

**Public space protection orders**

**Frequently asked questions**

**What is a Public Space Protection Order?**

A Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) is a power under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. They allow a Council to deal with a particular nuisance or problem behaviour that is detrimental to the local community’s quality of life in a particular area. They allow Councils to impose either restrictions or requirements in that area that will apply to everyone. They are designed to ensure the law abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces safe from anti-social behaviour.

**Why do we need a PSPO?**

The majority of residents, visitors and people who live and work here in North East Lincolnshire behave responsibly. However, there are some people who do not and this can impact on the local community. The council and its partners have already tried a number of interventions to reduce anti-social behaviour. These have included enforcement and engagement with those identified as acting this way. However, this has not completely reduced the problem sufficiently. The council believes that the new PSPO powers will give the Police and the council additional powers to tackle the individuals responsible.

**What are the proposed conditions?**

If a PSPO is introduced, it would mean that the following acts would be prohibited;

1. Returning to the Town Centre (or other designated area parks) within 24 hours after being requested to leave by an authorised officer due to them behaving in a manner causing or likely to cause harassment, alarm, distress, nuisance or annoyance;
2. Behaving in a manner that is violent, or threatening, or intimidating, or distressing or annoying;
3. Whilst under the influence of alcohol or any other substance being a threat or a risk to their own personal safety, or the safety of others;
4. Using foul or abusive language (directed at or towards a third person);
5. Playing loud music (likely to cause public annoyance);
6. Creating excessive noise;
7. Climbing onto any structure or building other than for a lawful purpose;
8. Behaving in a manner likely to cause damage or significant risk of damage to property;

**Grimsby Town Centre Only**

1. Ride a pedal cycle in such a manner to cause annoyance to the foot passengers on Victoria Street from its junction with George Street up to the underpass of Fredrick ward way and taking in The Bull Ring Lane Footpath from Victoria Street to Bethlehem Street;

**Cleethorpes only**

1. Driving or using a vehicle inconsiderately (which is deemed to be anti-social) ;
2. Sounding a vehicle horn (as to cause public annoyance);
3. Depositing litter from or in the vicinity of a motor vehicle.

**What area would the PSPO cover?**

The council plans to introduce the PSPO to cover Cleethorpes seafront and town centre, Grimsby town centre and the following parks of Peoples Park, Haverstoe Park, Sussex Recreation Ground and Cleethorpes Country Park. To view maps of the areas affected please visit the supporting documents section of the PSPOs at [www.nelincs.gov.uk/have-your-say](http://www.nelincs.gov.uk/have-your-say)

**What happens if someone breaches the PSPO?**

If a Police Constable or authorised person witnesses you behaving or displaying any behaviour that is prohibited then they can ask you to leave that area and not return within 24 hours. The details of the incident will be recorded and sent to the appropriate department within the Council. They will then look into the evidence provided and if appropriate a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) of £100 will be issued or a fine up to £1,000 can be given at the Magistrates Court.

If the FPN is not paid then the Council will refer the case to the legal department who would look to prosecute in court.

**How will the Council advertise that these new restrictions are in place? Will new signage be erected?**

All the information relating to the new PSPO will be on the Councils website [www.nelincs.gov.uk](http://www.nelincs.gov.uk)

Appropriate signage will be displayed in the areas affected.