a dog:

- Dogs on leads in certain areas with clear signage:
- Cemeteries and burial areas during opening hours
- Sports grounds, fields and open spaces, play areas and pitches during organised and authorised events.

Exclusions when in charge of a dog:

- Excluded from certain areas with clear signage:
- Children's play areas
- Cleethorpes beach between Good Friday and 30 Sept each year. (Wonderland Rock Groyne to Cleethorpes Leisure Centre)
- Bowling greens
- Cemeteries and burial areas outside of opening hours

The Council's Extension Requirements

As part of this renewal process, once satisfied of the continued need for the provisions, further public consultation was done between 13th February and 27th March 2025. The consultation was also shared online from 12th March to 10th April 2025; 342 individuals participated in the consultation. This process enabled the Council to assess whether there was public support for the continuation of the PSPO's and to assess what the concerns of residents were with regard to all types of anti-social behaviour.

Consultation results - ASB PSPO's

A full list of the consultation results is attached to this report but a summary is provided below.

The public were asked whether they feel that the ASB PSPO's have helped to reduce anti-social behaviour in the PSPO areas, the replies were mixed and the comments show that while the public are in support of the PSPO's they feel that more enforcement action is required. In answer to the question "Do you feel that the PSPO has helped to reduce ASB in the following places the results were:

Cleethorpes town centre and seafront: 34% agreed

Cleethorpes Country Park: 19% agreed Grimsby town centre: 44% agreed

Peoples Park: 26% agreed. Haverstoe Park: 19% agreed

Sussex Recreation Ground: 20% agreed

The public were also asked whether they supported the renewal of the PSPO's, the replies show overwhelming support for the renewal, the results were:

- Cleethorpes Town Centre and Seafront: 84% agreed
- Cleethorpes Country Park: 78% agreed
- Grimsby Town Centre: 85% agreed
- Peoples Park: 81% agreed.Haverstoe Park: 76% agreed
- Sussex Recreation Ground: 73% agreed

These results show that the vast majority of the public who responded support the renewal of these PSPO's.

Consultation results - Dog Control PSPO

The same consultation sought the views of the public with regard to Dog Control PSPO's. A summary of the results is shown below:

The public were asked whether they felt the PSPO has helped to reduce dog fouling, 20% of the respondents agreed.

The public were also asked whether the PSPO had helped to reduce dog related incidents in public places, 21% agreed.

The public support for renewal of the Dog Control PSPO was however significant, those results are:

- Failure to pick up dog mess: 88% agreed.
- Failure to carry the means to pick up dog mess: 86% agreed
- Leads by order 88%
- Keeping dogs on leads in cemeteries and burial areas during opening hours: 89%
- Keeping dogs on leads in sports grounds, fields, parks, play areas and pitches during organised, authorised events: 90%
- Dogs to be excluded from play areas: 84%
- Dogs to be excluded from Cleethorpes beach during specified periods: 73%
- Dogs to be excluded from bowling greens: 88%
- Dogs to be excluded from cemeteries and burial areas outside opening hours:
 75%

3. Decision being taken

The Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities, approves the extension of the Dog Control and seven ward-based anti-social behaviour PSPO's for a further 3 years.

4. Is it an Urgent Decision? If yes, specify the reasons for urgency. <u>Urgent</u> decisions will require sign off by the relevant scrutiny chair(s) as not subject to call in.

No

5. Anticipated outcome(s)/benefits

That the proposed PSPO's will enable the Council and Police to deal more effectively with both anti-social behaviour and environmental anti-social behaviour in the defined locations.

These anti-social activities are having a negative and detrimental effect on locations within the borough and businesses affecting shoppers, residents and visitors/tourists to the area who are engaging in normal or leisure activities.

6. Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision (this should be similar to original cabinet decision)

Do Nothing and not renew. The existing PSPO would expire and this would prevent tackling this issue through this enforcement route.

- **7. Background documents considered** (web links to be included and copies of documents provided for publishing)
- 1. Cabinet Report dated 16th January 2019
- 2. Cabinet Decision Published 18th January 2019
- 3. Proposed PSPO for Dog Control
- 4. Proposed PSPO for seven ward-based Locations
- 5. Analysis of Consultation results https://questionpro.eu/t/7B3ws0RZB3vPRR
- 8. Does the taking of the decision include consideration of Exempt information? If yes, specify the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A and the reasons

No

9. Details of any conflict of interest declared by any Cabinet Member who was consulted by the officer which relates to the decision (in respect of any declared conflict of interest, please provide a note of dispensation granted by the Council's Chief Executive)

No conflicts of interest have been identified.

10. Monitoring Officer Comments (Monitoring Officer or nominee)

The decision is consistent with the will and expectation of Cabinet. The application to extend is supported by evidence, including results from a public consultation exercise, which complies with the Council's policy and legal obligations.

Extending the PSPOs is therefore justified, proportionate and reasonable.

11. Section 151 Officer Comments (Deputy S151 Officer or nominee)

As the scheme is ongoing there are no direct introduction costs. Ongoing costs (i.e. signage updates) and expect income from enforcement activities, are included within the services existing revenue budget envelope.

12. Human Resource Comments (Head of People and Culture or nominee)

There are no direct HR implications from the implementation of these PSPO's.

13. Risk Assessment (in accordance with the Report Writing Guide)

With the PSPO's having been in existence for 6 years already, it is felt that awareness of these provisions from members of the public is high, through existing measures such as signage, web-based information and general publicity.

The dog control PSPO will mirror the existing PSPO.

The anti-social behaviour PSPO's will remain unchanged.

However, to ensure the public are aware of the renewed PSPO's further work will be done through the council's communications team in the form of media releases and social media alerts.

This will also be supported by the Communications Team and the council will respond showing the positive effects of responsible dog ownership and legal requirements of micro chipping in order to inspire behaviour change.

14. Has the Cabinet Tracker been updated with details of this decision?

Yes

15. Decision Maker(s): Name: Carolina Borgstrom

Title: Director for Environment, Economy and Resources

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 30/06/2025

16. Consultation carried out with Portfolio Holder(s):

Name: Councillor Ron Shepherd
Title: Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities
Signed: REDACTED
Dated: 2 nd July 2025
17. If the decision is urgent then consultation should be carried out with the relevant Scrutiny Chair/Mayor/Deputy Mayor
Name:
Title:
Signed:
Dated:Name:
Key Decisions are defined in the Constitution as:
A decision (whether taken collectively or individually by members) which is likely:
(i) to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
(ii) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.
A decision will be considered financially significant if:
(i) in the case of revenue expenditure, it results in the incurring of expenditure or making savings of £350,000 or greater;
(ii) in the case of capital expenditure, the capital expenditure/savings are in excess of £350,000 or 20% of the total project cost, whichever is the greater

In determining whether a decision is significant in terms of its effect on an area comprising two or more wards, consideration shall be given to:

- (i) the number of residents/service users that will be affected in the wards concerned;
- (ii) the likely views of those affected (i.e. is the decision likely to result in substantial public interest)
- (iii) whether the decision may incur a significant social, economic or environmental risk.