



Strategic Planning & Environment

Overview & Scrutiny

Agenda

TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2022 AT 7.30 PM

Council Chamber, The Forum

The Councillors listed below are requested to attend the above meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Membership

Councillor Beauchamp	Councillor Stevens
Councillor England	Councillor R Sutton
Councillor Foster	Councillor Taylor
Councillor Harden (Chairman)	Councillor Timmis
Councillor P Hearn	Councillor Wilkie
Councillor Riddick	Councillor C Wyatt-Lowe
Councillor Rogers (Vice-Chairman)	

For further information, please contact Corporate and Democratic Support or 01442 228209

AGENDA

- 1. MINUTES** (Pages 3 - 18)
To agree the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
To receive any apologies for absence.
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive any declarations of interest.
- 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- 5. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO CALL-IN**
- 6. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ANNUAL REVIEW**

Presentation to be given by Craig Thorpe

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PERFORMANCE Q4** (Pages 19 - 25)
8. **ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION PERFORMANCE REPORT Q4**
(Pages 26 - 32)
9. **PSPO & ENFORCEMENT REVIEW** (Pages 33 - 117)
10. **TOWN CENTRE PSPO** (Pages 118 - 194)
11. **PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION PERFORMANCE Q4** (Pages
195 - 205)
12. **WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 206 - 211)
13. **AOB**

Dacorum Borough Council

Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

16/03/2022

Councillors

John Birnie: (CHAIR)
Rob Beauchamp
Jane Timmis
Neil Harden
Nigel Taylor
Colette Wyatt-Lowe
Sheron Wilkie
Goverdhan Silwal
Julie Banks
Anne Foster
Garrick Stevens
Adrian England
Penny Hearn

Officers

Layla Fowell (Corporate and democratic support officers)
(LF)
James Doe Strategic Director of Place (JD)
Alex Robinson Interim Group Manager - Planning (AR)
Richard LeBrun Assistant Director Neighbourhood Delivery
(RLB)
Stephen Mendham Strategic Planning & Regeneration Officer (SM)
Antony Aldridge Visitor – Luton Rising (AA)

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Rogers

Meeting start: 19:30

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were noted from Cllr Rogers.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Public participation

There was no public participation.

5. Luton Airport Proposal

ARobinson began by noting corrections to the report as (1) on paragraph 2.4, references to "LOA" should read "LOAOL" and (2) on paragraph 4.12, the reference to 45% of passengers arriving by car. ARobinson should read as 55%.

ARobinson introduced members to Anthony Aldridge who was present to answer any questions.

ARobinson noted that the report sets out the statutory consultation that runs until 4th April. The consent order is expected later in the year, and the main issues have been summarised under section 4 of the report. ARobinson highlighted that Dacorum, by consequence of a small addition to the application, is technically considered a host authority. ARobinson confirmed that their previous response to the 2019 consultation has been included in the report.

ARobinson stated that officers would like to respond to the consultation as a host authority, working with other host authorities, and the purpose of the report is to capture the committee's comments and the portfolio holder will be advised of the final response of the report and the committee's views.

Cllr Timmis commented on the small area of land and asked if they were being grouped under Luton Borough Council, adding that they are now currently a host as it has been projected that the land will be acquired as part of the access road. ARobinson advised that the application includes Junction 10 and that they are included as a host authority by a small margin, though they do not know if the red line will change by the time the application is formally submitted.

Cllr Timmis queried what the implications would be on Dacorum being a host authority for a small area of land. ARobinson stated that there are additional obligations on host authorities to discharge in terms of consultation, but as a neighbouring authority, most

additional implications do not go any further than when they were under the neighbouring authority status. AAldridge added that the implications of being a host authority are similar to being a neighbouring authority, such as consulting with other authorities on how to undertake the consultation, and that Dacorum were consulted with so there is no disadvantage procedurally. There will be a significant difference in the examination period with both host and neighbouring authorities invited to submit a local impact report by the planning inspectorate. AAldridge advised that the only real difference between host and neighbouring authorities post-application is that host authorities have an automatic right to appear at any hearings, though if representations are made as a neighbouring authority, this right will be granted.

Cllr Timmis noted that DBC passed a motion 2 weeks ago opposing Luton Airport's further planned expansion and that it will commit to continue to oppose the expansion. Cllr Timmis advised that the 2013 planning application was granted by Luton Borough Council based on certain conditions, including mitigation of noise and that this has not occurred, and only the A320 is quieter. Cllr Timmis commented that, as noise mitigation has not been delivered, she did not see how they could trust that the airport could deliver this in future, particularly as it will require more aircraft to achieve 32m passengers per year. Cllr Timmis noted that achieving 32m passengers would require the addition of 70% more flights from 11pm-7am and 50% during the day, leaving 3-5am as the only period with no flights. Cllr Timmis also noted the impact on the environment, stating that building will go over green space and the number of car parks have been considerably increased.

AAldridge responded to Cllr Timmis' comments, first stating that he felt there had been a misunderstanding with how they are dealing with issues or propose to do so. AAldridge explained that the issue regarding the A321neo is being taken seriously by the operating company and is being investigated. AAldridge confirmed that noise readings have been taken and that early modelling suggests the A321neo problem has not been fixed and that Airbus need to resolve this issue. AAldridge advised that they have modelled the next 10 years on the understanding that this will not be remedied and will be thereafter. Noise assessments are compared to 2019 as the last full year of operation with 21.5m passengers assessed as the first phase, followed by 27m and then 32m, and noise modelling is showing at each of these development phases that all noise contour areas are smaller than in 2019. AAldridge confirmed that noise would therefore be quieter than in 2019 even with increased aircraft. AAldridge added that the Green Control Growth proposals focus on impact and will therefore set hard limits based on the environmental assessments that will become enshrined in law.

Cllr Birnie noted the legal limits and asked who will enforce this. AAldridge advised that they are proposing to set up a new independent body to monitor how the Green Control Growth works in practice and it is suggested that this body be made up of the professional planning officers of directly affected authorities. This would mean Luton, North Herts, Hertfordshire and Central Bedfordshire, as well as aviation specialists. Approvals will then be made in accordance with legal limits set. Cllr Birnie asked how monitoring will take place. AAldridge explained that the airport operator has to set out how it intends to grow and stay within environmental limits, which will be approved by the monitoring body, and the monitoring regime will be part of that growth plan.

AAldridge stated that they have a good news story on noise where proposals are showing that noise is now quieter than it has been and there is a new independent monitoring and enforcement regime that has a statutory function to police this.

In response to an inaudible question from Cllr Birnie, AAldridge advised that they could produce incentive schemes, but what they are measuring is the noise impact irrespective of the number of aircraft.

Cllr Birnie asked if freight flights mostly take place at night. AAldridge confirmed that some night flights are freight flights, though a number also take place during the day.

AAldridge returned to Cllr Timmis' earlier comment regarding the 70% increase in night flights, advising that there is a current cap on night flights of 9,650 movements per year, and that they have committed to not changing this and will not seek to increase the Luton night-time cap. AAldridge explained that the heaviest usage has been 8,700 and there is therefore scope to go beyond this, which could go ahead regardless of the expansion plan.

Cllr Birnie noted that freight aircraft tend not to be as modern as passenger aircraft and can be noisier. AAldridge agreed with the comment.

Cllr Timmis remarked that aircraft noise was still too loud with 19m passengers in 2019 and stated that the airport had not delivered on the noise mitigation measures as part of the 2013 expansion. Cllr Timmis stated that a further promise on noise mitigation could therefore not be made and that this was the primary concern of those under the flightpath. AAldridge responded that Green Control Growth takes them away from measuring specific aircraft and will be a legal requirement. Affected neighbouring local authorities can also take legal action against the airport if there is a breach of limits.

Cllr Birnie asked how corridors have been changed. AAldridge explained this was a function of the assumed fleet mix in the future. Cllr Birnie stated that 1 of the 2 aircraft that use the airport most frequently is noisier. AAldridge advised that it is not noisier but is noisier than people expected, adding that it is quieter than the aircraft it has replaced.

Cllr Birnie asked what measures would be put in place to respond to complaints or if complainants would have to seek retribution in law. AAldridge explained that it would be difficult for limits to be breached as there are thresholds below the legal limits where an agreed growth plan is required to go beyond each threshold that would need to be approved by the new independent body, where the ultimate sanction would be stopping growth.

Cllr England commented that there was no quantified expression of the assurance being provided and asked how the current noise being produced relates to the threshold in numbers. AAldridge confirmed that there would be less noise at all stages of development compared to in 2019. Cllr England asked how this translates into sound measurement numbers. AAldridge explained that it is usually above the 57dB contour area, and the area covered is expressed in square kilometres. AAldridge advised that he did not have the area they were comparing to but provided assurance that they would be smaller at each stage.

Cllr England advised that people would still be annoyed by the amount of noise despite proof that it is quieter. AAldridge agreed, stating that on the application the accepted metric for measuring noise will be by having average noise contours for both day and night. In addition to this, they will measure and put out the peaks to ensure this is clearer to people.

Cllr Birnie asked AAldridge to keep the relevant officer abreast of any figures. AAldridge stated that there are a number of different figures but they are all available as part of the consultation material and website.

Cllr Timmis noted there would be a 60% increase in carbon emissions from flights, adding that the average short haul flight emits between 13 and 20 tons of CO₂. Cllr Timmis stated that she was unconvinced by carbon offsetting measures and that the Climate Change Committee reported to the government in 2020 that there should be no increase in UK airports if they wished to achieve net zero by 2050. Cllr Timmis added that she therefore saw no evidence for the need to increase to 32m passengers. Cllr Timmis noted that 65% of passengers would be accessing the airport by car and that the Luton DART only goes from Luton Airport Parkway Station to the airport.

Cllr Birnie summarised Cllr Timmis' comments and asked AAldridge what mitigation measures are in place for the pollution that will be produced. AAldridge acknowledged the climate emergency and noted that the government had rejected the Climate Change Committee's report but is still committed to achieving net zero by 2050, and that aviation growth is now factored into this target. AAldridge referred to the Jet Zero Consultation, noting that it states aviation emissions must be included in carbon budgets and that aviation growth is still supported, and that net zero would still be achievable across the country as a whole. AAldridge explained that the government have described aviation emissions as a global issue and if aviation growth is supported by the government then aviation emissions may increase but the Emissions Trading Scheme allows that to be balanced.

AAldridge noted the internal debate around whether aviation emissions should form part of the Green Control Growth Proposals but that this would restrict growth at Luton and would take place elsewhere. Looking at the 2-hour travel time catchment area at Luton, AAldridge advised that if they move flights to other airports then people will then need to travel further and travel emissions are therefore increased. This would also result in the loss of other benefits of expansion in Luton. AAldridge reiterated that they are unable to control aviation growth as this is decided at a government level, and that the proposal is therefore that Luton is the best place to grow it to gain all the other environmental and social benefits that this will provide.

Cllr Birnie noted Cllr Timmis' comments about the number of people travelling to Luton by car and that this would have a significant effect. AAldridge advised that within the Green Control Growth Proposals there are hard legal limits and that surface access carbon emissions and air quality are included within this. Assessments show that the difference in air quality with or without expansion is negligible. AAldridge noted that whilst Luton DART only travels 1.4 miles, it makes public transport more attractive than a bus service, and when East West Rail and Crossrail are also factored in, someone can easily access the airport from Reading, Oxford or Cambridge via public transport. AAldridge acknowledged there would be more carparking though there will be fewer spaces per passenger as there are currently.

Cllr Timmis referred to congestion on the M1 and that this congestion would increase with expansion, adding that they would see up to 40k additional passenger journeys per day on local roads. AAldridge agreed that the M1 continues to be an issue from Junctions 8-14 despite growth and stated that changes are required to how people access and leave the M1, including change to Junction 10. AAldridge stated that the M1 issue goes beyond airport expansion and that all authorities need to lobby National Highways, and that it has been agreed by National Highways that these issues could be expected to be resolved by 2035.

Cllr Foster asked if anything could stop them objecting to the proposals as a host authority. Cllr Birnie confirmed there was not.

Cllr Wilkie referred to the letter on page 68 and 69 of ARobinson's report noting the support of a second terminal and confirmed that this position has changed considerably. Cllr Wilkie noted the last council meeting on 23rd February and that the motion to oppose it completely had been carried. ARobinson confirmed that the previous letter had been included as a matter of fact on how they responded to the last consultation but recognised that the Council has now passed a motion setting out a different position.

Cllr Wilkie commented on the additional pollution caused by road travel and referred to the case of Ella Kissi-Debrah where a failure to reduce pollution was ruled. Cllr Wilkie asked what the mitigation policy would be and how being a host authority would affect their responsibility regarding any subsequent harm caused. AAldridge confirmed that being a host authority means that part of the development is within their boundaries and therefore infers no obligation to act in any particular way. Looking to road traffic movements, AAldridge advised that the actual change in movements would be around 20k per day, as reported within the available documentation, and that significant elements of growth do not happen from 2033 onwards when no diesel or petrol vehicles will be sold and there will be an increase in EVs.

On congestion, AAldridge noted a general increase in traffic year on year, which will continue regardless of expansion, and the consideration needs to be what will happen to road traffic by 2027, the next assessment period, if no changes are made. This provides a baseline future traffic condition that is layered with growth in traffic related to airport expansion, which will be limited by 2027. AAldridge noted that they would put forward proposals on changes that can be made to the highway network to impact the incremental growth that is as a direct result of the expansion proposals, and this is done at each assessment year in 2027, 2039 and 2043.

Cllr Wilkie stated that she did not agree that host authorities would not be responsible for any issues given the extent of changes. Cllr Wilkie noted AAldridge's remarks that the M1 would remain an issue for another 10 years and that the expansion proposal does not take this into consideration. AAldridge clarified that they have to mitigate the growth in traffic created by the growth proposal, but that traffic would continue to grow regardless.

Cllr Stevens commented on the monitoring body and remarked on the faith put into the effectiveness of it, adding that airline operators will find ways of moving the goalposts of the imposed thresholds unless injunctions are put in place. AAldridge advised that the independent monitoring body would have powers to approve growth plans and to

monitor and state what the monitoring proposal should be. Planning enforcement is not an area they have been able to go as far as they want because, as a statutory body, they will not be allowed to take away Luton Council's planning enforcement ability, which means the enforcement body will remain Luton Council. AAldridge stated that they were uncomfortable with this and have therefore introduced that Luton Council must publish their reasoning behind all enforcement actions or decisions, and any dissatisfaction with these will be judicially reviewable. AAldridge added that legal enforcement avenues are also open to other effected authorities.

Cllr Birnie noted that AAldridge had stated they could not take away enforcement powers from Luton Council but that Luton would have to agree with the independent body. Cllr Birnie stated that this was not true and that legal challenges would be particularly expensive. Cllr Birnie commented that a system that involves outside bodies needing to go to court to challenge any infringement of regulations sets a very high bar for outside authorities and would become a burden on taxpayers. AAldridge responded that there are other legal avenues available beyond injunctions.

Cllr Birnie noted a previous S106 agreement with a developer to build a bridge over a road to the development and to take the developer to court to do this was considerable and took around 2 years.

Cllr Taylor asked how Dacorum residents would access the airport by train. AA stated this would only be possible by travelling into London first, adding that bus and coach services are also available and that they will commit to working with operators on what improvements can be made in the future. AAldridge advised that they do not currently know what the requirement would be of these services but provision for ongoing monitoring will be included to establish this need and ensure it is built into requirements.

Cllr Taylor referred to AAldridge's earlier comments that Luton expansion would help avoid those north of London travelling to other airports and that the railway network would make it easier to get to Luton from Reading, though they would be better suited to travelling to Heathrow. AAldridge clarified that saving people travelling time is not core to the proposal and that growth elsewhere would require people to travel further. AAldridge confirmed that the number of people within 2 hours of Luton is greater than most other airports within the country, and that a minimum of 45% of passengers must arrive at the airport by public transport otherwise they will not be able to achieve 32m passengers. AAldridge advised they would need to prove this was possible to allow this growth to be approved. Cllr Taylor suggested that this be done before applying for expansion, to which AAldridge asked how this would be funded. Cllr Taylor challenged that the result is often that public transport is not provided. AAldridge referred to the statutory limit as part of the Green Control Growth Plan and this would not be approved if only 30% of passengers are using public transport.

Cllr Birnie asked when the DART connection would take place. AAldridge confirmed that this has been built and is under testing.

Cllr Birnie apologised to AAldridge if any questioning appeared hostile and thanked AAldridge for making his case in a professional manner. Cllr Birnie thanked AAldridge for this attendance.

AAldridge left the meeting.

6. Environmental Services Performance Q3

RLeBrun took the report as read.

RLeBrun focused on Q3, noting that it was a difficult year for waste services with 200 days lost due to Covid-related absence. The national shortage of drivers also resulted in the loss of 5 full-time drivers and many agency drivers. RLeBrun confirmed that they managed to maintain all services during this time. An agreement was secured to pay a supplement to LGV drivers, which was put in place at the end of November, and has resulted in retaining drivers and the re-employment of the 4 out of 5 drivers who previously left.

Clean, Safe and Green lost 90 days due to Covid, and a number of LGV drivers were deployed to waste collections, though over 80k bedding bulbs were still planted across the borough and new wildflower areas were created. Work has also started on the play area and High Street Green, and 5 Green Flag parks were retained due to hard work behind the scenes and maintenance. RLeBrun noted a memorial garden in Gadebridge Park is being created for those lost during Covid and a ceremony is due to take place in July 2022.

A number of environmental projects took place, including a zero waste day in Hemel town centre, a second-hand competition to help encourage second-hand shopping, and 90 1,100 litre bins were handed out to 53 blocks of flats to encourage recycling. There were also clothes swap events taking place with another to take place in the coming weeks, and work is taking place on sustainable period poverty and reusable nappies. The Monsters on a Mission competition has seen high engagement, and 236 Street Champions have received equipment with a further 214 registered, and there has been an increase in registrations for the Love Food, Hate Waste challenge. During Q3, waste services received 8,277 requests, including 483 bulky item requests and 328 fly-tipping reports.

Work is also taking place on the service plan for the coming year, which includes a refresh of KPIs, and a review will come back to the Committee on how measurements link to corporate priorities.

Cllr Birnie congratulated the team for the lack of disruption to services during the pandemic and commended Craig Thorpe for managing to bring the 4 out of 5 drivers back. Cllr Birnie also noted the Covid memorial and congratulated the team for its implementation.

Cllr Timmis congratulated the team for the Covid memorial and for the action against fly tipping, noting that 2 fly-tippers had been caught. Cllr Timmis noted that a number of planning applications requires works to or removal of trees and asked if the Tree Officer is involved in checking these applications. RLeBrun confirmed that they are involved in planning applications and will check what mitigations need to take place, and if a tree is to be removed, they will seek to have it replaced where possible. RLeBrun confirmed that Luke Johnson is the current Tree Officer and works in the Woodlands Team.

Cllr Harden asked how often KPIs are reviewed. Cllr Harden noted the team's strong response to the recent storms and asked who should be contacted if there are any

concerns about remaining trees. Cllr Harden also noted the successful crisp packet stand has now been removed and asked when the council had done this. On KPIs, RLeBrun advised that they are reviewed when service plans are created, and the current review will ensure that KPIs are linked to performance. Going forward, reviews will take place during the service plan, if guidance changes and if the SPAE OSC requests an update. RLeBrun advised that concerns regarding trees should be reported to Luke Johnson and suggested that he provide a list of all relevant services for councillors to report issues. RLeBrun confirmed that he would find out why the crisp packet recycling stand had been removed from the council building.

Cllr Harden commented that he was concerned that data on the KPIs was incorrect and that requirements were only a year old. Cllr Harden asked if a trees and woodland mailbox currently exists. RLeBrun confirmed that it does.

Cllr Birnie requested that percentages be used in the revised KPIs.

Cllr Birnie noted that they are renegotiating the contract with Herts County Council on roadside trees and maintenance. Cllr Barrett advised that they have so far agreed to continue on an interim basis and the ongoing contract is currently being negotiated.

Cllr Beauchamp asked on the distribution of communal waste bins for flats, noting that a number of flats still do not have them. RLeBrun confirmed that he would look into this further. Cllr Birnie requested that a written response be provided to the full Committee.

Cllr Beauchamp noted that Netflix have asked to make a bench available as thanks for filming on the high street and suggested that this be put in Gadebridge Park. RLeBrun confirmed that the bench was placed in the square a week ago.

Cllr Birnie referred to page 11 of the report and asked who Easy Tree are. RLeBrun advised that this is the software used to monitor trees.

Cllr Birnie noted the number of initiatives listed under item 4 of the report and remarked that it was disappointing that there was no mention of Tring or any villages regarding Recycle Week and Great Big Green Week stalls. RLeBrun confirmed that he could verify this.

Cllr Harden suggested that, given it is an official report, 'Berko' be replaced with 'Berkhamsted'. RLeBrun noted the mistake and confirmed this would be corrected.

Cllr England queried item 4, bullet point 9 on page 11 of the report regarding Street Champions, noting that the portfolio holder had informed him on 28th January and had confirmed there were 561 registered champions and 305 had been issued with equipment. Cllr Barrett confirmed that the data provided in the email was correct and that the figures in the report were out of date. Cllr England suggested those figures should have been included in the report and asked what was being done to get the remaining 40% of Street Champions as operational. Cllr Barrett noted that Cllr England had asked him this question recently and reiterated that all registrants are emailed monthly, though it is a voluntary initiative. Cllr England asked if they should therefore claim they have 305 Street Champions given that these are the ones with equipment. Cllr Barrett responded that they are clear on the number that have signed up.

Cllr England queried the KPI on the time to replace a tree. RLeBrun stated that this would depend on the tree and that it may not be a like for like replacement, and a more specific answer could be given at a later date. Cllr Birnie agreed that like for like replacements are not always required. Cllr Barrett suggested there is no current KPI in the form requested. Cllr England suggested it currently takes 7 years to replace a tree and asked how they plan to improve this. Cllr Barrett advised there is a desire to increase the number of trees being planted and to reduce the time this takes, though this was a particular challenge given the recent storms.

ACTION: RLeBrun to find out why crisp packet recycling stand has been removed from the council building.

ACTION: RLeBrun to provide a written response to the full committee on distribution of communal waste bins to flats.

ACTION: RLeBrun to confirm what actions did take place for Recycle and Big Green Weeks.

7. Environmental & Community Protection Performance Q3

RLeBrun took the report as read and provided an overview of Q3. The period saw the local Test and Trace service set up to support the national service and take up to 240 cases per quarter, though this far exceeded by going up to 1,093 cases and meant resources were pulled from the wider Environmental and Community Protection team to handle this and impacted other areas. The local service was suspended on 17th December 2021 and the national service took on the model.

Looking at large cases, RLeBrun confirmed RB Fencing was ordered to pay a fine of £6k due to using council land. Dacorum Sports Trust pleaded guilty at Crown Court on safety offences on 29th November following climbing incidents and warnings not being heeded. They were fined £33,333 plus a victim surcharge and £41k council costs.

RLeBrun noted the business continuity plan refresh to take on lessons learned.

On animal welfare, 4 dogs were seized, 1 of which died and 3 were rehomed. A 12-month community order was served with 100 hours of unpaid work, £300 of costs and £95 victim surcharge. Overall, 3 cases were reported, and all 3 owners were disqualified from keeping animals for life.

The Littering and Public Space Protection Order pilot was launched on 1st November. During this time, enforcement officers patrolled 974 hours covering all wards and issued 6 fixed penalty notices.

Cllr Silwal commented on item 2.5 of the report and the 66 accidents reported, asking if these were all accidents or incidents and if assessments were up to date. RLeBrun confirmed the risk assessment has been checked to ensure it is fit for purpose and Corporate Health and Safety also received a copy of the investigation report to ensure lessons are learned and documents are updated as required. It was confirmed that this was done on all internal accidents and incidents reported.

Cllr Wyatt-Lowe noted item 3.6 and the prosecution of Dacorum Sports Trust and asked what follow-up actions are being taken to prevent this from occurring again. RLeBrun advised that provision notices have been served and that officers have performed a number of follow-up visits and spot-checks to ensure the company's procedures and policies are suitable going forward. Spot-checks are still taking place and the prohibition notice is still in place for free climbing in this facility, so any further incidents would go back to a prosecution. RLeBrun stated that he doubted free climbing would ever be permitted in the facility and that the prohibition will remain in place.

Cllr Harden noted the district enforcements as listed on page 18 of the report and asked how success is being measured. RLeBrun advised that this forms part of the pilot to see which areas are seeing improvements and that, going forward, they will monitor litter levels, litter complaints, public consultations, and understanding if litter remains a problem across areas. RLeBrun confirmed the report on the pilot scheme would be provided to the Committee in June. Cllr Harden voiced concerns on the negative impact on DBC with regards to people penalised for dropping litter and noted that he was building up a case of individuals who have been unfairly penalised by officers. It was noted that part of the pilot is to establish how to measure success and how KPIs would follow such a contract, and that the police have commented there is a reduction in litter and issues with dog fouling. The response on social media has been widely complementary and it is felt that very few people now litter or allow dogs to foul in open spaces, and therefore action is appropriate. All complaints around fixed penalty notices have all been fully investigated and body cams are reviewed with no complaints upheld.

Cllr Birnie noted his disappointment that the report did not include information about complaints being reviewed, stating that the public should not feel persecuted and they should know how many complaints are received. It was noted that this level of detail would be provided as part of the Q4 report.

Cllr England referred to item 5.6 and district enforcement, noting that Keep Britain Tidy state that 79% of sites have any cigarette waste but the proportion of all litter where fixed penalty notices are issued is at least 95%, and asked why there was a mismatch on the fixed penalty notices given and the litter they are tackling. RLeBrun advised that Keep Britain Tidy state that 79% of streets have cigarette litter and that there is no specific figure of how much litter overall is caused by cigarettes. RLeBrun noted the issues caused by cigarette litter and that the majority of action happens to be against this litter. Cllr England challenged this, stating that 95% is an overwhelming majority and that if the portfolio holder feels that 95% of the litter problem faced by Dacorum is caused by cigarette waste then this should be stated, otherwise enforcement should not take advantage of the easy availability of targets. Cllr Banks stated that there will be movement in the provided figures and the breakdown will change.

Cllr Banks reported that 4.5 trillion cigarette butts are thrown away worldwide each year and cause extensive damage. Cllr Birnie suggested that Cllr England was not arguing the damage caused by cigarette butts and was instead querying the figures, and that the report at the next meeting may provide the relevant response.

Cllr England asked if the portfolio holder would stand by the assertion inherent in the policy that cigarette butts are 95% of the problem. Cllr Birnie that they do not have the full-year figures at this point. Cllr Banks stated that she stands by her comments made at full Council.

Cllr Harden asked if body cam footage has to be recorded for the issuing of every fixed penalty notice. RLeBrun confirmed that body cams would be switched on when someone is approached, and if a complaint is issued, all aspects are reviewed. Cllr Banks added that body cams do not capture the offence and just capture the individual, as per the contract, to help substantiate the penalty notice. Cllr Harden noted that it therefore captures the altercation and that the majority of cases are therefore one person's word against another, adding that he would like evidence of the offence also captured. Cllr Banks responded that the actual incident would rarely be captured.

Cllr Wyatt-Lowe asked what the arrangement is for the sharing of fines generated. Cllr Banks confirmed the pilot contract has a 50/50 split between the council and the district enforcement agency. Cllr Wyatt-Lowe commented that the policy is in place due to concerns from the public regarding litter and that therefore any action would be worth pursuing, adding that she hoped to see a long-term change in people's habits and that they could monitor the policy's effectiveness through a reduction in litter being dropped.

Cllr Stevens suggested that funding be put into ensuring appropriate bins are installed in the relevant areas. Cllr Birnie clarified that Cllr Stevens was suggesting that some of the proceeds of fines should be put into installing more bins. Cllr Banks stated that they were not in a position to forward-plan funding given that this is a pilot but that she would take on the recommendation should the programme continue.

Cllr Foster asked if enforcement officers also pick up litter. Cllr Banks confirmed that picking up litter is not part of the contract and is the responsibility of Clean, Safe and Green collectors.

Cllr Foster asked if littering figures are provided to the public. Cllr Birnie reminded Cllr Foster that this is currently a pilot project and that no reporting will be made available to the public until the end of the pilot. Cllr Banks added that there has been a large amount of publicity about the pilot.

Cllr Foster noted that young people could not be fined and asked if enforcement officers still approach them. Cllr Banks confirmed that minors are not challenged by enforcement officers though they do engage with young people through school and college visits with any prosecutions handed to the police.

Cllr Foster asked if enforcement officers have targets to reach. Cllr Banks advised that enforcement officers do not have targets and that there are no penalties or incentives in place.

Cllr England asked if the pilot hopes to reduce litter, change habits or earn revenue, and if a map of all key problem areas within the borough will be made available at the end of the pilot. Cllr Banks confirmed that the purpose of the pilot is to keep streets clean and to address the issue proportionately. Cllr Banks stated that mapping litter was not part of the pilot but that there was likely to be intelligence around this. RLeBrun added that they already capture how many notices are issued in each ward and they have an overview of problem areas, which is being fed into understanding where further education and signage is required.

Cllr Harden queried the minimum age that fixed penalty notices could be issued. RLeBrun confirmed that this is 18 and above, and whilst legislation states it can be 10 years and above, they do not wish to take this route.

The report was noted.

8. Planning, Development and Regeneration Quarter 3 Performance Report

ARobinson took the report as read and provided an overview. Planning income continues to be strong with 730 applications in the previous quarter, though there has been a slight drop in applications being determined within timescales and of validations within 3 days due to resourcing issues, though there has been a slight improvement in enforcement.

Cllr Birnie referred to item 2.8 on page 21 of the report and asked why there was a delay on 2 out of the 4 major applications. ARobinson advised that 1 application referred to LA3 and the delay was due to finalising the S106 agreement. ARobinson confirmed he would provide a written response on the second application.

Cllr Birnie noted the shortage of officers and asked how recruitment could be improved. On enforcement, ARobinson confirmed that they have implemented the repurposing of Covid officers employed by the council and are working on a temporary basis in the enforcement team. On the broader issue, ARobinson advised that they are looking at joining authorities and if there are any opportunities to free up resources to work together better, though this would take a number of years to work through. Cllr Birnie asked if this would be validation of applications. ARobinson stated that this could be included but they are not yet able to confirm which areas they could work together on. ARobinson added that they are also looking to re-grade certain posts and offering a higher salary.

Cllr Birnie stated that the Enforcement 400 plan did not appear to be working and asked what the remaining backlog is. ARobinson confirmed he would come back on the exact figure but agreed the plan was not working as hoped due to not having the staff to implement it. Cllr Birnie suggested that Covid restrictions were no longer an issue. AR responded that there was a backlog of applications due to Covid but agreed that it would not be an ongoing cause.

Cllr Wilkie commented on staffing issues and suggested that this could not be resolved given that it is a national issue. Cllr Wilkie noted the national portal is causing delays of up to 2 weeks and asked if this was a reason for delays in Q3 figures. ARobinson clarified that portal issues are not reflected in the reported figures.

The report was noted.

ACTION: ARobinson to provide a written response to the Committee on the delay to 1 of the major planning applications.

9. Skills Supplementary Planning Document

ARobinson took the report as read and provided an overview, noting that the report looks to provide a new SPD to allow the council to require developers to deliver skills and apprenticeship training as part of developments. The proposal is that the document is consulted on before returning to the Committee and then going to Cabinet and Council.

Cllr Birnie noted that this was an interim advisory and would return to the Committee.

Cllr Timmis referred to the Social Value Strategy and that it would be delivered within S106, stating that this would be an additional charge on developers. ARobinson confirmed it would be a further obligation on developers to provide skills and apprenticeship training for residents of the borough. ARobinson stated that costs would be low as many organisations already have apprenticeship levies and schemes in place.

Cllr Wilkie thanked ARobinson for the report and asked how approved delivery partners are selected. ARobinson confirmed the report was created by Clare. On the delivery bodies, ARobinson clarified that the council has the option to contract out the implementation of the SPD to a third party and that this third party would work with the developer to get social value strategies in place. The council are yet to make a decision on whether there should be an approved partner, though the consultation provides the information for clarity.

Cllr Birnie asked if the delivery body would be paid for by the developer. ARobinson explained the developer is required to put the strategy in place and there would be an administration charge to put that process in place. ARobinson added it would be enforced through planning regulations and S106. Cllr Birnie asked if there would be a charge to the council. ARobinson confirmed that costs would be with the developer and the council's only role would be around obligation.

Cllr Wilkie agreed with the principle of the programme and asked who would take responsibility of the stated thresholds. ARobinson stated that the SPD would set out the charge per sqm or dwelling and this would be communicated to the approved delivery partner. ARobinson added that the threshold could not be so low that every house would need to implement a strategy though they need to ensure medium to large developments are captured. ARobinson reminded the Committee that this is still a consultation and that thresholds could be revised.

Cllr Wilkie asked if there would be a timeframe for the apprenticeship. ARobinson advised that this would depend on the development. Obligations for residential developments exist during the development whereas non-residential developments would broadly have a requirement for construction and operational phases.

Cllr Birnie commented on the shortage of building operatives and that developers would likely be in support of finding apprentices.

Cllr Harden referred to item 2.6 in the report, noting that the council could chose to resource directly or appoint an external body but that the report assumes an approved delivery partner will deliver this. Cllr Harden noted that much of the concept focuses on the 18-21 age group and encouraged that the proposal look at all ages. Cllr Harden also noted the wording in item 2.6 of 'council will provide support to developers to help them access local networks, providers and schools', stating that this appeared bureaucratic

and suggested that an ADP manage this. ARobinson took the point on age ranges and confirmed that the focus was no intended to just be on school leavers. On the council's involvement, ARobinson advised that it would be to provide local intelligence and ensure the ADP understands where local issues are.

Cllr Stevens commented on the threshold and asked if the 30-house limit was a finger-in-the-air number. ARobinson confirmed that this number could be reviewed and could be changed if it was felt it was not appropriate.

Cllr Stevens asked if any other planning authorities have a similar programme in place. ARobinson stated that the Dacorum is now in the minority by not providing it and that many London boroughs are more developed in this area.

Cllr Stevens queried if the proposal has been put to developers. ARobinson explained that many developers are already running this scheme elsewhere and they would make representations known during the consultation process. Testing is being rolled out to applications in the system and so far none have questioned this.

In response to a question from Cllr Foster, ARobinson confirmed that thresholds are required and that the proposed figure will sit with an algorithm, though the formula needs to be set up on how many apprenticeships are required per development.

Cllr Foster noted the reference to the Social Value Act 2012 and asked how this is currently applied in Dacorum. ARobinson stated that he was unable to provide an answer on this and could take the question to the relevant colleague.

Cllr Beauchamp queried if local colleges have confirmed places will be available. ARobinson confirmed that they would contact colleges as part of the consultation process to ensure the skills gaps in the boroughs are matched by available courses.

Cllr Beauchamp noted that the social value strategy and asked if the provision of green space is part of the contract or would be part of S106. ARobinson stated that developers have to pay into a mitigation strategy for the beechwoods and there would be a likely thresholds for developers to provide onsite open space or pay towards the provision of open space. Cllr Beauchamp asked if this provision would be shared with other authorities. Cllr Birnie advised that the beechwoods were not part of the discussion and was not relevant to the item, adding that the S106 can include infrastructure. ARobinson agreed that this was a separate document and not associated with the Chilterns beechwood. Cllr Birnie requested that the question be raised at the relevant forum.

The report was noted.

ACTION: ARobinson to check how the Social Value Act 2012 is currently applied in Dacorum.

10 Work Programme

Cllr Wyatt-Lowe suggested that the Chilterns beechwood topic be added. Cllr Birnie noted that it was his last meeting and that it would therefore be wrong to dictate the

programme for his successor but agreed that the suggestion regarding the beechwood be noted for a future discussion.

Cllr Timmis thanked Cllr Birnie for his chairmanship.

Meeting closed: 22:25



SPAE

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report for:	SPAE Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Title of report:	Quarter 4 Performance
Date:	14 th June 2022
Report on behalf of:	Councillor Graham Barrett, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services
Part:	I
If Part II, reason:	N/A
Appendices:	In Phase Q4 performance report
Background papers:	
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	CSG – Clean, safe and Green CPC – Certificate of Professional Competence

Report Author / Responsible Officer

Craig Thorpe, Group Manager (Environmental Services)



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Corporate Priorities	A clean, safe and enjoyable environment
Wards affected	ALL
Purpose of the report:	1. To report on quarter 3 performance
Recommendation (s) to the decision maker (s):	NA
Period for post policy/project review:	NA

Introduction/Background:

Environmental Services consists of the following:

Refuse and Recycling – Domestic and Commercial Waste Collections.

- Providing scheduled collections of waste and recycling materials from over 65,400 domestic properties and 700 commercial waste customers
- Collection of over 1000 “paid for” bulky collections per annum upon request
- Collection of cess waste from private dwellings
- Clinical waste Collection

Waste Transfer Site – ISO 14001 compliant

- Storage and bulking of over 24,000 tonnes of recycling materials for onward processing
- Separation, storage and disposal of hazardous waste including asbestos, dead animals, paints, light bulbs, electrical equipment and other flammables.

Clean, Safe and Green (CSG)

- Scheduled grass cutting on behalf of Herts County, Housing Landlord and on Dacorum owned land
- Maintenance of hedges, shrub beds and some roundabouts
- Maintenance of parks and open spaces including play equipment
- Maintenance of sports pitches
- Weed spraying
- Clearance of fly tips
- Removal of graffiti
- Removal and disposal of road kill
- Management of Trees on behalf of Herts County, Housing, Dacorum owned land, parks and open spaces and woodlands
- Management of Rights of Way and Countryside access

Environmental Projects

- Initiate environmental and / or seasonal campaigns to promote the waste hierarchy through events, online challenges, social media, website etc.
- Plan and implement new service additions, such as recycling and food waste.
- Monitoring Waste Services, Clean, Safe & Green and social media data, including tonnages, contamination and fly tipping, and collating into reports.
- Supporting the waste hierarchy in schools through presentations, quarterly e-newsletters and projects.
- Organise anti-littering campaigns with local residents and businesses.
- Produce all artwork and literature for press releases, corporate articles, collection calendars and designs for vehicles
- Represent Dacorum Borough Council as a partnering member of the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership.

Fleet Management (Vehicle Repair Shop)

- Servicing and maintenance of all the Councils fleet of vehicles to ensure legal compliance with Road Transport Law and effective running of front line services.

Resources

- Record and produce key performance data such as waste tonnages

- Check and allocate all customer service requests including the bulky item service
- Deal with resident and Customer Service Unit enquiries
- Manage the weighbridge service
- General administration of services including the cesspool emptying requests, sharps box collections and the additional garden waste service

Service Updates

Waste Services Operations

- The service has continued to suffer from Covid related absence and the national shortage drivers however it has continued to successfully provide a full service waste collection service. This has sometimes meant however that mechanical sweeper drivers have been redeployed onto waste services.

The service is carrying 7 vacancies for driver/loaders

- Over the past few months annual refresher training has been provided to approx. 110 frontline staff, including regular agencies plus a further approx. 50 agency staff to help us maintain our service levels. Driver CPC training has also been provided to over 30 LGV drivers
- Undertook ISO14001:2015 audit to depot. This identified some compliance problems which we are striving to rectify

Clean, Safe and Green

- Again annual refresher training was provided to over 80 members of the frontline staff. In addition CPC courses, working from height, Chainsaw, Spraying licences (chemical), Stump grinder, Tower licence and asbestos awareness training was provided to enable the service to provide the full range of duties.
- CSG assisted Tree contractors in the clear up following three storms in quick succession. Storm Eunice alone produced 230 reports of tree damage the backlog of which is still being cleared.
- Working alongside B.I.D on joint projects Marlowes CSG undertook a spring deep clean in March, targeting graffiti on all structures where possible as a one off clean up.
- A41 deep clean completed March and all traffic islands were swept before grass cutting operations recommenced in the first week of April.
- Splash park was recommissioned and opened in the first week in April, 2 weeks earlier than previous years

Parks, Open Spaces, Trees and Woodlands

- Planted 95 x standard trees (highway, housing and park locations) across the borough, planted 900 x whips (Gadebridge Park, Keens Field). We are supplying 60 new planted troughs as part of improvement to the Old Town and organised tree planting for Queens Green Canopy. Friends of Bunkers Park carried out hazel coppicing and planted a new copse and 17 x fruit trees. Friends of Chipperfield Common carried out the removal of invasive Holly and Laurel and cleared pathways of encroaching vegetation. We also attended Friends of Halsey Fields (HCC site) to meet volunteers, share good practice and promote future joint working

- We were re-awarded Green Flag x 2 (Bunkers Park, Chipperfield Common) with another 3 parks being “mystery judged” later in the year
- River Gade Project has been pushed back a year starting May 2023 and finishing June 2023 however Canal Field Play Area due to start works on site soon. A New Wild Flower area has been created in Gadebridge Park at the Queensway entrance and working in partnership with a local business in Kings Langley to create wild areas which they will sponsor.

Educational Awareness

- Our Christmas Tree recycling day was a big success! Over 6000 trees were collected and chipped by our teams. Seven scout groups and the local St Francis hospice were welcomed back after not being able to take part last year. We offered residents wood chippings to take away for their garden.
- We held a Nappy Natter event at the Forum on 21 February. 16 parents registered, only 8 showed up potentially due to stormy weather on the day. Stalk and the Bees Nappy library gave a fantastic talk and demonstration which the parents found very helpful. Attendees hired nappy kits and feedback was that the event was very useful.
- We held three successful clothes swap events over 25-26 March. We had 79 swappers in total, 676 items were brought and 556 items were taken. Leftover winter clothes have been saved for our next swaps in October, and the excess was distributed to local charities.
- Between 1 January and 31 March, we received 113 new Street Champion registrations, bringing the total registered to 628 as of 31 March.
- 324 individuals took part in the Great British Spring Clean, from 32 workplaces, families, scout groups and community groups. In total, 226 bags of rubbish and 174 bags of recycling were collected from across Dacorum.
- Between 1 January and 31 March, we gave 2 primary school talks, 1 secondary school talk and a Brownie pack talk combined with a recycling relay game.

Resources and Administration

- Total Waste Services service requests = 11,209 , this includes;
 - 478 bulky item service requests
 - 424 fly tips reports collected by CSG.
- Total Clean, Safe & Green service requests = 989, this includes;
 - 358 for Trees & Woodlands (transferred to Ezytreev).
- Requests for sharps box collections = 1174 and requests for 624 boxes to be delivered.
- Administration staff manually weighed 978 vehicles (e.g. outgoing food waste, garden waste and comingled recycling plus public weighs), others transactions are completed at the driver operated console.
- Quarterly DBC outgoing tonnages: Comingled = 3925t / Food = 1374t / Garden = 1111t (no service Jan & Feb)

End

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
CSG01	Percentage of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	94.83%	96.00%	95.83%	96.00%	99.06%	95.00%	✗	Slightly over target
CSG01 (D)	Number of dog fouling reports in period	58		48		106		n/a	
CSG01 (N)	Number of dog fouling reports actioned within 7 days	55		46		105		n/a	
CSG01a	Number of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	55		46		105		✓	
CSG02	Percentage of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	96.70%	93.00%	92.99%	93.00%	96.53%	95.00%	✓	
CSG02a	Number of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	410		305		417		✓	
CSG04a	% of litter area inspections graded A or B - Litter	100%						?	None carried out
CSG04a (D)	Number of litter areas inspected in period	0		0		0		n/a	None carried out
CSG04a (N)	Number of litter areas inspected graded A or B - Litter	0		0		0		n/a	
WR01a	Justified Missed collections (Excluding Assisted Collections)	1,578	600	1,336	600	810	600	✗	
WR03	Number of justified missed assisted collections	170	120	152	120	155	120	✗	
WR05	Dry recycling Collected	3,925.84	3,600.00	3,908.62	3,600.00	4,408.53	3,600.00	✓	
WR06	Total tonnage of garden waste collected	1,110.95	2,400.00	1,869.96	2,400.00	1,144.85	800.00	✗	
WR07	Tonnage of food waste	1,374.50	1,020.00	1,317.55	1,020.00	1,493.69	1,020.00	✓	

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
WR08	% change in commercial waste customers in the quarter							?	
WR08 (D)	Number of commercial waste customers last period							?	
WR08 (N)	Number of commercial waste customers this period							?	



Strategic Planning and Environment

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report for:	Spatial Planning and Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Title of report:	Q4 Environmental and Community Protection Update
Date:	14 th June 2022
Report on behalf of:	Councillor Julie Banks , Portfolio Holder for Regulatory and Community
Part:	I
If Part II, reason:	N/A
Appendices:	
Background papers:	
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	

Report Author / Responsible Officer

Emma Walker

Group Manager Environmental and Community Protection



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Corporate Priorities	<p>A clean, safe and enjoyable environment</p> <p>Building strong and vibrant communities</p> <p>Ensuring economic growth and prosperity</p> <p>Providing good quality affordable homes, in particular for those most in need</p> <p>Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery</p> <p>Climate and ecological emergency</p>
Wards affected	All

Purpose of the report:	1. To provide Members with the performance report for quarter 4 in relation to Environmental and Community Protection
Recommendation (s) to the decision maker (s):	1. For information only.
Period for post policy/project review:	

1 Introduction/Background:

1.1 For the purpose of this report, ‘Environmental and Community Protection’ includes the following services:

- Environmental Health Team (Covid 19 Outbreak Control, Food Safety, Health and Safety Enforcement, Statutory Nuisances, Contaminated Land, Drainage, Private Water Supplies, Infectious Diseases, Air Quality Management, High Hedges)
- Operations Team (Public Health, Pest Control, Dog Warden Services, Environmental Enforcement, Covid Advisors)
- Corporate Health, Safety and Resilience Team (Internal Health and Safety Advice, Technical Support, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity).

2 Environmental and Community Protection – Q4 Performance Indicators

- 2.1 41% (63/153) of noise cases were closed within 60 days. This is a reduction on last quarter. There have been 2 significant staff changes in both the Lead Officer and Team Leader for this team in Q1. This has led to a temporary dip in performance and is expected to improve.
- 2.2 74% (Total 1912 Food Premises) of food premises have a rating of 4 or 5. This has declined in the pandemic due to a backlog of food premises that have not been inspected. The higher risk premises have been prioritised for inspection, along with premises we have received complaints about, resulting in a lower percentage of premises achieving the higher rating. In line with the Food Service Recovery Plan, the highest A rated premises have all been inspected ahead of the March deadline. 29% of food inspections due in the quarter were visited within the quarter, with an overall achievement of 49% inspections due in the year being achieved. This is now being addressed by the Food Recovery Plan. The service are on Track to meet the deadline of all B rated premises inspected by the end of June.
- 2.3 91% (1019/1120) of requests into the department are responded to within three working days. The department has been working hard to improve this statistic and with recent appointments to the department’s vacancies we are optimistic that this will improve further.
- 2.4 89% (710/797) of fly-tips are assessed within 3 working days and 100% of planning application consultations were responded to within 20 days.
- 2.5 92 Accidents/Incidents were reported to Corporate Health and Safety Team in Q4. 3 of those were reported to the HSE. 79 Were related to staff including 33 vehicle collisions, 32 Natural Caused Illness (Covid 19), 3 Slips, Trips or Falls, 3 Manual Handling, 3 Acts of Violence or Abuse against staff, 2 struck by object, 1 strike against an object, 1 exposure to harmful substance, 1 near miss, struck by a moving vehicle. 13 Accidents/Incidents involving members of the public, 9 Slips, Trips or Falls, 1 Loss of Control of Machinery, 1 struck by Object and 2 Resilience Issues.

3 Environmental Health Team

- 3.1 Sarah Stefano was appointed as Team Leader for Environmental Health and has commenced her role on the 31st January.
- 3.2 320 Self Isolation Checks were completed to offer support to those suffering from Covid 19. 16 Follow ups with individual cases occurred. Workplace visits continued throughout January. Team Continue to support to the Local Resilience Forum but attending Covid -19 Working Groups to aid the transition to 'living with Covid'. Test and Trace Officers transferred to the Partnerships team to assist with Vaccination Planning and Support.
- 3.3 Following the cessation of the Test and Trace Service in December 2021 to Environmental Health Team concentrated on completing CPD training required of their professional organisation (Chartered Institute of Environmental Health) and various codes of practice. This has included, Practical Sampling Training, Shelf life and Durability of Foods, Health and Safety in Leisure, Approve Premises and Seafood Training.
- 3.4 Work was undertaken to meet the targets of the Food Service Recovery Plan. Additional Contractors were brought in to help the service deal with the backlog of new food premises that has started within the pandemic, leaving the permanent staff to focus on the high rated food premises, complaints and compliance visits. A steady flow of new Food Business Registrations are received by the team. The team worked with a Food Business struggling to control pests and support was given to the business whilst it voluntarily closed to deal with the issue.
- 3.5 Annual Statistical Return has been submitted to DEFRA for Environmental Permitting Activities. Local Authority Enforcement Monitoring System (LAEMS) Return for Food Safety was completed and submitted to the Food Standards Agency.
- 3.6 Rebecca Connolly, Lead Officer (Food, Health and Safety) won the Performance award last year. This was based on her outstanding contribution to setting up and running the Covid-19 Test and Trace Service, which was ranked 16/315 locally run services. The service faced a huge demand in capacity over 400% of expected usage. Rebecca has also been instrumental in designing and carrying out the Food Safety Recovery Plan is her efforts are the reason that Dacorum has maintained reasonable level of Food Service throughout the Pandemic.
- 3.7 Becky Prescott, Trainee Environmental Health Officer was a finalist for the Health and Safety Champion Award. Stepping up to take on an additional qualification to take a leading role in Event Safety to allow Colleagues to work on the Covid 19 Response. Becky on behalf of the department worked with Colleagues in Corporate Health and Safety to ensure that Events across the borough were run in a safe, secure and successful manner.

4 Corporate Health and Safety Team

- 4.1 The team have continued to support the Council Services with the constant changes brought about by the Covid Legislation and supporting guidance documents. The team have reviewed risk assessments and provided support to service managers on the changing requirements throughout the pandemic to ensure consistent application of the most current guidance.
- 4.2 Health and Safety Champion award was awarded to Chris Conley of Clean, Safe and Green (Environmental Services), Chris consistently puts the Health, Safety and Welfare of his staff front and centre, Chris provided constant feedback to the Corporate Team on improving policy and frequently asks for advice and guidance. Chris has been the driving force on implementing Reactec, a system for monitoring vibration levels staff are exposed too. Chris has been instrumental on maintaining constant safety improvements to his service area and frequently shares his learning and supports other teams.
- 4.3 The Team provided Health and Safety Training to Herts Valley Clinical and Commissioning Group.
- 4.4 The team reviewed, Health, Safety and Resilience Committee recommended approval for the following policies
- Electricity at Work
 - Portable Appliance Testing
 - Corporate Emergency Plan

These were approved at Senior Leadership Team.

Policy Review was carried out for

- Legionella Policy
- CDM Policy
- Asbestos Policy
- Non-Conformity Procedure
- PPE Policy
- COSHH Policy
- Accident and Incident Policy

These policy documents were approved by the Health, Safety and Resilience Policy and await final sign off by the Senior Leadership Team.

- 4.5 The team provide advice and training to Herts Valley Clinical Commissioning Group, this quarter Risk Assessment Review was carried out alongside policy review.
- 4.6 Fire Policy was presented to SPAE OSC in Q3 This will now be subject to Portfolio Holder Decision, the policy had now been approved and no call in was received. The team will liaise with service managers to ensure this is implemented in the service areas. Mandatory fire training was also approved by SLT. Human Resources will be making this an addition to other mandatory training.
- 4.7 Assistance has been given to services as business as usual on an array of subjects, from the Splash Park, Defibrillators, Cemetery Safety Systems, Hand Arm Vibration, Display Screen Equipment, Infection Control, abseiling events, use of machinery, extreme weather, fire safety and much more.
- 4.8 Russell Ham, Team Leader (Health, Safety and Resilience) was a finalist for performance award for his work on safety systems throughout the pandemic.

5 Operation Team

- 5.1 14 Stray Dogs were dealt with in Q4, 10 were rehomed by the authority the remainder were reunited with their owners. 3 Microchipping Notices were served, 3 Community Protection Warning were served in relation to dog behaviour. Most action taken by the team is informal advice without the need for enforcement action.
- 5.2 The team have served a community protection warning and community protection notice in relation to bird mess and smoking related litter around Hamilton House. The team continue to monitor compliance with this.
- 5.3 The team have continued to work in Filthy and verminous cases in the majority evading the need for legal action and have pulled a multi-disciplinary team in to support individuals. Main partners being Mental Health and Social care teams, Housing providers, Fire Service and others. Two Public Health Act Notices and Enforced clearances were carried out in Hemel Hempstead for the safety of the residents and surrounding properties.
- 5.4 S20 Animal Welfare Act 2006 Application was made to the Court seeking transfer of 3 cats and 3 fish to the Council from a resident in Grovehill. The application was granted and the Cats and Fish have been rehomed. The resident was unable to care for the animals, despite animal welfare officer's support the animals remained at risk so the application was sought.
- 5.5 Gagan Mohindra MP visited the Forum and was provided with a presentation by Lead Animal Welfare Officer Rachel Smith to provide further information on DBCs Animal Welfare Service following the presentation of the Service with another Golden Paw Print Award to the Stray Dog Service. The service were commended for their proactive and Innovative approach to Animal Welfare Matters.
- 5.5 9 Fixed Penalty Notices were served for Fly-Tipping in Q4 and 4 abandoned vehicles removed. Three outstanding warrants in place for defendants not appearing in court. These are being pursued regularly with relevant Police forces
- 5.6 The Littering and Public Space Protection Order Enforcement Pilot was launched on the 1st November following a week of public awareness and engagement activities. During this time period the District Enforcement Officers have issued FPN's in 16 different wards. The overall payment rate is currently 69%.
- 5.7 On Monday 21st March nine people were ordered to pay fines (£880 and costs of £800 with victim surcharge of £294 total) for offences relating to littering and breach of Public Space Protection Orders, after failing to pay Fixed Penalty Notices issued by District enforcement.
- 5.8 Covid advisors continued to provide support to the Community, through isolation support visits and providing updates to businesses on changes in Covid guidance.
- 5.9 Ben Stevens, Lead Officer (Environmental Enforcement) was a finalist for the Innovation award for his innovative approach towards a solution to littering and PSPO enforcement which led to the implementation of a pilot for a third party enforcement company. Environmental and Community Protection are keen to look into new ideas and approaches with service delivery.

6. Team of the Year Nomination- Neighbourhood Delivery

- 6.1 Environmental and Community Protection were awarded Team of the Year alongside Environmental Services.
- 6.2 The Submission for the award has been included in this update for members information.

The Environmental and Community Protection Team is a fundamental part of the Council's frontline, ensuring that Dacorum is a safe place for people to live and for businesses to operate. The team provides our residents with the assurance they need to feel confident in their local environment as a safe place to

live and raise their families. It's easy to take for granted just how critical this team's role is in maintaining the relationship of trust between the Council and the people who live here.

In broad terms, the ECP team ensures that restaurants and takeaways meet food hygiene standards; that businesses take care of their employees and the customers who visit their premises; that water supplies across the borough are clean; that events are safe for the public to attend; that animals are well cared for and not subject to harmful treatment; that those who damage our environment are pursued; that infectious diseases outbreaks are monitored and contained; and, that public health is protected through control of disease spreading pests.

This is an extremely challenging workload under normal circumstances, but the last 18 months have been anything but normal. It is district council Environmental Health teams that have been at the forefront of entire public sector response to controlling the spread of Covid.

Overnight the team saw its workload increase dramatically. To give some perspective, ordinarily the team's has less than 20% of one person's role to manage infectious disease outbreaks – since Covid came along this has risen to 15 full time posts. In addition, the team's service requests have more than doubled over the last year – neighbour disputes and animal welfare requests have shot up as more people work from home and the initial demand for pets has inevitably been followed by an increase in cases of neglect.

How the team has worked together in a positive and effective way

To understand the incredible extent to which the team has supported one another over the last 18 months, it's important to understand the extreme pressure they have been under professionally and how the sheer relentlessness and intensity of the Covid response has inevitably led to strain on an emotional level.

The profile of district council Environmental Health teams has sky rocketed across the country as they have been at the coal face delivering the entire public sector response to Covid. Within Dacorum this has required EH Officers to attend numerous weekly meetings with politicians, Chief Executives and very senior officers from public sector organisations across all of Hertfordshire. The work of EH officers has been under extreme scrutiny at the highest level as organisations sought to provide assurance to contain the outbreak as well as reassure worried residents.

Over the course of the year, several members of the team have been required to attend these meetings and every single one of them has delivered. The credibility with which they presented Dacorum as a district leader within the county can be seen by the fact that HCC has on more than one occasion selected Dacorum as a district representative to trial their thinking around the social care response.

The team has also shown real bravery and selflessness. In the early stages of the pandemic when there was national uncertainty over the impact of Covid; when most of us were staying at home and sanitising our shopping; before vaccines were around and when the death toll was climbing, Dacorum's EH team was entering premises with known Covid outbreaks to identify causes and to help contain the spread. This showed faith in the professionalism of H&S colleagues, and the risk assessments and controls put in place to protect them.

What the team has achieved and how it has contributed to the Council's wider objectives

The work of the ECP team over the last 18 months has undoubtedly contributed significantly to the Council's wider objectives:

- containing the outbreak and provided advice to keep shops open and residents and animals as safe as possible within their environment
- enabling essential community focal points to continue operating when they have been most needed, e.g. the splash park

- providing advice that has enabled businesses to remain open, protecting the local economy and the livelihood of residents

Most impressive of all though is the way in which they have continued to provide their service under arguably the most testing conditions that any council service has seen at any time.

It's true that disease outbreak is what many of them have trained to manage, and it's true that the start of the pandemic was, professionally, an exciting time – an opportunity to rise to the challenge and to make a real difference to people's lives.

But underneath this team of committed professionals are real people, with their own families, their own concerns over Covid, and their own limitations. 18 months of battling the pandemic has tested everyone, but the strains this team has faced on the frontline have been particularly intense – and while for others it may feel as though the pandemic is becoming less of a pressure, for this team it remains as intense as it has ever been.

It's incredible to me that they have maintained services in the way that they have, and I cannot speak highly enough of the commitment every member of the team has shown to supporting each other to continue providing the very best service they can for our community. I couldn't be more proud to have been associated with them over this period – they have given absolutely everything they've got. The Council should be immensely proud.

7 Options and alternatives considered

No options to consider, for information only.

8 Consultation

N/A

9 Financial and value for money implications:

N/A

10 Legal Implications

N/A

11 Risk implications:

N/A

12 Equalities, Community Impact and Human Rights:

There are no Human Rights Implications arising from this report.

13 Sustainability implications (including climate change, health and wellbeing, community safety)

N/A

14 Council infrastructure (including Health and Safety, HR/OD, assets and other resources)

N/A

15 Conclusions:

Report to be noted by the Committee.

Report for:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	14th June 2022
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	N/A

Title of report:	Environmental Enforcement & PSPO Performance Review 2021-22
Contact:	Cllr Julie Banks, Portfolio Holder for Community & Regulatory Services Emma Walker – Group Manager ECP Dawn Rhoden – Team Leader Operations/Co Author Ben Stevens – Lead Officer Environmental Enforcement/ Co Author
Purpose of report:	1. The purpose of this report is to give members a general summary of the work carried out by the Environmental Enforcement Team and the enforcement of the PSPOs 2. To show the 2021 – 22 performance of that fiscal period.
Recommendations	For information only
Corporate objectives:	Enhanced service delivery and consistency across all operational services.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u>
'Value for money' implications	Environmental Enforcement Team supports the Council in achieving Value for Money for its citizens.
Risk implications	N/A
Community Impact Assessment	N/A
Health and safety Implications	N/A
Consultees:	None
Background papers:	None
Historical	To give members a general summary of the work carried out

background (please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).	by the Environmental Enforcement Team in 2021-22 with comparisons to previous year and other LA's
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	EEO – Environmental Enforcement Officer PCC – Police Complaints Commission ECP – Environmental & Community Protection FTG – Flytipping Group OP's – Operations Team PSPO – Public Space Protection Order AV – Abandoned vehicle RVK – Registered vehicle keeper EP – Environmental permit FPN – Fixed penalty notice LO – Lead Officer LA – Local authority DE – District Enforcement

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to give members a general summary of the work carried out by the Environmental Enforcement Team in 2021 - 22, performance in that fiscal period and future improvements to the service. This report will also detail the enforcement activity in relation to the Borough's Public Space Protection Orders.

2. Background/Environmental Enforcement Team

During 2021 – 22, the team has consisted of 2 full time permanent officers, 1 lead officer and 1 full time officer on a fixed term contract. Since 2020, the Lead Officer has been 'acting up' to recruit and implement the Covid Advisor Team and supervise their responsibilities through the Pandemic and Governments Covid 19 Road Map to recovery. This has meant that one of the Environmental Enforcement Officer's has also been 'acting up' to supervise the team on a day to day basis, creating the fixed term officer position as 'back fill'. This is still the current team structure and will remain so until September 2022.

Structure plan 2021 - 22;

Operations Team Leader

Dawn Rhoden

Environmental Enforcement Lead Officer

Ben Stevens

'Acting up' to manage the Covid Advisor Team

Environmental Enforcement Officers

Chris Briancon

Paul Coats

Abdullah Khalil (fixed term)

'Acting up' as supervisor

3. Main duties & responsibilities;

- Investigation and removal of abandoned & dangerous vehicles
- Investigation of fly-tipping offences
- Investigation of other waste crime including duty of care, commercial waste, waste transfer and other illegal disposal offences (burning & accumulations)
- Low level fly-tipping/littering offences

4. Abandoned Vehicles 2021 -22

2021 saw the introduction of a formal Abandoned Vehicle policy which brought in slight changes to the previous procedure. This policy has already improved the fairness, clarity and consistency in the investigation and removal of abandoned vehicles within the Borough. At the same time has given owners of such vehicles a reasonable period of time to make claim in the prescribed manner and therefore minimise the potential for complaints and reputational risk. This proposal received approval at Overview & Scrutiny Committee in June 21 and was then officially ratified by Portfolio Holder Decision.

Reducing reports - Although our Abandoned Vehicles webpage and reporting portal clearly states what factors are considered by officers when determining whether a vehicle is considered to be abandoned or not, we are reviewing the page to include further information and signposting to assist users in their decision making. Whether having read the guidance, to continue to report as an abandoned vehicle or not.

Abandoned Vehicle actions;

In 2021 – 2022 the enforcement team received and investigated 1553 reports of abandoned and/or dangerous vehicles that were made to the council. This figure is an increase on reports made in the previous year (1336).

Of the 1553 reports, 1508 cases were resolved and closed without any removal necessary, leaving a total of 45 cases where vehicles were removed and destroyed after investigation (2.89% of the total). This is a decrease on the total the previous year of 53.

5. Fly-tipping & Waste Crime

The Environmental Enforcement team investigate all reports of Fly-tipping and other waste crime within the borough, such as waste producer duty of care, commercial waste complaints, illegal burning of waste and waste on private land.

Fly-tipping is the deposit of controlled waste not in accordance with an Environmental Permit or to keep or dispose in a manner likely to cause harm to environment or human health. Where controlled waste is deposited from a motor vehicle, the person who controls or is in a position to control the use of the vehicle can be held responsible. Persons committing offences for fly-tipping can be issued a Fixed Penalty Notice and/or be liable to prosecution - fine up to £50,000 and or up to 12 months imprisonment if found guilty (Magistrates) or an unlimited fine and up to 5 years (Crown).

The duty of care (Household Waste Duty of Care Regulations 2005) requires householders to take all reasonable measures available to them in the circumstances to ensure that they only transfer household waste produced on their property to an authorised person (outside of the council collection service). Householders can be issued a Fixed Penalty Notice and/or be liable to prosecution – fine up to £5,000.

- Environmental Enforcement Officers have the power to stop, search, seize and destroy vehicles if necessary. These powers are used in conjunction with the police, in joint operations.
- Environmental Enforcement Officers rely on witnesses, physical evidence, interviews under caution, surveillance, stop markers on vehicles, intelligence sharing & operations with Police to identify offenders
- Prevention; Signage/Publicity/Education & public awareness campaigns

6. Waste crime enforcement actions 2021 - 2022;

2021 -22 has been another difficult year in relation to fly-tipping prevalence and the number of reported incidents continues to be a significant problem for waste crime agencies, locally in Hertfordshire as well as nationally.

According to the Hertfordshire Fly-tipping Partnership, waste data flow flycapture shows that there were 15,798 recorded flytips in Hertfordshire, representing a 12% decrease across the County on last year's figure of 17,963. 6 authorities saw a decrease with an increase for the remaining 4 including Dacorum. In Dacorum there were 1587 reported incidents of fly-tipping, this is in comparison to 1470 in 2020 – 21, an increase of 8%. (Inclusive of Herts Highways data).

We continue to take a zero tolerance approach to environmental crime and in particular fly-tipping. Our Environmental Enforcement Officers work hard to assess and visit every reported incident of fly-tipping in the borough to evidence the fly-tipping and investigate, where possible, who was responsible for dumping it and/or where it has come from.

Following the conclusion of any investigation, the enforcement team will issue Fixed Penalty Notices where possible, or collect evidence for a larger prosecution if necessary. If fly-tipping becomes a regular occurrence at a particular location then officers will assess whether to make it a fly-tipping hot spot and will then consider further targeted enforcement interventions such as extra patrols, signage and/or surveillance.

In 2021 – 22 the enforcement team issued a total of 59 Fixed Penalty Notices for waste crime including 38 fly-tipping (amount £400 each) Fixed Penalty Notices, 5 duty of care offences (amount £312 each) Fixed Penalty Notices and 16 low level fly-tipping/littering Fixed Penalty Notices. This compares to a total of 60 Fixed Penalty Notices served in the previous fiscal year (44 fly-tipping, 5 duty of care and 11 littering).

In comparison to the other 9 LA's in Hertfordshire, Dacorum continues to be at the forefront in the issuance of waste crime FPNs in 2021 -22 and in recent years. In the last 4 years of full data recording, Dacorum has issued a quarter of all recorded local authority FPNs in Hertfordshire;

S33 & S34 FPNs - Historic record					
Authority	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total
Broxbourne	9	33	33	41	116
Dacorum	30	45	49	43	167
East Herts	11	30	37	47	125
Hertsmere	7	4	0	7	18
North Herts	5	18	27	25	75
St Albans	3	12	21	4	40
Stevenage	10	8	1	14	33
Three Rivers	9	8	6	4	27
Watford	23	19	3	10	52
Welwyn	3	5	16	5	29
Sub Total	110	182	193	200	685

Evidentially of the 59 Fixed Penalty Notices issued, 26 were the result of CCTV footage obtained, 15 from physical evidence found at the scene, 12 from surveillance footage obtained and 6 from witnesses.

The breakdown of FPNs in Dacorum by area;

FPN by Area/Ward	Flytipping	Littering
Watling	12	
Adeyfield West	2	
Grovehill	13	6
Woodhall Farm	1	2
Hemel Hempstead	3	3
Adeyfield East	1	2
Leverstock Green	2	
Boxmoor	1	
Northchurch	1	
Highfield	1	1
Chaulden	1	
Gadebridge	1	
Warners End	1	
Berkhamsted East	1	
Ashridge	1	
Tring East	1	2

The enforcement team successfully prosecuted 4 offenders of waste crime in 2021-22 in comparison to 1 waste crime prosecution in 2020 – 21. There was a total of £7421 (£1855 per case average) ordered in fines, £4816 (£1204 average) in costs and £358 (£90 per case) in victim surcharges.

NB. Costs are awarded to the Council once the court has collected everything, fines are paid into a general fund and the surcharges go towards victim support schemes.

This compares with an overall number of 17 prosecutions by LA's in Hertfordshire in 21-22 and an average of £1535 in fines and £771 in costs awarded across the Hertfordshire Fly-tipping Group.

Prosecution log					
2021/22	Prosecutions	Fine	Costs	Compensation	Victim Surcharge
Broxbourne	6	£6,990	£5,435.00	£379	£378
Dacorum	4	£7,421	£4,816	0	£358
East Herts	4	£740	£755	0	£140
Hertsmere	0	0	0	0	0
North Herts	0	0	0	0	0
St Albans	0	0	0	0	0
Stevenage	0	0	0	0	0
Three Rivers	3	£8,960	£2,355	0	£286
Watford	0	0	0	0	0
Welwyn Hatfield	0	0	0	0	0
HWP Sub					
Totals...	17	£23,811	£13,361	£379	£1,162

During 2021-22, the enforcement team obtained RIPA (Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act) authorisations for directed covert surveillance to be carried out in rural fly-tipping hot spots where evidence is harder to obtain. As a result, the enforcement team captured a large number of fly-tipping offences which resulted in 12 FPNs being issued and 2 prosecutions. A number of cases resulting from evidence secured by our surveillance cameras are ongoing with successful prosecution the likely outcome.

Other waste crime actions;

The team also issued 7 Community Protection Notice Warnings for waste accumulations on private land.

PCC Flytip victim support scheme – The enforcement team worked with a private landowner of the Borough, the National Farmers Union and Police and Crime Commissioner to process a successful claim for reimbursement of removal costs for a large flytip on their land.

Service Yards – The Environmental Enforcement team have developed new working relationships with landowners/occupiers of the 6 main Hemel Hempstead town centre service yards to regularly inspect, identify and take action to clear accumulations of waste.

7. Operational challenges

Covid 19 Pandemic – There was a profound increase in incidents of fly-tipping during the pandemic due to the various lockdowns. This was coupled with the Courts being initially closed and then a reduction in court proceedings for fly-tipping cases as the courts prioritised more serious matters. We are still experiencing the effects of the case backlog today.

Tracing of vehicles – We have seen an increase in the use of hired vehicles to commit fly-tipping offences in 21 – 22. This has made some investigations more complex and time consuming involving setting up additional data sharing agreements with data holders, further enquiries and serving of data protection exemption notices to relevant parties.

Drug related fly-tipping – We saw an increase in drug related fly-tipping especially in the north part of the district near to our border with Beds. These fly-tips consisted of waste from cannabis cultivation in large quantities. Our team have been actively working with Herts & Beds Police to tackle this problem. This has also been reported at Herts Fly Tipping Group meetings by other Hertfordshire authorities that border Beds.

Departmental pressures – Covid-19 also caused significant disruption to officers carrying out their normal duties with restrictions of normal working practice, officer absences/isolation, Covid related departmental reassignments/prioritisation and additional service pressure.

Court no shows – In 21 – 22, there has also been an increase in case defendants not appearing at Court for trials or hearings. As fly-tipping is an either way offence and can be tried as a summary offence or as an indictable offence, the defendant must be present. Upon request, the court can issue a warrant of arrest so they can be produced before the Courts. However, this is reliant on Police resources and cooperation with Herts Police and other forces such as the Met. The council also have to take additional measures so the case could be heard if the defendant is produced out of normal hours. This has resulted a number of our fly-tipping cases still not being heard despite the offences occurring some time ago and 4 warrants remain outstanding.

8. Public Space Protection Order and Littering Enforcement

Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) enforcement prior to the start of the District Enforcement pilot contract in November 2021 was carried out predominantly at organised enforcement days. The enforcement team issued 1 PSPO warning, 6 PSPO Fixed Penalty Notices and successfully obtained 3 prosecutions for breaches of the town centre PSPO.

The 12 month pilot contract with District Enforcement commenced on the 1st November 2021. As a reminder District Enforcement were contracted to enforce against patrol based observational offences including littering and breaches of our dog control, town centre and alcohol related PSPOs.

FPNs issued from 01 November 2021 to 31 March 2022;

Offence Type	Offence Type Count
Littering	1354
PSPO-Cycling or Skateboarding (PSPO)	280
PSPO-Dog Bags	15
PSPO-Dog Fouling (PSPO)	6
PSPO-Dogs Exclusion Zones	2
PSPO-Dogs on Lead by Direction	4
PSPO-Spitting (PSPO)	70
PSPO-Street Drinking	7
PSPO-Sweet Wrapper	1
PSPO-Urinating or Defecating	3

Total:	1742
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FPNs issued by Ward;

Ward	Ward Count
Adeyfield East	24
Adeyfield West	4
Aldbury and Wigginton	1
Apsley and Corner Hall	146
Bennetts End	6
Berkhamsted Castle	5
Bovingdon, Flaunden and Chipperfield	2
Boxmoor	5
Chaulden and Warners End	1
Gadebridge	5
Grovehill	1
Hemel Hempstead Town	1529
Highfield	4
Kings Langley	1
Leverstock Green	4
Nash Mills	2
Tring Central	1
Woodhall Farm	1
Total:	1742

Of the total 1742, District Enforcement have achieved a payment rate of 72% up to year end.

Of the total Fixed Penalty Notices issued, 192 FPNs have been challenged as a representation.

Of the Fixed Penalty Notices challenged, 65 FPNs have been accepted as representations and cancelled and 127 have been declined.

Dacorum Borough Council has successfully prosecuted the first batch of offenders who did not pay Fixed Penalty Notices issued to them by District Enforcement. On the 21st March 2022, using the Single Justice Procedure, all 9 defendants were found guilty at Berkshire Magistrates Court for offences of littering and breaches of our Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO). In total, defendants were ordered to pay Fines of £880, Costs of £800 and victim surcharge costs of £294.

District Enforcement are given monthly patrol/deployment targets which include areas in all wards depending on various factors and are categorised by frequency of visits. Achievement is monitored at monthly meetings. We also instruct on additional targeted deployment in response to specific complaints in relation to littering, dog fouling and other associated breaches of the Public Space Protection Orders.

Dacorum Borough Council receive a quarterly contractual income share of 22% from all paid FPNs. This income is placed in the Environmental and Community Protection general budget account.

Q1 income share (Nov 21- Jan 22): £14,774.40

The Council's contract specification requires social value to both educational and community engagement activities as well as enforcement.

In the first 5 months, District Enforcement have produced an environmental educational package for delivery to primary school children which has assisted and complimented the educational activity carried out by the Council's Environmental Awareness Team. District Enforcement are also working on another package which will be aimed at the lower secondary school age where we do have a link between secondary school pupils and littering at nearby newsagents and shops.

District Enforcement have been active in all wards engaging with members of the public, delivering leaflets to residents, meeting with residents to discuss their concerns and handing out dog poo bags and stubby pouches.

District Enforcement joined up with the Environmental Awareness Team and took part in the Great British Spring Clean. The team litter picked a large stretch of The Nickey Line and managed to collect 22 bags of rubbish (10 recycling & 12 refuse).

District Enforcement targeted our most popular sports fields & pitches at weekends in March due to reports of associated littering being left after fixtures. They attended areas in Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted & Tring. Although no FPN's were issued, did engage with clubs, teams and spectators and provided the public with leaflets, dog bags, and stubby pouches. They also posted leaflets to the surrounding houses to make the public aware that have been in that area.

District Enforcement have been working closely with Boxmoor Trust who have asked for assistance in dealing with issues of dog fouling, control and dogs worrying livestock. Upon request, have regularly patrolled these open spaces and engaged with dog walkers advising on responsible dog control and challenging irresponsible owners.

Planned activities for District Enforcement in 2022 – 23 include delivering educational packages to a number of our secondary schools, targeted activities at our parks and open spaces in the summer to promote responsible use of these spaces and to spend time in our rural wards to engage with members of the public and patrol for offences in our smaller villages and communities.

9. Moving forward in 2022-23;

District Enforcement pilot contract summary and review, will be coming to Overview and Scrutiny in September.

We will be working together with Clean Safe & Green and the Parks and Open Spaces Team to further target harden areas of open space within the borough that are vulnerable to unlawful encampments.



Agenda item:

Summary

Report for:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	14th June 2022
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	
Contact:	Cllr Julie Banks, Portfolio Holder for Community & Regulatory Services Emma Walker – Group Manager ECP Dawn Rhoden – Team Leader Operations
Purpose of report:	1. Consider if the Dog Control PSPO should be extended 2. Consider if further consultation should occur around new areas of control
Recommendations	1. To approve the continuation the PSPO in its current form for a further period of 3 years
Corporate objectives:	A Clean safe and enjoyable environment
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> The local authority must arrange for the display of signage advising of the effect of the Order. There is no prescribed format nor size requirements for these signs, and costs will ultimately depend upon the number of signs required and the design/materials used. There will be ongoing maintenance costs to replace any damaged signage.
'Value for money' implications	<u>Value for money</u> PSPO's are seen as a more cost-effective means of controlling the activities in question than under byelaws, also providing a wider range of enforcement options.
Risk implications	There are also reputational risks in terms of the council being perceived as enforcing against vulnerable persons and seeking to criminalise certain behaviours which wouldn't normally attract fixed penalty notices or

	<p>prosecution for non-payment.</p> <p>There are also limited resources for enforcement and therefore enforcement will have to be targeted at certain periods. The PSPO will raise expectations that prohibited behaviours will be eliminated entirely; however due to difficulties in identifying some of the contraventions and taking a proportionate approach to enforcement there will not always be immediate results which will be noticeable to the public.</p>
Community Impact Assessment	Community Impact Assessment reviewed
Health and safety Implications	Some Health & Safety implications may arise from the enforcement of orders, this will be incorporated within individual service risk assessments for authorised enforcing officers.
Consultees:	<p>Hertfordshire Police</p> <p>Hertfordshire Highways</p> <p>Residents of Dacorum</p> <p>Boxmoor Trust</p> <p>National Trust</p> <p>Parish Councils</p>
Background papers:	<p>Strategic and Planning Overview and Scrutiny Report 20th November 2018</p> <p>Cabinet Report 19th March 2019</p>
<p>Historical background</p> <p><i>(please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).</i></p>	A Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control) has been in place for the past 3 years, this must be renewed every 3 years.
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	<p>PSPO - Public Space Protection Order</p> <p>FPNs – Fixed Penalty Notices</p>

1. Purpose of Report

The current Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2019 is due to expire on the 28th July 2022. This report shows the consultation response as to if there is a need for this to be extended or withdrawn.

2. Background

Under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, local authorities may make orders to prohibit specified activities, and/or require specified activities to be carried on in accordance with certain requirements, within a designated area in the public domain, which may include public highways and footways, parks and open spaces, pedestrianised areas, or similar. Such orders are known as Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO).

PSPO's can be used by authorities to control a variety of problematic behaviours which satisfy two statutory conditions:

“The first condition is that—

- (a) activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or*
- (b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.*

The second condition is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities—

- (a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,*
- (b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and*
- (c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.”*

Prohibitions or requirements on activities covered by a PSPO must be reasonable in order to:

- (a) prevent the detrimental effect from continuing, occurring or recurring, or
- (b) reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence.

Where a PSPO is in force, it is a criminal offence to do anything which is prohibited under the Order, or to fail to comply with requirements of the Order. Persons guilty of such offences are liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (currently up to £1,000). Offences may also be disposed of by way of a fixed penalty notice of up to £100, payable to the local authority our fines are currently set at £80.

PSPOs may be enforced by a police officer, PCSO, or a person authorised by the local authority for that purpose.

A PSPO will be valid for a period of up to 3 years, at the end of which it may be extended. Orders may also be varied or discharged by the local authority at any time during their validity.

Prior to making, extending, varying or discharging a PSPO, a local authority must:

- Consult the chief officer of police and the Policing and Crime Commissioner for the applicable area; any community representatives that it is thought appropriate to consult; and the owners/occupiers of land included within the restricted area;
- Publish the draft Order (or details of variation/discharge proposal);
- Notify any parish/town councils within the restricted area, and the County Council;

with regards to its proposals. The authority must also consider its proposed restrictions against the rights of freedom of expression (Article 10) and assembly

(Article 11) under the European Convention on Human Rights. The proposed restrictions have been considered against the rights in Article 10 and 11 but it is not considered that there will be any infringement on these rights. If there is any infringement it is considered that it is proportionate for the prevention of disorder and crime.

The power to make PSPO's replaced and consolidated several earlier area-control orders, including designated public place orders which have previously been used by the Council in respect of street drinking.

PSPO's may be challenged in the High Court by any person who lives in, regularly works in or regularly visits a restricted area, within 6 weeks of an Order being made or varied.

3. Consultation Responses

A public consultation was carried out in March 2022 to gather views on if the order should continue, a summary of the results follow (Please note that for all schedules stated in the following questions they can be seen in Appendix 1):

Dog Fouling

3.1 A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (excluding National Trust land shown in Schedule 3 must forthwith clear up and remove any faeces deposited by the dog and either take away the faeces or place the faeces in a general litter or dog waste bin.

Note – The National Trust specifically requested to be not included in this part of the PSPO as they prefer the stick and flick method)

Question. Do you agree or disagree that with the continuation of the order that faeces deposited by a dog must be removed and either taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 3 (Please note this excludes National Trust land)?

	Responses	%
Yes I agree	1097	95.31
No I don't agree	46	4.0
Don't know	8	0.70

3.2 A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (Schedule 2) must comply with any request from a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog where they have otherwise failed to do so. The faeces must either be taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin.

Question. Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of the order that if any person responsible for a dog fails to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog they can be requested by a Constable or an authorised officer to do so within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2.

	Responses	%
Yes I agree	1049	96.42
No I don't agree	31	2.85
Don't know	8	0.74

3.3 A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (Schedule 2) must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog. The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.

Question. Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of the order that any person responsible for a dog must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?

	Responses	%
Yes I agree	1016	93.47
No I don't agree	61	5.61
Don't know	10	0.92

Dog Control

3.4 A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (Schedule 2) must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead unless:

- a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or
- b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

Note - Dacorum Borough Council Staff are authorised alongside their contractors. Herts Police obviously do not prioritise PSPO enforcement however them being named allows them to use the powers if the need arises.

Question. Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of the order that dogs must be placed on a lead if required by a Constable or an authorised officer within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?

	Responses	%
Yes I agree	944	90.33
No I don't agree	65	6.22
Don't know/None of the above	36	3.45

Exclusion of Dogs in Specified Areas

3.5 A person in charge of a dog in a public space within the borough of Dacorum Borough Council is prohibited from allowing the dog to enter the "Dog Exclusion Zones" which include enclosed children's play areas, adventure playgrounds and splash parks (listed in Schedule1). Dogs are also not permitted within 3 metres of any unenclosed play equipment.

Question. Do you agree or disagree with continuation of the order that dogs should be prohibited from all children's play areas?

	Responses	%
Yes I agree	902	86.65
No I don't agree	113	10.85
Don't know	26	2.50

4. Service Requests

Over the last year the Animal Welfare Team has received 471 animal related service requests, these include dog on dog attacks, dogs worrying livestock, fouling, complainant's perception of excessive numbers of dogs being walked by individuals and businesses and animal welfare concerns.

The Clean Safe and Green Team received 216 requests to clear fouling from pavements (dog waste is not removed from grassed areas so there are no figures on this).

5. Enforcement

As you will be aware District Enforcement started on a 12 month pilot contract with us in November 2021 they have issued the following FPNs 01 November 2021 to 31 April 2022;

Offence Type	Offence Type Count
PSPO-Dog Bags	16
PSPO-Dog Fouling	6
PSPO-Dogs Exclusion Zones	2
PSPO-Dogs on Lead by Direction	4

We are fully aware that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and have always complied with the appropriate legislation in regards to their dogs, however the complaints and the issuance of FPN shows that not all owners are responsible.

6. Other Concerns Raised During Consultation

Question. Have you come across any of the following activities within Dacorum? Please select all that apply.

	Responses (Total Respondents 689)
Individuals walking more dogs than they could reasonably control	400
Dogs being walked off the lead in locations you consider inappropriate	360
Dogs being walked in locations you believe to be inappropriate	160
Have you have experienced any other issues regarding the behaviour of dogs and dog owners in public areas within Dacorum? (Please specify below)	421

Question. If you have experience of /or have witnessed any of the following behavioural activities, has this behaviour had a detrimental impact on your quality of life within, or usage of, the public areas within Dacorum? Please select all that apply.

	Responses (Total Respondents 754)
Dog Fouling	627
Individuals walking more dogs than they could reasonably control	290
Dogs being walked off lead in locations	274

you consider inappropriate	
Dogs off the lead in appropriate locations, however out of control or acting aggressively	318
Dogs being walked in locations you believe to be inappropriate	138
Dogs in children's play areas	174

Question. How many dogs do you believe is a reasonable number for one individual to walk and monitor?

	Responses (total number of respondents (973))
1-2	564
3-4	301
5-6	36
7-8	5
9+	2
Don't know	65

7. Other concerns Raised during consultation

General feedback was also requested on other areas of concern, this can be seen in Appendix 7

8.0 Recommendations

In order to make a recommendation to this committee the officers must ensure that the legal requirements mentioned in section 2 of this report have been properly considered.

Activities included in the PSPO have continued within the Authorities area and have a detrimental impact on the quality of life of those in the locality This point can be demonstrated by the information in section 6, above 754 respondents have stated that dog behaviour has detrimentally impacted their life, in addition to this Environmental and Community Protection has received 471 animal related service requests (Section 4) indication this is a

concern for members of the public. In addition to this 216 requests have been submitted to Environmental Services to clear dog fouling on the highway. Despite the PSPO being introduced 689 (Section 6) respondents highlighted they had come across antisocial dog behaviours within the borough and 28 Fixed Penalty Notices have been served (Section 5) demonstrating it is likely that these behaviours have continued to be carried out in a public place and be persistent and unreasonable justifying the renewal of the PSPO.

Officers recommend;

- The PSPO is renewed
- There is an amendment to the access of the refreshment kiosk in Gadebridge Park (Splash Park) for dogs on a lead.

Appendix 1 – copy of the current PSPO including its schedules

Appendix 2 – copy of written responses Q1

Appendix 3 – copy of written responses Q2

Appendix 4 – copy of written responses Q3

Appendix 5 – copy of written responses Q4

Appendix 6 – copy of written responses Q5

Appendix 7 - Other comments

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT

2014 SECTION 59

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

This order is made by Dacorum Borough Council (the 'Council') and shall be known as the Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2019.

PRELIMINARY

1. The Council, in making this Order is satisfied on reasonable grounds that:

The activities identified below have been carried out in public places within the Council's area and have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality,

and that:

the effect, or likely effect, of the activities:

is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,

is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and

justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

2. The Council is satisfied that the prohibitions imposed by this Order are reasonable to impose in order to prevent the detrimental effect of these activities from continuing, occurring or recurring, or to reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence.
3. The Council has had particular regard to the rights and freedoms set out in Article 10 (right of freedom of expression) and Article 11 (right of freedom of assembly) of the European Convention on Human Rights and has concluded that the restrictions on such rights and freedoms imposed by this Order are lawful, necessary and proportionate.

THE ACTIVITIES

4. The Activities prohibited by the Order are:
 - i) Dog Fouling
 - ii) Dog Control
 - iii) Exclusion of Dogs in Specified Areas

THE PROHIBITION

Dog Fouling

5. A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (excluding National Trust land shown in Schedule 3) must forthwith clear up and remove any faeces deposited by the dog and either take away the faeces or place the faeces in a general litter or dog waste bin.
6. A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (Schedule 2) must comply with any request from a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up and/or remove any faeces deposited by the dog where they have otherwise failed to do so. The faeces must either be taken away or placed in a general litter or dog waste bin.
7. A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (Schedule 2) must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog. The obligation is complied with if, after a request from an authorised officer, the person in charge of the dog produces an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces.

Dog Control

8. A person in charge of a dog in any public place within the Borough of Dacorum (Schedule 2) must comply with a direction given to them by a Constable or a person duly authorised by the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead unless:
 - a) they have reasonable excuse for failing to do so, or
 - (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

Exclusion of Dogs in Specified Areas

9. A person in charge of a dog in a public space within the borough of Dacorum Borough Council is prohibited from allowing the dog to enter the “Dog Exclusion Zones” which include enclosed children’s play areas, adventure playgrounds and splash parks (listed in Schedule 1). Dogs are also not permitted within 3 metres of any unenclosed play equipment.

EXCEPTION

10. Nothing in this Order shall apply to a person who –
- a) Is registered as a blind person on a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
 - b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or
 - c) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by any current or future members of Assistance Dogs UK or any other charity registered in the UK with a purpose of training assistance dogs and upon which he relies for assistance: or
 - d) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities and in the reasonable opinion of the Council that person relies upon the assistance of the dog in connection with their disability.

11. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORDER

- a) A person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless, at the time of the offence, some other person is in charge of the dog
- b) Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces.
- c) The Borough of Dacorum is shown in Schedule 2
- d) A person duly authorised by the Council means an employee, partnership agency or contractor of Dacorum Borough Council who is authorised in writing by Dacorum

Borough Council for the purpose of giving direction under the order.

PERIOD FOR WHICH THIS ORDER HAS EFFECT

12. This Order will come into force at midnight on 29 July 2019 and will expire at midnight on 28 July 2022.
13. At any point before the expiry of this three year period the Council can extend the Order by up to three years if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that this is necessary to prevent the activities identified in the Order from occurring or recurring or to prevent an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER?

14. Section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 says that it is a criminal offence for a person without reasonable excuse -
 - to do anything that the person is prohibited from doing by a public spaces protection order, or
 - to fail to comply with a requirement to which the person is subject under a public spaces protection order

A person guilty of an offence under section 67 is liable on conviction in the Magistrates Court to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale

FIXED PENALTY

15. A constable, police community support officer or authorised council enforcement officer may issue a fixed penalty notice to anyone he or she believes has committed an offence under section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act. You will have 14 days to pay the fixed penalty of £75. If you pay the fixed penalty within the 14 days you will not be prosecuted.

APPEALS

16. Any challenge to this order must be made in the High Court by an interested person within six weeks of it being made. An interested person is someone who lives in, regularly works in, or visits the restricted area. This means that only those who are directly affected by the restrictions have the power to challenge. The right to challenge also exists where an order is varied by the Council.
17. Interested persons can challenge the validity of this order on two grounds: that the Council did not have power to make the order, or to include particular prohibitions or requirements; or that one of the requirements of the legislation has not been complied with.
18. When an application is made the High Court can decide to suspend the operation of the order pending the Court's decision, in part or in totality. The High Court has the ability to uphold the order, quash it, or vary it.

Dated: 13th June 2019



The Common Seal of
Dacorum Borough
Council was affixed in
the presence of:



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line.

Authorised Signatory

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'C' and 'A' followed by a flourish.

Authorised Signatory

AREAS AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED PSPO

Schedule 1- Dog Exclusion Zones

All enclosed children's playgrounds & enclosed skate parks

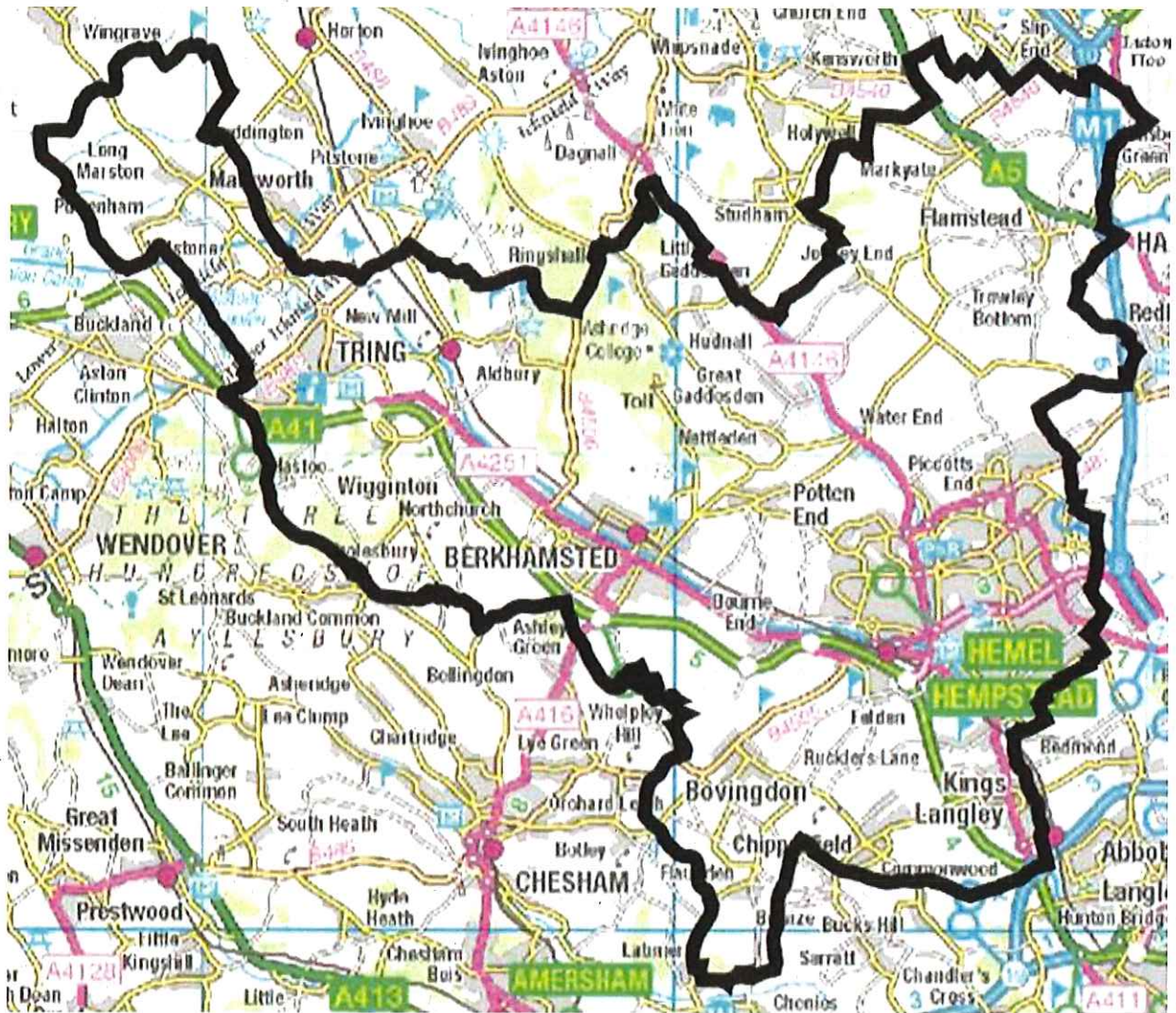
Adventure playgrounds

- Adayfield Adventure Playground, Turners Hill, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP2 4LD
- Grovehill and Woodhall Farm Adventure Playground, Redbourn Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP2 7BA
- Chaulden Adventure Playground, Long Chaulden, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 2HX
- Bennetts End Adventure Playground, Rant Meadow, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP3 8EQ

Splash Parks

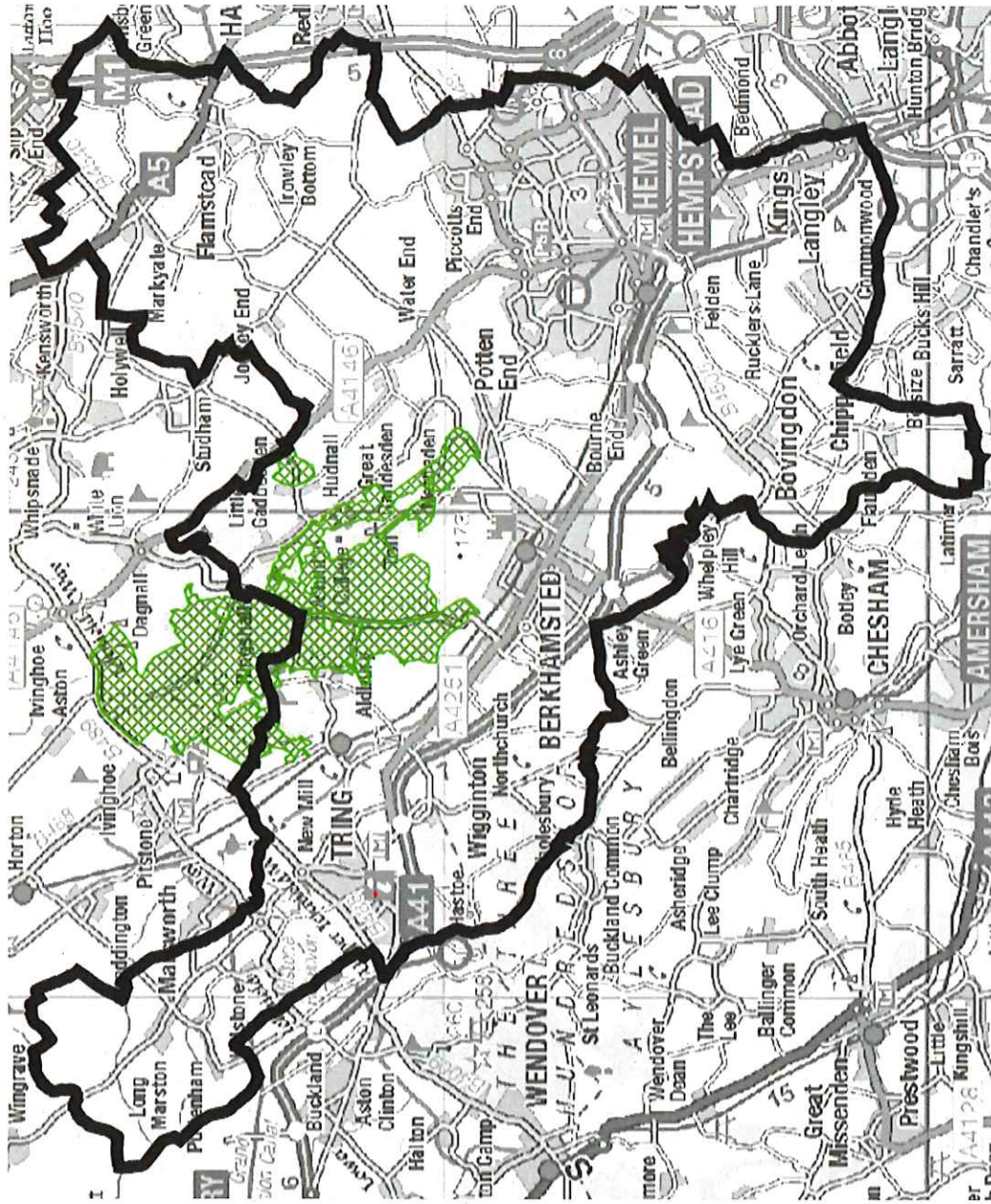
- Gadebridge Park

SCHEDULE 2 – Borough Map corresponding to Prohibition 6, 7 and 8

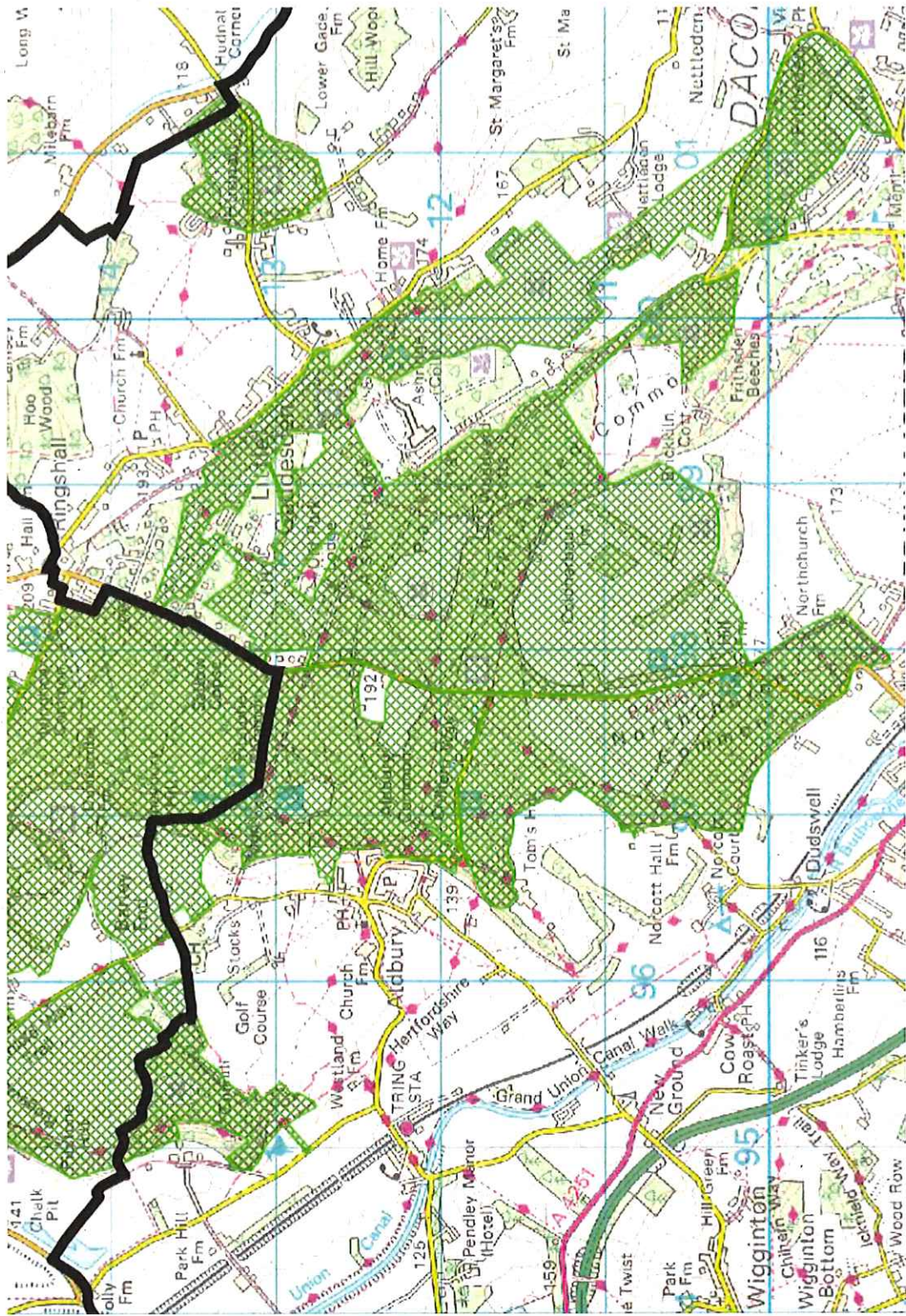


Schedule 3 : Map corresponding to Prohibition 5 - Whole borough excluding National Trust land

(National Trust land is shaded green)



Larger view of National Trust area.



Appendix 2

Written responses Q1

<p>The problem is that people put it in bags and leave the bags around either by inadvertently or deliberately dropping them thereby increasing the impact of faeces on the environment.</p>
<p>I do not like the thought of stepping in dog poo or the thought of the roundworm and children but people are throwing dog poo in bags into bushes on the side of the towpath and the dog poo on its own without a bag is more compostable.</p>
<p>Many bags are left hanging on bushes or on side, if faeces are away from footfall areas allowing them to degrade naturally seems reasonable.</p>
<p>It should not be a police job to monitor dog poo-</p>
<p>It should only apply in designated, properly sign posted areas.</p>
<p>Whilst I do agree with cleaning up after any animal I have a major issue with private company employees confronting members of the public demanding to see they have pop bags. My kids are artistic so aggressive wardens are not advertised to speak to my family regarding whether or not I am carrying bags.</p>
<p>Where is the provision for family outings</p>
<p>Yes I agree as a professional dog walker I am forever picking up extra poo that people have left.</p>
<p>I agree but there is not sufficient bins around especially green areas where you would naturally walk a dog</p>
<p>Of course I agree but wanted to state there needs to be more bins available. I will always carry my dog waste home if needs be but insufficient provision of bins gives an excuse to the less responsible dog owners.</p>
<p>Poo bags aren't always biodegradable, so reducing their use would help the environment. Poo is biodegradable. I therefore suggest this point is reworded to state that the poo is not in areas where people interact. If a dog poos in a hedgerow better to leave it there to go into the soil, in my opinion. I think it unlikely small children are playing in hedgerows, and if they are they risk interacting with faeces from wild animals anyway</p>
<p>The council has plenty of land where dogs can be exercised. Provided poo is not on playing fields or pathways why cant it stay there. We dont ask horse owners or wild animals to clean up</p>
<p>I do agree, BUT, there are insufficient bins. Many bins have disappeared, others seem to be always full.</p>
<p>Website for people to upload photos of those who don't pick up to shame them!</p>
<p>More emphases should be put on litter louts as plastic pollution is more damaging than a little dog poo</p>
<p>I do not consider it appropriate for faecal matter to be placed in a general litter receptacle.</p>

Who in their own mind would disagree with this? It's a useless question
Agree in principle but wilder areas like Shrubhill be excluded as likely impractical to find the excrement in the very long grass etc.
Poo bags are left hanging from trees etc, it is much better for the environment for faeces to organically decompose in woodland. Pathways are different - excrement should always be picked up and deposited in a bin.
I don't agree with the right to challenge a person in charge of a dog to produce a poo bag or similar. I do agree that all dog fouling needs to be removed immediately.
I also think this order should include FAECES deposited by humans should have imposed fines. I have on many occasions seen parents allow their children to wee/defecate opposite the playground (even though toilet facilities are nearby) plus there is a daily average of TWELVE FAECED NAPPIES left in and around the splash park during the summer months (this figure has been confirmed on many occasions by the council staff who are disgusted by this litter they are responsible for clearing due to parents having zero social conscience)
I don't agree because it leads to stop and search powers by a private company. Also creates the assumption that dog owners by default don't pick after their dogs, so presumption of being guilty.
Because DBC should not be in the fascist state business
The "takeaway" provision does not cover the idiots who poop scoop and then hang the bags on trees etc a few yards on. Otherwise, yes I agree.
If I wanted to live in a Dictatorship I'd move to one.
National Trust land should also be included in the above
It should be removed from all pavements, roads and parks. I'm not so sure about woodland as the National Trust say it is more environmentally friendly to 'stick and flick'.
Disabilities exemption should only apply to assistance dogs for registered blind; in every other case an owner should be responsible as to whether they can look after their pet. A disabled person does not need a pet any more than any other person, except assistance dogs
As I live on Woodhall and Holtsmere End Lane is the boundary what is the Policy of St Albans?
Why do you need a plastic bag for faeces on national trust land if there is no regulation to pick it up - more plastic left in the countryside. a, b and c contradict each other.
Why do you need a plastic bag to collect faeces on National Trust land inside Dacorum. a, b and c contradict each other.
Woodland areas off footpaths should be excluded

Although I broadly agree for roads and paths I don't think it is necessary if the dog finds an area in the woods away from the paths. Also there are occasions when maybe a dog goes more often than is expected - I don't think that should be criminalised.

I strongly agree .On the contrary , All dogs should be licenced annually to weed out unrespectable owners

1/Dog wardens needed to request by a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up. 2/ If a person is out with a dog they must have the means ie. bag to pick faeces up otherwise they are fined. 3/ All park areas must have large dog free areas where you are fined if caught on them with a dog.

I absolutely agree on footpaths and in areas where kids play. Environmentally however, in deep woodland or open fields it's better to deposit poo off the path where it breaks down within a week, rather than putting it in a plastic bag that takes years to breakdown in landfill

The order is irrelevant, it is an offence under other acts.

Re C ... I think this needs to be more specific. What happens if I had 3 poop bags and used 2 will I be penalised for only having 1 or if I've used them all (which would be unusual)?

there are many open areas where it is unnecessary to do this - people just need to look where they are treading as people have done for millennia

There isn't an option to agree with part of this. I do agree with parts a and b. I do not agree with part c regarding officers being able to stop people and demand to see what they are carrying. This is overly intrusive and solves nothing as anyone can carry bags, it doesn't mean they will use them.

There are areas on that map where the "flick with a stick" method of clearing dog's mess (as adopted by the National Trust) would be acceptable. These are areas of countryside that should not be included. I appreciate that the National Trust land is not included but there are other country paths within the boundaries.

There are areas on that land where the " flick with a stick" method of clearing dog's mess (as adopted by the National Trust) would be an acceptable way of removing the mess from an area . I appretgat the National Trust land is not included but there are other places of countryside that this method would be acceptable.

How can it be confirmed that a deposit is from a particular dog? What about private land where dog walking is allowed - eg golf course?

But unless it's a specially trained dog if u can't pick up after it you shouldn't be allowed to have one

Should only be picked up in walking area. Otherwise let nitrogen cycle take its course. No need for more plastic bags.

Litter is a bigger problem why just blame the dog walkers?

You can on run out of bags, so section 2 should be amended

Not a poic state to be searched

Absolutely agree but please provide more bins! I carry mine to nearest bin like most responsible people, but sometimes you have to carry a long way. People have no excuse then

Surely this depends on the type of landscape involved e.g. in a field (where it could be left to naturally decompose, reducing reliance on plastic) vs on a pavement /high traffic area (where it should definitely be picked up - and the council should ensure there are sufficient bins available which are regularly emptied)

Many places where dogs are walked do not have any bins. i.e. Hockeridge woods,

Where there is green wild space (ie not a park or village green) it should be kicked into the undergrowth to decompose away from the path, otherwise it ends up in poo bags on trees for the poo fairy to collect. Liquid faeces is worse.

NO COMMENT

I agree in principal however I am not in agreement of your officers stopping dog walkers and insisting on seeing their poo bags!!! It's ridiculous- I take enough out with me and I know how many I need- if my dog pooped her normal 2/3 times I know I won't need any more bags... if I happen to have run out after those three poos it NOT an issue because I am absolutely sure I won't need any more that walk...only a non dog owner wouldn't understand that

I agree with the principal, but not the mechanism of the order. It is a money making scam for dacorum council.

Appendix 3

<p>It would be nice if the dog faeces bins in Ashridge by the information centre/shop could be serviced more frequently as they are invariable over flowing and have bags on the floor around them.</p>
<p>Clearly this has not worked ... why continue. It's not police work</p>
<p>An authorised officer has no power or right to stop / detain a member of the public again I do agree you should pick up after yourself and your animals but unless ID is shown proving they are a uniformed police officer my family will simply ignore and go about our day.</p>
<p>Yes I agree they should clear up after the animal, do not agree to give out personal data to a stranger with no guarantee of keeping data secure</p>
<p>The police have far more important thing to do.</p>
<p>Age we but again there should be sufficient means whereby the dog walker can dispose the east in a bin</p>
<p>If a dog poos in a hedgerow or in the woods where there isn't footfall, leaving the poo to biodegrade is the most sensible option. If the poo is in a park or the middle of a pavement within the mapped area, then it makes sense to bag it and bin it / take it away.</p>
<p>Same reasons as before. Dog owners need to be more responsible but there must be places where dogs can freely exercise</p>
<p>Anyone should be able to request that the owner clears up after their dog.</p>
<p>Just another way of raising cash</p>
<p>More emphases should be put on litter louts as plastic pollution is more damaging than a little dog poo</p>
<p>I also think this order should include FAECES deposited by humans should have imposed fines. I have on many occasions seen parents allow their children to wee/defecate opposite the playground (even though toilet facilities are nearby) plus there is a daily average of TWELVE FAECED NAPPIES left in and around the splash park during the summer months (this figure has been confirmed on many occasions by the council staff who are disgusted by this litter they are responsible for clearing due to parents having zero social conscience)</p>
<p>people should pick up after their dogs and no excuse for not picking it up. But any fines should be done at a cost to provide this service in the area and not to provide a income to a private company</p>
<p>Because DBC should not be in the fascist state business</p>
<p>It's biodegradable</p>
<p>Also to include requests by a general member of the public who has evidenced the faeces being deposited</p>
<p>I do agree if it is on the pavement, on the road, other paths or in parks.</p>
<p>You state that you do not need to clear it up on National Trust land - another nonsensical contradiction</p>
<p>There are exceptions, I have on the odd occasion seen a guide/assistance dog poop and it's owner is unable to pick it up due to</p>
<p>Because sometimes , especially if it is dark or rainy, or you have two dogs or a child and dog, it is hard to see at all times. Quite often, especially in autumn, it is hard to find.</p>

Dog owners taking their dogs for a walk should be stopped by constable and ask if they carry dog poo bag with them .If they don't then there should be hefty FINE.
1/Dog wardens needed to request by a person duly authorised by the Council to clear up. 2/ If a person is out with a dog they must have the means ie. bag to pick faeces up otherwise they are fined. 3/ All park areas must have large dog free areas where you are fined if caught on them with a dog.
With proviso already stated
No the order is irrelevant it is covered under other laws.
they shouldn't need to be told as a dog owner if they fail to pick up they shouldnt be given a chance to it should be a fine
totalitarianism - we've had enough of that with the HMG & Local Gov. Covid excesses
Because the people who get caught turn naughty most dog owners are responsible
What is a schedule map?
People arr responsible
NO COMMENT
Job worth who has not seen the whole picture and asking to clean up another animals faeces
As before.

Appendix 4

Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of the order that any person responsible for a dog must have with them an appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?

If you do not agree, please tell us why.

Responses

Where I agree that should have them the appropriate means. I feel there should be consideration that under special circumstances the dog owner may have had to use much more to remove some faeces than normal and may unexpected exhausted what they had. Or alternatively, may have dropped, lost, wind blew away their spare ones. A what if type circumstance. Everyone should have the need when starting their journey.
Carry poo bags if the dog has not pooped then no offence has been committed
It should not be an offence for someone to have run out of dog poo bags
I have in the past found myself picking up pop only for my dog to later on our walk do a second pop. Realising I have lost my bags and asked a passing dog walker if they can spare a bag so I can despos of the mess
The thugs who enforce this should not have a right to stop people to ask to search them for bags
People are forgetful also if the dog doesn't do anything there's not a problem
I am wary of additional legislation that covers 'just in case' scenarios. The idea that it becomes an offence to not carry poo bags when walking your dog, is overkill. Legislation to deal with dog fouling is ok, but prescribed behaviour is not.
Once again agree with clear up, not the stranger having personal data
I agree, but do not agree to being stopped by anyone to provide proof. This is threatening behaviour.
The 2 previous questions should be enough controls to cover this problem
Very very rarely we have got to the end of a roll of poo bags and found that the last one or two won't open or are split. This is awful for us but a possible scenario
I always carry a spare bag, but this order means I cannot donate it to any other owner if they need it once I have only 1 left even if I have already used one for my own dog-
This isn't a police state! If people forget or run out of bags, they could be penalised. If you enforce poo being out the way of human interaction, then that is the main thing. You'll just upset people with this rule as law abiding citizens will forget once in a while and repeat offenders or people who don't care will continue not to care. Focus on the behaviour you want to see - removing human/dog poo interaction, bags are secondary to that.
I'm interested what will happen if the dog has already needed multiple bags and the owner has no more
I've left home without such means by accident, I still managed to clean up after my dog, however, I do not want to be in the position where some jobsworth can fine me for not having such means.
People can be forgetful

More emphases should be put on litter louts as plastic pollution is more damaging than a little dog poo
This survey question only deals with the requirement to carry such means. It does NOT address the second part regarding the need to produce such means when requested. No offence has been committed at that point and as such should not be included.
We shouldn't be asked if we have a bag to pick up as sometimes a bag/bags has been used. The person with a dog will know their dog wouldn't be going again.
I also think this order should include FAECES deposited by humans should have imposed fines. I have on many occasions seen parents allow their children to wee/defecate opposite the playground (even though toilet facilities are nearby) plus there is a daily average of TWELVE FAECED NAPPIES left in and around the splash park during the summer months (this figure has been confirmed on many occasions by the council staff who are disgusted by this litter they are responsible for clearing due to parents having zero social conscience)
You are incriminating all dog owners with your order and your officers who intimidate responsible dog owners. You are not identifying and dealing with dog owners who are completely out of control.
BUT I have occasionally forgotten dog bags but always been able to find a littered alternative, at other times I have given bags to other dog walkers, and received them.
Because if a dog runs away from because it's spooked you
Some people stick and flick which is better for the environment depending on the area they are walking their dog
Because your presumption is that people don't pick after their dogs and it leads to stop and search action by a private company, something not even the police is authorized to do. There is no crime not to have dog poo bags on you, but instead the council should make dog poo bags available next to the bins like in other countries in Europe for ex. Germany and France
I think it is acceptable for someone to have forgotten on occasion
Not always a bad person who should be slapped a fine for forgetting a bag.
Professional dog walkers are not always picking up their dog mess . Is this one dog one plastic bag or just one plastic bag for the lot
Because you don't have to pick up faeces on National trust land - more plastic bags dumped in our countryside
It could be they have already used there bags to pick up. Also what should happen if it cant be picked up as in the dog has an upset stomach
responsible dog owners may on occassion forget and still be able to move the waste to a hedge or out of the way. Or they may have used all the bags they are carrying at time they are stopped and asked.
I think on occasion a dog can become unwell on a walk and need 3 or more poo bags. Also runny faeces would be impossible to pick up. I don't think these things should be criminalised.
What happens if this is the first time the person has forgotten and/or they do not have sufficient bags and have used them up beforehand?
Because with the best will in the world sometimes you run out and have to borrow a bag

Stop dog walkers and ask them to show the dog poo bag .If they don't have it , issue Fine on the spot £100
Fine them if they do not have poo bags that can be shown to warden etc.
The order is very prescriptive you do not necessarily need a bag to pick it up.
Please see previous comment
do not mandate what people should or should not carry - it will result in vexatious prosecution of people who may have run out of poo-bags or just put on a different coat without a supply in the pocket - again smacks of totalitarianism
As having owned a dog I know that once the dog has "been" they unlikely that will go again. In this instance I may take my dog out a short distance WITHOUT the means to pick up as I would not need anything as the dog has already done its business. In this proposal I would be deemed as contravening this act. I feel this is going a little too far and is unnecessary as you do not always need something with you.
Obviously I agree people should have to clear up after their dogs. But as stated before, I do not agree with officers demanding to see what someone has in their pockets. This is intrusive, can lead to arguments and upset and is unlikely to target the people really causing the problem.
I think there should be some leeway with this as sometimes you may have cleaned up you dog poo knowing that your dog only does one poo so may not have another bag, also I have used a tissue to clean up, would you're jobsworths consider this to be a suitable means or would they be throwing a party at being able to issue a fine
However if the person normally carries them but for some reason hasn't that one time this should be taken into consideration.
I have heard of some over the top enforcement officers demanding proof, I think that there are genuine times where you may have used your waste bags and now have empty pockets, or unfortunately there are times where you find yourself without the means, I have been known to use a crisp packet, face mask, large leaf etc in those circumstances. I think it would be better for DBC to provide poo bags in green spaces, many other local authorities do this and it could be funded through the proceeds of the fines that have been given.
I don't agree that dog owners can be stopped and searched or face a fine.
People can forget things by accident. I don't think punishing them with fines is fair, maybe the constables should carry the bags for in case people forgot
Maybe at end of walking dog so may have already used poobags
Only reason for not agreeing is you may not have one after disposing of one
Because most dogs go twice then you run out
As previously answered
Again stop and search?
I always have plenty of bags with me, but if your dog has already done its business and you've not got any more on you it shouldn't mean an automatic fine as its not always black and white. Ie, you might have given someone your spare bags and on way home
Sometimes dogs do more poops than usual, people lend bags to other dog owners or genuinely forget. In my case when this happens, I will go home and return with dog bags or retrieve a suitable container from the rubbish bin.
Might run out of bags during a walk. Might lose or forget bags

I agree but I think you need to have justifiable reasons to ask for evidence. Not just stop every dog owner.

It's not possible in every single case by everyone with a dog to have a bag. For whatever reason they may not have a bag at that time for any number of reasons.

NO COMMENT

Concerned that a bag etc had already been used. It's easy to make a mistake or forget, especially the elderly. Dog wardens should carry bags to give a person in an emergency.

You must clean up your own dogs faeces but not asked to clean up others or asked personal questions

See previous comment

As before.

I think this will lead to unnecessary confrontations with people whose dog may have already pooped and been cleaned up. The town PSPOs are already contentious with lots of bad stories on Facebook about intimidation.

Appendix 5

Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of the order that dogs must be placed on a lead if required by a Constable or an authorised officer within the areas shown on the map in Schedule 2?

If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below.

Yes providing such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person.
Depends on what constitutes "authorised". Who would be authorised other than a police officer?
It could cause a disturbance, by that I mean an argument.
All dogs with agresive danger or nature should be on the lead
It should not apply on any private land, and only in specific, designated areas which have been securly fenced off with suitable signs to inform people that the order is applicable in that area.
I will only respond / engage with a uniformed police officer. I do not recognise an authorised officer to be the law
This should be much stronger. Shouldn't a dog be on a lead on a public footpath? Too often dogs bound up barking when one is out walking. The public should expect to be able to walk in the countryside in peace.
An out if control dig has already caused a nuisance, frightened someone or caused injury to person or another dog. Dogs should be on leads in public places.
Once again no provision for training of animal
No. I think there is already a law covering dangerous dogs and the police should be called
I believe any member of the public can request a dog to be put on a lead if they feel unsafe.
Is there enough authorised person to enable this to be put into practice?
What a constable considers "proper control" could be subjective. There are already so few places for dog walkers and having the freedom this will only empower these restrictions more and have a negative impact on dogs and their walkers
This seems hard to enforce - what is a reasonable scenario? Some members of the public are more concerned about dogs than others, but the dog owners have a right to use public spaces just the same as non dog owners. The dog being dangerous and aggressive in my opinion. Parks should be where dogs can be exuberant and run around
I have never seen an authorised officer to take such action. Both the police and the Dog warden were not interested when I reported my dog being attacked on two separate occasions
If you are trying to train you're dog and it is on a dropped long training line and the dog isn't listening and an officer comes and tells you to pick it up how are you ment to train you're dog.
All dogs should be kept on a lead when in a public places, when walking in the street, town, crowded public places. Unless they are in a field, park, woods, dog park, etc.

I've been asked to put my dog on a lead despite my dog just sitting with me. Neither I or my dog was doing any harm to anyone. We were in a busy dog friendly park but that does not mean that a well behaved dog is going to cause a problem.
Most have no idea of how to control a dog
I agree with the principle but I have an issue with the wording of this clause and the way that it is being enforced by some authorised officers. It is common knowledge that people are being issued with 'on the spot' fines in Gadebridge Park if they are in control of a dog which is off lead around the children's play area. What assurance can DBC give that owners will be given every opportunity to recall their dog and put them on the lead if requested to do so?
Only if a good reason can be present as to why
As the owner of a small dog who is on a lead all the time when out, I think that this should apply to all dogs. The times dogs off leads come leaping towards my dog with owners screaming at their dog to avail. This nis made worst when there are more dogs with owners all off leads , it becomes a pack totally out of control.
because they are little Hitlers that should go and get a proper job
The need becomes subjective. Some dogs are more obedient than others
Dogs should be under control AT ALL TIMES
I think all dogs in public spaces should be on a lead
I do not agree with this as dogs need to be off lead in order to take adequate physical and mental exercisce which this measure would prevent. If people don't like dogs, I suggest that they move somewhere else that is dog free - I belive Antarctica is quite nice!
I think dogs should be on a lead at all times when In public spaces it's sometimes quite intimidating when out walking your own dog on a lead when other dogs are allowed over by owners too far away to have any control
Please ensure this as on Farm lands dog walkers as a buisness let their dogs off and cause a nuisance around piccotts end they have anything from 6 to 10 dogs running wild and does affect wild life they need to be banned from this area at piccotts end
My dogs have been attacked by off lead dogs with irresponsible owners. I walk my dogs in the Gadebridge park daily and know virtually all the other dog walkers but not all dog walkers are responsible and have no control of their off lead dog. IF a dog is on a lead then an owner should not allow off-lead dog should not run up to it
Dogs should be on leads in playgrounds and parks near to children and other park walk/cycle paths through the park.
The non dog owner is not always right, some kids behave worse, will they be made to have leads
Because I don't live in a police state look at Ukraine UA
I only think that a dog should have to be on a lead if it's dangerous
it can lead to abuse by people working for a private company to generate money and not actually to prevent a problem. People will keep their dogs on leads in areas where they are not allowed to be off the lead problem. Under which circumstances should dogs be on lead?
Only if the dog is causing problems

I do not believe that someone who does not know the dog knows whether they are being a nuisance or could cause annoyance to others. I do not believe by putting a lead on a dog always solves the problem.
Because DBC should not be in the fascist state business
The phrase "cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person" is too vague and allows anyone who simply doesn't like dogs to request that an officer demands their restraint. There needs to be more balance between the rights of dog lovers and dog haters.
Should be at ALL times
What constitutes to a dog off a lead to be a nuisance. It,s one person,s opinion against another.
Dogs should be on a lead at all times unless in a specially provided enclosed area to exercise the dog or it should be mandatory that it wears a muzzle. Not everyone likes dogs and even the owners are unable to predict their behaviour.
I dont agree.
Dogs should always be on a lead in public places unless the area is a nominated lead free area.area
Ideally dogs would be on a lead at all times regardless of whether or not an authorised officer has said so.
Compulsory that dogs are placed on a lead where children are present
In general I agree with statement, however it has been identified that the company currently used is over zealous and does not ask but fines people. It may be that they have a kpi to meet which is not in the publics interest and is not in keeping with the statement above.
My dog walks close to us and comes when called, some owners need training rather than their dogs
Presumably they would be required to have good reason to make the request.
A sign is not an authorised person
his dog? most dog walkers I see are female and some spend more time looking at their mobile phone than their dog.
A well behaved and obedient dog should not be compelled to be in a lead
This is useful and I primarily agree as long as the power and the judgement is not absued by the authorised person.
the wording is to vague does that mean if someone lives in a property owned by the council that a officer could make a owner put there dog on a lead in there garden. also would it be at the officers discretion or would there be guide lines as to what is considered as causing annoyance or disturbance
An order should be in place to mandate that dogs must be kept on leads on pavements. There are too many owners that don't use dog leads when walking dogs on pavements next to roads, house, schools etc.
Dogs are usually better exercised and happier off the lead. Giving an arbitrary person power over walkers seems unreasonable. Owners should have control over the dogs. In a case where cows are charging at walkers with dogs it is probably safer for everyone not to have the dog on a lead.

I agree only if there is a reason for the request and if the person issuing the request had a reasonable level of knowledge on dog behaviour
Because it is unreasonable to think everyone has total control over everything a dog does.
Only if the dog is a danger/viscious
All dogs in public places should be on a lead .
I would immediately put my dog on a lead if circumstances made it necessary. I don't need anyone to make that judgement on my behalf
Long leads should only be allowed in parks and country side, fines on the spot if they cannot comply.
Again this is covered under other acts of Parliament.Plus the order is too wide ranging, any area in Decorum, including my land.
Many times dogs run up to me barking and scaring me but owners just ignore it.
All dogs should be kept on a lead in public places at ALL times, unless: in a specified dog exercise area.
all dogs must be on lead at all time!!! It is nice to say dogs should exercise but most of the time they exercise on walkers who have not asked for anything!
totalitarianism -
If they have appropriate training in dog behaviour then I would agree
I think dogs should be put on leads when requested by members of the public also, not everybody likes dogs running around them and the green spaces in Dacorum are for all not just dog owners.
There should be enclosed specific dog parks
Dogs should be kept on leads in public places and parks if they are not sufficiently trained to return to their owners call. My children feel terrified when an unknown dog bounds up to them!
Affix to something suitable? Not sure about that wording or statement. I agree leads are necessary if a dog is being a nuisance to others including other dogs..
Give a legitimate reason, then yes of course. No good reason, then no.
A dog being off the lead and under control could be interpreted differently by different people and would like cause confrontation between dog owner and authorised person ie. A constable that doesn't like dogs making a dog owner put the dog on a leaf for there benefit even though the dog is fully under control
I feel that if a dog's owner knows their dog could be a danger to others in general, the owner should ne required by law to have their dog on a lead anyway and if really dangerous, the dog must be muzzled.
All dogs should be on leads in public places
I think the area is too broad and you need to specify only fields with livestock or children's playgrounds that dog's shouldn't be allowed offlead on. Your officers could target people out of boredom or vendetta as it stands
I don't agree unless it is absolutely clear when and where a dog must be on a lead.
Dogs should be on a lead all the time when out as most owners Don't have any recall
This should be only a person authorised and not someone demanding simply because they don't like dogs
I think all dogs walking on pavements should be on a lead

Who are they to tell people to keep their dogs on leads ?
There are many dogs that under the control of their owners being off the lead and the PSPO's need to have common sense when enforcing the rules
I agree that dogs out of control should be on a lead but some of these officers are asking to place dogs on a lead that are behaving themselves.
Should be "when in a public space" not wait to be told
My dog was attacked by another whilst on a lead. If she had been off less she could have run away. I want it to be my decision whether she is on or off less.
Dog owners are the minority of the people in the Borough, yet their dogs dominate public spaces. If the Council wants to act on their belief that it is advantageous for animal welfare reasons for dog owners to be able to exercise their dogs off lead in open spaces, then there should be specially designated fenced restricted areas where they should be allowed to do so. Anywhere else, dogs should be on leads at all times. This is necessary because the majority of owners are incapable of controlling their dogs when they are not on leads, and cannot stop them being a nuisance to the rest of the occupants of the Borough, particularly children.
In certain circumstance such as footpaths it should be compulsory and not only at the request of an authorised person.
If a genuine disturbance. Not over exuberant PCSOs asking for little reason.
They should be on a lead at ALL times
NO COMMENT
Additionally some dogs associated with a piece of land may be on unfenced private land but their presence and behaviour can cause a nuisance to people lawfully using public footpaths either by the dogs on that land being off lead or tethered too close to the footpath to make the use of the footpath comfortable.
I think dogs should be kept on leads when out in public areas
Job worths are known to take things to extreme and not allow training of the animal
I agree and think more needs to be done when it is reported that someone is not able to control their dog. Morgan Steel at the ASB team does not take this seriously at all which is concerning. Dogs should have to be on leads.
However again a non dog owner or inexperienced dog person may not understand a dogs behaviour and insist when not necessary
The principal is fine, the mechanism of a public order is a money making scam for dacorum and its third party companies.
I agree but my dog walks off lead and if I see anyone I don't know I always get him back to me.

Appendix 6

Do you agree or disagree with continuation of the order that dogs should be prohibited from all children's play areas?

If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below.

Sometimes there will be a public footpath going through these areas and this must be taken into account.
Families with dogs don't get to use playgrounds unless tethering dogs on outside of play area. It excludes access.
Its awkward because it's down to individual people. I feel that dogs should be kept leaved on short lead if in a child's play area with their owner while their child plays (may be a single parent) otherwise the child could miss out. The dog owner should know their dog and whether it's safe for all concerned. Needs to be individuals accountability. Maybe should be no dog if they can't be calm and collected in that environment.
All play areas should be securely fenced.
It would be nice to have benches outside of the play area instead of inside so dog owners can sit whilst the children play
All children's play equipment should be in an enclosed area. Dogs are unable to understand that they must stay 3 meters away from play equipment that isn't enclosed
Where is the provision for family outings, this council is not animal friendly
However, 3 metres is not ideal if you have children inside the play area
The exclusion zone around unfenced designated play areas need to be clearly signposted
within 3m of unenclosed play equipment - hard to manage if a dog is running. Hard to police
I would like to be able to supervise my children and have my dog close by. He is calm, gentle and I no would ensure he has done his business elsewhere before entering a play area.
These zones should be extended to exclude dogs
Agreed but children play areas should have sufficient fencing around to discourage this
Lots of mums want to walk dogs and take children to the park at the same time. Keeping 3m away from unenclosed empty play equipment at all times is unnecessary and restrictive
Play areas, slides etc should be adequately and securely be fenced off. It's not like you have adults only areas in a park.
The two parks nearest to me are Bunkers Play park and Barnacres. Both these areas have large green spaces and an area with equipment. It's unrealistic for a parent to bring children and a dog but not bring the dog inside the park. The enclosed space also provide a safe area for dog training (very few spaces exist for this purpose) so it's such a shame to completely exclude dogs. I do agree with excluding dogs from small playgrounds within a larger park area though as there is additional space for dogs.
It's hard when you walk a dog and have kids, so I think dogs should be allowed but not allowed to foul or urinate on the equipment, they should be on a short lead

<p>If parents are attending parks and play spaces with their dogs, leaving them 3m away would not be workable - especially with dog thefts on the rise. This excludes a segment of the community from these spaces. Dog's on leads in these areas = fine, but distancing is disproportionate and not an appropriate way to treat members of a family (which dogs are to most owners)</p>
<p>If dog is well behaved and under full control, if users of playground don't have any objections, I see no problem having dogs around children play area (except play area)</p>
<p>Families have dogs. They should be on a lead there. Where would ne put a dog while your children are playing? If a dog fouls then it needs to be picked up.</p>
<p>How are you ment to know how far 3 meters is away from the equipment</p>
<p>Ok if on lead. Eg Mum with children</p>
<p>Better to exclude the children</p>
<p>If a dog is off lead in the vicinity of a children's unenclosed play area there is every possibility that dog may wander within 3 meters of the area - dogs have no understanding of measurement! A public space is just that - by definition it should be accessible to all members of the community, including animals that are safe to be in that public space. Children's play areas should never be in an open public space also visited by animals for obvious health and safety reasons!</p>
<p>All areas should be enclosed</p>
<p>It's important for children to play and understand animals</p>
<p>I don't agree with the 3m rule around the unenclosed play equipment. Unenclosed play equipment should be enjoyed by all, including families with dogs. You might as well just enclose the play equipment.</p>
<p>If fenced off yes - however a shared space that has a family which the dog is part of should allow the family as a whole to enjoy</p>
<p>My dog has better manners than a lot of children who play at these parks, 3 metres is too large an exclusion zone.</p>
<p>We need to get along</p>
<p>I think if a dog is on a lead and walking through an area to avoid dark alley or similar then that should be permissible.; but not staying and off lead.</p>
<p>I agree with most of the in Dog Exclusions statement but being part of the previous Dacorum consultation and as a responsible dog owner as raised then it is the same now as it may be difficult to apply a rule where no physical barrier exists. Dogs not being permitted within 3 metres (correct spelling) of any unenclosed play equipment can be identified with signage but not enforced, specifically where the parkland allows dogs off the lead. As stated I am a responsible dog owner but, I also know that if my dog is off the lead the dog could and would treat a climbing frame like a tree or a lamp post. I will also add I do not allow my dog off the lead near park equipment for this reason.</p>
<p>More thought should be given to sports pitches in the borough. 3 new football pitches at the top of Durrants Lane Berkhamsted, opened last Sunday and were used all morning. One of the pitches had been fouled by a dog and had to be cleared up. Those pitches are being used by dog owners from the new estate at the top of Durrants Lane as a park. there should be signage prohibiting dogs to use the land as a toilet.</p>
<p>3 meters is too close to small children for an unpredictable dog</p>

<p>The borough has failed to provide enough accessible open green space suitable for exercising dogs (amongst other uses.) Childrens play areas tend to have priority, but where the council has failed to provide perimeter fencing, this excludes dogs from central green spaces. If all childrens play equipment was fenced or if there were suitable alternative places for young dogs to be exercised/trained off lead then I would support the order.</p>
<p>If dogs need to be kept out of an area - build a fence</p>
<p>And for that reason they come to piccotts end and allow dogs to run riot over the land and private fields which is set aside for wild life and they are destroying it</p>
<p>A blanket ban seems a bit extreme. Most dogs are well-behaved.</p>
<p>I agree for dogs to not be allowed in enclosed children's play parks. Dogs should be allowed to be walked on a lead in the general park area.</p>
<p>This prevents dog owning families enjoying the play area PLUS I must say that the decision to prevent dogs from entering the cafe area is pretty pathetic. Gate off the splash park so the cafe is an area that can be used by dog owners, plus we do not want irresponsible parents and badly behaved children running around up to us</p>
<p>You should start with appropriately fencing off children's play areas</p>
<p>I think it is enough that dogs in play areas should be on a lead under close control</p>
<p>They live in kids gardens trust 99% of dog owners to sort it and stop wasting my money</p>
<p>I do agree that all dogs should be banned from enclosed play areas however it is very difficult to keep a dog 3 m from an unenclosed play area for example in Gadebridge park</p>
<p>Some people need to exercise their dogs when they take their children out. With the huge increase in dog theft of late they should be allowed to take their dogs on leads into the play area , keeping their children and pets safe and under control</p>
<p>Parents may need to supervise children as well as holding a dog on a lead</p>
<p>I think they should be allowed in if on a lead</p>
<p>People will keep their dogs away from this areas</p>
<p>If you do not want a dog to go in areas prohibited to them then fence the areas off. We can paying thousand to move a river in a park then a fence cannot be much more. At the end of the day a dog likes to run and exercise just as much as human, but a dog cannot read exclusion signs.</p>
<p>Because DBC should not be in the fascist state business</p>
<p>I agree in dog free spaces but Plse can dog owner residents of Berkhamstead have a dog park like to one n apsley</p>
<p>dogs are part of the family too. Socialisation with dogs is great for building bonds, forming compassion and understanding for animals, and generally teach children responsibility.</p>
<p>It will only be acceptable if the exclusion zones are very clearly marked at regular interval around their perimeter.</p>
<p>Dogs should only be excluded from unenclosed play areas if the exclusion zone is clearly marked and suitably signed.</p>
<p>I see too many dogs left tied to the fence while adults entertain their children. This is a green light for dog thieves to get away with one. I think they should be allowed into the park with the owners as long as they are on a short leash.</p>

I agree with the enclosed order, but not the enclosed order, how do you access the 3 meter rule. Enclose any enclosed play area,s.
I agree, but feel that all childrens play areas should be fenced/partitioned off from areas
i agree with inside the play area, but not to stupid 3 metre rule outside the play area
Some but not all who decides?
I agree to a certain point, but I would like to point out that as a frequent visitor (every day with my dog) that there are only a few notices put up and the majority of people have no idea that their dog is not allowed in the area. Example is a man in his eighties was on a bench where the swings are with his dog on a lead and his young grandson on the swings. He was fined £80. He had no idea of these new laws, therefore if they are enforced there needs to be more signs. I have told more than 20 people of this and they had no idea. If dogs are to be 3 meters away, why not save all the complications and fence off the area.
Done dogs can be an asset
Ideally they should be fenced off.
Yes but not within 3 metres as a dog could be tied to the railing on the outside whilst the parent and child are on the inside so this rule does not make sense, but on the inside where children run around yes
If the dog is behaved well then it's fine
Only if the area is fenced
I don't see an issue with dogs on as long as they are leashed and under control. I have both dogs and children.
Because if you have a child and a dog you can't watch both
If you want to separate a child's play area then fence it. Why should dogs suffer the restrictions because your to tight or lazy to protect the area with a fence. Children can have more freedom with the adult knowing they can't escape or someone can't grab a child. Yes you are meant to keep your eyes on your children but it only takes 2 minutes. Some people have 3 maybe 4 children plus bikes are just as dangerous riding through a play area all this would be hard if the area is fenced
dogs when off lead do not know how to use a tape measure so unenclosed play equipment should not be included or should be enclosed
I agree all dogs should be excluded from enclosed play areas, these are clearly designated fenced spaces for children. I disagree with 'dog exclusion zones' that are unfenced especially in Gadebridge Park, many residents have complained about the lack of fencing around the new park.
In winter and when play areas are not in use these environments are perfect for training the dog outside but contained by fences
It might be nice to have some seats for dog walkers at the suitable distance in case they have dogs and children
Because my dog does not know what 3 metres is. I now have to put my dog on a lead in the area where previously there were no childrens playthings and he was allowed to run free. Dacorum Park hates dogs and dog owners and rather than put a fence up it harresses dog owners, frightening them and fining them. Also dogs are not allowed in the area of the cafe where dog walkers would benefit from a warm drink and be able to meet people

<p>It is unfair that I cannot take my grandaughter to the park without my dog. My dog is her best friend and shouldn't be left at home just because it's not allowed near the play area</p>
<p>Tere should be MOT for the dogs annually by VET</p>
<p>If we are walking our dog with our children and come to a play area, often they want to go in. Currently, they cannot do this as the dog is not permitted inside and we would not feel comfortable tying the dog to the railings. I believe dogs should be permitted but they must be on a lead with a maximum length of 1m and under control at all times..</p>
<p>I often go to the park with my dog and grandchildren. When in the vicinity of the play areas I always keep the dog on a lead, or carry her. This order discriminates against dog owners</p>
<p>Gadebridge park should be split into half for dogs and half dog free. That way kids, adults, parents with push chairs or the disabled can play on grassed areas without worry of being covered by dog poo</p>
<p>Families have dogs, also people who are trying to train their puppies need secure location to practice recall training so that when the dogs are walked in open spaces theyre safe to themselves and the public. Such as the parks on Belswaines before nash mills</p>
<p>Consideration is needed as some dog owners do not have gardens or secure/safe areas to exercise dogs.</p>
<p>The order allows you to add areas at will, it even makes me an outlaw if I want to buy a drink where the cafe is not located in a splash park or children's area.</p>
<p>This is mot always possible. If a lone parent/relative is walking a dog and child together it is not possible to allow the child access to play facilities without the accompanying dog. Which should be on a lead and under control.</p>
<p>only those areas that have fences and are clearly marked - playing fields etc. must be excluded from any such orders</p>
<p>This would depend on the individual and or the behaviour of the dog. Yo blanket ban is lazy and penalises those that would benefit from being allowed in these spaces. I would like to walk my dog AND take my daughter to the park at the same time. Having a ban on dogs in these areas makes this impossible. It suggests that I am capable of being a responsible dog owner OR a responsible parent, believe me when I say I can be both.</p>
<p>All areas should be enclosed</p>
<p>However if a single person is taking their dog & children for a walk, can the dog enter the zone if on a lead?</p>
<p>Eventually you'll end up with very limited places you can take your dog. It will become like USA with dog parks which just don't work for so many dogs.</p>
<p>I do not agree all play areas. I feel there should be some family members with dogs can take the children too.. have ones like one near me when a dog work is one side and the enclosed park in the other but some parks needs to permit dogs but be patrolled and the sanctions where an owner must have the dog well under control at all times and on lead in these areas be implemented be .</p>
<p>Pointless endeavour.</p>

The children's play area should be fenced and dogs not allowed in it, rather than left unfenced.
I agree with the prohibition of dogs from enclosed play areas but to attempt to prohibit dogs from a distance of 3m from unenclosed play areas is impossible to police - people can't easily determine 3m and there will be conflicts
Dogs should only be excluded from fenced areas. It ought to be very clear.
At Gadebridge Park please put fences up around the play areas!
Agree with enclosed play areas but may be difficult with unenclosed area without plenty of notices
As especially Gadebridge there isn't a fence in which to exclude dogs from entering the "park", also is the fence surround the rest of the parks including or excluding the 3 meter rule? It's not very clear whether they are allowed to sniff the fence surrounding or be 3 meters away
Very hard to keep dogs out if unenclosed play areas. All play areas to be enclosed
I agree with play areas but not the cafe area if outside you should be able to buy a cup of tea and sit and drink it if your dog is on a lead
Dogs do not know 3 metre rules, I agree that dogs should not be allowed in enclosed child play areas but very occasionally a dog may run towards an unenclosed area and the owner not be aware of this rule. They should be given time to get the dog on a lead without these authorised people waiting for the 3 metre rule to be broken as seems to be happening in Gadebridge park.
Families take there dogs in so surely anyone can if unoccupied
I agree childrens play areas if that is all it is ie not football pitches and general playing fields
Think your policy down at Gadebridge is a joke. Money scam that has swindled some old and vulnerable people out of money. Disgrace!
But ideally play area should be within a fenced area.
I think it could be ok if the dog is on a lead and is not aggressive
More dog parks required like apsley
But please make sure they have locks on as my dog pushes the gate open
If I have my dog with me, and my niece is in the enclosed play area, adding 3metres to the distance between us would be difficult. If a dog is on a lead, and sitting beside the railings, outside of a park, causing no bother, surely this is enough? What's the scientific reason for the 3m exclusion zone, when railings are usually a way away from the play equipment anyway.
I think all the play areas should be enclosed.
Responsible dog owners can be parents
Gadebridge Park is not enclosed
I agree but I think there needs to be improvements in the provision for dog friendly areas too eg secure dog fields which are properly gated off (much like children's playgrounds) so that dogs can be exercised safely off lead (especially puppies)
I think dogs under control and on leads should be permitted in play areas; this will increase the health of children who families own dogs as they will be able to use to equipment more often.,

Fine for enclosed play areas but not for unenclosed areas. Or provide enclosed areas for dogs to be exercised in

When out and about walking dogs and taking children to the park it can be a hindrance to have this separation. You end up having to choose to tie a dog up and leave it which reduces its exercise and causes anxiety. Or leave the child in the playground unsupervised whilst caring for the dog. Written rules and common sense should be applied. sense

some play areas are not cordoned off in parks, therefore dogs can't read and wouldn't know not to go in a certain area. I think the council needs to strongly fence off play areas

Dogs on Leads should be allowed closer than 3 m to unenclosed play equipment, as often parents with dogs and children wish to sit close to where the children are playing

Whilst I believe dogs should not be allowed in enclosed children play areas I don't agree with an exclusion zone around open space play areas. If you want dogs to be kept out put fences around them. We also need a drinks kiosk outside of the fenced area in Gadebridge Park to enable dog owners to buy a drink without having to leave there dogs unattended.

Dogs are not a threat to public health, kids have more germs than dogs. I don't understand the need for this prohibition

A parent should be able to supervise their children on play equipment whilst also taking there pet out for a walk

This is hugely problematic. It means mothers with young children are now unable to walk their dogs and supervise their young at the same time and have to pick between the two. There is a log near the playground (a few metres away) where mothers meet, one has a small puppy and now she is not allowed to sit with us (as this is deemed play equipment). The children loved to pet the dog. Now the dog has to be left at home. There are numerous problems with this overzealous order. I believe it is not 'reasonable or proportionate' to affect families and friends in this manner. Not enough emphasis has been placed on the benefits of introducing children responsibly to dogs or including them as part of a family. This order does nothing to stop irresponsible owners with dangerous dogs who ignore such signs and who will let their dogs foul morning, noon and night when no officers are about. Being on a lead within 3 metres should be enough of a restriction. Thank you.

But play areas should be enclosed so that boundaries are clearly visible to all .. also it is very difficult to walk a dog off less when there is a play area in the middle of a park with no fencing around it !!

Because dogs are a vital part of family life and often parents will walk the dog and visit the play centre. They should be able to take the dog in with them.

families have dogs so long as they are on a lead and under control and they do not go to toilet within that area

I think that dogs in children's play areas should be on a lead, with relevant muzzle as necessary and supervised by the owner/handler. Children should have access to dogs so it doesn't hinder or damage their relationship with them. If the owner/handler knows the dog is jittery, unfriendly or known to be scared around crowds/lead noises then they shouldn't take them to those areas

Some dogs are not a danger to children no more than cats.. Children will often be out with their dogs and when playing. Only problem dogs should be kept away.

NO COMMENT

Sometimes footpaths leading from car parks to public foot paths are within 3 meters of play areas which may need to be better explained if this is an offence.

This could prevent use of open spaces with unenclosed child areas as how can you stop a dog from running to within 3 metres?

In certain instances a responsible owner can ensure their dog behaves appropriately. Families with dogs face difficulties when exercising their dogs and wishing their children to play on a play area.

Responsible owners already do this. There is not sitting arrangements around these areas for those who are taking dog and children for walks and exercise

Particularly Gadebridge Park- you are excluding dogs more and more and it annoys me a lot- I can walk near the swing park and my dog loves to chase the squirrels in the nearby trees without going anywhere near a child or equipment yet your 'exclusion zone' extends to these trees- it's unfair and ridiculous. I should also be able to sit at a table at the park cafe with my dog on a lead as civilised St Albans Park allows...you appear to have it in for dog owners wishing to use the park

As before.

I ticked no so I could comment as you only seem to allow comments for disagree. Of course dogs should be kept from children's play areas in case of fouling but you need to look at the 3m rule. If you proceed with it you need much better communication and huge signs and a warning process before people are fined. Lots of negative experiences on Facebook from people in Jarman Park.

My dog likes to run in the play area. And if I'm the only one I. There I don't see a problem. He would never wee or poo in there

Appendix 9 Other Comments

Any additional comments of concerns about dogs and their owners?
Open-Ended Response
<p>I have experienced issues regarding the behaviour of dogs and dog owners in public places: when I am on public footpaths. I have had issues with behaviours of dogs on an area of private land where I used to walk the public footpaths. On 20 January 2022 at 09:15 I have had to run from the Chiltern Way footpath in Little Gaddesden to the safety of the road away from a large Caucasian Shepherd dog which was off lead and running towards us. Its owners were not on site and returned in their vehicle shortly after this took place. The reason I was frightened was that on previous occasions since the dogs arrived on the fields in Little Gaddesden and I have walked the paths I would see and hear the dogs growling, barking and yanking their tethers very close to the footpath as I have walked it with or without my dog. This is very uncomfortable and has stopped me from walking them. I very occasionally try to walk across when the occupiers are away from site and when the dogs are tethered further away from the footpath. This is still very uncomfortable and I prefer not to. I do not believe large dogs should be tethered or loose close to a public footpath as this can be intimidating for people and other dogs. On 19 February 2022 at c11:25 am following a meeting at the Church I walked from the Church to the playground in Little Gaddesden on the public footpath across the same private land. The occupants of the land saw me enter the lower field containing their encampment. At all times I was on the public footpath. They rushed from their accommodation vehicles to their pick up truck - quite a distance - they then hurriedly encouraged one of their large dogs to approach the footpath by one of them running towards the path and they then started throwing the ball towards to the footpath their dog to fetch as I sought to walk past on the path which meant the dog about barking and yanking at their tether which felt very close to me and I felt very uncomfortable. At the same time one of the occupiers filmed the dog and me walking past; their other dog joined in the barking. I was intimidated and frightened. It felt it safer to keep my head down with my phone against my ear and keep walking and not to engage with them and hope that the tethers held and that the dog was sufficiently engaged with the ball. I wonder what the video will be used to demonstrate. The dogs have been chained up outside and bark. If their owners are not on site the dogs bark even more. The noise the dogs make carries, day or night, and is not appropriate. It doesn't feel fair on the dogs either. I do not think dogs should be allowed to bark unrestrained or unchecked even if they on private land the sound travels across fields, roads, gardens, into houses and affects people and the enjoyment of their homes and the enjoyment of the public spaces. Dogs barking now and again is reasonable dogs barking creating a backdrop of noise most of the day and at times during the night is unacceptable.</p>
<p>Something that frustrates me is dog walkers meeting up. So you'll get two people walking several dogs, but they're chatting away to each other and not paying attention to the dogs they're in charge of. Especially when the dogs are off lead. I have one well behaved dog who hates being surrounded but other dogs, so in this situation they all bound up to us and the people in charge are miles away not paying attention.</p>
<p>Guidelines could be posted for dog friendly lead/no lead areas with number of dog limitations. Examples are in use by e.g. wildlife trust. Local dog walker professionals seem to handle more than 5 dogs at once without dog personality assessment, therefore quickly create stressful out of control situations within their group affecting outsiders. It would help if they qualified to walk in specific Dacorum areas by complying with local rules about multiple dogs.</p>
<p>Even in "appropriate" areas, dog owners should train dogs not to approach other people or dogs without invitation. Others have a right to use public areas without being worried about other people's dogs.</p>
<p>Out of control dogs having a negative impact on the wildlife and ecosystems in the area as well the massive increase in dog fouling all over the borough.</p>

Owners seem to think it OK for their dog to run up to you as they 'know' it is just being friendly. But I can no longer assume that. Puts me off walking across Boxmoor.

There are so many dog walkers now with too many dogs that they cannot control them properly or they are too busy speaking to other dog walkers and just let their dogs run riot in the fields.

As a tenant in a flat in a Housing Association I am suffering from the aggression of a neighbour's dog, his fouling of the communal ground and urinating in front of my door. I can never enjoy the backyard behind my flat as the neighbour has made it his dog's toilet. I suffer from the smell in summer when it is very hot and cannot leave my windows open because of it. The dog has also been very aggressive towards me and also I contacted the police and the landlord about the matter the neighbour does not care and continue behaving in a very unsocial manner. I have to be careful, watching my back everytime I come out of my flat. I would appreciate it if there was some law to stop dogs fouling communal areas so we the tenant could enjoy the land safely and in a clean space.

Is it possible for jobs to be offered to people that do not mind collecting the dog poo in bags that has been left on the pavement, thrown into bushes etc.

I think that dogs should be kept on a lead in any built up area, especially in shopping areas. I think that there are many people who have dogs, but have no respect for other people and let their dogs foul anywhere, they don't carry bags, and before aggressive if asked to do something about it. Enforcement is the biggest problem.

With awareness now regarding dog fouling and the ability to purchase bags and clear mess up and take home/put in dog fouling bins there is no excuse for dog owners to not clear up after their pets. I live in a road that is a main route to a primary school and am astounded with amount of dog mess left on the pavements. On the spot fines should be introduced and adhered to

I don't like dogs jumping up. Unfortunately many owners are very relaxed about the behaviour of their dog and excuse/turn a blind eye to their bad habits.

I hate it that dog owners hang sacks of dog poo from trees and bushes. This is disgusting

I walk my dog on a daily basis, on and off lead, depending on circumstances, and always clean up his mess. It's a shame that a small minority of dog owners don't follow this. For cleaning up pet poos, what steps are being taken in respect of cats, as we regularly find cat poo in our garden but it is never addressed?

Sounds like the beginning of a police state. Dog owners do need to be responsible... Picking up the poo is the right intuition but the wrong level - why can anybody get a pet if they are unable to look after the animal and take care of the impact on their community..

Q13 depends on the size of the dog. 4 miniature dachshunds is very different to 4 Rottweilers. Unsure where is National Trust Land. But Public Footpaths and nearby open areas along new Road in Berkhamsted have far too many dog poo bags just left behind. Is that covered by this?

Any more than 2 dogs are not manageable. It doesn't matter how small they are

Please take action to prevent commercial dog-walking companies from invading our village. There is only so much local people can do to protect our environment. There have been several instances of villagers being physically assaulted by the commercial operators.

I person only has two arms and therefore can only suitably manage one dog per arm. There should be dog bins provided at all entrances to Nicky Line. You only have one between the Industrial estate and St Albans border.

I have seen dog walkers walk 6 dogs off the lead on commons where there are deer and a dog could easily chase a deer and the walker would not be able to stop or go after them. However, this question really depends on if the dogs are on lead and if the person is in control of the dog. A small child with a large dog would be unreasonable.

Yes a lot of people when walking their four lagged friends are on their mobile phones not keeping an eye on what their pet is doing ie squatting for a poo and they just keep on walking. Or people are in groups nattering away not paying any notice to their dog.

Fully agree with no dog in play areas, obviously. Otherwise, the issue is less the location and more the control people have over the dog. Goodness knows how this can be monitored!

Depends on the size of the dogs and capability of individual to control them. I would say 1 person equals one dog. I've seen up to 7 dogs get out of a small car, run wild, do their business, get put back in the car and taken home.

The answer to the previous question only applies where the dog walker exercises proper control and behaviour

I'm a dog handler working from Scotland down to Somerset every day, it's not the number of the dogs that is important but the level of control one has over the dogs which is more to the point. If you can evidence that you can manage with compliance BS8517 that you can manage 3/4/5 dogs great as opposed to not being able to manage 1 that's what should be being asked.

These new strict rules will only be reasonable if the council then provide secure dog parks for people to use.

Randells park Highfield hemel, needs patrolling as there's a couple of dog owners who refuse to pick up after their dog and letting their dogs to roam around the children's play area and weeing up the play equipment

Large frightening dogs kept in a field in church road Little Gaddesden which is intimidating and prevents the footpath being used as it has always been used hitherto.

Relating to people walking too many dogs. Last August I was knocked off my feet by a Bull Mastiff being walked off lead by a dog walker, who had at least another four dogs - three on leads and another one off the lead. This was at the Water Meadow in Great Gaddesden. I sustained a sprained ankle. I chose not to report this to the police as I was spending time with my children who were returning to Bristol the following day. I don't think the problem necessarily relates to the number of dogs on or off leads. It's whether the dogs are under control. Had the Bull Mastiff been on a lead, the dog walker would not have been able to control it, due to the sheer size of it. She certainly wouldn't have been able to manage all the different sized dogs together on leads. Personally, I feel three smaller dogs on leads or two large dogs at the most.

More enforcement for dog fouling

Why is the council so unfriendly towards dogs, You could take lessons from Cornwall who welcome dogs practically everywhere, is this another money making scheme?

There is absolutely no excuse for livestock worrying by loose dogs or importantly, the weaponisation of an aggressive dog on a lead to stop walkers using a perfectly legal footpath.

Only the comment already made about dogs in Church Road.

Control over x number of dogs is very subjective as depends on the person and the dogs

Your 3 metre exclusion zone is hard to police or defend yourself as a dog owner. In gadebridge Park it stresses me that there is an exclusion zone outside the fenced children's area which is not marked eg with football pitch lines. So I could be unjustly fined unless officers carry a tape measure. Please mark clearly the exclusion zone or place barded wire along it so my dog doesn't stray into an invisible exclusion zone outside a fenced children's playground.

Dig fouling has increased dramatically
Many dog walkers still assume that farmed land or open land used for hay crops or grazing is not covered by this. The fouling, which also includes dangerous worming chemicals, ruins hay crops and poisons grazing stock. Can more emphasis be given to that. The message should be - if you can't be bothered to pick up them don't have a dog! Are there fines for the idiots who throw their filled bags up tree? Finally - dog owners will communicate and queue up to fill this in - how does the council ensure that the vast number without a dog get to see this? THANKS FOR PERSEVERING WITH THIS - IT IS STARTING TO TAKE EFFECT
Less of a problem with private dog owners but some still ignore signage for livestock etc. Most problems are from commercial dog walkers
No.
Yes, they all say there Dog is friendly and this is clearly not the case.
I am a dog owner. I have a large dog that is always on a lead around children, town, roads etc. I am so annoyed by people that do not clean up after their dogs. I have experienced on a daily basis owners of small dogs who do not believe the rules apply to them. Small dogs running lose in children's play areas. Small dogs sitting on tables within the splash park area. Small dogs running free, not being monitored, pooping in the sand pit. Barking at other dogs, attacking other dogs. This attitude that little dogs don't need to obey the rules is the biggest problem.
Small toddlers are often frightened by dogs, especially if the dogs approach the child or jump up, even on a lead. Their owners always say something like " He's only being friendly" but this can still worry small children (more of whom are now walking to school or near their home because of the benefits of walking)
Owners of dogs that repeatedly attack need to be made to keep their dogs on leads and muzzled. It is not fair for responsible owners to be scared of walking their dogs for fear of being attacked by selfish owners dogs.
Think it would be useful to have more enclosed dog areas available for owners to exercise, socialise and train recall safely
Most dog owners are decent, law abiding people who love their pets. It's just the few who think the laws do not apply to them who spoil it for us all. I have lost count of the amount of times I have walked across fields in Berkhamsted with clear notices that dogs should be kept on leads which some owners have just disregarded. These seem to be the same owners who have no recall when their pets are chasing livestock.
The number of dogs being walked depends on size of the dog and more importantly how well trained they are.
Dog bins are not cleared often enough and overflow and there is simply not enough bins around
Professional dog walkers are not able to control all of the dogs. They are often let loose in grade ridge park and they are not able to see where they are fouling. I think unless you own all of the dogs and they live together you shouldn't be able to walk more than two dogs.
Too many aggressive dogs about Not enough bins Have never seen a representative from council about No idea who to contact at council when there is a problem

No comments about dogs and owners but, sadly, it's the behaviour of the minority that prompts the need for these controls. There is nothing in this survey that asks for positive experiences when meeting dogs and owners or how they may benefit the community. Dogs enable and encourage many many people to get out and exercise promoting good physical and mental health. Dog walkers check cattle and other wildlife, pick up rubbish, reports issues, look out for each other and are an integral part of neighbourhood watch, noticing anomalies in the community. It's a shame that the survey is quite focussed on excluding dogs. I often meet parents with children who are delighted to stop and say hello, often an opportunity to teach their child about good ways to greet a dog. While I generally support the order, it would be nice if the language used around dogs and dog ownership didn't feel quite so negative.

Lack of knowledge of what the dog warden can do and their powers of enforcement following an altercation.

The massive increase in the number of commercial dog walking businesses. This gives rise to large numbers of dogs not under proper control and where fouling is inevitable. These businesses are benefiting from the use of public land and should have to pay a significant fee to compensate for the damage and nuisance that they cause.

Larger fines for repeat of offences. Owners should show respect and consideration when allowing their dogs to relieve themselves in peoples front gardens.

no

There is an increased amount of dogs since lockdown. More fouling; more not picked up; bins become full quickly and are not emptied frequently enough any more. This causes bags of foul to be left lying around. Bags of foul left on the ground, on trees, hedges etc. This is particularly unpleasant on pathways.

I think all dog owners should do training courses in respect of controlling their dogs.

the number of dogs a person can walk depends on the size and breed of the dogs, and their temperament around others. Instead of imposing arbitrary rules which restrict the lives of your tax payers, instead focus on behaviours and enable shared community interactions in our community spaces

I think dogs should be allowed in the park as long as they're on a lead & under control. The rules as they stand make it difficult for people with children to walk their dog & watch their children

Does depend on the size of the dogs as to how many.

Unfortunately dog owners do not appreciate that not everyone loves their pooch or wants to be jumped on by it, if you try to speak to the owners they are generally rude and aggressive. I have become very nervous when I am out in the countryside following a frightening confrontation with a large stocky dog. The owner of which had no recall and did nothing to calm or retrieve the dog. This happened on the moor behind Water End cottages adjacent to the Nettleden Road about 18 months ago. My freedom to roam has been curtailed by this experience and spoil what used to be my love of enjoying the outdoors.

As i have said most people respect others and take care of their pets. It is not safe to have dogs off the lead by roads shops busy places, only the countryside and parks. it is good to have seperate childrens play areas for all concerned. most of us pick up the dog poo. some men can be very abusive if asked to put their dog on a lead. we want clean streets and nice areas for all.

They should respect the roads and parks curated for people to use and stick to separate dog only areas. Children and adults should have the right to walk and run in a park without feeling initimidated.

It is clear to all dog owners that a small minority of owners should not be allowed to have dogs. They aren't exercised properly and are out of control. Crack down on these people not the majority. Dog exercise is not only good for animal welfare it is good for humans too. Get the cyclists off footpaths and leave more space for people with or without dogs. Will you have a similar survey on cyclists?

Professionals have a better idea of behaviour in groups. Lots of times private owners with 1 or 2 dogs have less control than dog walkers with higher numbers. Perhaps that's because the group are occupied amongst themselves so don't seek out other attention / socialisation

Dog walkers need to be registered, many are out of control.

All dogs need to be kept on leads on public footpaths, children and other dogs are often confronted by large dogs which is often frightening for them.

I have much more of an issue with "professional"! dog walkers rather than individual dogs and owners who are largely very responsible. Dog walkers simply do not pick up the dog poo and often have multiple large dogs off lead.

Dogs are controlled easier on lead, unless the dogs is highly trained...long leads for exercise should be implemented, I have seen dogs run after footballs that children play with.....dogs are focused on the ball..it could one day be a child's hand....maybe a rule of in lead in public parks where children are present.

There are lots of dog poo bins in the area

It does depend on the walker and how they are able to manage the dogs.

It depends on the dogs breed, character, training, temperament, the person in control, how the dogs react to each other and other dogs not in their group. Some people can't control 1 dog. And others can happily walk 6!

As a wheelchair user my greatest bug bear is owners not picking up dog poo I am forever reporting dog poo on pavements and have had countless times where dog poo has been on my wheels it then gets transferred to my coat and gloves it needs to be stopped as I can't leave my wheelchair outside my house it has to be cleaned at a great effort and expense including the house

Obviously there is someone in the council that doesn't like dogs! Better to spend your time and tax payers money considering planning applications to build on our precious green belt (where we also walk our dogs). Shame on you for even commissioning this survey.

So much dog poo everywhere in Chipperfield

Some time ago a dog which was not on a lead and obviously out of control left the adjacent public right of way, ran on to our land, and then caught and killed my neighbours cat.

Dogs should be put on the lead if they approach a small child. Fines should be issued on the spot for not picking up dog mess.

Dependent on breeds. Some dogs can terrorise other dogs, e.g. some greyhounds, even if not "dangerous" to people. Those dogs should not be allowed off the lead anywhere on public land. Some dog breeds should always wear a muzzle when outside their owners property.

Not all dogs that are off lead are 'out of control' Dogs should only be off lead in appropriate settings All situations should be individually assessed

There is an increase in professional dog walkers on footpaths. Often 5- 6 dogs . I have 2 dogs . It is quite difficult to pick up dog waste and manage 2 dogs at the same time. I fail to understand how these dog walkers can do so for more than 4 dogs . Our footpaths are spoilt by dog fouling. A large group of dogs generates fear in mine ; particularly if they are big dogs .

People who have dogs off lead who don't actually watch their dogs, many don't even know that their dog has done their business

If children don't grow up respecting dogs and other animals then they will fear them. Mixing is important

Yes, they seem to have an air of entitlement about themselves and their dogs. We have become too tolerant about bad behaviour in all public spaces. I think dog owners behave responsibly only when they are being seen by other members of the public. Otherwise there would be no dog faeces on the pavements and parks if dog owners behaved responsibly.

as in q 11 The alley walk ways in general around lever stock green, long field etc have become a dog and school litter mess, its the responsibility of the school young person, and dog owner. but sadly some just don't care. Good luck in sorting that out.

I come across many dog owners who are friendly, well behaved people & animals that in the main clean up & feel the priority should be clearing up our parks from all the plastic pollution that is far more prevalent than dog faeces

This survey is biased in that it only deals with parts of the issues dealt with.

I think it's probably all right for a person to walk 3-4 dogs off the lead in open ground like Tring Park.

Dog walkers who offer a dog walking service often walk 6 or more dogs off lead and considering the amount of dogs they are walking I do not see them carry poo bags, full or not ! The woodland around Gadebridge and Halsey nature field are particularly popular with people who offer these dog walking services and are now areas which I have to avoid with my nervous dog.

Even on leads some owners are not under control of their animal

The vast majority of owners are responsible but, I do believe that there are a lot of new dog owners who do not understand their responsibilities and are ignorant of others whether, that is them leaving mess which includes rubbish in the park or street as well as dog mess. There appears to be an attitude that someone else will clean it up. If I caught them and had the local authority to do so I would fine them and then also place them on picking up duties. This could serve as a deterrent to future events. I have seen dogs let out of of dwelling on the boundary of parkland to walk themselves. This is fin in your own garden but not if its your park where everyone should be able to use , enjoy and safely.

See previous comments

People taking the trouble to collect dog excrement in a plastic bag, and the dumping the plastic bag in the open space.

The number of dogs you can control depends on the dogs size and temperament.

Random checks should be carried out to ensure that dogs are microchipped

My comment in 13. relates to dogs being walked by their owner or a dog walker they are familiar with. If the dog is a puppy or recently acquired, then 1-2 must apply

Free dog owning training classes for potential owners, this to be a legal requirement prior to registering when dog is purchased and microchipped. 1/ certificate of owner training attendance - validated. 2/ dog can only be sold once certificate validated. 3/ certificate details to be registered with dog. Penalties for breaching dog owning rules.
Owners walking dogs on lead whereby the dogs are big, strong and exhibit aggressive tendencies that the owner can only just maintain control with some difficulty.
Anti-social dog behaviour (ie dog waste not being picked up) tends to be more prevalent in the less dog-focused areas. (ie, paths near the highstreet, alley ways, greens of communal buildings) rather than in places people tend to go for the sole purpose of exercising their dogs. As such, I am in favour of community engagement with those bringing a dog into the high street, on a school run etc, but not those who are responsibly exercisign their dog in the out-of-town areas which have a much larger dog population at any time. (parks, estates, tow paths etc).
I don't think that this order should apply Borough wide or on private land. Areas it applies to should be fenced off with adequate signs. Dogs and their owners have as much right to be in public spaces for their enjoyment.
Please stop dog walkers as a business to use farm lands to walk and let the dogs loose, dog walkers should take the dogs on leads for a long walk have 3 max instead of letting them run around in a pack and then attacking other dogs which I have witnessed and had it happen to my dog on our land.
No
The above question would be 1-2 if large dogs. People using extendable dog leads should have to keep them shorter when walking on public footpaths along streets, they should only be extended in places where people can safely pass without having to go near the dog
I think they should ALL be muzzled, on leads all the time , Suggestion.... Ensure the signage is bigger, bolder., brighter, warning them not ot enter these restricted areas .The current ones are are not prominent enough
My concern is the councils attitude to responsible dog owners. This survey is very biased so that you can get the results you want. When there was a problem with an individual and his dog, it was never dealt with until he upset Mike Pennings wife!
My answer to Q13 (up to 6) takes account of professional dog walkers and boarding kennels who may need to walk as many as they can manage, but it depends on the competence of the dog walker and how well trained/big/strong the dogs concerned are. They should probably be allowed as many as they can safely control without danger of the walker being pulled over.
It should be a legal requirement to have insurance.
I think most are great but I would concentrate on the wrong ones human kids littering in Chaulden fields
Most of the dogs and walkers that I meet on my daily walk have complete control over their dogs. The fowling that I see on my daily walks are from the very few inconsiderate individuals.
As above

In Germany and Scandinavia, dogs must be kept on leads when being walked in public parks, on public footpaths and fields used for sport. They may only be unleashed in designated dog exercise areas. The same should apply in Britain.

Some Doggy daycare businesses walking multiple dogs at a time in Ashridge/Northchurch common area.

I love dogs, they really are 'man's best friend'. I worry that those people who will not clear their dog mess in public places are probably also unkind and uncaring of their dog. I'm disappointed that we scrapped the old dog licence policy as it gave the owner a sense of responsibility.

Zero bikes zero dogs. No compromise. Zero tolerance.

Concerned there will be unreasonable demands for dogs to be on leads everywhere in the Borough.

Generally 1-2 dogs seems reasonable, but if the temperament of the dogs is appropriate and being looked after by an experienced dog handler, or similar, then 3-4 could be acceptable

Dog walkers employ

No lead etiquette. No respect for an individual walking a dog on lead for their dogs well-being. Uncontrolled dogs but disinterested owners. 'Oh they are just being friendly'. Owners admitting they have let their dogs off lead to run in Ashridge but don't know exactly where they are.

As a guide dog owner/user, one of my biggest problems is dogs (often more than one dog and it has been as many as four) being walked off leads on a road (old fishery lane and under the A41 and railway line is a good example) that come bounding up to me and my dog. It is quite a frightening experience as I can't read the dogs' pictures/expressions. All I can hear is barking. The owner will say that their dogs are friendly. They might be but my dog is in a harness and can't run away if they turn out not to be. I can usually get my dog to keep on walking but we have been surrounded in the past. When walking along a pavement and roads, I expect dogs to be on leads as is the law. Dog fouling is also a problem.

I think that dog owners on the whole are quite defensive. Some are great but many are not and I tend to get nervous when walking past people with dogs as I don't trust how well their dog is trained.

Why not have some specific dog and non dog areas? These work well in many seaside places? For example East Gadebridge Park, dogs only on leads, West Gadebridge Park dogs allowed off lead.

The majority of dog owners/ walkers act responsibly. However, some dog owners show no consideration for others who use public spaces or local residents. Frequent incidents occur of: Allowing dogs to bark uncontrollably early in the morning or late evening; Allowing dogs to run around 'off lead' and unsupervised; Allowing dogs to defaecate on pathways; Owners dumping used dog waste bags alongside pathways or in gardens.

Some owners don't understand that not everyone wants their dogs jumping up then or Thier children and can then be quite aggressive when challenged. My children are frightened of dogs as we have had a few incidents now where my children have been jumped on by dogs off of the lead. Also gadebridge playpark seems to have a lot of dog owners with thier children and they enter the park with thier dog. The dogs always seem to be in the lead but it's so frustrating that they feel they can do this when there are signs everywhere saying not too. Often people cutting through the park with their dogs too.

'more dogs than they can control' questions would depend on how well behaved the dogs are. There has been daily fouling on some roads in Woodhall farm:Bayford close, Shenley Road and Cuffley Court. There has been regular fouling on the pathway outside brockwood school in Woodhall farm. Obviously children walk these paths multiple times a day. I would like to see pcsos around this area more often to deter owners who are not picking up their dogs mess or cameras etc.

There should be a reasonable behaviour code for dog owners/walkers.

What about comments of a lack of concern? Your wording is encouraging bias!

Yes owners with big dogs like German Shepherd etc, find it's acceptable to chase down smaller dogs . They are not interested in controlling their dogs. Oh I'm sorry was your dog distressed , I did not realise.really!.

I think there should be a limit of 1 dog per household and dog licensing should brought back(I realize the council probably has no powers to reintroduce dog licensing though) and all dogs owned in Dacorum area should have to be chipped.

I'm a dog owner myself and have been for years. The idea that you'd have a dog and not pick up it's poo is a total anathema to me. I think people should have to pass a test in order to get a dog, or get a dog licence, that involves them agreeing to certain standards of welfare for their dog, and for always picking up its poo. There should also be more public awareness of how act when you see another dog on a lead and yours isn't. If I see that I always call out if they want me to put mine on a lead. Good dog owner etiquette!

I have recently noticed full poo bags left on pavements in various parts of HH and assume this is the natural progression from the 'poo trees' that have sprung up in the countryside in recent years. Would also be great if owners prevented their dogs from chasing horseriders which may not only cause a serious accident but lead to injury or death of the dog from an iron shod hoof.

The answer above is dependent on the size and behaviour of the dogs.

Surely the above last question depends on the dogs and the walker?

There should be designated areas such as parks where dogs can be exercised off lead. Everywhere else, including pavements, children's areas, residential areas, all dogs should be kept on leads

I don't allow my dog off lead but she has long lead I always pick up her poo and bag it and place it in bins provided I am proud to say but near my local school Tudor and the paths Ann grass verges are full of Pooh and for me it's annoying when my dog walks in Pooh from another dog

Dog owners should be responsible for the behaviour of their dogs at all times and appreciate that not everybody likes their dog like they do.

more than two dogs off lead is almost impossible to monitor there actions pooing ect

I believe it's necessary to have a dog on a lead in all public places including open parks. But there should be designated areas for dog owners to let their dogs off their leads safely. These areas should be marked clearly.

Dog owners need to put dogs on leads when they meet others on footpaths/common land. I have been the victim of aggressive dog behaviour in the last month due to dogs off lead.

Most dog walkers I tend to meet are very responsible and the dogs well behaved, but over playful. I have only ever met 3 muzzled dogs with their owners, the same reason given for the muzzle was OK with people, but didn't get on with other dogs.

Owners/Dog Walkers not able to control the dog nominally under their charge. Usually because the dogs have never been properly trained in the first place. Dog training classes should be compulsory.

Not everyone likes to be jumped at by someone else's dog.

Question 13 does not cover dog types where someone could walk 4 very small dogs or 4 very large dogs where obviously 4 small dogs would be easier to manage

I have marked the above question relating to the walking and monitoring of dogs as 1-2 assuming that person is an owner/untrained person. I feel it is appropriate for trained and insured dog walkers to be in control of many more dogs than this.

People are clearly still letting their dogs foul in public places, on verges and pavements and not clearing up after them - there should be specific enclosed areas where dog owners can exercise their canine at a modest cost which is policed by staff/security to ensure they clean up their dogs faeces. An animals behaviour cannot be predicted and all dogs if off their lead and not in a specific enclosed exercise area for dogs should wear a muzzle. This would make children and people in general feel safer and prevent any unwanted and possibly life changing incidents. Dogs should not be allowed to bark continuously, be let out early in the morning and late at night which is what happens where I live. The dogs are just left in the garden for this to happen and are a constant nuisance 24 hours a day.. I do not have a dog nor do I like them and so why should I have to listen to someone elses at 2am in the morning! On a different note all together, there should also be similar regulations for cats. People have a cat and then let it roam and foul in everyone's else garden and there is no way to stop this. More importantly they are also the cause of road traffic accidents and the driver gets the blame when the cat should not be roaming anyway. In Australia they are bringing in a law that all cats should be home cats and not able to roam freely, which would be considerably safer.

I believe all dogs should be kept on leads whilst being walked unless they are in fenced off areas and are non aggressive. Too many people allow their off-lead dogs to approach children or dogs who are nervous. Also more dog bag receptacles should be provided.

More dog areas to be built dog parks which is quite common in the US.

It can be quite intimidating when you come across people with too many dogs. I really do not think people can control all the dogs. Dog walkers should be licensed, like the one I use. Our dog walker is insured, is inspected and the care our dog gets is amazing.

Fouling is increasing and becoming a menace are as out of control dogs, we need many more dog wardens and dog wardens and police responding to public concerns in an active manner. I have seen small dogs attacked by bigger ones with attacking dog owner totally unconcerned

Leave them alone. Spend my council tax on something else. This is the 2nd time this survey has been sent. Stop.

It does depend on how well behaved and in control the dogs are. I have seen one person with five dogs walking in total control recently and yet another time I've seen one person with one dog out of control; so it does depend. I have a nervous dog, kept on a lead and yet there are dog walkers who can not control their loose dog. I choose to take him to enclosed areas, specifically for dog exercise when I can. I often see dog owners on phones and ignoring what their dog is up to.

The shouting of dog owners, particularly early morning, causes a nuisance.

Dog fouling is the most urgent issue and at times a lack of bins

Dacorum needs more entirely dog-free zones for children and families to walk and play.

I don't think question 13 is fair as it is entirely subjective.

Most dog owners are thoughtful and considerate but a small minority spoil it for everyone. Dog owners should recognise not everyone loves dogs and that one person's 'playful' dog may be another person's nightmare.

As a responsible dog owner I have often come across and train dogs that show aggressive tendencies and seem to be hard to restrain by their owners who brush it off saying the dog is not aggressive it is quite gentle only wants to play. As I have own dogs (well trained) for many years I can see that they haven't got full control over their dogs and it is an accident waiting to happen having been attacked by a Rottweiler and having to defend my dog a few years ago I can see that this would be an extreme problem has it been a child walking a family pet Dogs that are reported to behave in this manner should have a restraining order against them saying that they can only be taken out when muzzled

See above comment re professional dog walkers. This industry has exploded over the last few years. Walking 4 of your own dogs is very different to walking 4 owned by other people. I believe that professional dog walkers should be limited to 4-6 dogs per person. I don't believe there should be any restrictions on numbers for dogs being walked by their owners.

Councils should hold DNA for the dogs. Paid for by the owners and made to register them. No problem then in tracing offenders.

A golfer was attacked by a dog off the lead in private property at Berkhamsted golf club. Some dogs are off the lead when there is a notice that they should be on the lead at Berkhamsted golf club. Dogs defecate on grass verges in Chipperfield rd Kings Langley Dogs foul in fields off the Chipperfield rd, on a footpath but it is land used by cattle so fouling is a health hazard. The farmer has notices requesting walkers to pick up their dog poo.

Depends on the behaviour of the dogs how many can be walked together. Dog walkers often do more.

I live in Little Gaddesden and have witnessed dogs chasing and worrying deer

Big dogs should be muzzled

Provide more bins and teach your staff how to use common sense, most wardens take the job because they are small insignificant beings that crave power

The vast majority are very responsible and many even pick up other people's dog muck when it is somewhere that is likely to be trodden on.

Also depends on the size and strength of the dogs and if the Walker, and how much control the Walker has

There clearly is a problem with untrained, badly behaved and out of control dogs in the parks. It is now unusual to see well behaved dogs and considerate owners (they're in the minority). We almost need a national education programme on the basic responsibilities of dog ownership.

1. Reinstating dog bins would greatly reduce excuses (and discarded and rot proof bags) 2. Too many owners simply do not understand how to socialise their dogs (or not)- ask first! 3. Please publicise which bins are legal for dog waste- I never use general litter bins What about waste in garden- Are garden green bins legal??

Some people have no intention whatsoever in picking up dog poo and regularly walk their dog in the same area every day leaving poo on the pavement and park every single day and it is disgusting and spoils it for everyone else

Dogs are great

I feel there has been a relaxation of the rules on dog control and fouling over the past few years. It has become usual behaviour for some dog owners to regularly foul our streets and public spaces. I welcome any initiative that makes our streets safer and allows more enjoyment of our public open spaces.

It is concerning how many people with limited mobility take dogs with them. If you can't get out of a mobility vehicle easily how can you pick up after your dog? This needs some thought as one wouldn't want to penalise someone with a disability. Some runners will run with a dog alongside them. I have frequently had a dog run towards me whose owner is some way behind, the dog may be beautifully behaved but in the dark the runner is not able to see if the dog stops for a toilet break. I suspect most fouling is done in the early hours or after dark. Enforcement will not work if patrols don't consider this fact. There is a lack of disposal facilities in some areas, particularly Boxmoor Trust land. You can walk along Stoney Lane in Bovingdon to Bury Woods and there are no bins along that route. Basically some people are just lazy, I hate it when people come to a full bin and then hang the bag on the lead area or force it into an already full bin. The waste team should not have to pick up other peoples poop. You could do with making it more widely known that general waste bins are now okay for dog poop.

Non dog owner council members must not make rules for dog owners. No plastic bags should be taken on National trust land whether for faeces or for other use. You are creating a problem, not alleviating one with regards to force people to carry disposable plastic bags if you are walking a dog on National Trust land - and I'm not a dog owner!

The dog fouling around ebbens road and the paths up to Belswains Lane and the flats is out of control. It is a health hazard and owners should be responsible for clearing up on lose their right to own a dog.

When walking near children's play equipment it needs to be clearly marked with a 3 meter exclusion zone. Your appointed officers need to use common sense and not being paid or incentised by payments. They have been getting poor community feedback and this comes back to DBC.

Too many dog owners do not pick up after their dogs supposedly because the public footpath they use is in the countryside (Water End for example). Too many commercial dog walkers do not pick up after the dogs they look after making paths "treacherous" (off Dodds lane for example).

To question 13, it completely depends on how well the dogs are trained and the competency of the owner. There is a lady that runs though the Ashridge estate with over 9 dogs (off lead I might add) and they all do exactly as they are told, and yet you can have someone with no clue and 1 dog that causes no end of nuisance and is a liability. I would like dog on dog attacks to have some sort of consequence for the owners. Plenty of dogs around this area have been attacked and severely injured by other dogs, and yet no authority will do anything about it. I also think it should be easier to get help for dogs that are being mistreated. The dog warden should have more authority when it's clear that abuse or neglect are taking place. I've seen plenty of local Facebook posts about dogs being left out in all weathers, left to roam, kicked when walked etc. and yet the warden is restricted in what she can do about removing the dogs from harm and in what actions she can take against these so called owners.

Most dog owners seem to have their dogs off leads no matter where they are and just say it's ok he's friendly. The trouble is they jump up and get others dirty and the owners don't care they just say oh sorry. It's the same when bike riders are cycling and the dogs chase them, the dogs then go too far and once they owners eventually catch up they have a go at the bike riders for not stopping, when it's not their job or responsibility to. When in summer the dogs run over families especially when having picnics the owners don't rush to stop their pets they say sorry or that it's friendly. They have no cares for anyone with a fear of dogs either. Witness these things very regularly in Dacorum, all of this could be stopped if owners had to legally keep dogs on leads. The dogs mess is awful just seems to get worse every year, nothing works it seems.

Most owners are responsible, some feel their dogs are entitled to bother other people, and can be quite aggressive when asked to restrain their dogs.

If someone has more than 2 dogs they all need to be on a lead

Question 13 is highly dependent on the training of the dogs and the walker. Not sure if its a great question as it would also depend on where they are walking them, the size of dog and breed etc. Professional dog walkers for example would be comfortable with more than 2. Thanks again for addressing dog fouling, this is a really important topic that requires more education and enforcement. I think there is a need for dog owners to be better educated about owning dogs. Short of having a license to own a dog (which should be the case), if there could be a way of ensuring that new dog owners are pushed to attend classes or to learn about what is expected that would be fantastic.

Most owners are responsible. Don't make rules that would make dogs suffer due to there shitty owners. Dogs are like children they need to deplete thier energy some breeds need more exercise than others. Shame there are not more dogs parks.

I would like to see all dogs having to wear a muzzle in any public areas. This would not harm the dog but would greatly reduce anxiety in the many people who are wary of them.

i have experienced issues with cats fouling everywhere including residents gardens who do not own a cat they kill song birds and other wildlife, running across roads causing drivers to swerve. when is the council going to do something about them. i.e house cats only or must be walked on a lead like some other places do large parts of Australia enforce this very successfully.

Depending on the individual.

Most dog owners are happy to comply and are aware of the regulations, there will always be exceptions, some people who are new to dog ownership may not be aware of all the regulations but usually other owners will enlighten them. There are times when a dog may be out of sight and foul, this sometimes happens. Dogs that are aggressive to other dogs or potentially people, the owners need to keep them muzzled. In Gadebridge Park a couple of years ago a homeless man was living in the carpark for the best part of the week with an aggressive dog (Akita) that had attacked other dogs unprovoked, the dog was on a long lead or was off lead at the time, this happened several and complaints were made to the police but this owner and dog remained in the area for some time, concerning and frustrating other dog walkers and residents, we would do our best to avoid walking anywhere near it, the owner didn't care about other park users and clearly he wasn't deterred by the police warnings.

Dogs who are likely to jump up , nuzzle or lick strangers should be kept on a lead.

As a responsible dog owner I see both sides of the problem. The wardens should be more evident to stop owners who can't be bothered to pick up their dogs mess or indeed bag it and throw it on the floor or into a hedge. It's no good putting signs up and then not doing anything. Also do something about people who discard rubbish and don't put it in a bin. It's not just dog owners who ruin public spaces. Also cut the grass more often. Some parks are not cut until grass is up to nearly 4-6 inches long. It then becomes difficult to pick up the mess and some owners can then not be bothered.

Generally I believe dog owners to be responsible and the presence of dogs in our community to be a good thing. The emphasis should therefore be on proportionate management of the rare exceptions, rather than blanket bans etc.

Some dog walkers are walking way to many dogs they can not control them all and some are pooing and they did not even notice .

As dog owner my self I feel dogs should be kept on leads exercise on long leads safety of dogs and if dog dosent social very well for any reason a muzzle should put on safety of your dog and other dogs and for being responsible owner care safety love of your pet

Good luck enforcing this, you've done a bad job at it so far

Of course these measures are only good if they are enforced. They are absolutely pointless if not. Like many other things such as speeding, littering, bad parking and behaviour they are not. So I find the measures pointless without enforcement. Offenders will just laugh at them. Sounds good on paper and notices, but pointless without enforcement.

Being end house on XXXX and back on to football pitch. My lads club play all there games there up to under 18s. Dog mess is terrible. Plus no dog bins my side . As I have had a stroke my 3 bins are used by people as dog waste and the stress when confronted.

It entirely depends on the dog, who is walking then etc etc

Dog walkers with about 6 dogs off lead at the common

Larger dogs that are a bit hypo can cause distress to smaller dogs and other dog owners

Many owners fail to understand their responsibility for keeping, training and maintaining pets, and especially dogs while out in public places. The owners often need more training than the dog!

I have seen dog walkers with packs but the dogs are generally well behaved and seem pretty happy walking as a pack

No 13 very much depends on the individual walking the dogs and their level of experience and expertise.

This questionnaire is biased against dog walkers as is Dacorum Borough

Dogs in fields chasing sheep and deer, and chasing swans and geese by canals and reservoirs

I own multiple dogs who are under control and constant supervision when out for walks. They are not allowed to approach other people or their dogs as they have been trained so (we come from a show background so manners are instilled from a young age). We rarely go to heavily populated areas, such as Gadebridge park, as we find it too stressful and upsetting for our dogs especially when children/other dogs come up to them without our permission. There is also the risk they will pick up food/litter that has been left. Whilst I agree with a cap on how many dogs someone can walk at one time, you usually find people with multiple dogs have more control than most people with just one dog.

People need to be educated, specifically around the law and the dangerous dog act. In particular that if there dog is out of control and someone is upset by their dog they could get a very harsh sentence. I don't believe any of the walkers i see know this.

Again Licencing of all dogs is the only solution. Pass it thru the Parliament

If your a dog walker you need to be aware of all the dogs you have with you especially if meeting up with other dog walkers!!!

The amount of dogs an individual can walk/monitor is largely down to the owner being responsible and a good handler. I think the average person could do 1-2, however experienced dog owners may be more than capable of more. The biggest issue I find is dog fouling. We frequently walk over the farmland near where we live. The amount of faeces is disgusting and dangerous to the livestock, it seems the farmer has stopped putting them in certain fields for this reason.

It is most important that appropriate control of dogs in area where children play is enforced. It is also important to recognise that there are problems with dog fouling in grassy areas and on grass verges and pavements throughout the town.

There should be 3-4 dogs being walked on leads, owners whose dogs are running around to the side or behind them do not notice their dog fouling and walk off in front. They don't like it being mentioned and some become aggressive so the best policy would be to insist dogs are kept on a lead in public parks

Why as a dog owner am I not allowed to use the cafe in Gadebridge Park. This is clearly discrimination against dog owners. As a Dacorum rate payer I resent being told I cannot buy a coffee when I have my dog with me.

As above I was in a local park where dogs are taken for walks, I turned a corner to be confronted by three rottweilers. For a few seconds I was horrified and would not have stood a chance if attacked. A child or some others would panic and the dogs could also panic and attack. Separate large areas needed for dogs and general public for safety and hygiene. In large park areas make sure you put 2.5m paths all the way around perimeter and criss cross the center, this will give lots of good clean walking space that can be used the whole year round for all.

<p>There seems to be increasing ignorance particularly from newer lockdown dog owners about keeping their dogs under control - letting them run up to other dogs who are on leads without checking whether the other dog is friendly and can cope. Just because their dog is fluffy and friendly doesn't justify them causing problems. Lots of dogs off lead in fields of livestock, with no control from owners - or comprehension that chasing sheep is dangerous. Re. Number of dogs one individual can monitor. I think a normal person, 2 or 3, whereas a professional, sensible, experienced dog walker with a balanced pack can manage 5 or 6</p>
<p>Since covid and the rise in dog ownership, I have noticed people with a dog do not appreciate that not everyone likes dogs. Walking alone when a dog bounds up to you can be frightening. The owner will always say "it is a friendly dog and won't hurt you" but even friendly dogs can turn nasty.</p>
<p>My daughter has been jumped on by a dog on the moor in Boxmoor. We regularly have to avoid piles of dog poo around the moor and pavements in Boxmoor</p>
<p>A physically fit person should be able take no more than two dog's out at one time, depending on size and the breed. However some dog owners have several dog's.</p>
<p>Please make some areas safe for dogs who want to be off lead It could be clearly marked to let non dog walkers know what's its main usage is and might allow more areas to be dog free. Dog walkers are people who mainly only want the best for their animals and happy to follow any regulations</p>
<p>Professional dog walkers I have seen walking between 6 and 10 dogs at one time off the lead Out of control it I'd quite ridiculous.</p>
<p>Above number depends on size of dogs.</p>
<p>No</p>
<p>All dog owners think everyone loves dogs and want to cuddle and make a fuss of them.</p>
<p>ALL DOGS MUST BE ON THE LEASH!!!</p>
<p>Most owners that I meet are very good with their dogs and it is only the few that spoil it for the rest of us, therefore I don't not want to see an increase of dog exclusion zones. I agree completely with the play areas, but would include areas like the football pitches at Gadebridge.</p>
<p>as a dog owner i am often upset about poor owners</p>
<p>Many owners seem incapable of understanding that not everyone likes dogs and some people are scared of them. They let their dogs run free, can't control them and let them jump up and put muddy paws on other people and don't stop them and if you protest just say it won't hurt you!</p>
<p>Most dog owners use their dogs as threats to others which is definitively inappropriate. The UK is the only country where I see dog owners using their dogs as weapons not as pet!!</p>
<p>depends on size of dog and physical condition of handler. Two German Shepherds are a handful for a fit adult male</p>
<p>I am a dog owner and have been for 25 years. I have recently come into contact with a number of dog owners who are not responsible. Their dogs are aggressive and should be muzzled or at least placed on a lead when around other dogs. This is not happening. Responsible dog owner ship is about having control of your dog at all times and picking up after it and either taking the poo home to dispose of or placing it in appropriate bins.</p>
<p>Q13 is meaningless - two Great Dane puppies would be harder to control than six or eight elderly Corgis - also the age and skill of the human(s) is relevant</p>
<p>Question 13 really depends on how well the dogs are behaved/trained, the number would differ depending on the dogs and the walkers ability. One size/rule does NOT fit all situations.</p>

Professional dog walkers can have far too many dogs to control properly. Not enough action taken against owners of dogs that seriously attack other dogs, there seems to be little interest unless a human is seriously injured. The reasonable amount of dogs question is difficult to answer because there are owners with several dogs who have them well trained and under control but equally there are owners who don't control a single dog well.

Dog Fouling- there are not enough bins for owners to deposit their dogs mess. On the manor estate (areas behind Shearwater Road) there is only 1 bin-which is full most of the time. This is popular walking route with most of the neighbourhood walk their dogs around there. If you want to resolve the dog fouling issue placing more bins in popular areas will give owners no reason to leave behind their dogs mess.

No

If the dogs are well behaved I think 3-4 is OK but will depend on the dog.

dogs should be required to be on leads on any public footpath

How can this disgusting habit of hanging poo bags in trees be stopped?

it depends on the size of the dogs. If they are large to medium then 1-2 if they are small dogs the 3-4

It depends on the degree of control the person has over the dogs under their control

I am concerned by dogs in pubs sometimes. Some owners just let them off the leash and leave them to roam in the pub. I've seen them sniffing round food etc. on tables and this is a hygiene risk at the very least.

No just that there should be designated enclosed dog parks.

Comments as before. Additionally, it's all well and good having these rules but they need to be enforced. Particularly dogs off lead and dogs around children's play areas e.g. Gadebridge

They should be made responsible for clearing up after their dogs

Advice for residents on how to effectively report dog fouling, or how best to capture and submit evidence of it to authorities (so action can be taken, and be seen to be taken) would be massively helpful "Max fine of £x,xxx" signs are good. But it's obvious that offending owners don't think they have any real chance of being caught, so continue offending without further thought for the impacts they're having in the neighbourhood, or that their actions constitute antisocial behaviour. Thank you for listening.

Dogs continue to foul on Belmont Road without the owner/ carer clearing the mess leaving it for residents to remove- children stepping in it as in the middle of pavement

More than one dog is instantly a pack. And can attack another dog.

Maybe the council should consider some dog only parks for dog walking

Dog fouling is particularly bad around Belmont road and stonelea road

Dogs fouling and owners not picking it up is a continuous problem in Belmont Rd.

Please do not penalise good dog owners .. there are more good ones than bad.. it's a handful which are a problem.

Dogs running up to people.

This is all very anti dog, I would like to see some common ground around dog etiquette. Meet lots of new dog owners who are ignorant of basic dog walking manners - don't just let your dog run up to other dogs who are on lead, if you haven't got a good recall keep your dog on a lead. It would also be nice if there were more enclosed dog spaces like the park in Apsley.

Dogs being allowed off lead in public areas (such as our local park) when the dog has no recall. I would like to note, dog fouling does not seem to be a problem in the places we go for walks. I am very impressed by the amount of doggy waste bins around the area.

my main concern is professional dog walkers with in excess of 6 dogs, often with half of them off lead. Can't possibly have proper control. Also not picking up poop from these dogs - some areas regularly used by professional walkers extremely unpleasant due to this problem - eg walk from Dodds Lane, Pickotts End. Unfortunately, there also seems to be a lot of "lockdown" dogs which did not get adequate socialisation/training during pandemic and their owners do not seem to understand how to control their dogs in open spaces shared with other dogs. No understanding of dog behaviour and how this affects their dog's interaction with other dogs. I often see people walking their dogs off lead on busy roads - this is highly dangerous both for dog and other road users. Incorrect use of flexi leads - where lead is fully extended on a busy road.

Although dog fouling is very unpleasant, so is littering, possibly more so. Please can you also focus on this. I recently saw one of the Dacorum green and clean employees drop his cigarette but on the pavement.

There are some people who think they can do what they want and are aggressive when approached. However this dog control policy is a very good idea as it will help to some extent.

Regarding question 13 it may depend on the size and breed of the dog as well as the physical characteristics of the walker.

Surely it depends on the dogs and the person?

Hanging plastic bags of dog faeces on bushes or other places and not disposing of them properly.

How many dogs a person is in control of depends on the dogs behaviour. One person could have control of 10 well behaved dogs but may not have control of one badly behaved dog

More bins please as a lot more dogs in area now

I have two dogs and can honestly say even that can sometimes be challenging to truly manage if a dangerous situation arises. However, I think 3 possibly 4 dogs if one of them is your own can be managed depending on their personalities.

I could control a pack of 7 dogs aged 14 . I think it depends on the level of training and the individual how many dogs they can control. To blanket number is ridiculous. To blanket ban people from letting their dogs offlead in fields or woodlands in an area as huge as you have is ridiculous. If someone's dog bites another dog punish them only and not every other dog owner. I think the people littering the town needs to be tackled more than dog mess at least dog mess is biodegradable.

I have come across many owners walking their dogs and many dog walkers walking groups of dogs in Dacorum. More often than not I have more of a problem with the solo walkers dog not having recall and pestering me and my two dogs. Owners lack awareness & are far too laid back, I often get "my dog is friendly" whilst failing to retrieve their dog from running over and bothering me and my dogs. Dog walkers on the other hand are often very respectful & will walk in areas away from the general public & move out of the way if they see you approaching. Professional walkers will have groups of dogs together that they know and can control, I don't necessarily think it is about the amount of dogs in their control as walkers should know their own individual limits and dogs behaviour and temperaments.

I would say 3/4 if not all off the lead at the same time. Large dogs often get blamed for retaliation when smaller dogs run up and bark or attack them. One of my labradors was attacked by two jack Russell's running up to her and attacking her, when she defended herself I was shouted at by the owner, my dog did not go up to them and I had to pull her off. My point here is if a dog is large or small it should not be let off lead if the owners cannot recall.
Stricter policy on dog walkers and the number of dogs they can walk
I think dog licences should be reintroduced. Dog training should be compulsory, and a certificate issued.
The number of dogs depends on the owner and the dogs
I am a dog walker who takes out a maximum of 3 dogs. More than this and it is impossible to pick up their poo or be in complete control. I would welcome a County wide maximum number of dogs per person. I often see people with 6+ dogs, who never have bags for the dog bin at the end of their walk.
It depends on the individual how many they control or monitor. I think only professional dog walkers should walk more than 3.
99% of dog walkers are very considerate and behave appropriately.
The majority of owners and dogs are fine, it is the minority that cause a problem.
Lots of " professional " dog walkers taking too many dogs at one time and can't possibly control them all
Just the aggressive behaviour if owners if you ask them to put their dog on a lead if its bothering my on lead dog. Yelling, its friendly, from a large distance away doesn't help matters
As above, just mainly concerns with dog walkers. Since the lock down there is now double if not treble the amount of dog owners who need dog walkers, I do believe they should be excluded from certain popular dog walking spots like Bunkers Park/Boxmoor etc and go to quieter locations with no so many dog walkers, so many problems
Generally they are fine occasional bad apples let down the crowd.
I think question 13 depends on the person walking the dogs, the breed of the dog and how well they have been trained
I suspect off lead dogs are more likely to be fouling on pavements (and towpaths)- as owners aren't always paying as close attention and not watching them/picking up after them. We really need more bins, especially close to fields where dogs are typically walked, as this will prevent some of the issues of bags being left on the ground
As I said above, people with dogs that let them come bounding up to you, I, I had a nasty fall due to this and was very shaken and bruised . I wont walk over the halsey wildlife area now because I'm scared, which is wrong, i should be able to enjoy walking my dogs. I'm 65 and exercise is good for me, would be better in a lovely countryside environment.
I will change direction to avoid off lead dog when it's owner is concentrating on their phone. I ask politely that they call dog back if it insists on following us but often ignored or their dog has no recall
Dog poo on the pavements in Tring is becoming more frequent.
Any offence should only be prosecuted if there is accompanying body cam video footage.
All large breeds should be muzzled when off the lead in public.
Clear restrictions on the use of 'Extender Leads' in public places, on footpaths and pedestrian areas.

Some dog owners seem to think it's ok for dogs to be 'friendly' & jump up on people. My son & sister have large dogs so i'm familiar with them but they are well trained & would never do that with a stranger. The tables are turning but people & children must come before dog owners freedom to behave however they like. Before lockdown professional Dog walkers seemed to have taken over Boxmoor common & it became quite unpleasant.

Some dog owners with dogs off the lead allow them to jump up at people. They may not be dangerous but it is not pleasant.

There is a big difference between dog owners and dog walkers which this survey does not address: a dog owner should be able to control all dogs in their ownership because they are the pack leader. A dog walker probably will not be able to control all dogs, even if they are on a lead, because they are not the pack leader. There should be different rules for owners and walkers, with more stringent rules for dog walkers.

I'm really pleased that Dacorum is taking seriously the nuisance that some dogs, and some dog-owners, cause for lots of local residents. Renewing this PSPO is a good start, and then putting robust enforcement measures into place will help.

dog owners should obviously clear up after, but there needs to be lots more bins around

I think the most important thing is legislation which allows owners to be asked to put their dogs on leads if they are not under their control. Also dogs on leads in certain areas for example where children are playing would perhaps be more useful than complete exclusion around play equipment

I have a concern FOR dog owners where football teams (& individuals) leave food & drink rubbish which dogs can pick up and eat and in some circumstances make them unwell. Also motorbike racing across fields where dog owners walk their dogs with no concern for the safety of the dogs or their owners.

Please see complaints already lodged with Dacorum about the person occupying Church Road. I have ridden on commons and woods and come across professional dog walkers with up to 5 dogs which the person was struggling to control. Once dogs get into these sort of numbers the pack mentality kicks in and they can behave very differently and can be difficult to control. Another classic example of this are the Canny runners. The horses react to the baying and excited hormones being released as though it was a pack of wolves and their flight instinct kicks in. Half a ton of horse bolting is not a safe situation for anyone. Although I should add that they do try now to be considerate around horses.

Most dog owners in Tring behave very responsibly.

I believe that there are strong arguments for reintroducing mandatory paid-for dog licences for every dog, of two kinds. First, one that is valid for the first six month of dog ownership; second, one that is only available if the dog owner can demonstrate their ability to control their dog(s). During the last 6 months there has been a noticeable increase in dog excrement on pavements in Hemel Hempstead, something that used to be very common, but has been almost completely absent for the last 10-15 years.

An owner can handle more dogs on lead safely than off lead.

I feel that the length of lead is an issue. Where dogs are exercised on or near footpaths they should be on a short lead and not on one of the extending types. Also the disposal of 'poo bags' in the environment and not in an allocated bin is a real problem.

I would like you to a question to ask about the benefits. Stop looking for negatives. There are many positives. There are two sides to everything. Have you seen families with dogs able to all come out and play together? have you seen children get to pet dogs who do not have any of their own? have you seen children who have learnt about animals and how to care for them from their owner? have you seen how much joy and smiles the dogs have created in your local park? Has your dog been able to meet and socialise with other dogs? have you been able to walk your dog more since the park became more inclusive?

3-4 if the dogs are on leads 1-2 if the dogs are not on leads One particular owner who lives nearby quite often lets their dog out of the house unsupervised. The dog will roam about the local area, often fouling. The owner is not present to clear up the mess.

I am a dog owner and religious about picking up my dogs business - unless stick and flick is appropriate. There are still a number who don't. I haven't seen them as I would tell them, but there are still too many dog faeces around.

Dogs to be chipped and registered

q 13 is subjective ..I have 3 small dogs and can handle them, but would I be able to control 3 large dogs or 1 large dog ?!!! I have seen able-bodied people unable to handle 1 dog .

They need training more than their dogs...

Dogs should be on leads in car parks . Especially at Bridgwater monument

The answer to question 13 is unsubstantiated and hard to enforce. It would depend on the nature, breed, temperament, and how they interact with others. However I would consider anything above 5 to be too much for 1 handler.

Signs at dog foul bins which more prominently say to take your bags home when the bin is full or ask them to report the full bin.

Most owners I have observed are reasonably behaved. Dogs peeing up ornamental trees which are taken into shops at night seems wrong. It's difficult to control dogs peeing in front of shops in towns but should be discouraged.

If there are deer around dogs should not be let off their leads as the behaviour I have witnessed has shown that once a dog starts to chase a deer the dog owner has no control over the dog whatsoever. I had the extremely upsetting experience of watching two dogs attacking an injured deer with the owners calling ineffectually in the distance.

Generally most dog owners are really good in their manner and behaviour when walking their dogs and collecting any excrement thereafter, but it is the minority of owners who appear to think or believe that they are not responsible for their actions, which causes the issues.

We met an aggressive dog that jumped up to a small child - out of control

Dogs must have responsible owner and be under the control of an adult whether on or off the lead.

Whilst I am NOT a dog owner, I have not much fear of dogs on leads; however, dog owners seem to assume that other folk MUST be dog tolerant and allow their pets to leap-up (even on leads). Also, often owners walk their dogs on very long (adjustable length) leads so the pet can run into the road whilst the owners remain on the pavement, tethered to their dog.

Please remind the public- especially dog owners- of the rules about dogs

I am concerned about the practice of some dog owners who pick up their dogs' faeces, put it in a bag and then leave the bag on the ground or hang it from a tree or bush.

Dog frequently seen in town without collar or tag which I believe is a legal requirement .
I have a dog and when chatting to other dog owners I regularly hear reports of aggressive dogs that have not been controlled and no action had been taken to address this. It is a worry when I am out walking my small dog it makes me quite wary of loose dogs and certain dog breeds such as Staffordshire bull terriers. I have also noticed that dog fouling pavements and park areas is worsening. I often see piles that have not been picked up giving all dog owners a bad name.
They can be threatening when offering dog poo bags. Dogs owners should be licensed, registered and be held responsible for dog fouling and aggressive dog behavior. What should the public do when they see antisocial behavior in regards to their dogs and dog fouling? We need enforcement of any dog fouling laws. I have lived in Gadebridge, Hemel Hempstead for over 30 years and this topic has gotten worse along with littering in the hedging, Spring Valley Playing Fields, Gadebridge. Are there any enforcement officers, if so, what are their powers, when are they policing the areas etc.?
Owners need to recognise when a dog is on lead they should keep their dog away until the other party has confirmed all is OK.
I have been attacked by a Japanese Fighting Dog who floored me and tried to get to my very small dog, I was able to get up and eventually get away from the animal this was opposite side to me on canal by Stephenson Wharf, this was reported. My main concern is lack of dog bins from Hempstead Road through to London Road and Apsley.
If requested by member of public dog owners should put their dog on a lead - the same as if asked by policeman or authorised officer
Question 13 I think depends on the dogs and their level of training and also the dog walker and their level of experience/training
Tarring every owner with the same brush is unexpected
I also object to moving flow of river Gade as again there is even less park to walk my dog, the other side of the river is exposed to a very busy and dangerous fast moving road and I therefore will need to walk on the swing park side of the park- no doubt forces into your stupid exclusion zone
None of the above. The majority of dog owners are considerate, well behaved and act in the interests of the community. The way dacorums third party "environmental agents" (security thugs) behave is the problem and is detrimental to our community.
I think we should have more dedicated dog spaces for dogs to exercise off the lead. In Hemel we only have a tiny park near Duttrants Road. The council needs to think of positive encouraging ideas as well as fines. The council has a poor record of discouraging dog fouling in residential areas. This is a real menace. Catching someone in the act is hard unless you stalk them in town. The council should be doing more to educate and enforce in residential streets. You can't reduce dog fouling across Dacorum with a handful of town based officers.
See above.
I have witnessed dog owners walking their dog after dark and when their dog fouls the pavement, they do not pick it up as they assume nobody has seen it.
Dogs off the lead Every one is not comfortable with dogs when we see a dog off the lead naturally we get scared, The owners always tell us don't worry it's a very friendly dog. We are strangers for their dogs when they come closer to us we get we scared of them. Once my son ran away the dog also ran after him and he felled down the stairs. Then the owner said you shouldn't run he is friendly.

My response to Q.13 is based upon an averaged sized dog. Two very large dogs would be the maximum too, or six tiny ones.

Dogs and dog owners are not number 1.



Dacorum Borough Council - Community Impact Assessment

Please read the Guidance on completing a Community Impact Assessment

Once completed, please review and gain sign off from the relevant Group Manager.

Email the signed off copy to Customer Intelligence and Policy Officer Isobel Benton-Slim to publish.

If you have any further questions about how to complete this form, please contact Isobel Benton-Slim x2936

1. About the Project, service change or policy development

Responsible officer	Dawn Rhoden /David Austin
Name and description of project, service or policy	
Dog related Public Space Protection Order.	

2. Identifying the community impact

What impacts will this change have on the community?			
Information which might be useful in thinking about this includes our equality profiles , available for a number of demographic groups in Dacorum, and Spotlight on Dacorum , which provides information about the Borough as a whole and signposts users to detailed statistics at ward / postcode level through neighbourhood statistics.			
	Positive	Negative	What are the positive and negative impacts? How will the positive impacts be enhanced? How will the negative impacts minimised/eliminated?
The community in general e.g. social or economic benefits or negative impacts	X		This order will make enforcing dog fouling and unacceptable dog behaviour clearer. This will encourage responsible dog ownership which will be an improvement for the community in general.
On DBC as an organisation e.g. on staff or operations	x		This will make enforcement of unacceptable dog behaviour easier for Enforcement Officers.
The specific demographic considerations or characteristics e.g. age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation - specify where impacts are different for different considerations			Nothing in this Order shall apply to a person who - a) Is registered as a blind person on a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or c) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by any current or future members of Assistance Dogs UK or any other charity

			<p>registered in the UK with a purpose of training assistance dogs and upon which he relies for assistance</p> <p>d) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities and in the reasonable opinion of the Council that person relies upon the assistance of the dog in connection with their disability</p>
<p>The environment e.g. effects on the climate, trees, amenity space, biodiversity, water, energy, waste, material use, air quality</p>	x		This order will have a positive impact on the environment as it encourages responsible dog ownership including the clearing of dog fouling.
<p>Any community issues identified for this location, if the project is based in a specific area – state if this is not applicable e.g. if there are no specific issues for this location or if the project is district-wide</p>			Project is district wide.

<p>What evidence have you used to assess the impact on the community? What baselines have been established and what data will be used to monitor the impact?</p>
<p>Following Cabinet’s recommendation in April 2018 a public consultation was initiated which invited comments from residents and interest groups on the proposals for the PSPO. There were over 1220 responses to the consultation.</p> <p>A report was taken to OSC on the 20th November 2018 following the public consultation. After this meeting the proposed orders were amended and further consultation was undertaken with the Chief Officer of police and the Policing and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire. No comments were received from this consultation.</p> <p>The PSPO will be monitored and formally reviewed after three years.</p>

<p>What steps have you taken or plan to take to consult the whole community or specific groups affected by the service or policy development? E.g. on-line consultation, focus groups, consultation with representative groups?</p>
<p>The community has been consulted as above.</p>

3. Review

<p>How will you review the impact, positive or negative once the service or policy has been implemented?</p>		
Action	By when	By who
Formal Review	3 Years from the date of	Dawn Rhoden

How will you review the impact, positive or negative once the service or policy has been implemented?		
	the PSPO approval.	

Name of responsible officer: Dawn Rhoden
 Role: Team Leader- Operations
 Date: 8/3/19

Reviewed and signed off by: Emma Walker
 Role: Group Manager, Environmental & Community Protection
 Date: 8/3/19

Please email completed Community Impact Assessment to Isobel.benton-slim@dacorum.gov.uk to be published.



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If you have any further questions about how to complete this form, please contact Isobel Benton-Slim x2936

1. About the Project, service change or policy development

Responsible officer	Dawn Rhoden /Emma Walker
Name and description of project, service or policy	
Dog related Public Space Protection Order.	

2. Identifying the community impact

What impacts will this change have on the community?			
Information which might be useful in thinking about this includes our equality profiles , available for a number of demographic groups in Dacorum, and Spotlight on Dacorum , which provides information about the Borough as a whole and signposts users to detailed statistics at ward / postcode level through neighbourhood statistics.			
	Positive	Negative	What are the positive and negative impacts?
			How will the positive impacts be enhanced? How will the negative impacts minimised/eliminated?
The community in general e.g. social or economic benefits or negative impacts	X		This order will make enforcing dog fouling and unacceptable dog behaviour clearer. This will encourage responsible dog ownership which will be an improvement for the community in general.
On DBC as an organisation e.g. on staff or operations	x		This will make enforcement of unacceptable dog behaviour easier for Enforcement Officers.
The specific demographic considerations or characteristics e.g. age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation - specify where impacts are different for different considerations			Nothing in this Order shall apply to a person who - a) Is registered as a blind person on a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or c) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by any current or future members of Assistance Dogs UK or any other charity

			<p>registered in the UK with a purpose of training assistance dogs and upon which he relies for assistance</p> <p>d) has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities and in the reasonable opinion of the Council that person relies upon the assistance of the dog in connection with their disability</p>
<p>The environment e.g. effects on the climate, trees, amenity space, biodiversity, water, energy, waste, material use, air quality</p>	x		This order will have a positive impact on the environment as it encourages responsible dog ownership including the clearing of dog fouling.
<p>Any community issues identified for this location, if the project is based in a specific area – state if this is not applicable e.g. if there are no specific issues for this location or if the project is district-wide</p>			Project is district wide.

<p>What evidence have you used to assess the impact on the community? What baselines have been established and what data will be used to monitor the impact?</p>
<p>Following Cabinet’s recommendation in April 2018 a public consultation was initiated which invited comments from residents and interest groups on the proposals for the PSPO. There were over 1220 responses to the consultation.</p> <p>A report was taken to OSC on the 20th November 2018 following the public consultation. After this meeting the proposed orders were amended and further consultation was undertaken with the Chief Officer of police and the Policing and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire. No comments were received from this consultation.</p> <p>In March/April a further consultation was undertaken on the Public opinion to renew the current PSPO there were over 1000 responses from residents and interest groups.</p>

<p>What steps have you taken or plan to take to consult the whole community or specific groups affected by the service or policy development? E.g. on-line consultation, focus groups, consultation with representative groups?</p>
<p>The community has been consulted as above.</p>

3. Review

How will you review the impact, positive or negative once the service or policy has been implemented?		
Action	By when	By who
Formal Review	3 Years from the	Dawn Rhoden

How will you review the impact, positive or negative once the service or policy has been implemented?		
	date of the PSPO renewal.	

Name of responsible officer: Dawn Rhoden Reviewed and signed off by: Emma Walker
 Role: Team Leader- Operations & Public Health Role: head of Service, Environmental Protection
 Date: 4/5/22 Date:

Please email completed Community Impact Assessment to isobel.benton-slim@dacorum.gov.uk to be published.



Spatial Planning and Environment

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report for:	Spatial Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Title of report:	Town Centre PSPO
Date:	14 th June 2022
Report on behalf of:	Cllr Julie Banks, Portfolio Holder for Community & Regulatory Services
Part:	I
If Part II, reason:	N/A
Appendices:	Appendix A – Consultation Responses including comments Appendix B – draft PSPO Appendix C – Current PSPO Appendix D – Community Impact Assessment
Background papers:	N/A
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	PSPO – Public Spaces Protection Order

Report Author / Responsible Officer

Richard Le-Brun, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Delivery)



Richard.Lebrun@dacorum.gov.uk / 01442 228355 (ext. 2355)

Corporate Priorities	A clean, safe and enjoyable environment
Wards affected	ALL
Purpose of the report:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To note the consultation results and the report set out To consider the PSPO to be introduced
Recommendation (s) to the decision maker (s):	1. Consider and approve the proposed Public

	Spaces Protection Order (Hemel Town Centre) (Dacorum Borough Council) 2022
Period for post policy/project review:	3 years (though review being planned before this point to look at all PSPOs across the Borough)

1 Introduction/Background:

Dacorum Borough Council is committed to improving the environment, maintaining low crime and improving community safety. Directly relating to this commitment is the Council's action to address anti-social behaviour and related complaints in its main urban centre.

In March 2014, the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 came into force, with commencement of various provisions staggered. One of the aims of the legislation is to enable intervention before something becomes a bigger problem.

Included within the legislation is the power to put in place a Public Spaces Protection Order, details of which are provided below. In November 2015, Cabinet granted the Corporate Director of Community authority to approve any PSPO affecting up to three bordering wards following consultation with the Portfolio Holder¹. Proposed PSPOs falling outside of this limitation need Cabinet approval.

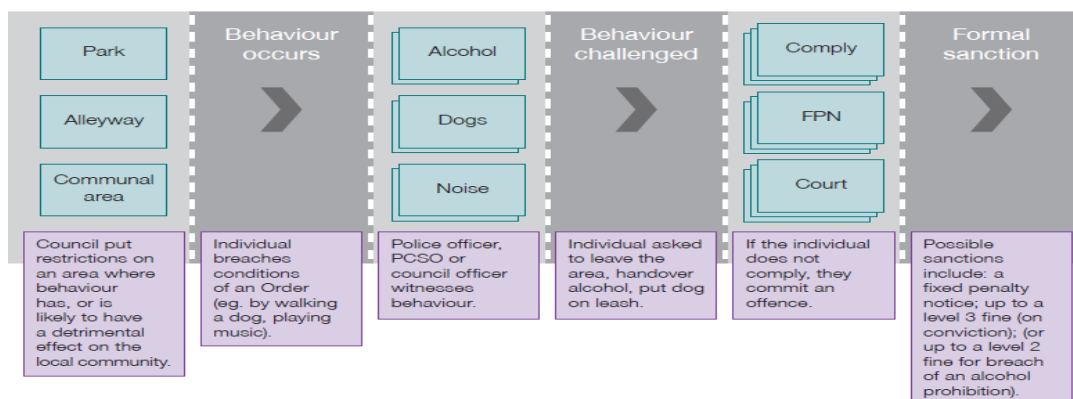
2 Key Issues/proposals/main body of the report:

Public Spaces Protection Orders

Public Spaces Protection Orders provide a power to deal with particular nuisance or problems that directly affect an area.

An overview of the process is shown below, taken directly from the Official Guidance that accompanies the legislation.

Public spaces protection order



¹ <http://moderngov:8080/ieListDocuments.aspx?CI=249&MI=62618&Ver=4>

Hemel Town Centre PSPO

What are the activities that the proposed PSPO seeks to address?

The report seeks to renew powers around the following:

- Cycle or skateboard in the defined area
- Spit, urinate or defecate in the defined area

It also seeks to introduce a new power around:

- Riding an electric scooter in the defined area

1. Cycling and Skateboarding

Proposed Restriction: No person shall cycle or skateboard within the area coloured blue on order plan 2.

The consultation highlighted that cycling and skateboarding in the town centre is perceived to be a problem which has an impact on the enjoyment of the area. 85.2% supported the inclusion of the prohibition in the PSPO, which increased from 61.9% from when it was first introduced. The specific comments made by respondents' highlighted problems with people being at risk from injury by persons cycling or skateboarding and aggressive or intimidating behaviour. However, respondents also commented a blanket ban would not be appropriate as it may push people into more dangerous areas and respondents also highlighted that it is a healthy activity which should not be discouraged, especially in light of the climate emergency changes.

It is not the intention of the PSPO to stop people cycling or skateboarding to and from the town centre and using this as a means of travel; however, in a pedestrianised area such as the town centre there is a conflict if users are riding through a heavily congested area particularly if users are acting inconsiderately. The prohibition will not stop persons from dismounting and walking with their cycle or skateboard once they have arrived within the town centre.

Contraventions of the proposed prohibitions may be by juveniles (aged 10-17) but a common sense approach is being adopted where alternatives to fines are being considered including the use of Community Protection Warnings where appropriate.

In summary, the consultation responses highlight that cycling and skateboarding is an issue within the town centre and it is therefore recommend to be included in the proposed PSPO.

2. Spitting (including discharge of chewing gum), public defaecation or urination.

Proposed Restriction: Not to Spit (including discharge of chewing gum), urinate or defecate in a public place within the area coloured blue on order plan 1.

The consultation received overwhelming support for this power, with 97.53% being in favour, up from 83.1% previously.

Again, as previous, specific issues highlighted included that chewing gum on pavements was an issue and is evidenced by significant areas of newly laid paving now being covered with chewing gum. Respondents reported issues with standing in chewing gum and it getting stuck to pushchairs.

There have also been reports of urinating/defaecation in public areas of the town centre, particularly in areas around the Full House public house.

The prohibited activity will often be linked to the consumption of alcohol and enforcement actions will generally need to take place in the evening and therefore this will need to be planned appropriately taking account of available resources.

Comments made included a concern around over-zealous enforcement and medical reasons. These are noted, with clear guidelines for enforcement to ensure FPNs are issued only where confident they can be defended if challenged. As with all legislation, the enforcement of a PSPO does take into account reasonable excuses, and therefore medical reasons (evidenced) are accepted.

In summary however, and noting the issues with enforcement, the consultation responses highlight that spitting, urinating and defecating are an issue within the town centre and it is therefore recommend to be included in the proposed PSPO.

Over recent years the number and type of bins in the town centre area have also been increased to remove excuses, and further education and communication will take place.

3. Electric Scooters

Proposed Power: Unauthorised use of a privately owned Electric scooter (E scooter) on the public highway within the designated area. (Excluding rental scooters under any Council recognised trial scheme).

Whilst privately owned e-scooters remain illegal to use in public spaces, they are widely available for purchase. Private e-scooters are currently unregulated, meaning they are not currently required to meet any minimum vehicle standards.

The consultation highlighted that scooters in the town centre is perceived to be a problem which has an impact on the enjoyment of the area. 82.2% supported the inclusion of the prohibition in the PSPO, though there was a lot of general comments around the use of manual scooters by children. The specific comments made by respondents' did highlighted similar complaints related to bikes and skateboards around safety, but with concerns over the "silent" nature increasing the risk.

Mobility scooters did get mentioned as one aspect that should fall outside the prohibition, which is a sensible and agreed way forward.

What are the requirements for making a PSPO?

The ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Section 59 sets out the conditions that need to be met for a PSPO to be made.

The first condition is that:

- (a) Activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or
- (b) It is likely that the activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

The second condition is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities:

- (a) Is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
- (b) Is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and

- (c) Justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice

The only prohibitions or requirements that may be imposed are ones that are reasonable to impose in order:

- (a) To prevent the detrimental effect referred to in the first condition above
- (b) To reduce the detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence

How will the PSPO be enforced?

Failure to comply with a PSPO is an offence and can lead to a summary conviction and fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale. In February 2015, the Council agreed that a Fixed Penalty (FPN) of £75 could be applied to any non-compliance with a PSPO if appropriate, rather than a prosecution. However, for repeat offenders or in cases where it is believed the issuing of a FPN would not deter future action, or the offence is deemed or if the offender fails to pay the FPN, a prosecution may be taken. A person authorised by the Council, a Police Officer and / or a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) if authorised can enforce the PSPO.

In line with the normal approach taken with the Borough Wide PSPO already in place, as well as other matters of low level environmental issues, education and engagement will be the primary stance. This involves explaining to those potentially breaching the order what the requirements are and how to meet them. Persistent offenders or those who refuse to heed advice will lead to escalation.

As is the situation at present, the use of the Third Party Enforcement company will continue to provide a visual presence to deter, educate and enforce the requirements of any PSPO put in place. This started in November 2021, with the enforcement figures being:

Offence Type	Offence Type Count
PSPO-Cycling or Skateboarding (PSPO)	280
PSPO-Spitting (PSPO)	70
PSPO-Urinating or Defecating	3

How will the PSPO be advertised?

If the Order is put in place then information will go on the Council Website, using various forms of media, signage will be erected in relevant areas and through use of other methods to maximise publicity of the Order. This will include working with partners.

How long will the PSPO last?

Any PSPO can last a maximum of 3 years, although it can be extended if necessary, and/or reviewed (and varied or discharged) during the course of its life. In this case, the proposed PSPO is sought for 3 years.

But this is not to state that the PSPO will stay in place for the full 3 years, as the intention is to conduct further consultations over the next year to capture what other areas of annoyance, nuisance and harassment that people suffer in the town centre.

Will it work?

The previous PSPO showed that it was an efficient and effective means to control issues in the Borough, streamlining the approach to them and giving clear requirements and enforcement action. Therefore this approach does work but will be kept under review to make sure it is effective.

3 Options and alternatives considered

In relation to the recommendation in this report, the main options include:

1. Cabinet approve the Public Spaces Protection Order (Hemel Town Centre) (Dacorum Borough Council) 2022 (as drafted in Appendix C)

This would result in all aspects of the proposed PSPO coming into force for a duration of 3 years.

This is the preferred option and is supported by the consultations carried out as set out in Appendix to this report.

2. Cabinet approve some aspects of the Public Spaces Protection Order (Hemel Town Centre) (Dacorum Borough Council) 2022 (as drafted in Appendix C)

Where Cabinet does not agree with all the proposals, these can be removed or amended. Additionally, Cabinet can choose a shorter period for the PSPO.

3. Cabinet do not approve the Public Spaces Protection Order (as drafted in Appendix C)

By choosing this option, the Council will rely on current provisions, if any, to seek to achieve the same outcomes. However, this is likely to put additional strain on the Police, who have certain powers related to the prohibitions suggested, and unlikely to be an area they can resource properly. In addition, a lot of the legislation that may be used allows for grey areas that limited enforcement aspects.

4 Consultation

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and the *'Reform of anti-social behaviour powers Statutory guidance for frontline professionals'* sets out the requirements for consultation around a PSPO.

Before making a PSPO, the council must consult with the Chief Officer of Police, and the local police body, which was done in relation to the proposed PSPO and support was given (see consultation responses). Additionally, Ward Councillors were also kept informed of the intent to introduce the PSPO and provided support around this.

The council must also consult whatever community representatives they think appropriate, including charities that the Council works with in terms of homelessness. In this case, a consultation took place on the Council website, to seek maximum coverage and so that anyone could comment on the proposal. Communications took

place around this to advertise the consultation, including the use of social media. Overall there were 649 responses (Appendix A)

Appendix B provides the feedback from the consultation. As can be seen, there is wide support for all aspects of the proposed PSPO. The results regarding support for each proposal is seen below:

	For	Against
Spitting, Urination and Defecation	97.53%	2.47%
Riding of bicycles and skateboards	85.2%	14.8%
Riding of manual and electric scooters	82.2%	17.8%

As mentioned, even though the consultation included manual scooters, the feedback from the consultation recognised the main issues to be that of e-scooters and therefore the approach being taken is to tackle this aspect. Should evidence emerge of increased issues with manual scooters, then the PSPO can be amended as stated above.

5 Financial and value for money implications:

The enforcement shall be carried out within the Environment and Community Protection Service as well as the Police and the use of our current third party enforcement contractor. The third party enforcement contractor works on the basis of taking a proportion of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) income successfully collected, so there is no cost to the Council.

Any income from FPN will be used to offset costs associated with managing the PSPO requirements and issuing fixed penalty notices which will be met from existing budgets, as well as environmental campaigns to increase education and compliance. To this end the scheme is based on cost recovery but should any income above and beyond this be received it shall be ring fenced to the environmental compliance team for this purpose and a review of fees carried out as it is not intended as an income generation tool.

6 Legal Implications

Chapter 2 of Part 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 deals with Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO).

Sections 59 – 61 inclusive deal with the power to make such orders, their duration, and their variation and discharge.

In order to make a PSPO, a local authority has to be satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met:

1. That—

(a) activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or

(b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

And

2. That the effect, or likely effect, of the activities—

- (a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
- (b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
- (c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

A PSPO prohibits, or requires, things to be done in an area or for both – i.e. prohibit and require, but these must be to prevent or reduce detrimental effect in the area. A PSPO can be limited to apply by time/circumstances etc but must be clear to understand what is required and/or prohibited. The legislation sets out the requirements for the content of a PSPO and publication requirements that must be followed.

Under Section 60 of the Act, a PSPO cannot have effect for longer than 3 years unless extended.

Sections 62 and 63 covers aspects relating to PSPOs prohibiting the consumption of alcohol.

Sections 64 and 65 deal with orders restricting public rights of way over the highway.

Section 66 specifically provides an interested party (as defined in the Act) the ability to challenge the validity of a PSPO, or its variation, by application to the High Court. The grounds for such a challenge are that the local authority did not have the power to make or vary the order or include certain prohibitions/requirements, or that a requirement under the relevant part of the Act was not complied with.

There is a 6 week time limit to make such an application from the date of the order or variation. Pending full determination, the High Court can suspend the operation of the order, or variation. Upon determining the application, the Court, if it finds that the authority did not have the power to do what it did/required under the order, or that the interests of the applicant have been substantially prejudiced by a failure to comply with a requirement of the Act in relation to PSPOs, can quash or vary the order or any prohibitions or requirements under it.

When considering any proposed PSPOs, the authority must consider any equality issues pursuant to its duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

7 Risk implications:

Risks included on corporate or directorate risk register? **No**

Separate risk register in place? **No**

The relevant risks contained in the register are attached/summarised below. **N/A**

The following key risks should be taken into account when agreeing the recommendations in this report:

Risk Description	Mitigations	RAG Status
Bad publicity due to level of fine issued	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Consultation has taken place to understand any issues that may lead to bad publicity▪ Fines are standard for PSPO as agreed by Cabinet▪ Communication in place and will be continued to seek compliance prior to need for fines to be	

	issued	
Poor payment of fines, therefore limited impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work has taken place with legal about streamlining prosecution process for non-payment including standardising templates ▪ More emphasis put on initial messaging to those receiving fines about consequences, as well as better follow up ▪ Past experience of collection of such fines shows a high payment rate (above 70%) and all others go to prosecution 	
Lack of resources to take these fines forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3rd Party on street enforcement team in place, working 7 days a week ▪ Re-investment of fines to increase capacity if needed 	
Lack of evidence to support follow up action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All Officers are required to provide statements to support offence as well as attend court ▪ Use of bodyworn cameras by 3rd party enforcement officers ▪ Quality assurance checks carried out by Management ▪ Contract with 3rd party company results in payment only for each successfully paid fine 	
Inconsistent approach to issuing, leading to loss of reputation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Operational policy in place around fixed penalty notices ▪ Training of officers issuing tickets ▪ Monthly performance checks to understand what has been issued by whom and why 	
Cost of administering the scheme outweighs the benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract with 3rd party company results in payment only for each successfully paid fine ▪ Systems set up to minimise cost of the scheme, including on line payment system 	
3 rd party officers fail to follow council policies and procedures, leading to loss of reputation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clear contract in place with 3rd party ▪ Monthly performance and monitoring meetings ▪ Team leader conducts regular 1-2-1 meetings, team meetings and checks 	
Proposal not agreed leading to limitations of action by officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offences would have to be pursued through use of legal notices where feasible (e.g. Community Protection Notices) or prosecution ▪ Those FPNs already in place could still be enforced at the levels already set 	

8 Equalities, Community Impact and Human Rights:

Community Impact Assessment reviewed/carried out and annexed* - the use of the PSPO will not have a detrimental impact based on the evidence to date, but will positively impact those with visual and audio disabilities.

Human Rights – **there are no Human Rights Implications arising from this report**

Pursuant to section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (“the Act”), the council, in the exercise of its functions, has to have ‘due regard’ to (i) eliminating discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; (ii) advancing equality of opportunity between those with a relevant protected

characteristic and those without; and (iii) fostering good relations between those who have a relevant protected characteristic and those without.

The relevant protected characteristics are age, race, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. The duty also covers marriage and civil partnership, but to a limited extent.

In line with this, an initial Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) was completed but did not find that a full EqIA was required as no potential adverse impacts in relation to the decision for this report were considered likely for any of the protected groups. This was reviewed post consultation and no changes required.

9 Sustainability implications (including climate change, health and wellbeing, community safety)

The aspects seeking approval are expected to have a hugely positive impact on the Environment, by putting in place a proactive scheme that addresses matters evidenced within the area.

By having clear requirements in place, backed up by the means of a timely penalty for non-compliance (Fixed Penalty Notices), it allows matters that affect the environment to be addressed in a more efficient and effective means and hopefully leading to longer term behavioural changes.

Improving the environment and reducing matters of anti-social behaviour will have a positive impact on helping make a difference to families, businesses and communities.

The introduction of the Public Spaces Protection Order puts in place clear requirements across the Borough that are less bureaucratic and more efficient to enforce.

If the scheme is not introduced, then it will limit the ability to enforce by the Council in these areas, with resources being focused on individual problems, not addressing the wider issues and limiting the action that is feasible to be taken and prevents the widening the ability for partners (e.g. Police) to deal with anti-social behaviour.

10 Council infrastructure (including Health and Safety, HR/OD, assets and other resources)

The resourcing of such a PSPO was an area of concern highlighted in the consultation feedback.

The management and enforcement of the PSPO will be through current staffing levels using on street enforcement officers, Environment & Community Protection Officers, Police and all authorised officers will be able to take action where an offence under the PSPO is witnessed. These Officers are used to understanding and enforcing PSPOs due to the history of the Borough wide PSPO.

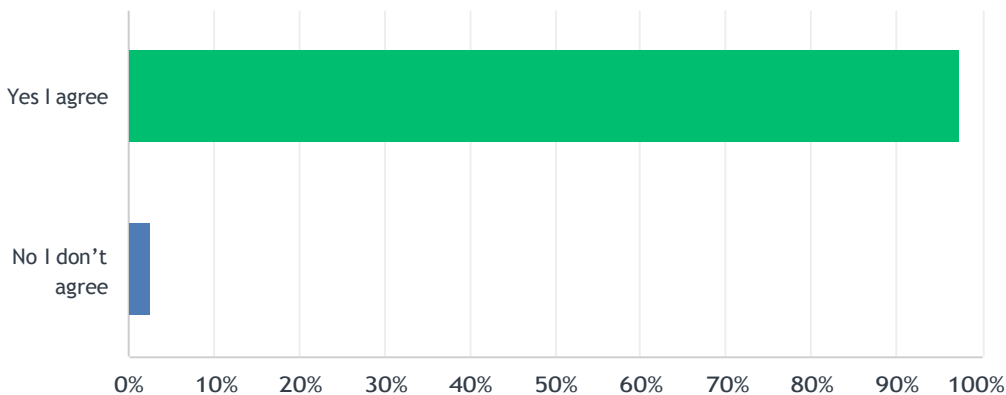
11 Conclusions:

If the scheme is not introduced, then it will limit the ability to enforce by the Council in these areas, with resources being focused on individual problems, not addressing the wider issues and limiting the action that is feasible to be taken and prevents the widening the ability for partners (e.g. Police) to deal with anti-social behaviour.

Therefore, in conclusion, it is recommended that the draft PSPO in Appendix B is approved

Q1 Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of the order that a person should not spit, urinate or defecate within the public areas defined by Plan 1 (page 5)? Please note that urinating and defecating in public toilets within the blue area in Plan 1 (page 5) are exempt.

Answered: 649 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes I agree	97.53%	633
No I don't agree	2.47%	16
TOTAL		649

Q2 If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below.

Answered: 19 Skipped: 635

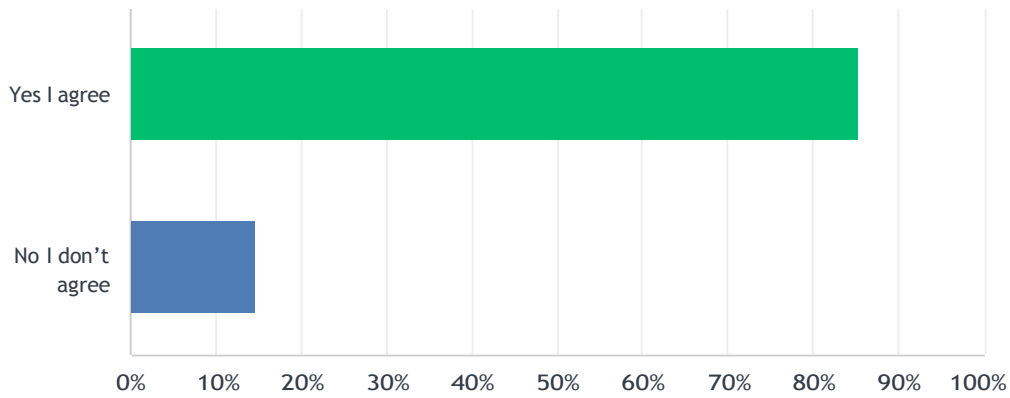
#	RESPONSES	Council Response
1	From what publicity I've heard the enforcement of this PSPO includes other issues such as littering, feeding birds. Whilst these things are perhaps not all good, the council appointed enforcement officers are over zealous targeting children and old people without any degree of common sense. It is better to have the occasional issue than turn Hemel hempstead into something resembling a police state.	The enforcement officers do not target children, and will issue on only 18 years and above. They may advise where necessary and educate. Performance is monitored and there are clear rights of representation should a person feel they have been treated unfairly. Ultimately all have a responsibility to keep their environment tidy and not litter
2	Skateboarding and cycling are not crimes. They give young people a healthy hobby away from bad influence. If you must do this permit skateboarding after peak times. The town centre needs life after dark. It's scary when nobody is about.	Understood but unfortunately they do cause a health and safety risk to pedestrians, with quite serious accidents being caused.
3	If this is to continue, there needs to be better provision of public toilets, particularly at night	Noted
4	People weeing and poeing in the street need help, not fines.	The Council will always look to see what support and help can be put in place with any such person if needed.
5	Should concentrate on more shops and getting rid of the 'homeless'	Noted
6	If you're urinating or defecating in a public place to hem it would already be covered by public indecency. As well as exposing yourself in public.	This would then be purely down to the Police as the Council are not authorised under this, so the PSPO aims to free up Police resource but still tackle the issue
7	Are you being sly here. Are you asking questions that divert away from the main issue of the wardens jumping on people that accidentally drop litter. Scary the elderly when they have been hiding and then jumping out on people.	The Officers are visible and will listen to any reasonable explanation. Additionally, there are checks in place and means to appeal if any fine is felt to be unjustified
8	What happens when toilets are not open. I have issues with bowels and waterworks so if I urgently need to go, I'm sorry but I will go, literally anywhere. With covid as an excuse we are not always able to use facilities even at the council offices, even in an emergency !	If there is a medical issue, ,this is taken into account
9	coz its vibes	Noted
10	I do not see why spitting is an issue.	Noted – most people disagree and it does have public health risks
11	Waste of money	Noted
12	It's disgusting.	Noted
13	Public toilets in the Hemel town centre always locked for some reason taxpayers money if they're just sitting there not 24/7	Noted – this will be looked at
14	I agree with the order but exemptions should be allowed	Noted – there are under “reasonable” so covers aspects such as medical conditions.
15	Please provide disabled toilets 24 hours as the bus service is terrible & some times jave to wait for over an an hour or two in the mornings or light time . It's not always possible to use a restaurant or pub for access .	Noted
16	Why do you even feel the need to ask the question?	Statutory Requirement

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17	There is no toilets and how many people have been find	Noted – we will look to publish this to help with education
18	Urinating & defecating yes but save the law enforcements for more serious things than gum or spit (unless spitting at a person)	Noted
19	Obviously all of the above are horrible but someone taken ill may have no choice	Noted – and will be taken into account

Q3 Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of the order that a person should not cycle or skateboard within the public areas defined by Plan 2 (page 7)?

Answered: 635 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes I agree	85.20%	541
No I don't agree	14.80%	94
TOTAL		635

Q4 If you do not agree, please tell us why in the box below.

Answered: 88 Skipped: 566

#	RESPONSES	Council Response
1	This means that anyone who wants to lower their carbon footprint can no longer do so and there fore need to drive a deisel or petrol vehicle around the local area before they can finally park. The local skatepark wasn't built to an appropriate standard so a lot of the local community tend to use the town as a comfortable place to hangout meaning they need to use their boards/bike in order to get there	Not at all – it just means that a person would need to push their bike through this area or hold their skate board. It is only one distinct area and allows use to get to the town centre
2	Cycling should be encouraged throughout Dacorum, not subject to unnecessary restrictions.	Noted – it is only restricted in a set area due to being pedestrianised and a risk to safety
3	Again over zealous enforcement without common sense.	Noted
4	Kids need to be aloud to have fun, and also if we are trying to help the planet	Noted
5	As above skateboarding and cycling are healthy and harmless hobbies. Kids need things to do and Hemel seems to do little for them and this encourages them into other more harmful behaviours	Noted – there are parks and a skate park nearby
	Although I agree they should be asked to come off then or slow down it's never really been a big problem but to fine someone when they do not no is ridiculous, especially up Riverside end where I've not noticed any signs to say you cant	Noted – there are signs at all entrances to the town centre
	We should be encouraging sustainable transport. Who is going to use their bike scooter or skateboard to get around if they can't use it when they pass through the town? This rule makes sustainable transport a less convenient option and also discourages exercise. I would rather people skating or riding bikes around town enjoying themselves and exercising, than more people driving or worse just sitting at home doing nothing.	Noted – see above
8	The council could, as an idea, create a cycle/skateboard lane; those who utilise either form of transport would be able to access this route.	Noted – but this area is pedestrianised and would be difficult to ensure safety
9	As a skateboarder myself as long as they are being respectful and not charging into people I see no issues. Not only that it's a good mode of transport and with Gadebridge skatepark a lot of us skate into town to get drinks ect.	Noted – and can do that, but not use them when in the actual area
10	No harm, anything that gets people off the pc	Noted
11	In the context of a climate emergency, the town should be doing all it can to promote cycling as a form of transport. With some updated infrastructure a cycling link through the town centre will promote access to the town. The current ban on all cycling is outdated and counter productive. If anti social behaviour of individuals using bicycles is a concern there is already other provisions within the law to deal with this. Please take the first step towards making Hemel town centre more welcoming to people using bicycles.	Noted – see above
12	Skateboarding is not a crime!!	Noted – see above

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13	It's a public space cycling and sport should be encouraged especially since signage of current rules is missing and the people handing out fines are very selective. I get the whole being dangerous but if your being safe leave it be	Noted
14	Skateboarding and cycling is a great mode of transport and through the town is a safe area to ride through compared to roads. As long as people keep their distance from walkers which previously was common etiquette allowing this rule will be beneficial to many people.	Noted
15	As long as it done responsibly it should be allowed	Noted
16	people who skateboard or cycle in town will usually stay out of peoples way and are often just trying to get from A to B	Noted – but the risk remains as weaving in between people
17	This policy was created years ago before we had a skatepark as a means to deter skaters and BMXers from riding in town, it was a stupid rule then and still is a stupid rule. If the order is to stay it should be for ANY FORM OF WHEELEDD TRANSPORT including ROLLER SKATES, and SCOOTERS, otherwise this is classed as DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SKATEBOARDERS AND BIKERS.	Noted
18	if they have to be banned from town, there should at least be a warning system for them before they are fined. i dont skate or cycle, but i witnessed the aggressive way the wardens dealt with a skateboarder the other day and it didnt seem right.	Noted – there are clear signs and officers will ask people to dismount
19	They need to get somewhere just like everyone else	Noted
20	Encourages exercise	Noted
21	The area where the old market used to be is a big open space which is often not used. It poses an opportunity for kids to skate or ride bikes here where it is ratively safe and there are shops overlooking the area. There should perhaps be designated times. Marlowes and Riverside areas should remain skate and bike free.	Noted
22	If safely done it	Noted
23	I think there should be a cycling/skateboarding zone in the town centre. It just needs a designated and marked area. The pedestrian zine is large enough to accommodate this.	Noted
24	skateboarding, no. Cycling gets people from A to B. Maybe people who are doing it not just a means of transport then yeah	
25	I think cycling should be allowed as long as it is not in an antisocial manner and is at low speed	Noted
26	It's never the bike or the skateboard that's the issue but the user, most of which are don't cause a danger. The biggest issue I have personally faced moving through the town centre on something on wheels or foot is pedestrians straight up walking with the head down paying no heed to what is around them.	Noted
27	It's fun.	Noted
28	careful cycling should be allowed through the town (maybe adding cycle path). it is dangerous to cycle along Waterhouse Street as cars keep pulling out not looking almost hitting me. we also need a safe place to cross Leighton Buzzard Road	Noted – but these are covered in the main under other legislation
29	I think cyclists can safely share space with pedestrians given a suitable framework	Noted

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30	It's about time the council and police stepped up and actually reinforce this as kids are ridding and wheelieing towards us , there are No police down the town keeping a eye on things it's s free for all and Dacorum should be ashamed of their own actions that have been next to nothing trying to stop them	Noted – this is being enforced
31	There is nothing wrong with skateboarding or cycling in a public space.	Noted
32	Use of cycles, in particular, allow persons with disability to access shops. The ban is direct discrimination.	Noted
33	Have a rule of no groups, individuals can use a certain route to get a to b. Rather than assume everyone being a nuisance	Noted
34	From reports I have read, those who have been issued with a penalty notice were, in the main, not causing any nuisance. Those causing a nuisance were, again in the main, too young to be issued with a penalty notice. Furthermore, the signage is explaining the no cycling etc is either incorrect or not presence. eg the pathway alongside the water gardens does not have any signage but a friend of mine was issued with a penalty notice.	Noted – signage has been checked
35	how do you encourage cycling and activity if you ban people doing it. What about creating space for them to do so. Does it apply to children?	Noted – see above
36	Not enough through cycle ways which need to be encouraged	Noted – this will be fed back to County Highways
Page 134	Cycling nor skateboarding never appeared a big problem in the town centre.	Noted
	nah coz its like walking with wheels	Noted
	People should be encouraged to cycle and skateboard in public areas. Dangerous cycling and skateboarding should be questioned however, we should be encouraging people to stay fit and healthy and not use cars.	Noted
40	We should be teaching and encouraging people to live with courtesy and respect together, not by banning and dining people. Allow people to skate/cycle but respectfully and educate pedestrians to also be courteous.	Noted
41	Cycling and skateboarding can be reasonable activities and a navigation route should be provided.	
42	People should be free to skate or cycle where they choose	Noted – unfortunately not if it causes a risk
43	It's a free use the paths (walking or on a bike) next to will be asking mums with a pram to pay. So no it's still a free counter	Noted – unlikely to get hit and cause serious injury from a pram
44	Marlowes is 40 yards wide - wider than most roads so we can probably blame HH kids and their parents for not cycling nicely. The law is a blanket ban discriminating against cyclists with zero tolerance, not just those who cause a nuisance and could be dealt with by other laws (Tory policy). People under 17 are not covered. The law was provoked by HH parents and kids who could have laws against them anyway. I was born in Kings Langley, passed my Cycling Proficiency Test in 1966 before starting Grammar School and went on to win the World Cup. Lovely lady from the council? It was a mercenary but they call them contractors. Zero tolerance.	Noted – Officers will use common sense but unfortunately must be consistent in approach
45	Some cyclists and skateboarders are not causing a nuisance if bthey are being respectful to pedestrians.	Noted – see above

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46	exercise. let ppl live	Noted
47	As well as electric scooters	Noted
48	To encourage people out of their cars, we have to make shared spaces. Including bicycles.	Noted
49	This is not enforced by the Council. Can a cycle lane be created instead?	Noted – see above
50	Because u let vehicles drive doenbherebsilly rule	Noted
51	Why do you even feel the need to ask the question?	Statutorily required
52	Because cycling is one of the green agenders and is being encouraged so why would it be banned when it's in the governments net zero plan when limited speed could be unforced	Noted – see above
53	There is no harm if a few skaters use the ramp , but cyclist should dismantle	Noted
54	just a mode of transport. There's little reason to stop people from doing this apart from the motive of "those bloody kids", the town centre should be for everybody. Are cyclists and skateboarders not part of the towns community? With all this talk of inclusivity, I think more effort should be made to let people commune in the town centre. Not fine then for possibly rolling a few meters on a skateboard.	Noted
55	Cycle lanes should be installed	Noted
56	This is not antisocial behaviour! And often a through way to get to the skate park, the assumption that skateboarders or cyclists are young and oblivious as to not take care where they are riding is offensive, it's a healthy activity, where people belong to a nice community. Skateboarding is now an Olympic sport as well as cycling, stop this outdated ordinance	Noted – unfortunately it can cause nuisance and annoyance
57	I see no problem with cycling or skateboarding of an evening when very few pedestrians are around, after all, there are many shared cycle, walkways in Hemel where walking, cycling and skateboarding has caused no problems.	Noted
58	People should be allowed to use the area for these persists but with careful consideration for pedestrians. Signs that it is a mixed) shared use space with a code of conduct could help	Understood but unfortunately this doesn't work at the moment
59	I think this should be amended to be prohibited during certain times e.g. between the hours of 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday. The restriction is not required when the public area is not busy.	Noted – but unfortunately this is not consistent as can be busy at any time, just as it can be quiet
60	It is a public area and for the use of all. Dangerous or otherwise inconsiderate should not be allowed but it is selfish to prohibit behaviour just because some people do not like it.	Noted
61	It seems unreasonable to allow driving but not skateboarding or cycling.	Noted
62	Children with parents should be able to cycle or skateboard taking care of people around them	Noted – Officers do use common sense in this case
63	I don't have a problem with sensible cycling/skating...	Noted
64	It's not something I feel strongly about, if they cycle or skateboard considerately	Noted
65	As long as these activities are carried out giving consideration to other people I do not think prohibiting these activities is useful and goes against campaign to increase this method of travel.	Noted

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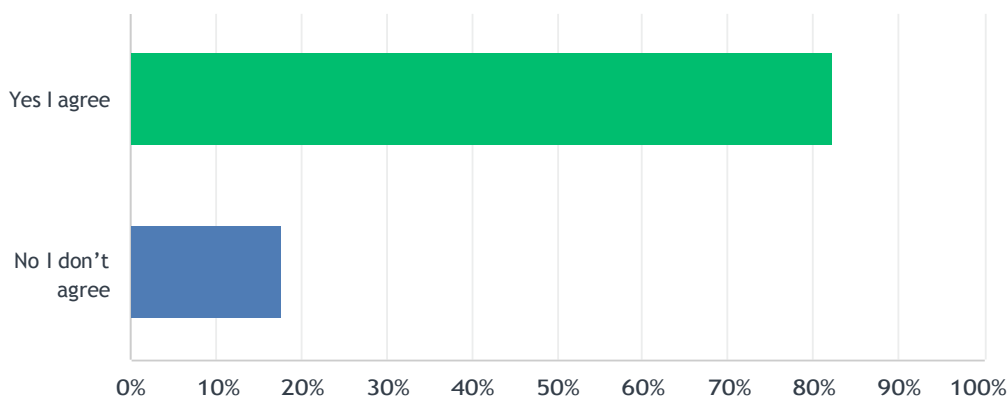
66	Mostly these riders are children, if not then it is a safer way for cyclists to travel as there are pitifully few cycling lanes anywhere	Noted
67	There are adequate existing laws against cycling on pavements and pedestrian areas. Skateboarding and other activities (roller-skating, non motorised scooters, etc) are not a significant anti-social activity and should not be banned.	Noted
68	Don't mind	Noted
69	Toddlers on bikes maybe permitted?	Noted – see above
70	Introduce a designated cycle lane. Seems an odd thing to outlaw if you want more people to use bikes then cars to travel around. Re: skateboards - promote the skate park in Gadebridge Park more	Noted
71	This is unduly unfair on children	Noted – see above
72	There is nothing anti-social about skateboarding or cycling.	Noted – see above
73	This order clearly hasn't worked. Teenagers cycle and skateboard through The Marlowes all weekend. So I question the sense in a rule continuing when it hasn't worked thus far	Noted – Enforcement started at the end of the year and feedback is that it has helped improve matters
74	Are we not supposed to be promoting exercise? This heavily penalises young people also. Build better cycle routes if you do not want people using the safety of town	Noted – see above
75	Kids with parents should be allowed to use bikes, scooters or skateboards thru the town as long as they are not teenagers / adults	Noted – see above
76	I just did	Noted
77	I agree with the plan to not cycle as the plan is but surely you need to look at allowing cycling in special marked lanes.	Noted
78	As lon GB as these activities are controlled properly, people should be allowed to cycle/skateboard through the Water Gardens, which is so much safer than using either the Leighton Buzzard Road or Waterhouse Street.	Noted
79	It is a very large area and asking people to remember not to cycle is too much, when they can do this around Sacorum normally.	Noted
80	I STRONGLY disagree. You are assuming that all people on cycles are a nuisance, this is simply not the case. How do you expect to have a green policy if you ban cyclists?	Noted – no, we are taking a consistent approach that removes a problem that is being experienced by pedestrians
81	I think we should be doing all we can to encourage people, particularly young people, to be active, and to avoid using private cars. Cycling and skateboarding should both be encouraged and supported, perhaps by redesignating parts of the pedestrian area. If there is still a feeling that cycling and skateboarding should be restriced, might thee be a way to allow these activities for under 16s or 18s, but not for adults?	Noted
82	Not to cycle aggressively. Cycling should be encouraged though	Noted
83	It does not cover the ramp on Bridge street.	Noted
84	I think that people should be encouraged into the town centre. Marlowes is a wide thoroughfare, without cars, and should be big enough to accommodate cyclists and skateboarders alongside pedestrians.	Noted

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85	Can we not allow children on cycles, people going slow and carefully in quiet hours, skateboarders going home ...	Noted – Officers will not patrol / actively enforce when the areas are quiet as reasonable
86	Agree but add electric scooters	Noted
87	But it should include scooters especially electric	Noted
88	It's a large area that can accommodate pedestrians and allocated areas for cycling / boarding.	Noted

Q5 Do you consider that there is also an issue with electric or manual scooters (excluding mobility scooters) within the public areas defined by in Plan 2 (page 7)?

Answered: 618 Skipped: 36



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes I agree	82.20%	508
No I don't agree	17.80%	110
TOTAL		618

Q6 Please tell us the reasons for your answer to Question 5.

Answered: 233 Skipped: 421

#	RESPONSES	
1	They are no more of an issue than mobility scooters. All scooter riders, including mobility scooters and bike riders should demonstrate consideration towards pedestrians	Noted
2	Never seen an issue	Noted
3	I'm partially sighted and I don't visit the town now because bikes scooters even for the disabled they are careless of people around them.	Noted
4	No there is no problem just a perceived problem with young people from loud voices.	Noted – but some of the comments do indicate there is
5	No there is no issue let people use whatever transport they want. Hemel town needs to modernise these rules	Noted – as above
6	I have not witnessed any such issues	Noted
7	Electric scooters are lethal. I have experienced many near-misses in the town centre. They cannot be heard and the ride them recklessly.	Noted
8	They can be dangerous in a crowded area	Noted
9	No issue	Noted
10	There's no agreed or sponsored scheme in place so its minimal impact	Noted
11	Focus of any law enforcement involving vehicles should be proportional to the risk of harm. If cycling infrastructure is improved scooters could use this too and reduce Hemel's reliance on the car. Again, if anti social behaviour is the problem, focus on the individual and their behaviour using other provisions in the law.	Noted
12	Against the law	Noted
13	My neighbour was struck by an electric scooter.	Noted
14	Same as before	Noted
15	They are again great modes of transport and shouldn't be banned.	Noted
16	If there is a problem with skateboards and bikes it should extend to ALL forms of wheeled transport or preferable none.	Noted
17	i have never experienced any issues, everyone has control	Noted
18	Children on scooters in town ate a constant problem. E-scooters are dangerous motorised transport which require no license or test to use.	Noted
19	Lots of kids use scooters irresponsibly & are a danger to others especially the vulnerable & elderly	Noted

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20	electric ones maybe, due to their speed, but not manual ones.	Noted
21	There is no issue that I have seen with Electric scooters	Noted – see other comments
22	Electric scooters are a hazard to pedestrians, far more dangerous than manual scooters.	Noted
23	Scooters whether electric or not are a hazard in pedestrian areas, particularly to those who are blind or inferm and can't get out of the way in time.	Noted
24	I haven't noticed too much issue with e-scooters but I have had to sharply get out of the way of mobility scooters a number of times. They should be permitted as they are needed but perhaps designated lanes for them would help.	Noted
25	These scooters are not legal. Laws and rules are made but not enforced. Why?	Noted
26	Electric scooters are becoming an increasing menace. It should be an area for pedestrians only. I have seen on differing occasions many teens through to adults nearly knock over pedestrian	Noted
27	There are not many used and they could use a designated cycle zone if one is implemented. They are no more dangerous tha a mobility scooter. Which I use myself due to disability.	Noted
28	Problem is most culprits are juveniles so legislation impotent	Noted
29	No one does anything to stop it so it just gets worse	Noted
30	I do not include the mobility scooter!	Noted
31	People don't pay attention - accident waiting to happen.	Noted
32	There are far too many people using illegal electric scooters in Hemel Hempstead causing danger to themselves and the public	Noted
33	The people who ride these have no respect, insurance , correct training so are a menace.	Noted
34	E-scooters and larger mobility scooters travelling too fast close to pedestrians and smallchildren	
35	I've seen electric scooters speeding through Marlowe's unhindered many times	Noted
36	Never really notice many down there, like pervious answer, most people don't cause a danger. A minority may you shouldn't be tarring everyone with the same brush.	Noted
37	Electric scooters are becoming a problem for pedestrians.	Noted
38	I've had problems with potentially hazardous use of mobility scooters in various places but never actually in the centre of town - as with cycling, it should be perfectly possible to share that space safely	Noted
39	It's a pedestrian area - they have no concern for pedestrians	Noted
40	Yes and you put up signs but do Nothing	Noted – enforcement is taking place
41	You can't allow 1 electric item & not the other.	Noted

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42	Have seen a few on electric scooter can be quite dangerous seen people have few near misses. Dont mind the small manual scooter for young children providing parents keep an eye on them	Noted
43	Even the manual scooters are too fast through there.	Noted
44	I have come across just a few electric/manual scooters. I have a mobility issue and in one instance I just stood still as a scooter was aiming for me. My husband had to intercept. It is a problem if you can't get out of their way quick enough.	Noted
45	I've had more problems with cyclists to be honest	Noted
46	No don't see a problem. Scooters should be permitted as well as cycling.	Noted
47	Serveral times I've experienced near-miss collisions	Noted
48	Children & young adults go wizzing around shoppers and terrorise old people	Noted
49	Supposed to be a pedestrian area	Noted
50	The odd scooter will be fine.	Noted
51	I have seen a few incidents of electric scooters travelling stvwuite high speed around busy areas with young children	Noted
52	Teenager riding scooters in the Marlowes. I don't hear them behind me then pass close and fast. Teenagers on bikes are a problem too.	Noted
53	Not personally experienced an issue	Noted
54	Not personally seen any of these	Noted
55	They are dangerous and ridden without care	Noted
56	I am unsure as I haven't experienced any	Noted
57	no issue there	Noted
58	Use of electric scooters in public areas is illegal! Manual scooters are usually used by young people, and create a similar hazard to cycles when used by them.	Noted
59	From observation, there seems to have been a significant increase in scooter & electric scooter ownership. From media reports (wich may not be unbiased) there seems to be an association with anti social behaviour and street crime. Local authorities are having to be reactive in the management of the rise in scooter ownership.	Noted
60	Need to embrace modern technology and far better than pollution and traffic	Noted
61	Please include mobility scooters that exceed 4mph as well as ebike/scooters	Noted
62	They move faster than a pedestrian can react upon seeing them. Humdrum may not see them or be seen by the riders of these scooters. Collisions can lead to serious injuries.	Noted
63	I have not been in that area recently and don't feel qualified to answer the question	Noted
64	a bit unfair on small children on their scooters but fully agree for anyone over the age of 10 and especially electric scooters for teens and above.	Noted

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65	These are the same as skateboards and bikes.	Noted
66	they are everywhere and it is a completely unlegislated matter right now, a risk for the rider and the general public	Noted
67	I have witnessed scooters being used inside shops which is dangerous	Noted
68	I've only ever seen one e-scooter in town.	Noted
69	These are often irresponsibility ridden and their speed and the random weaving in and out of areas where people are walking/shopping, is very disturbing and dangerous.	Noted
70	no coz their vibes	Noted
71	It's not the publics fault that licenses for those scooters aren't mandatory.	Noted
72	Escooter is dangerous for elderly people	Noted
73	I don't really see many of them but relating to my answer to q4 if people of all ages are encouraged to ride safely and with courtesy and respect I can't see an issue. Might help people to live amongst each other generally also	Unfortunately not the case at present
74	Scootering can be reasonable activities and a navigation route should be provided.	Noted
75	Electric scooters move far to fast ,it's speed that is the issue	Noted
76	Am disabled and I am terrified as have very nearly been hit by an electric scooter	Noted
77	Too many electric scooters being driven by in experience youths not caring for peoples safety	Noted
78	Not mobility but youth on scooters	Noted
79	I use mobility scooter. Full access where appropriate should be essential	Noted
80	Haven't seen any . . . YET.	Noted
81	It is purely dangerous especially when toddlers and elderlies are walking	Noted
82	Some scooters are more dangerous than a cyclist or skateboarder.	Noted
83	They're a hazard and the users are usually irresponsible.	Noted
84	They are dangerous	Noted
85	no difference between a cycle and a scooter	Noted
86	Too dangerous	Noted
87	You cant hear then coming, the speeds that some are capable of would inflict life changing injuries in the event of a collision, lack of regulation insurance and registration.	Noted
88	There is an issue as many users do not pay sufficient attention to what is going on around them. However, total exclusion seems hard to justify and people should be allowed to push them through.	Noted
89	haven't noticed worrying levels of nuisance	Noted
90	Shopmobility was set up to allow people who have difficulty walking access the Town Centre. As far as I know there is no issue or problems with scooters.	Noted

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91	Mobility scooters are a necessity for some, electric scooters are not yet legal, micro scooters are a harmless toy.	Noted
92	My suggestion is to create a cycle lane to make the town centre safe for all users.	Noted – will be fed into any future public realm works
93	They are fast, and unlicensed, a recipe for disaster and very gangerous, especially for old people.	Noted
94	Electric scooters are silent and can "creep" up on people making them jump. Generally people who use these scooters are sensible but there's always the odd person who thinks they are above everyone else.	Noted
95	It is important to differentiate between adults and older young people on electric/manual scooters moving at pace as opposed to a under 12 on a manual scooter travelling at low spec accompanied by an adult.	Noted
96	Children aged under 8 should be allowed to use scooters. Makes the school run so much quicker and easier.	Noted
97	Yes , I often see kids on scooters around town with little consideration for those around them	Noted
98	They hold no insurance and speed through with very little thought for members of the public.	Noted
99	There has been a real increase of the use of e scooters across Hemel Hempstead. They being used on pavements and within Marlowe's shopping centre. They should be totally banned. If anyone is caught using one illegallu, they should be fined and have the e scooter confiscated and destroyed.	Noted
100	They should not be used as kids and old persons can't hear them coming	Noted
101	How can you justify banning bicycles if you don't ban electric scooters which can travel as fast if not faster?	Noted and the reason the consultation is asking about them
102	They are a danger to pedestrians. Especially the elderly and small children who should be able to walk around the area safely.	Noted
103	Too fast and zip through people unaware.	Noted
104	I use a mobility aid a rollater & have actually been hit by an e- scooter rider & cyclist both wearing headphones . Luckily I didn't get hurt but they did coming off their bike / scooter going too fast .	Noted
105	Some mobility scooters are being used at speed and antisocially	Noted
106	Don't really see much	Noted
107	Youths on electric scooters are particularly dangerous, travelled Ng very fast and deliberately weaving between people walking.	Noted
108	Electric scooters are a far cleaner mode of transport than a car, bus, or motorbike	Noted
109	Iv personally never had this issue when in town	Noted
110	Electric scooters are illegal anyway and manual scooters are a hazard to pedestrians	Noted
111	The above are dangerous in public area's, with disregard for other people using the area	Noted
112	If people use them responsibly then fine, if not, take them off them. Simple.	Noted

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113	Dangerous as too fast	Noted
114	Some people go too fast and end up running into people	Noted
115	BOTH TYPES OF SCOOTER ARE AS DANGEROUS AS CYCLING.	Noted
116	They are illegal to use in a public environment.I see no enforcement of this law.There have been many near misses involving old people in particular who don't always have the agility to avoid collisions	Noted
117	The government wants electric vehicles so what's the problem with electric scooters surely better than petrol motorise bikes	Noted – but again it is where appropriate
118	Their use risks injury to less mobile people who cannot easily get out of the way of a speeding scooter.	Noted
119	Of course not. What's the problem with scooters? That they allow people to travel faster than if they were walking? Do you also plan on stopping people running through the centre?	Noted
120	It could knock vulnerable people over	Noted
121	See previous answer	Noted
122	Far as I'm concerned scooters as much a hazard as bikes.	Noted
123	Yes I have almost been knocked over several times and the speed at which they go at is sometimes faster than a bike . I have seen them used in ifevghe marlowes as well . Due to the being easy to use and speed they are a favourite form of transport for drug dealers as well . Also if left dumped o. The floor hazards for disabled people	Noted
124	Only electric scooters are an issue die to the speed and so much harder to stop	Noted
125	As long as these devices are used sensibly there should be no problem, don't ban the use of something just because of the few who can not behave.	Noted
126	They are silent and a danger to pedestrians.	Noted
127	Electric scooters are too fast and are often driven by inconsiderate people. Manual scooters are not a oroblem	Noted
128	They are So dangerous to the elderly.I'm fact everyone.older people can suffer life changing injuries.	Noted
129	I have not come across any reason to have an issue. Would zealous enforcement officers be ordering children off their manual scooters? Will there be exemptions?	Noted
130	There are teenagers riding electric scooters through the Marlowes and pedestrians can't hear them coming so anyone could get knocked down	Noted
131	The town centre is no place for electric scooters. People who use them in this area have a complete disregard for pedestrians or their safety	Noted
132	Danger to pedestrians	Noted
133	They are dangerous to use in pedestrianised areas, and are illegal to use in public places, so should be banned from being ridden.	Noted

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134	Scooter users often on the pavement and walkways	Noted
135	Too fast for pedestrianised area. Safety comes first.	Noted
136	There are a numner of reckless scooter rivers who do not appear to have control of their scooters	Noted
137	Electric scooters in the town centre are dangerous have been hit by a scooter they are too quiet and illegal	Noted
138	You cannot hear them. You can not identify them to complain. They are quite fast and drivers do not consider possible movements by pedestrians.	Noted
139	Kids whizzing about on them are dangerous	Noted
140	Many elderly use this area and they should feel safe to do so.	Noted
141	Manual Scooters are like skate boards but have handle bars and I thought electric where illegal except in trial areas.	Noted
142	No issues. Just busybodies wanting to impose their behaviour on to others.	Noted
143	Have seen too many on electric scooters going too fast plus as far as I know still illegal	Noted
144	I haven't had any issues	Noted
145	Riders are often going too quickly and are not fully in control	Noted
146	Having had an electric scooter driven directly at me by teenagers, although not in the town centre, greater need for law enforcement is needed.	Noted
147	They are a danger to people with mobility problems and the elderly	Noted
148	They go all over the place and you don't know they are coming up behind you as have no bell	Noted
149	Mobility scooters are no problem but electric scooters that people stand on need to be on the road . If in a place where they are not able to use the road I think they should walk through those areas and push the scooter.	Noted
150	Electric scooters should be banned but mobility and childre with parents should be able to use their scooters	Noted
151	They tend to be moving fast, silent and can be below one's sight-lines	Noted
152	I have no personal experience of this issue.	Noted
153	there are too many electric scooters in use in Hemel Hempstead, the police are never to be seen, when this happens	Noted
154	they go to fast to be used in pedestrian areas	Noted
155	These scooters suddenly come up behind people, weave in & out of walkers & generally present as a danger	Noted
156	I don't know why you have included mobility scooters in this. They are definitely not the same issue as manual or electric scooters.	Noted
157	These vehicles are silent and fast, I worry asbout bag snatchers or being knocked over	Noted

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158	The use of them is disgraceful and extremely dangerous. Drug dealers are using them	Noted
159	I find e scooters go too fast and know someone who was knocked down by one on a pavement in London	Noted
160	They are dangerous to pedestrians , due to their speed and weaving through said pedestrians	Noted
161	Again I do not think there is an issue with there use , the issue is how they are used. Many people would use these scooters sensibly and responsibly . It seems draconian to ban all use to stop the minority of inconsiderate users.	Noted
162	I've never seen anyone using scooters in the town centre	Noted
163	They are used everywhere now and the law is usually ignored mainly because there is no police presence and the offenders know that pcsos are powerless and generally regarded as a joke	Noted
164	some users of mobility scooters do not take enough care and consideration to others too	Noted
165	The users often act as though they are entitled to priority and are aggressive towards pedestrians.	Noted
166	I do not know	Noted
167	I have nearly been knocked down by scooters on many occasions. Have reported to police	Noted
168	Going too fast and out of control a danger to pedestrians	Noted
169	I've never seen any	Noted
170	If cycles and skateboards are being included, so to should electric scooters.	Noted
171	There are existing laws prohibiting use of motorised scooters on public land. Manual scooters should not be banned as I don't believe their use is typically anti-social.	Noted and taken on board
172	Users (usually youths) ride them with no care for pedestrians	Noted
173	Mobility scooter riders feel they have right of way, and are often not looking out for pedestrians at all, they show no consideration and are often travelling too fast	Noted
174	Unruly children	Noted
175	They are dangerous to pedestrians	Noted
176	Butts end back alley way they zoom down and also the fields between Gadebridge and warners end no respect for anyone	Noted
177	I dont see many about	Noted
178	not controlled, problems for vulnerable pedestrian people not considered.	Noted
179	-	Blank
180	I haven't seen any along Marlowes	Noted
181	Any transport that isn't cars should be fully embraced. There are so many anti social cars and drivers on the roads	Noted

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182	The people ride them carelessly	Noted
183	manual scooters are essentially skateboards with handlebars, the same should apply. Electric scooters (excluding mobility) are already illegal are they not?	Noted
184	They are a menace in crowded public areas because of the speed of them, also they are illegal to use on the roads.	Noted
185	Disabled people need to use these and stopping them would be discrimination	Noted
186	I don't think there is an issue.	Noted
187	They don't go as fast I think	Noted
188	People ride them on pavements at speed which could lead to a serious accident	Noted
189	They are illegal to use on any public area so should not be allowed within the area.	Noted
190	They are a hazard to pedestrians, especially the elderly, deaf and those who use walking aids (crutches, walking stick). They are often ridden too fast by users who have little regard for pedestrians. Electric scooters are illegal.	Noted
191	People are riding electric scooters which are themselves illegal and the rider commits traffic offences. They are a danger to the public because they cannot be heard and travel quickly, occasionally used in an anti social manner. Scooters that are manual are also a hindrance. These are particularly dangerous for the elderly and disabled such those who have hearing or vision issues or are unsteady on their feet..	Noted
192	I haven't seen issues re this	Noted
193	Definitely electric scooter, no regard for pedestrians	Noted
194	Similar rules should apply to the electric scooters as the operators can be quite reckless at times. I don't believe manual scooters are an issue.	Noted
195	It's a general issue about their use but most dangerous in busy areas.	Noted
196	I dont agree that the above should be allowed on pavements	Noted
197	Yes they are a danger to people unsteady on their feet	Noted
198	Scooters of all sorts can go as fast as a bike	Noted
199	It would remove any inconsiderate actions by irresponsible scooter users and there is absolutely no reason for them to use scooters in this area.	Noted
200	A number of them are used to travel through the areas marked, better enforcement is needed an all fronts, the cycles are still an ongoing issue.	Noted
201	I have not seen a problem with scooters	Noted
202	You can't hear them coming and if you're going to ban bikes and skateboards then scooters should also be banned	Noted
203	Not a MAJOR issue but have witnessed an electric scooter being ridden in this area	Noted
204	They cannot be heard; they move so fast; weave in and out between all pedestrians, old people and children; and also come from all directions. Very dangerous.	Noted

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205	If properly managed these activities should not be a problem.	Noted
206	I see them being ridden around Hemel often, sometimes in the road and sometimes on pavements.	Noted
207	The scooters appear from no where very quickly causing the public to be frightened.	Noted
208	Manual scooters, lets give them a try. Electric scooters, its a no for now. I see the value of mobility scooters, however I have recently nearly been hit on a few occasions by people who treat them as a sort of snowplough to move around very quickly and intimidate people to get out of their way. Perhaps you could allow speed limited mobility scooters.	Noted – and taken on board
209	Electric scooters are often driven by selfish persons with little, if any, regard for others. They are a particular menace to small children, the elderly and the handicapped (mobility, sight or hearing).	Noted
210	I don't see them very often and when I do they are being ridden by small children	Noted
211	I don't see many scooters on the high street	Noted
212	I think they can be a valuable form of exercise and transport.	Noted
213	Mobility scooters must be allowed but they should only go at walking speed	Noted
214	Mobility scooters are also misused	Noted
215	They are dangerous especially for the elderly and people with limited mobility	Noted
216	Small kid's on manual scooter's should be exempt. Some mobility scooter's should have a speed restriction.	Noted
217	Electric scooters are virtually silent and give no warning of their approach. They are dangerous in areas where there are large numbers of pedestrians.	Noted
218	This is a difficult area as small children should be allowed to use manual scooters. Electric scooters are not legal anyway and should not be allowed anywhere.	Noted
219	I do not see this as an issue. Again, we need to encourage people to use the town centre.	Noted
220	I think they can be dangerous in pedestrian areas.	Noted
221	Electric scooters are fast and heavy, and should be excluded. Manual scooters, especially for children, require more consideration.	Noted
222	have seen more people on bikes than on scooters	Noted
223	Yes, the speed of electric scooters, but really they are not allowed anyway	Noted
224	They move silently and fast and are a public danger particularly on paved areas	Noted
225	Electric scooters you can not hear	Noted
226	They can injure pedestrians and possibly seriously when travelling at speed	Noted

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227	Not very many scooters	Noted
228	Not regulated - you can't hear them. Danger to pedestrians	Noted
229	Yes I think that this causes a danger to all shoppers and should be enforced more rigidity	Noted
230	Scooters on playfields, pavements are a hazard to people with children or hearing impaired or partially sighted as scooters are not expected to be on the pavement..this makes it unsafe for the above mentioned.	Noted
231	Scooters should be treated the same way as cycles. They are generally used with little consideration for other users of the space.	Noted
232	Electric scooters are too fast / dangerous	Noted
233	A pedestrian centre should be jus that. Both electric and manual scooter riders can sometimes be dangerous	Noted

Q7 Are there any other behaviours you would like to see included in the Public Space Protection Order that you feel are detrimental to the quality of life in Hemel Hempstead town centre?

Answered: 372 Skipped: 282

#	RESPONSES	Council Response
1	The frequent use of bicycles through the pedestrianised area of the town centre and the speed at which people use their mobility scooter at through same area and inside shopping centre.	Comments are not made against each of these, as they will all feed into a review of the PSPO as well as the overall Borough approach, to understand what (if any) other controls are needed, can be justified and are not covered under other legislation
2	The PSPO are rather forceful in their manner when it comes to the halting of people using personal transport, meaning I would rather drive my diesel vehicle around the local town instead of choosing greener options as it won't cost me £80 each time	
3	No, quality of life is also about protection from persecution by over zealous enforcement officers. I have not personally seen this but I am outraged by stories I have seen related on social media. If officers cannot be adequately trained to differentiate between those where perhaps a warning would be more appropriate instead of just doling out fines to create income for the council, then it is better to not create such an order. It's creating a police state environment and discouraging people from going into the area. If a child is feeding birds and does not realise this is against the local 'state control' rules, they should simply be asked to stop in the 1st instance. I've never noticed any signs to this effect so perhaps if there are some they are not obvious enough Also the wastage of police time when they are called if someone refuses to give details we are not part of Russia yet!	
4	People throwing rubbish on the floor even cigarettes being thrown on the floor. I also think if people are seen blowing smoke from a vape or cigarette into people's faces this should be an offence. Even if the smoke blows behind them. It's unhealthy and inconsiderate to non smokers and asthmatics or other health conditions.	
5	Noise overly loud bus service! Needing to get Electric bus services!!!	
6	No. The town centre needs more life at night not more people excluded from using it.	
7	Well I've looked at what you've mainly been fining people for which is cigarette butts, which is easily swept up with a sweeper in the mornings but my main concern with all of this, is the fact that your fining mother's for there children feeding pigeons which is absurd especially when theoretically it's not even littering when the pigeon eats it! Also the amount of people that have been fined because something has fell out there pocket without there knowledge and rather then being told about it to give them a chance to clear there own rubbish up there fined! These are people that can't afford such a hefty fine over something so absurd and it seems to me this has nothing to do with trying to keep the town centre clean but rather taking money from the poor and putting it in the pockets of the council!	
8	Yes poor paving very dangerous	
9	No	
10	Public arguments, excessive alcohol behaviour and aggressive begging	

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11	Begging and rough sleeping should be stopped, particularly near cash machines. The rough sleepers really make the town centre look 'down at heel' with their tents, bedding and accumulated effects.	
12	People feeding the pigeons.	
13	I still see people doing the things that are supposedly banned as anti social behavior. May help if the ban is actually enforced.	
14	Big groups of boys intimidating people. I think having an eye full watch of some sort or town monitor. A lot of underage teen vaping and smoking with multiple shops serving. People staying in large crowds in one place ext	
15	Back off big brother.	
16	Please consider the wider implications of this order. Cyclists already face prejudice from other road users and the inclusion of a ban on cycling only goes to reinforce this and demonise those who chose a sustainable method of transport. With foot traffic being quieter in the town centre than ever before surely there is an opportunity to revisit cycling infrastructure in the town and bring more people in.	
17	Groups of teenagers gathering when it's dark	
18	The people walking around giving fines out on the spot should learn some manners and give people a second chance	
Page 151	Many people (usually the same offenders) loitering in town consuming Alcohol/Drugs. Maybe a 3 strike policy to discourage them hanging around in town.	
	Intimidating behaviour from youths hanging around in the area.	
	it would be good if the marshalls didn't openly follow people that are smoking cigarettes in an intimidating fashion to see if they are going to dispose of the butts correctly. i have been followed twice in town now and have never littered in my life, and when i asked why, they said because seems pretty heavy-handed to me. i've also seen them give a fine to a man because his dog ran near the cafe on gadebridge park for about 2seconds as he was calling it back, again i think a warning should have sufficed as there was clearly no intent on his part. from the encounters i've seen and experienced at least two of the marshalls seem aggressive and somewhat power-hungry and dont seem to care whether anyone was aware of the rules or broke then on purpose or any kind of intent, and as people are struggling now, the fines seem a bit harsh, and there is an intimidating vibe from the marshalls that i've seen and spoken to.	
22	The non-homeless beggars, that are begging. I am happy to give food or money to the homeless	
23	No, but the recent introduction of Wardens to police this area has caused some problems with them being over-zealous and perhaps they should operate with more discretion?	
24	I don't like the fake homeless people outside WHSmith. It has been well documented online that these people have homes, and pretend they don't. They are quite intimidating and should be fined.	
25	Rough sleeping in doorways or begging.	
26	Begging. Sale and exchange of illegal substances.	

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27	People pretending to be homeless begging for drugs and sat in daylight smoke a pipe of drugs why kids are there playing on the play area. Help the homeless and keep them away from town begging
28	Foul language and littering
29	Teens doing wheelies on their bikes, and becoming gobby when challenged!
30	Agression
31	No
32	I agree BUT - there is very little provision for disabled children such as a changing places toilets and there is no way I would change my child who is too large for a changing table on the floor. I also think that small children (under 6 say) should be able to ride their little baby bikes. It's a bit different from someone over the age of 12 doing it.
33	Laws, Rules, ASB.....what is the point if you are not enforcing them. Fine people, stop them littering, spitting and especially the bikes and skateboards.
34	Begging
35	I don't think a PSPO is required for the town centre. And if one simply keeps getting extended it just shows that it doesn't work. There are PCs, PCSOs and the town centre security that all patrol the area. As long as they are visible on regular patrols there won't be many problems.
	Get rid of all the vagrants(most of whom have properties to stay in) FACT. Always swearing and fighting with each other over who has best begging rights outside Tesco express Marlowes. Complete eyesore running town down and whose behaviour terrifies the elderly
	That wardens act in a kind gentle manner and give the benefit of doubt and warn if it happens again they will be fined.
38	People smoking drugs. People drinking alcohol outside.
39	Actually have people stop anyone on bikes - pedestrians are intimidated and getting hurt
40	Homeless people's,drunk use of weed and unleashed dogs!
41	Homeless people begging
42	Sleeping rough outside shops when we have Dens to help
43	Youngsters on bikes in the town also need to be included as they are the biggest issue
44	Drunk people shouting
45	People sitting outside the cafe's smoking. Smoking should be banned in the whole town centre - not fair on others. I constantly have to walk past people smoking with my baby.
46	Alas we still have begging and rough sleeping in town.
47	Attention should also be given to those cycling in the pedestrian subways at the Moor End side of town. It would also be good to rid the town of the fake homeless people. (They are never at their begging spots at nighttime)
48	spitting on floor, cycling/scooters not policed effectively - frequently seen

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

49	When people accidently drop litter they should be given a chance to pick up their rubbish as a warning. The people issuing fines have been giving fines to people who accidently dropped something without giving anyone a chance to pick it up.	
50	Yes ban groups of youngsters in school holidays	
51	I think it's a pity that while the order exists, it is not enforced very well. There are often people cycling in the area under the PSPO, particularly at weekends and school holidays, with very little evidence of enforcement.	
52	People rough sleeping inthe town and begging	
53	Rough sleepers in doorways	
54	Homeless people in the town centre	
55	Yes we need a per name to police presence	
56	Drunk and homeless people. As someone who works on the Hemel town market this doesn't help business	
57	Littering	
58	The contract with the "wardens" that bully & fine people should be terminated immediately. Their behaviour on numerous times is disgraceful.	
59	Littering	
	Whatever is decided needs to be policed properly. All these activities are going on because they are not policed. What is the protocol for the homeless that sleep in the town?	
	Drinking of alcohol and drug abuse. The use of profound language especially in earshot of young children and speeding in vehicles on roads	
62	Homelessness. There are multiple homeless people living outside shops. One especially is very abusive to the general public, even for just looking at him. This really is not good enough. He has been there a long time now.	
63	Homeless camping outside or in doorways of shops. Also said people begging and passing rude or nasty comments if one does not give.	
64	If people litter give them the opportunity to pick it up before a fine is issued!!!!	
65	The people playing musical instruments in the street are noisy and it makes the high street a place where i do not want to stay for long periods. the music is bad and not to everyones taste.	
66	Street begging.	
67	I dislike the level of professional charity collectors being allowed. I have no issue with giving to charity, but object to the way these organised teams spread across the whole pedestrian area so as to 'catch' everyone. Id like to be able to walk the length without being harassed and say 'no thank you' multiple times.	
68	I would like to see the banning of pigeon feeding in the town center. The pigeon mess is a disgrace. People should be dissuaded from this habitat and or fined. I think It should be in the class of anti social behaviour.	

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69	Closing Market square was a mistake we had so much vibrant life in the market. put the Market back were it should be in the square. There are not enough PCSO's in the town comming down hard on these out of control children and young adult's. A smack never did us any harm for being naughty so why can't parents chastise their children because some children only listen when they have a smack. A smack on the legs or the hand is not a beating and is not over doing the punishment. It's time parents and the authorities took back control of the children, young adults and the streets.	
70	Begging Smoking by doorways	
71	Drinking alcohol and smoking in the bus stops.	
72	Groups congregating being a nuisance or threatening behaviour	
73	No homeless encampments	
74	Groups of men loitering in the evening	
75	Persons in charge of children/child buggies or dogs, should not be permitted to walk with them, whilst looking at a mobile phones, therefore being not either in proper control or in genuine awareness of the said dependents	
76	Stop the religious zealots, of any religion from broadcasting their beliefs. Make the whole area non smoking as you can't see for the fug of smoke surrounding all the cafes	
	Busking! They are often to loud and put me off spending time in town. They could add atmosphere but there should be rules about playing music or preaching above a certain level. It that can't be done ban them altogether. Also love the ticketing of litter bugs! People should know better.	
	Mainly bikes and scooters but also the litter sometimes left behind after they have their lunch in the old market square. Although our street cleaners do a very good job clearing up. We also have kids trespassing on the KD tower car park riding their bikes and coming into the building	
79	The number of people living/ sleeping in shop doorways in the town center	
80	If the scheme is trying to eliminate anti-social behaviour then good. However, from my experience it is only alienating good minded people who mistakenly cycled etc in the prohibited area because signage is poor or non-existent. E.g. someone from outside of Dacorum visits the town centre on their cycle. They could easily be issues with a penalty notice through no fault of their own. What impression would that give them of Dacorum? Furthermore, who are these Officers who issue the notices? What do they look like? I've never seen you showing us what uniforms they wear (I guess they wear uniforms?) and what id they have. In my view a poorly established scheme which has very limited chance of succeeding other than to alienate people.	
81	District Enforcement officers not doing their job properly and just chasing the revenue and money rather than preventing. But this is what happens when a public body issues a contract o a private company where they can self regulate and only answer to themselves	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

82	Loitering in large groups, with anti-social behaviour is an issue, also consuming alcohol and smoking weed/ substances.
83	People disrespecting people in any form.
84	Control and regulation over e-scooters please! Currently, e-scooters are widely available to use, and are in regular use. I have seen many e-scooters used at speed, on pavements or on roads, and without much real regard to safety and consequences of their own actions (ie., dodge the silently fast e-scooter, wherever these might come from). I'm a regular cyclist and was recently an Approved Driving Instructor, so am well aware of how the actions of some road users may unknowingly lead to adverse effects on other vulnerable road users (pedestrians)
85	I find the presence of rough sleepers in the town centre personally unsettling. I will only visit Hemel Hempstead town centre at peak times, when I may otherwise have preferred an off peak time e.g. late afternoon. I find myself checking ahead and behind before I walk through Bank Court or other parallel paths from main shopping street back to Water Gardens parking. I feel on edge in the town centre.
86	Abusive language
87	Although to be green spaces should be included where it is secure to leaves bikes/scooters even though they should be walked to these spaces. As well as manual bikes and scooters
88	Dropping Litter. It encourages rats and foxes. People should use the bins provided.
89	These powers are useless unless there is someone present to implement them. I rarely see a police officer or community officer in the town centre. I spent an hour waiting for Arriva buses (which did not arrive) watching a youngster cycling backwards in circles at the junction on Marlowes and Bridge Street . At least it needs prominent notices as noone takes any noitce of the ones uo now.
90	I agree with all the above points and it is all very well putting signs around town to make people aware, but who is actually around to enforce this order? The police are stretched already and never around when you need them. I've never seen any other type of enforcement officer around town. I also believe there is an increasing problem with homeless people in the town centre, they position themselves near cash machines and I see how they can be intimidating. They also beg for money, surely this needs addressing.
91	Urinating in the carpark for example water gardens ..
92	The town NEEDs attention, make it more attractive to large brand shops to stay in the town. It's a disgrace that a large town like Hemel will soon not have a place to shop. Less coffee shops and run down places attract rirraff. More community support when incident do happen. I witnessed a young lad in the process of being robbed most people walked past only myself and another mother stopped to help. Call to 111 was fruitless as they were too busy to attend. It was an absolute joke. We had to sit in the bank to gain access to his parents phone number as phone had been robbed. For a very expensive place to live it's a disgrace and Dive someone from the local council needs to take responsibility!!! Angry local resident who has lived locally all my life.
93	group of people gathering and swearing during busy shopping times, a disgraceful behaviour to witness for family with children
94	Smoking in outside public seating areas.

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

95	As well as electric scooters and bicycles, the use of all wheeled conveyances (except mobility devices) should be banned from all pedestrian areas.
96	Smoking! People seem to think it's okay to smoke around the areas where children play. Smoking should be banned in those areas. Homeless problem. It seems to be getting worse with multiple doorways occupied. Drug dealing! It's right under everyone's nose and seemingly ignored by local police. Far more important issues than kids on skateboards.
97	No.But i still see boys riding bikes fast through the town and boys doing wheelies.The speed they sometimes go could actually kill someone if they hit an old person.I ve seen them weaving in and out of people so this is not being controlled enough.!!
98	Rough sleeping in shopping centre. There must be a better way for these unfortunate people.
99	People who sing/perform in the centre (with or without permission) have microphones and amplifiers which are far too loud.
100	not enough weed
101	Drinking alcohol in public on the street
102	The pigeons causing such a mess should be culled and tge mess cleared up from shops and offices fronts and doorways everyday as part of regular street cleaning
103	No begging
104	Personally smoking and swearing but I know they are not realistic or achievable. We need people to live together and encourage people to come to the town not discourage them by fining and banning things everywhere. We are a free country.
105	There is not enough active transport and there is too much parking congestion across town. Cycling, skateboarding and scootering need to be encouraged, which means a navigation route should be allowed in the town centre, and wheels should be directed to use it.
106	Though cycling is not allowed this rule is disregarded
107	remove the video screen
108	No
109	No.
110	Yes the parking in town near K.F.C . You have used the take payers money to make a new layout for disabled cars an all the fast food company's use the spaces and the traffic wardens are never there to ticket cars. An when the wardens are there on rare occasions the ask for the cars to be moved!???. It clearly says disabled parking,these cars should be ticket at the first presence off a warden an not told to move there cars first it's a joke an the police should manage the spaces at night cause it's ever worse at night
111	Keeping dogs on a leash and making sure they are properly supervised with regards to fouling etc
112	Drinking and swearing I had two people one homeless and a women have a shouting match last week
113	Throwing chewing gum , rubbish, cigarette butts, dog fouling. Youths that spin around roundabout on both sides of the car doing wheelies.

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

114	Large groups hanging around Need more greenary	
115	Respect for others. The town is dying on its feet. The toilets outside should continue to be checked regularly so that they're not being used appropriately	
116	Mercenaries that you call contractors should be banned as they enforce arbitrary laws with zero tolerance.	
117	Cigarette buds.	
118	You haven't included smoking in this. The enforcement officers you employ are awful. They are bullies and threatening. I am in complete support of making Dacorum a better place to live but why can't you issue someone a warning to start with and then escalate it if necessary? To see these enforcement officers intimidating pensioners who have dropped their cig butt on the floor makes me ashamed to live in Dacorum. Please do something about them, people don't come to town to be threatened and bullied.	
119	I'm strongly in favour of this but it needs to be policed properly which I don't think it is at the moment. I always see young people cycling through the centre often swerving around doing wheelies. I don't have a problem with genuine cyclists, especially families with young children but these teenagers spoil it for the rest of the community and are rarely challenged. This isn't aimed at all teenagers, just those displaying anti social behaviour	
120	Smoking, swearing, rude behaviour around/near the children's play areas.	
121	Children play in the water fountain outside Vodafone which makes it smell of wee all summer, it's not pleasant!! The water fountain is for everyone to enjoy and is decorative. I totally avoid the area during summer it's looks and smells disgusting. Gadebridge park is a short walk from here why can't parents take their children to the designated place for water play	
122	No	
123	Littering	
124	Men with their tops off. It's not a beach. They make the town look cheap.	
125	Gangs of teenagers being disrespectful & unruly in & out of the marlowes centre.	
126	General antisocial behaviour. I've seen drunk people being threatening and swearing during the day.	
127	Sort out the town centre. It is a dump.	
128	The amount of people openly walking on public areas smoking spliffs, the smell is appalling and I believe this is an entry level to serious hard drug taking with all the complications this causes. Break up of families. Neglect of child family members. Debt. Non payment violence by dealers. Shoplifting, theft, burglary, robbery, violence to non related members of public etc. to fund the habit.	
129	I think control of dogs and dropping litter are already included by PSPO's.	
130	I am not sure that authorised vehicle users always exercise sufficient caution when driving through the pedestrianised area though I assume that this is already covered.	
131	Graffiti and flyposting could be added for anti social behavior. The officers I have seen in the town centre are foing a great job. I have noticed such a difference. Keep the PSPO in place	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

132	People seem to think they can get away with the order and ignore the officer and not give their name and address. Can something be done about this to give them more powers to take a name and address, and to fail to do so, they can be fined further?	
133	drunkenness	
134	Cycling in particular is a problem. Youths and adult males frequently and deliberately ignore the ban and I have seen any attempts at enforcement, which is no doubt why the existing order is ignored. I have been the subject of several near misses by speeding cyclists in recent years	
135	Persons Drinking alcohol / affected by drink or drugs banned in a public space at a time when vulnerable persons/children are in the area.	
136	Chuggers and 'in your face, new best friend' street sales bother me a lot.	
137	If you walk from Riverside to Marlowe's - as soon as you get close to Boots the whole atmosphere changes. There are vagrants, drug dealers, drug addicts, hooded teens and loiterers. That area always seems to attract kids who are looking for a fight or people who are out of work. We go from feeling relatively safe to uncomfortable.	
138	Groups of kids causing a nuisance in town	
139	Young people riding bikes down the Marlowes and in the Marlowes. Electric scooters totally banned. Any anti social behaviour that is unacceptable to the majority of the public.	
140	No	
141	Some beggars can be intimidating. We need to be helping the genuine homeless people in our area and taking steps to stop organised begging.	
142	Stop drinking of alcohol also to reduce risk of associated antisocial behaviour.	
143	Littering, drink and disorderly conduct such as shoplifting (which is rife and I've seen it most times when in town).	
144	Bicycles are a pain. Litter.	
145	Spiting is disgusting and very common in the town, please enforce and fine people doing this, Smoking and vaping is also disgusting when walking behind the person you get a face full of whatever they are smoking.	
146	Being hassled by people that want you to sign up to give money or just want money	
147	No	
148	Yes, the amount of begging and people sleeping rough. This should not be allowed and those involved be given appropriate help and shelter. There is almost a permanent camp outside WH Smith's.	
149	Well, the town needs more shops , but not coffee shops or pound shops. I feel I never find any clothes shops but the quality ones. Town centre is so empty and doesn't feel like a shopping centre. Definitely you need to do something about that. Always end up going London or Watford if I need to buy something.	
150	Gangs of hoody teenagers shouting abuse for no reason, at the general public and elderly, while just hanging around the precinct and pedestrian areas with nothing to do.	

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151	One way to discourage the behaviour exemplified in your survey is to encourage high end boutique and status retailers. Hemel is losing out to Watford and Berkhamsted. We have few if any independent retailers and little evidence of the higher end retailers that favour Watford. We need to encourage a better 'class' of shopper. Our town is losing out. We want top retailers to be beating down our doors. Why are we letting Hemel become so mediocre.	
152	Vaping	
153	Alcohol free zone. There is a tendency for people who have been in the pubs near the council offices to wander down the town during the day. It is very intimidating as they can get aggressive and very loud.	
154	No	
155	I haven't actually seen anyone in town monitoring. There doesn't seem to be anyone visible.	
156	Littering	
157	The whole town centre is an embarrassing mess to walk through these days. I only visit if I really have to. Much prefer Watford or St Albans. I don't see why anyone would choose to come here any more!	
158	Begging, drinking alcohol, smoking weed, rough sleeping in doorways It is all very well having these laws but unless they are enforced then they are pointless	
159	Zero tolerance to threatening behaviour and violence towards the general public and shop assistants/managers etc.	
160	I have 2 small children age (4) we are in town every day and sometimes there are homeless people near Tesco area probably drunk and showing unacceptable behaviour such as (swearing , shouting and being aggressive . Now with the summer coming we do t want to avoid going out just because of them I think this is a major problem in Hemel Town for me also the pigeons poops are not really hygienic	
161	Smoking in the town centre	
162	Weed smoking in public areas. The stench is awful sometimes. Keeping dogs on leads as some people don't seem to be able to do that.	
163	Homeless people sleeping on the floor next to the shops (e.g. Tesco) covered with rubbish all around. Plus full dirty bins and pigeons excrements (e.g. building with scaffolding in front of the bus area/roundabout) which in sum provide a general sense of degradation & unhealthy place. The public toilet at the park is very dirty (wc, floor, walls) and the sink is not working. Plus no toilet paper of course	
164	Drinking cans and bottles of alcohol in the street. Riding bikes in pedestrian zones.	
165	Dropping litter. Feeding the pigeons.	
166	Drug dealers	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

167	The people that try to get you to sign up for charity direct debits and take a % of what is given to the charity	
168	Yes	
169	Rough sleepers in doorways- off putting for the public	
170	Too many people claiming to be homeless, also people still cycle through the town	
171	Shouting by some people, drunken sometimes	
172	Prohibit drinking alcohol in public areas other than in licensed premises etc.Prohibit spitting in public areas.	
173	Littering is still an issue People using mobility scooters need to take more care they are moving far to fast around the shopping areas.	
174	Cannot recall any at the moment	
175	Problem is no one is around to stop the behaviours and children nearly get hit all the time	
176	Rough sleeping on the streets: also begging..	
177	Pigeon feeding	
178	Yes I would like to see your public space protection staff act more like professional people What I mean is Advising people not to spit or litter in a polite professional manor and not like a person who thinks they are above any person because they have a uniform on This public space protection racket is nothing to do with keeping Hemel clean it's about making more money for private firms And make a very bad taste in manor of providing service as fining in all cases is rather harsh specially when representing local authorities YOU	
179	Ban street drinking.	
180	All I would like to see is a clean and tidy town centre. I don't care for any restrictions on what activities people should be allowed to do in the centre, such a cycling, skateboarding, etc. if you want it to be a happy atmosphere, encourage the community to do what they enjoy in a communal area. I don't mean let people treat the town as a skatepark, but it sounds a bit preposterous to say that riding a skateboard should reward a fine. I'm not sure "No Fun Here" signs around the town centre would be of any benefit.	
181	Littering , swearing , and loitering .	
182	The antisocial orders have stopped the town centre from being able to have a night life, which it so desperately needs. Hemel being a destination has simply died. No flagship shops want to be there, no one wants to come for the evening and the two feed each other, and therefore the economy. Make it easier for the town centre to include bars.	
183	If there isn't already i believe mobility scooter users should be expected to keep to a low speed	
184	Rough sleeping and begging plus all dogs on a lead	
185	Speeding in built up areas and drinking of alcohol on pathways very near to peoples houses.	
186	persons sitting or sleeping in empty shop doorways	
187	Street drinking/drugs	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

188	The use of cannabis is widespread through out the whole of Hemel Hempstead. It is not only the smell which is very pungent but also that the smell can be so strong that I have no doubt that I am passive smoking cannabis.	
189	People smoking weed in the town centre.	
190	Dogs without a leash in town centre or public areas	
191	Alcohol and drugs being consumed in public areas or on benches. Loitering around public seating in the town centre making it unpleasant, such as the seating outside of Boots where many people seem to spend the day sitting around, drinking etc. Teenagers hanging around in groups in public areas and walkways, such as subways. I've witnessed this especially near Astley Cooper School. Littering	
192	Homeless people should be receiving the care they need to not have to stray on the town centre.	
193	Openly smoking cannabis around town	
194	Homeless people camping out in town centre / begging.	
195	Enforce the anti litter law. Get homeless people into safe hostels and off the streets	
196	A space for you people to skateboard at one end of the high street would keep too many skateboards and scooters away from the shops. Calming measures such as seats, trees and raised beds dotted around would mean there was not a long stretch of high street for scooters and skateboards to build up speed.	
197	I personally feel that when you get a large group of rowdy kids or even people it's very intimidating...I know elderly people who won't go into town for fear of being intimidated.. No one wants to see youngsters running riot....	
198	Sleeping on the pavements by shop fronts and begging.	
199	This PSPO should be enforced by PCs or PCSOs rather than Council Enforcement Officers. EOs do not always seem to have the training, empathy or awareness to see the "bigger picture" reason for an incident such as the recent incident when a teenager with Tourettes Syndrome was issued a fine for spitting.	

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200	No	
201	We have too many cyclist in the non-cycling area, sometimes it's difficult for young kids to walk free next their parents without the worries that will be run over by a bicycle.	
202	i agree with all the above but i have never seen it enforced. I believe it should be extended to the whole of Marlowes including Old Town	
203	Litter, people sitting in doorways begging.	
204	Dacorum Council and the Police in Hemel have failed to address the anti social behaviour in Gadebridge Park. The cars revving up in the car park have been a feature for decades now and the police seem unable to deal with this. I didn't think 'policing by consent' meant keeping the consent of the offender..... So can you please include gadebridge park and excessive road noise	
205	Playing of loud music.	
206	Large groups of teenagers/young adults playing loud music, shouting, arguments, threatening violence towards people being intimidating to the public and the residents that live within the area having to hear and witness on a daily basic. The high street should have a curfew on it unless you live and can prove you live within the area.	
207	There is lack of enforcement in the town centre. Not enough patrols	
208	people not picking up after their dogs Not dogs fault Perhaps more/bigger bins if budget available ?	
209	I'd just like to see more officers in the Marlowes enforcing the rules	
210	Youngsters in the evening seem to find it amusing to ride around on their bikes and intimidate pedestrians in the town centre. It needs to be more closely monitored and offenders or their parents fined.	
211	Charity workers pestering you to give them money, literally following you down the precinct should be stopped it's intimidating.	
212	Motorcycles on playing fields	
213	Children riding bikes on one back wheel, so dangerous and intimidating	
214	Whilst you focus on spitting as a heath issue and bad habit, people are more likely to be impacted by the amount of pigeon crap on the pavements in both zones. It's difficult to convince people not to spit when there is worse mess already on the pavements.	
215	Whilst agreeing with the aims of the order I strongly object to its enforcement being given over to a private company. Enforcing the law should be the responsibility of the police and the money used to pay this company should be used instead to employ more police, or at least PCSOs.	
216	Large groups of intimidating people who have no respect for others.	
217	drinking alcohol in pubic spaces	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

218	Drugs being smoked/ dealt in town	
219	it would be nice to have someone monitoring the parking around JFKennedy school both in the mornings and evenings. Parents bringing and collecting their children cause problems as well as the school buses.	
220	Green grass areas with cars and vans parked on them, when they should not be, which then churn up the grass and mud and ruin the ground. They should be issued with parking tickets and the council would make a lot of revenue from this. Plus the green spaces would not be spoilt. Wake up council and sort this out. If you issued tickets for wrongful parking, people would think twice about where they park instead of ruining the spaces. It seems to be a free for in all in Hemel at the moment with no law and order!	
221	I have a big bee in a big bonnet about littering anywhere. It is wrong on so many levels. Also swearing, putting chewing gum on the floor and aggressive behaviour. Also badly behaved dogs. I'm getting very Victor Meldrew.	
222	People parking in the bus only part of marlowes	
223	People setting up camp in public areas and shop deoorways , and or leaving their personal items there during the day should be removed	
224	Dropping litter and cigarette ends. Sleeping in doorways. Roller skating.	
225	No other behaviours but should include access to Town centre via the Magic roundabout where adults and children cycle dangerously.	
226	Large groups of youngsters together	
227	rough sleeping bedding etc let lying around.	
228	Smoking	
229	Begging and rough sleeping	
230	The car parks in Gadebridge park that are used by joyriders in the evenings.	
231	I think that no one should be allowed to use loudspeakers or amplifiers for religious reasons. Some of the preachers are so loud you can hear them indoors. That is wrong. Preach by all means but let people have a sit down or have a cup of tea in peace and quiet.Thank you. I think that you should enforce the no cycling more regularly.	
232	Stop bullying our children and young people. Scrap the wardens.	
233	The space between Wh Smith and Poundland used as toilets. Smell of strong urine plus,used as rubbish tip	
234	Police presence is important as electric scooters and bicycles on back wheels riding through the town at speed are very frightening for everyone and for the elderly in particular. There needs to more emphasis on fining and confiscation of these items if the rules are not adhered to. Signage should be more prominent with larger signs at all entrances of the town stating what will happen if the rules are not taken seriously. I have seen instances in the past where people have been threatened with being stabbed by gangs of youths when confronted about riding bikes on back wheels at speed up and down the high street.	
235	Although there are sufficient rubbish collection bins there is still major issues with littering.	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

236	Dog mess, aggressive behaviour,	
237	This should also apply to Berkhamsted as there is a serious problem of skate boarders skating down Lower Kings Roadin the road. I would also add drinking in public and chanting late at night as antisocial behaviour. Football "yobism".	
238	The park at Cavendish to the cricket fields most days 1 to 2 lads use a motor bike dirt bike and race along field . Also done on Sunday when under 11 to under 18 use pitch . While match is on they ride through players . Needs to stop. Around Reynolds way park end also	
239	A need for training for users of mobility scooters is needed. I am fed up with having to jump out of their way as they speed through the town centre and shopping area with no consideration of pedestrians.	
240	Feeding of pigeons is creating huge problems. They are nesting above Bonmarche and creating an absolute mess in the Marlowes. Dogs apart from guide dogs should not be allowed in the Marlowes.	
241	Littering.	
242	People begging outside Tesco express and sleeping rough outside Smiths. Kids riding bikes through Marlowes. Provide a dedicated, segregated bike lane	
243	smoking areas - could there be smoking areas so non-smokers can avoid gum dropped on the floor - bins at regular intervals	
244	I think street beggars should be done for loitering. Street Beggars sitting quietly are not a problem, whatever the reason for needing the money, there are worse things they could be doing. But the people should be able to walk through public places without being harassed for money whatever the excuses are for needing it.	
245	More people who can intervene at the weekend and after school. Giving community orders to people who do not follow the rules Fine parents of children who don't follow the rules and create chaos in town	
246	Groups of people mainly interacting with each other and wandering without regard for other pedestrians.	
247	I don't appreciate being ambushed by promoters of broadband, insurance etc whilst in the town.	
248	The town is a disgrace it ever seems to be clean and nothing has been done about rough sleepers in shop doorways. Surely they should be banned.	
249	begging, from rough sleepers	
250	People camping in areas such as outside WH Smith, Whether homeless or not	
251	Laughing too loudly	
252	Move on rough sleepers who are often quite threatening & unpleasant. It is not conducive to shopping in Hemel to have to manoeuvre around their "homes" which are often not just unsightly but flthy.	
253	Allowing vagrants to sleep in shop doorways.	
254	A ban on alcohol	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

255	If it is possible to include something to try and reduce/prevent littering that would be good.
256	Groups. Foreign groups and customs which are threatening. Drug use especially cannabis.
257	Rough Sleepers who beg , the encroachment of tables onto the paved area usually in the area of the bus stops.
258	I think smoking cigarettes and the E-vape at the bus stop and other public places are detrimental to the public. Even if the E-vape is considered safer than cigarettes, it causes lots of smokes and it makes people (adults and children) to cough and smoke the fumes. I am a COPD and disabled patient and I had to stand away under the rain from the bus stop while waiting because someone's E-vape was making me cough and caused an exacerbation to my COPD (Asthma) and I was very unwell.
259	Smoking in large groups which force others to passively inhale other peoples discharge while attempting to pass
260	Yes, Swearing. When shopping in town I constantly hear people especially school children If I'm in town at around 4pm using copious amounts of foul language, I don't use such language myself and find it very offensive if other people do so and I have to hear it. If they must swear they should lower the volume of their voice so that other people and young children do not have to put up with it.
261	Drinking alcohol and smoking drugs in public areas. Why is it that almost every time I go to the town centre I see people riding bikes in the pedestrian areas? It needs to be policed much better.
262	Litter.
263	Rough sleepers and beggars
264	Dropping of litter / animal fouling / groups of youths hanging about / mobility scooter awareness of others and speed
265	Tea leaves, other day when was in Tesco a group of lads came in and one of them stole something. Tesco say it is a regular occurrence now and they feel power less to do any thing. Wheel chairs and mobility scooters excluded but amount of times see people zoom down the Marlowes on bikes and scooters is scary considering this is a pedestrian area full of shoppers. Spitting and swearing.
266	Cannabis being smoked. Hemel Hempstead has a real drug problem. Dogs being left at houses all day.
267	Litter dropping, not picking up their dog fouling, spitting out chewing gum, dropping fag butts and smoking marijuana as if its normal in everyday life as it happens everywhere you go in the town, especially Gadebridge Park before the college starts.
268	Dog owners/walkers who are not able to control their animals are a real nuisance and should be added to the list of nuisances.
269	Large groups of men can be intimidating.
270	Smokers dumping their cigarette ends everywhere and litter droppers
271	Fireworks late at night and throughout the year.

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

272	Yobbish behaviour and a complete disregard for other people. Upsetting and deters me from visiting	
273	Drinking alcohol. Drug taking. Abusive behaviour.	
274	Littering including cigarettes butt dumping	
275	LITTER, SMOKING, GRAPHITTI, FLY TIPPING, SWEARING (AS IN f & c'S), ALCHOHOL CONSUMPTION.	
276	People walking an excessive amount of dogs off the lead. In all pedestrianised areas dogs should be on a lead	
277	Yes, A few years ago I witnessed police community officers trying to stop some young teenagers cycling in the pedestrian area around W.H.Smiths. The officers were trying to explain to them, cycling was not permitted. All they got in return was taunting and cycling close to the officers in a teasing manner, cycling away then returning to tease ant taunt them. How that can be stopped I am not sure. However what happened next was deplorable. An adult woman then harangued the officers for trying to perform their duty. Is there a solution to this in that perhaps the order can emphasize that penalties exist for adults supporting the anti social behaviour. I will be interested to hear any views on the above. Many Thanks A.G. Cameron	
278	The pigeons are a nuisance	
279	I am concerned for the welfare of people living in shop doorways in the town. However I am increcingly concern that their bedding, pets and mess cause issues. When the needs required it these people are known to the local community to steel and cause building entery damage. They need to be moved to somewhere far safer for their health and the people using the town centre.	
280	Something that deals with beggars and rough sleepers in doorways, why don't the police use enforcement powers, such as town and police causes and vagrancy act?	
281	I feel those on patrol do not help the situation as they seem to be lurking in the town, and are not approachable at all. They congregate together and make you feel uneasy... Continually watching everyone, it's horrible to be watched when you are doing nothing wrong	
282	Dispersal of large group of younger people.	
283	The rules have changed regarding cyclist and motorist Police should enforce cyclists nor riding on pavements anywhere I have to give way to them on the road I do not wish to avoid them when walking on pavements	
284	Smoking/vaping	
285	There should be more public toilets available in the town, not locked up like so many seem to be nowadays.	
286	Littering, drinking alcohol on the streets,	
287	CCTV cameras should be used more in public places and in flat communal buildings. This will protect the local community and can prevent crime.	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

288	Homeless loitering around everywhere.. why are their tents allowed to stay middle of the high street? It gives such bad look for the town.. 😞	
289	Begging	
290	Why focus on just the town centre	
291	Gangs of teenagers, more security needs to step up and act when issues arise. The Riverside security are useless.	
292	Not having a dog on a lead, allowing a dog to poo and not picking it up, filling dog poo bins or other bins with household rubbish, playing football in inappropriate area's, not allowing cold calling in sheltered housing areas, parking in disabled spaces when not being disabled, parking on pavements	
293	Foul and abusive language	
294	Roaming canvassers that just approach and pester people while they are walking about.	
295	Main problem in the Marlowe area is cycling and the verbal abuse if you complain	
296	Please do something about smokers throwing cigarettes on the ground as well as general littering everywhere.	
297	There is a tension in the public drinking element. We are seeing a very welcome increase in the provision of outdoor dining from cafes and trucks, restaurants should be able to have outdoor service when the weather suits. This should be positively encouraged as it will bring a good atmosphere to the town centre and by encouraging legitimate use discourage ASB. There is a good case to prevent street drinking/drunkenness/ASB. The solution is to allow lawful and legitimate use of this shared speace and encourage 'cafe society' which includes al fresco drinking in controlled circumstances while concentrating PCSO/Warden patrols to discourage ASB. Let's reclaim this space for lawful enjoyment even when the shops are shut.	
298	Children congregating in car parks. It's unsafe.	
299	Dropping of litter mostly cans, face masks and fast food detritus	
300	Smoking	
301	No	
302	Not that I can think of at the moment.	
303	Feeding of birds.litter dropping.	
304	Stop drunk and drug abusing homeless people from threatening violence against others. More police in town centre that actually do their jobs and stop the bike riders.	
305	Littering, modified vehicle exhausts creating a horrendously loud noise..	
306	Religious preaching and Evangelism is very anti-social.	
307	I regularly see people urinating up walls and even when I've called the police nothings gets done	
308	No shouting/screaming or rough sleeping	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

309	Smoking weed openly is also a huge problem with gangs of youngsters.	
310	vehicles parking too near bus stops or even in clearly marked bus bays	
311	Foul and abusive language	
312	The removal of 'homeless' persons should be reviewed as they are harassing people by begging and sitting next to cash machines.	
313	Sound amplification unless scheduled with DBC or BID for planned activities.	
314	1. Electric scooters as stated 2. People seated on the floor in the town on bedding on cushions, purporting to be 'down on their luck' or homeless (who are often people with substance abuse issues). 3. Begging 4. Unlicensed musical entertainment of varying quality. 5. The littering of the town with general litter but also bedding materials.	
315	Homeless and drug users causing a nuisance to public	
316	Sadly, there are increasing numbers of homeless people sleeping in the town/shopping centre, or their bedding etc is left in doorways. These people need to be helped to find accommodation and should not be sleeping rough.	
317	no more than what you have already mentioned	
318	Smoking	
319	No.	
320	Men with nipples out	
321	No	
322	Fines for litter dropping should be enforced	
323	I feel along strongly with others that cyclist should not be allowed on canal paths. Priority should be given to walkers and at present there are so many cyclist using the canal paths that walkers constantly have to move aside to let them pass. it is also dangerous if walkers have a dog with them as often one does not know a cyclist is behind and many cyclist do not slow down they just expect everyone to move out of there way. It spoils the walk for so many.Cyclist should only be allowed to cycle on roads	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

324	Loitering in large gangs. What is large? I would say over 12 but others may know better.	
325	The only issue I have is that people who accidentally drop litter are not given the chance to pick it up and aren't educated instead the wardens pounce on you and immediately issue a fine I also think more should be done to stop scammers fining people	
326	Dropping of cigarette butts is as bad as chewing gum and should be banned in the main town.	
327	Runners should give way to slower pedestrians	
328	On the spot fines for littering including dropping cigarette butts and not cleaning up dog mess , no drinking alcohol .	
329	Drinking alcohol / drug related foul mouthed behaviour	
330	Homless persons placing themselves in or near shop entrances . I refuse to enter any premises that allow such persons to encamp on or near the entrance.	
331	All I would say is that if the order is to work and be a deterrent to anti social behaviour there has to a will and means to enforce it. This will require adequate funding and resources, not just a token response.	
332	Camping, begging	
333	That this becomes enforceable I live in town centre and this anti social behaviour is rife. Skateboarding in the Old Town is non stop with the area under the Town Hall used as a congregation area during the day as well as early evening when I am in this area. It is irritating as well as dangerous for both boarders and pedestrians alike	
334	No but better cycling lanes and electric scooter lanes are required especially through the Marlowes pedestrianised area or at the very least decent places to secure your bike in the town centre if your pushing it.	
335	People busking or preaching religion and other items of make believe. Also the street sellers pushing for energy or broadband suppliers.	
336	There does seem to be an increase in people making their beds in the street. I do have sympathy for those without a home and it is a shame that we cannot find a solution but it does make it uncomfortable to visit the shops around them.	
337	BEGGING. SLEEPING IN DOORWAYS.	
338	So called, homeless, sleeping in town and accumulating stacks of rubbish	
339	Leaving litter!	
340	Rough sleeping detracts from the ambience of the town centre. I appreciate the pressures affecting the homeless but there must be more suitable places for them to stay.	
341	No	
342	I am a little concerned about the number of rough sleepers in the Marlowes outdoors section. They seem to be turning into campsites. The town centre is really not the place for this.	
343	If you have a protection order, it must be enforced or it is worthless.	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

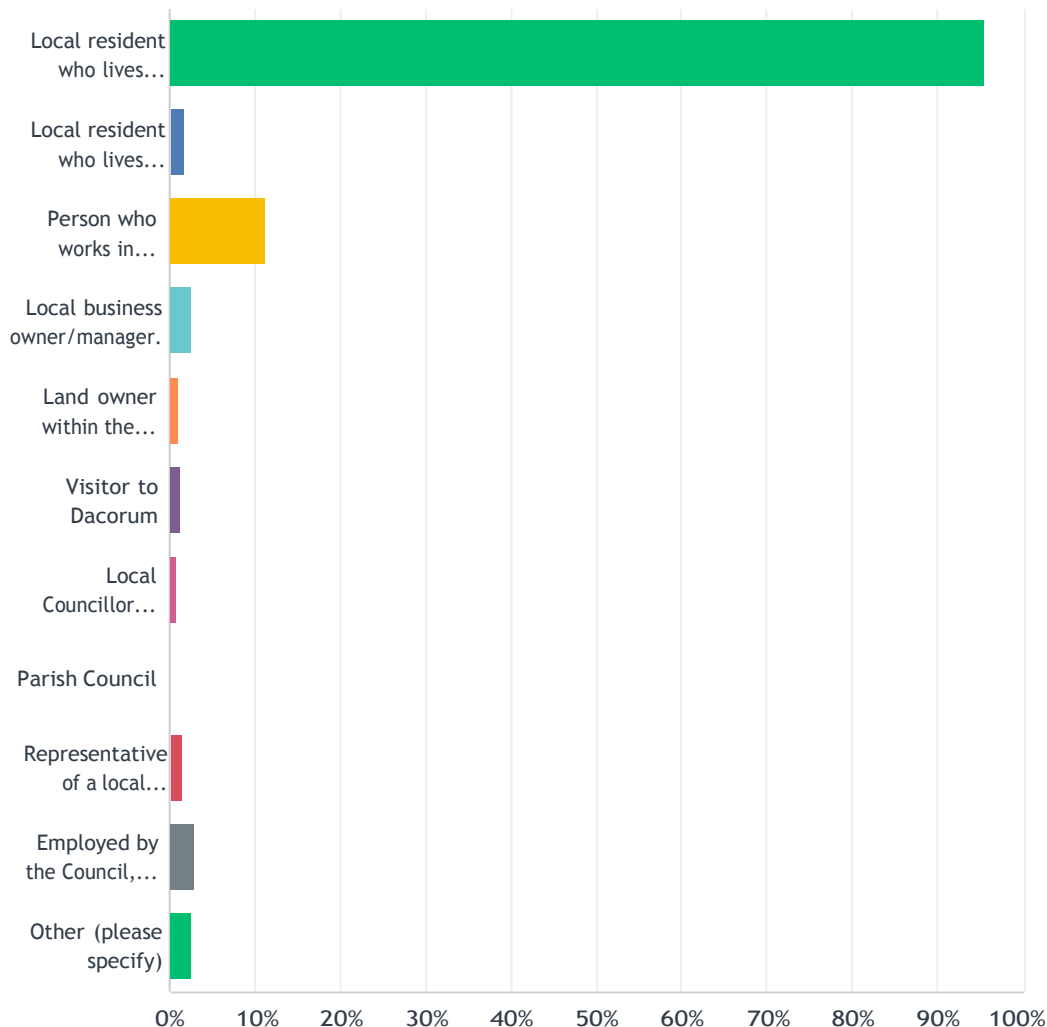
344	Litter, dog fouling.	
345	1) Reduce the maximum speed of mobility scooters. Whilst I support the idea of the availability of mobility scooters in the town they should not be allowed to go faster than walking speed. Some of the people who ride them just expect everybody to jump out of their way. 2) Pigeons; you've done a good job with the Canada Geese. Please see if you can control the numbers of pigeons as well and stop them making such a mess everywhere.	
346	drunk and disorderly conduct can be intimidating, particularly when I am with my young children	
347	Rough sleeper & beggers	
348	Not controlling dogs properly, allowing them to jump up at people and prams, even if they are on a lead.	
349	No	
350	No I think it is managed very well especially monitoring and fining people who drop litter	
351	Drunken rowdy behaviour	
352	Enormous mobility scooters which are driven at speed and with no consideration of pedestrians. Rough sleepers and daytime beggars are a threatening presence .	
353	I think there is a problem with the level of people smoking at the tables of the coffee shop's. Also those who "vape" do not give a damn about other people in the town.	
354	Littering.	
355	I really wonder what you can be thinking of, bundling cyclists into a bylaw alongside people who urinate on the pavement. What sort of signal does that send about Dacorum being open to cyclists. The sight of enforcement officers stopping and issuing fixed penalties to cyclists is utterly ridiculous.	
356	More to be done to stop cyclist/skaters etc riding through the town centre. It is not enforced enough	
357	I trust that it is already an offence to drink alcohol in the town centre unless in licensed premises. If not that also needs to be banned. I do wonder whether it should be allowed for people to almost set up camp & sleep overnight in the town centre? Shouldn't people be encouraged to go into shelters? I appreciate the people sleeping rough have problems but the issue needs addressing.	
358	No	
359	sleeping rough in shop doorways-and accompanying mess - mattresses, duvets and litter	
360	Gathering of teenagers sometimes they can be threatening and running around the town haphazardly b	
361	No	
362	Groups of people behaving in a rowdy or intimidating way. Although this should not be applied to groups of people participating in a legitimate demonstration. Poor repair/laying of pedestrian surfaces! Motorcycles prohibited from the pedestrian areas.	

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

363	Ban smoking	
364	Littering I believe you are trying to sort this out.	
365	Littering Drinking alcohol	
366	Druggies..homeless...beggars.it makes our town look awful	
367	I think especially kids on bikes in the town centre should be enforced. Everytime I visit town centre they are masses of kids on bikes. Especially at weekends and school holidays. I witnessed a old lady knocked down by a group.. Its illegal but they do not care..	
368	People sleeping rough and leaving collections by their bedding they need to be moved	
369	Yes all the homeless sleepers in the Marlows	
370	Drinking	
371	People walking their dogs off lead. Too many distraction for the dog, owner cannot watch the dog while shopping.	
372	Work should be done to support the homeless people in not needing to live/beg in the PSPO area either by council support or using DENS. The PSPO should be actively monitored and breaches dealt with quickly and effectively.	

Q8 Please tell us what your relationship is to Dacorum. Please select all that apply.

Answered: 519 Skipped: 135



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Local resident who lives within Dacorum	95.57% 496
Local resident who lives outside Dacorum	1.73% 9
Person who works in Dacorum	11.37% 59
Local business owner/manager.	2.50% 13
Land owner within the proposed area	0.96% 5
Visitor to Dacorum	1.35% 7
Local Councillor (Town or County).	0.77% 4
Parish Council	0.19% 1
Representative of a local community or voluntary group	1.54% 8
Employed by the Council, Police or any other agency with an interest	3.08% 16
Other (please specify)	2.50% 13
Total Respondents: 519	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Horse stabled in Hemel therefore in Hemel tc a lot	4/6/2022 12:10 AM
2	HCC employee.	4/4/2022 10:20 PM
3	Observer	4/4/2022 9:31 PM
4	and I pay my council tax on time!!!	4/2/2022 2:48 PM
5	I have lived in Dacorum all my 65 years 11 months and 3 weeks	4/2/2022 12:10 PM

Public Spaces Protection Order - Hemel Hempstead town centre

6	mayor	3/30/2022 12:48 AM
7	Have lived in Dacorum most of life	3/19/2022 11:11 AM
8	Former resident who visits often	3/17/2022 7:57 PM
9	Retired	3/17/2022 6:26 PM
10	No	3/17/2022 3:35 PM
11	Council volunteer, conservation, litter picker, street champion.	3/17/2022 1:22 PM
12	Elderly and disabled.	3/17/2022 12:38 PM
13	Own and live in a property very close to Hemel town centre.	3/17/2022 12:00 PM

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT

2014 SECTION 59

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

This order is made by Dacorum Borough Council (the 'Council') and shall be known as the Public Spaces Protection Order (Hemel Hempstead) 2022.

PRELIMINARY

1. The Council, in making this Order is satisfied on reasonable grounds that:

The activities identified below have been carried out in public places within the Council's area and have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality,

and that:

the effect, or likely effect, of the activities:

is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,

is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and

justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

2. The Council is satisfied that the prohibitions imposed by this Order are reasonable to impose in order to prevent the detrimental effect of these activities from continuing, occurring or recurring, or to reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence.
3. The Council has had particular regard to the rights and freedoms set out in Article 10 (right of freedom of expression) and Article 11 (right of freedom of assembly) of the European Convention on Human Rights and has concluded that the restrictions on such rights and freedoms imposed by this Order are lawful, necessary and proportionate.

THE ACTIVITIES

4. The Activities prohibited by the Order are:
 - i) Not to spit (including discharge of chewing gum), urinate or defecate
 - ii) Not to cycle or skateboard
 - iii) Not to use an e-scooter

THE PROHIBITION

5. A person shall not engage in any of the Activities in 4(i) above anywhere within the restricted area as shown shaded blue on the attached map labelled 'Public Space Protection Order - Plan 1.
6. A person shall not engage in any of the Activities in 4(ii) and 4(iii) above anywhere within the restricted area as shown shaded blue on the attached map labelled 'Public Space Protection Order - Plan 2'.

EXCEPTION

7. The prohibition of the Activity specified in 4 (i) shall not apply to toilets open to the public.

PERIOD FOR WHICH THIS ORDER HAS EFFECT

8. This Order will come into force at midnight on 29 July 2022 and will expire at midnight on 28 July 2025.
9. At any point before the expiry of this three year period the Council can extend the Order by up to three years if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that this is necessary to prevent the activities identified in the Order from occurring or recurring or to prevent an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER?

10. Section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 says that it is a criminal offence for a person without reasonable excuse -

- to do anything that the person is prohibited from doing by a public spaces protection order, or
- to fail to comply with a requirement to which the person is subject under a public spaces protection order

A person guilty of an offence under section 67 is liable on conviction in the Magistrates Court to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale

FIXED PENALTY

11. A constable, police community support officer or authorised council enforcement officer may issue a fixed penalty notice to anyone he or she believes has committed an offence under section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act. You will have 14 days to pay the fixed penalty of £75. If you pay the fixed penalty within the 14 days you will not be prosecuted.

APPEALS

12. Any challenge to this order must be made in the High Court by an interested person within six weeks of it being made. An interested person is someone who lives in, regularly works in, or visits the restricted area. This means that only those who are directly affected by the restrictions have the power to challenge. The right to challenge also exists where an order is varied by the Council.

13. Interested persons can challenge the validity of this order on two grounds: that the Council did not have power to make the order, or to include particular prohibitions or requirements; or that one of the requirements of the legislation has not been complied with.

14. When an application is made the High Court can decide to suspend the operation of the order pending the Court's decision, in part or in totality. The High Court has the ability to uphold the order, quash it, or vary it.

Dated:

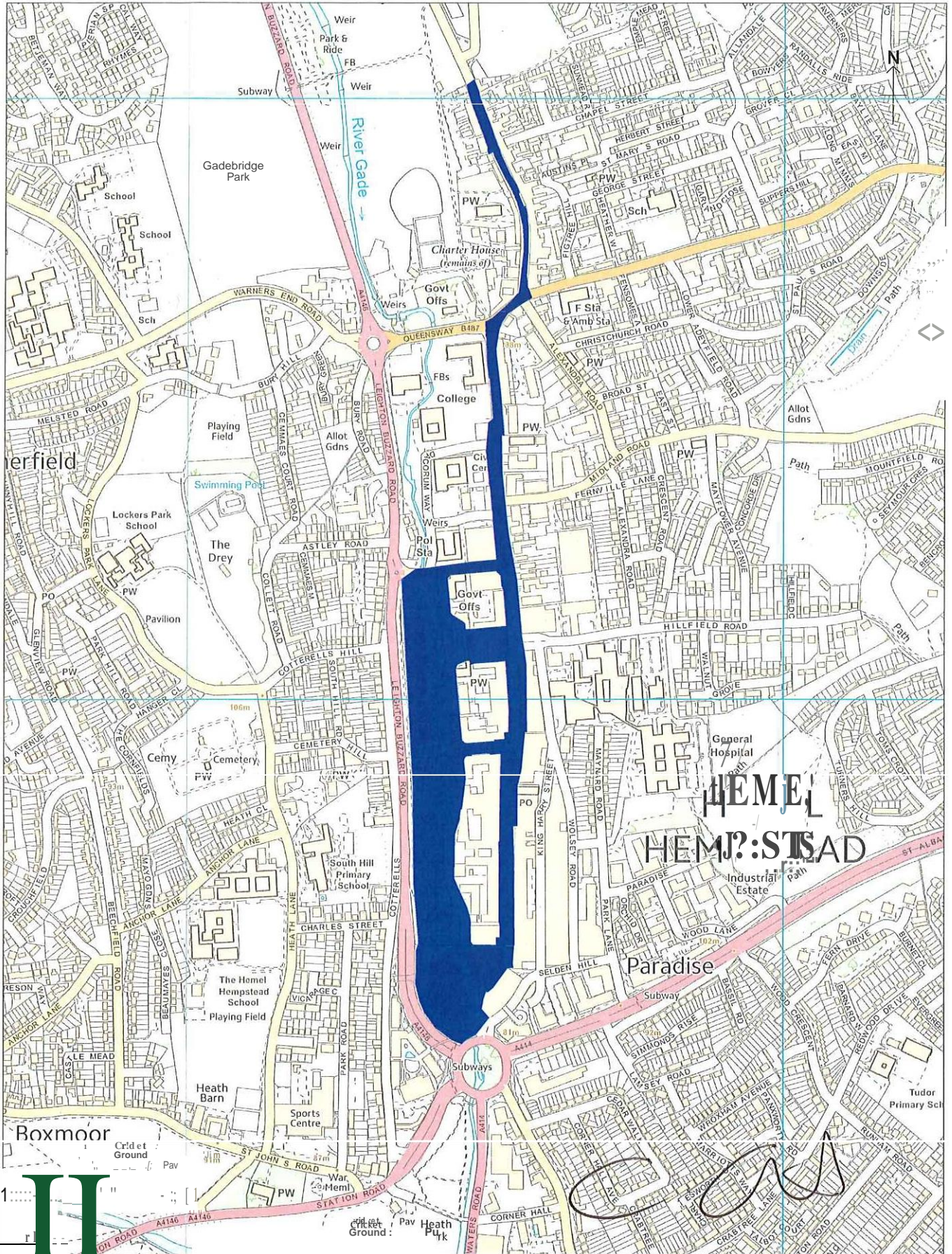
The Common Seal of
Dacorum Borough
Council was affixed in
the presence of:

-

Authorised Signatory

Authorised Signatory

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER - PLAN 1



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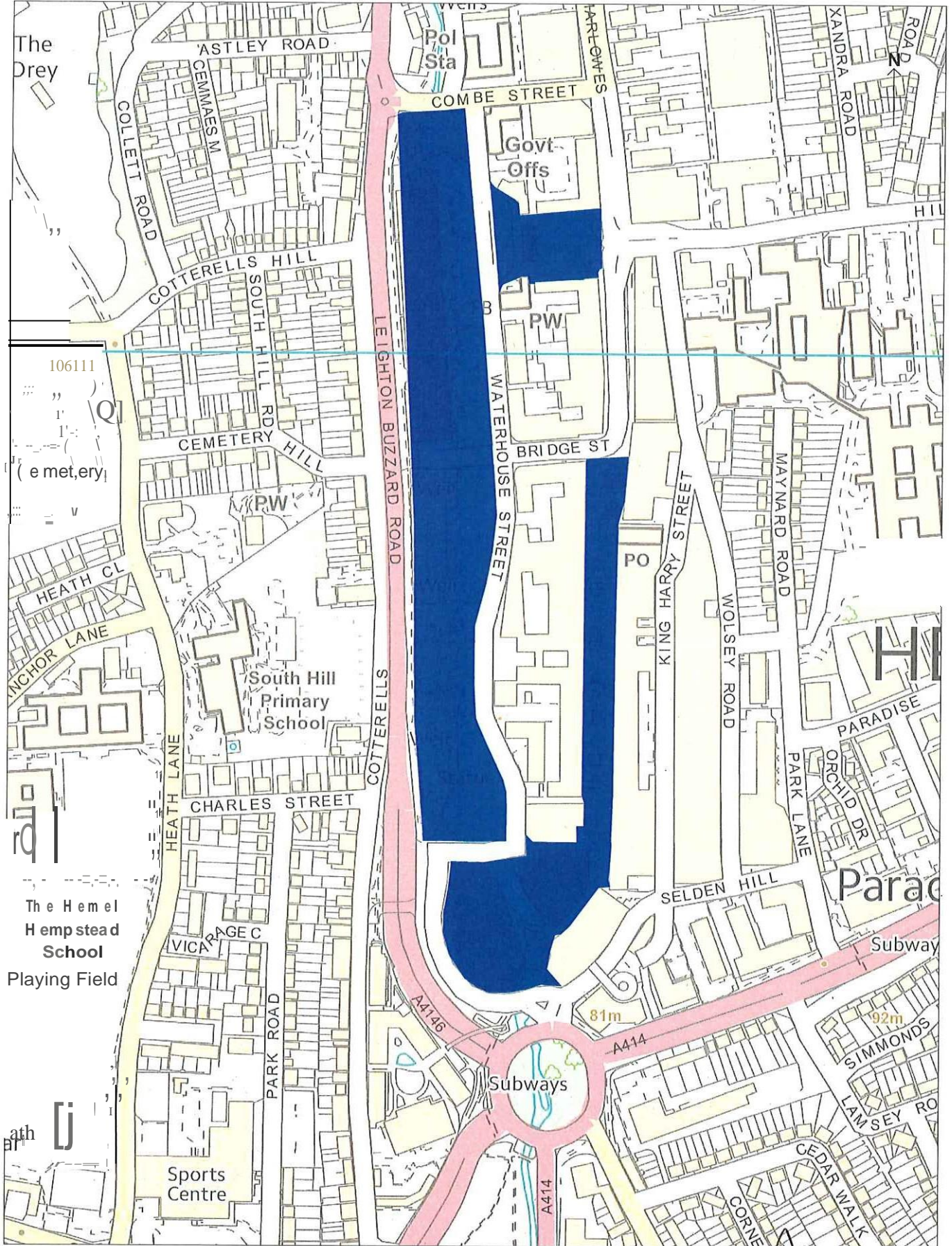
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Scale: 1:6000
 Date: 28/02/2018



BOROUGH
FROM

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER - PLAN 2



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ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT

2014 SECTION 59

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

This order is made by Dacorum Borough Council (the 'Council') and shall be known as the Public Spaces Protection Order (Hemel Hempstead) 2019.

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and that:

the effect, or likely effect, of the activities:

is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,

is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and

justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

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3. The Council has had particular regard to the rights and freedoms set out in Article 10 (right of freedom of expression) and Article 11 (right of freedom of assembly) of the European Convention on Human Rights and has concluded that the restrictions on such rights and freedoms imposed by this Order are lawful, necessary and proportionate.

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 - ii) Not to cycle or skateboard

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6. A person shall not engage in any of the Activities in 4(ii) above anywhere within the restricted area as shown shaded blue on the attached map labelled 'Public Space Protection Order – Plan 2'.

EXCEPTION

7. The prohibition of the Activity specified in 4 (i) shall not apply to toilets open to the public.

PERIOD FOR WHICH THIS ORDER HAS EFFECT

8. This Order will come into force at midnight on 29 July 2019 and will expire at midnight on 28 July 2022.
9. At any point before the expiry of this three year period the Council can extend the Order by up to three years if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that this is necessary to prevent the activities identified in the Order from occurring or recurring or to prevent an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER?

10. Section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 says that it is a criminal offence for a person without reasonable excuse -

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Dated: 13th June 2019

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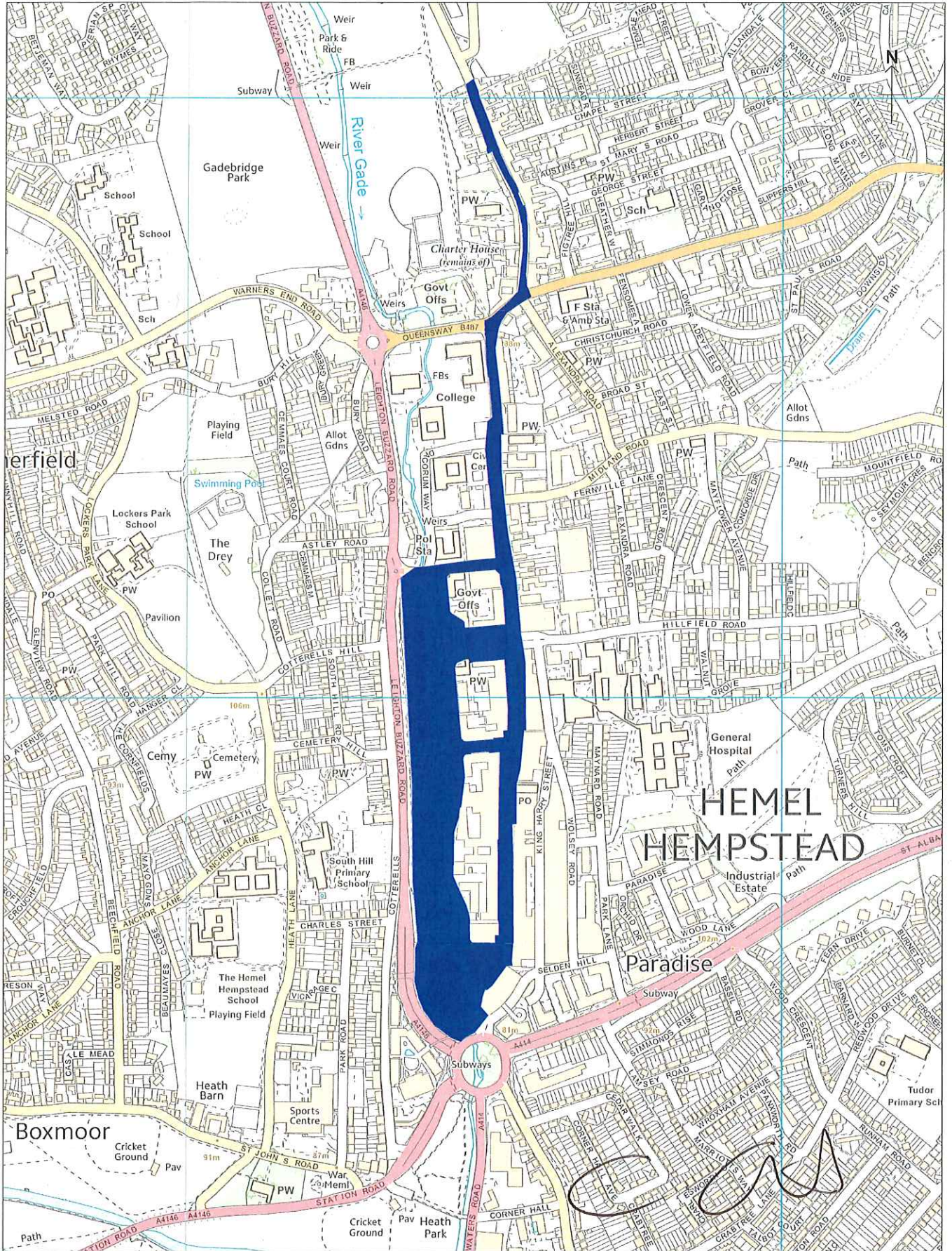


SEAL REGISTER
BOOK 11
ENTRY 94645

Authorised Signatory

Authorised Signatory

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER - PLAN 1



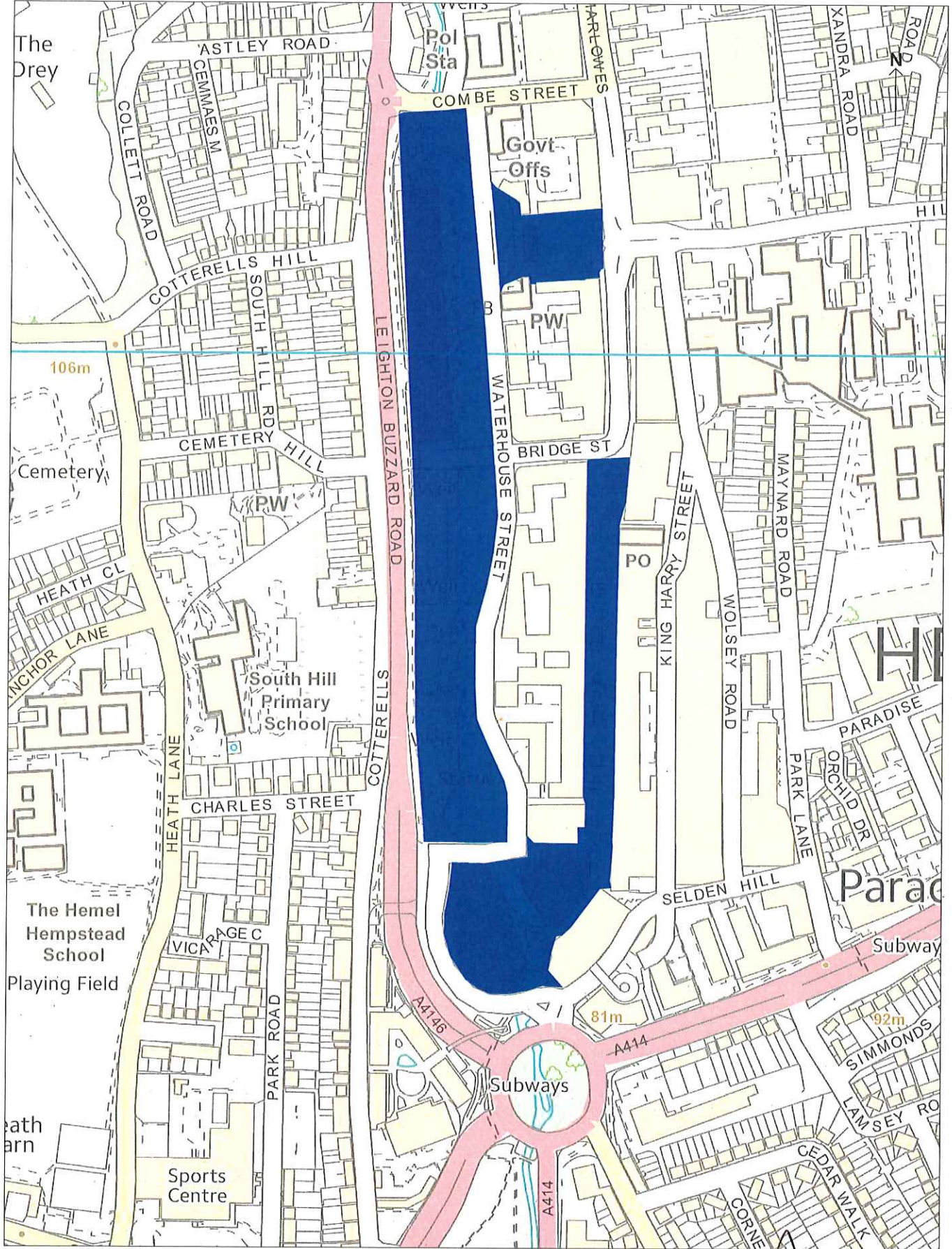
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PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER - PLAN 2



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C. B.

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 Date: 05/04/2018



Dacorum BC Community Impact Assessment (CIA) Template

Policy / service / decision

Town Centre PSPO

Description of what is being impact assessed

What are the aims of the service, proposal, project? What outcomes do you want to achieve? What are the reasons for the proposal or change? Do you need to reference/consider any related projects?

Stakeholders; Who will be affected? Which protected characteristics is it most relevant to? Consider the public, service users, partners, staff, Members, etc

It is advisable to involve at least one colleague in the preparation of the assessment, dependent on likely level of impact

The aim is to renew the Public Spaces Protection Order in Hemel Town Centre for the purposes of preventing the riding of bicycles, e-scooters and skateboards, as well as the activities of spitting, urination and defecation. This was first introduced in 2019.

Those affected are the users of said items for riding, as well as those affected by the use (e.g. pedestrians in the area). The aspect of urination, defecation and spitting can apply to all and any party carrying out the activity.

Evidence

What data/information have you used to assess how this policy/service/decision might impact on protected groups?

(include relevant national/local data, research, monitoring information, service user feedback, complaints, audits, consultations, CIAs from other projects or other local authorities, etc.). You should include such information in a proportionate manner to reflect the level of impact of the policy/service/decision.

The last 3 years of the PSPO in the town centre showed no detrimental impact on any protected group. The most likely would be those seen as “young” due to skateboards, but the PSPO has shown that it can be any age range involved.

Who have you consulted with to assess possible impact on protected groups? *If you have not consulted other people, please explain why? You should include such information in a proportionate manner to reflect the level of impact of the policy/service/decision.*

A full public consultation has taken place, as well as Police and Hertfordshire County Council

Analysis of impact on protected groups (and others)

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires Dacorum BC to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with protected groups. Consider how this policy/service/decision will achieve these aims. Using the table below, detail what considerations and potential impacts against each of these using the evidence that you have collated and your own understanding. Based on this information, make an assessment of the likely outcome, **before** you have implemented any mitigation.

- *The PCs of Marriage and Civil Partnership and Pregnancy and Maternity should be added if their inclusion is relevant for impact assessment.*
- *Use “insert below” menu layout option to insert extra rows where relevant (e.g. extra rows for different impairments within Disability).*

Summary of impact		Negative impact / outcome	Neutral impact / outcome	Positive impact / outcome
Protected group	<i>What do you know? What do people tell you? Summary of data and feedback about service users and the wider community/ public. Who uses / will use the service? Who doesn't / can't and why? Feedback/complaints?</i>			
Age	No one age range has been shown to be more impacted than another. The PSPO for instance prevents the riding of a skateboard in the town centre, but not up to it (thus allowing use to travel) and can be carried at that point.	□	⊗	□
Disability (physical, intellectual, mental) <i>Refer to CIA Guidance Notes and Mental Illness & Learning Disability Guide</i>	The use of the PSPO has a positive impact on those with visual or audio impairments who may be detrimentally affected by those using bikes, skateboards or e-scooters due to not being as aware by their presence and increasing risks of accidents. Mobility scooters are not affected. In terms of urination, defecation and spitting, those with medical issues that affect this are recognised and will not be penalised as a result based on them able to demonstrate such a condition.	□	⊗	⊗

Gender reassignment	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race and ethnicity	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not protected characteristics but consider other factors, e.g. carers, veterans, homeless, low income, loneliness, rurality etc.	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Negative impacts / outcomes action plan

Where you have ascertained that there will potentially be negative impacts / outcomes, you are required to mitigate the impact of these. Please detail below the actions that you intend to take.

Action taken/to be taken <i>(copy & paste the negative impact / outcome then detail action)</i>	Date	Person responsible	Action complete
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>

If negative impacts / outcomes remain, please provide an explanation below.	
N/A	
Completed by (all involved in CIA)	Richard Le-Brun
Date	4 th May 2022
Signed off by (<i>AD from different Directorate if being presented to CMT / Cabinet</i>)	N/A
Date	N/A
Entered onto CIA database - date	
To be reviewed by (officer name)	
Review date	



Strategic Planning and Environment

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Title of report:	Planning, Development and Regeneration Quarter 4 Performance Report 2021-22
Date:	14 June 2022
Report on behalf of:	Cllr Alan Anderson, Portfolio Holder for Place
Part:	I
If Part II, reason:	N/A
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Performance Report
Background papers:	
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	Back Office Planning System (BOPS) Chilterns Beechwoods Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Planning Performance Agreements (PPA) Reducing Invalid Planning Applications (RIPA) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Report Author / Responsible Officer

Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning



Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk / 01442 228236 (ext. 2208)

Corporate Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A clean, safe and enjoyable environment - Building strong and vibrant communities - Ensuring economic growth and prosperity - Providing good quality affordable homes, in particular for those most in need - Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery - Climate and ecological emergency
Wards affected	All

Purpose of the report:	1. To set out the performance outturn for the service for Quarter 4 of 2021-22.
Recommendation (s) to the decision maker (s):	1. That the report is noted.
Period for post policy/project review:	

1. Introduction

1.1 This report presents the performance outturn for the Planning, Development and Regeneration service for the fourth quarter (January – March) of the business year 2021-22. The full performance report is at Appendix 1.

2. Service Highlights

2.1 The following updates are provided on some of the key activities that have been underway during the last quarter.

2.2 Chilterns Beechwoods Special Area of Conservation – During Q4 the Council published the Footprint Ecology Report which evidenced the recreational damage currently affecting the site. As a consequence the Council is required to pause issuing planning decisions for new residential development across the Borough until a mitigation strategy is in place. It is expected that it will take between 3 – 6 months to resolve. The Council will closely monitor the implications of the moratorium on service performance.

2.3 PPA Protocol - Historically, individual Lead Officers have worked on Planning Performance Agreements (PPA) and therefore the outcomes have been varied. The PPA project team assembled at the start of 2022 and have worked on creating a team and process structure, protocol and fee schedule to effectively manage PPAs. These elements have been translated into several documents including a risk tracker, consultation response tracker and cost calculator. The documents are expected to go live in June, in combination with a promotion of the new service.

2.4 Reducing Invalid Planning Applications (RIPA) / Back Office Planning System (BOPS) – This is the largest of our planning pilots and is progressing well. We have completed the induction training for BOPS and have been conducting user testing in the other authorities test environments. We have held two Subject Matter Expert workshops to build the team and identify our skills and opportunities as a group. In addition, we have started reviews of our data, in particular Article 4s and restrictions on PD where we have started to build old documents into databases, so far we have completed 8,900 records and generated over 50,000 data entries. This work is building to all the introduction of new customer facing web service Find Out If You Need Planning Permission (FOIYNPP) - this service will give a fully interactive service to customers using fully automated permitted development software. The next steps for the project is brining all our spatial data up to the minimum standard to allow installation of FOIYNPP, RIPA and BOPS.

2.5 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) - Officers prepared a Draft Employment and Skills SPD for consideration by Members and public consultation. The SPD will enable the Council to ring-fence specific job and training opportunities arising from larger developments to benefit the borough's residents.

2.6 ESRI Pilot Project using GIS analytics to improve planning, monitoring and use of Developer Contributions – Dacorum was selected as one of three winners nationally to conduct a joint pilot project with ESRI (who develop some of the most powerful GIS mapping and spatial data analytics software currently available)

to look at the use of GIS to improve planning, monitoring and use of Developer Contributions. DBC officers have been working with ESRI this quarter in preparation for commencement of the project in April 2022. We expect this project not only to improve efficiencies in the way we work in the management of Developer Contributions and developer funded infrastructure but also potentially provide DBC an opportunity to be recognised as being at the forefront of delivering a project that could be useful to authorities across the country and wider.

2.7 CIL income for 2021/22 - The financial year 2021/22 ending this quarter has brought in total CIL income of £7,475,436, of this £5,987,592 was core funds, £1,114,072 was the neighbourhood proportion and £373,771 was toward the cost of administration of CIL. We have also undertaken a Member training session on spending the neighbourhood portion of CIL.

2.8 S106 for Affordable Housing - £1,636,865 of S106 monies was allocated this quarter towards delivering Affordable Housing in the borough.

3. Review of Performance

3.1 The performance report at Appendix 1 shows a total of 34 indicators, twelve of which are performance measures; the remainder are for information and provide context to the performance outcomes for Q4.

3.2 Of the twelve performance measures, eight are at red for this quarter, one at amber and four at green.

Income

3.3 Planning fees income (FIN 16) is 1.2% ahead of target at the end of Q4 at £1,416,685 compared to £1,399,640. The figures reported in Appendix 1 are erroneous and reflect a glitch in the Council's performance reporting software; this will be corrected for the next performance report. At the end of Q4 planning income is around £17k ahead of budget.

3.4 Land Charges Income (FIN17) has reduced to slightly below target at the end of Q4 with actual income about 4% lower at £611,090, compared to £635,250.

3.5 Activity in Land Charges continues to be high and the average time taken to process local searches (LC04) is 7.76 days compared to the target of ten days and therefore is at green for Q4.

3.6 Trends in both planning and land charges income continue to be monitored closely as activity here has a strong correlation to the local and national economic climate. In addition, the recently announced moratorium on planning decisions could have an impact on income.

Development Management Performance

3.7 The number of planning applications received in the quarter remains high (756) and slightly up on Q3 (730). It should be noted that the reporting period predates the publication of the Footprint Ecology Report and restrictions.

3.8 This quarter there were 6 'major' applications (DMP04) due for determination, up from 4 in Q3. Three of these were determined on time, resulting in performance of 50% which is outside of target and therefore at red. This is the same as in Q3.

3.9 There were 91 'minor' applications due to be determined in the period, a small drop from 93 applications in Q3. Of the 91 applications 51 were determined within the 8 week period. As a result the percentage of minor applications due to be determined in 8 weeks (DMP05) dropped to 56%. There is a downward trend of this indicator which dropped from 67.5% in Q2, to 66.67% in Q3 and now 56% in Q4 and is significantly below the target of 70%.

- 3.10 The slippage in performance has been impacted by further staff losses across the service during the period and continued difficulties in recruiting. It must also be pointed out that some of the figures for determining planning applications are as a direct result of the restrictions brought about by the recreation pressures affecting the Chilterns Beechwoods Special Area of Conservation.
- 3.11 Both resourcing pressures and the moratorium are likely to continue for several months and as such performance indicators in certain areas are likely to remain outside of target.
- 3.12 Performance in the 'others' category remains at green (at 76.5%) but has fallen from 88.79% in Q3. This category includes the smallest scale cases such as house extensions and other domestic development, where the service has put in place fast track arrangements for processing. The target remains at 70%. Although the caseload has decreased from 321 applications in Q3 to 260 in Q4 performance has been impacted by high vacancy rates.
- 3.13 Performance on the Council's success rate in defending planning appeals in Q4 (DMP30) sits at 56%, which is an improvement from 50% in Q3. Members will note that this measure does not take into account appeals that are withdrawn or split decisions. If the single 'part allowed' decision was taken into account then the figure would increase to 60%. Whilst this may initially cause some concern, the outturn for Q4 has to be seen against the context of appeal caseload where there was a significant increase in appeals in the period (30) and 17 dismissed being dismissed; this is up from 10 and 5 respectively in Q3.
- 3.14 Performance in the validation of planning applications (DMP08) has dropped over the last quarter with 26% of planning applications validated within 3 working days, this is down from 60% in Q3. The overall number of planning applications due for validating in the period was 761, down from 795 in Q3. A combination of high caseload and experienced members of the team having to train new members of the team and there are vacancies in the team.

Enforcement

- 3.15 The Council had 4 Priority 1 site visits due in Q4 of which 3 were undertaken in time (PE01). This represents 75% but below the 100% target. A total of 73 Priority 2 site visits were required to be undertaken of which 75% were undertaken in time (PE02). This is up from 56% in Q3 despite a significant increase in the number of Priority 2 cases due a site visit in the period (up from 51 from Q3). For Priority 3 sites due a visit in Q4 81% of sites were visited compared to 13% in Q3.
- 3.16 Resourcing of the Council's Enforcement Team continues to be significant issue and is largely driving the performance measures. Despite incredible pressures the service is still able to conduct the majority of visits within the target time but it is unlikely that the service will reach 100% in the foreseeable given the ongoing recruitment issues. The Service's management is in the process of developing options for the service to address the recruitment issues.
- 3.17 The service continues to work to the twelve-month improvement plan, known as the 'Enforcement 400 Plan' to tackle the issue of working through the combination of backlog from the inability to carry out site visits during lockdown and restriction periods and rising workloads. However, resourcing pressures remain acute in the service with vacant posts unable to be filled (again a particular issue for higher level posts) and significant workloads for each case officer.

4. Options and alternatives considered

4.1 Not applicable.

5. Consultation

5.1 James Doe – Strategic Director (Place)

5.2 Philip Stanley - Interim Head of Development Management and Planning

6. Financial and value for money implications:

Financial

6.1 None arising from decisions on this report though the financial indicators for Planning fees and Local Land Charges report an under recovery of income against target levels.

Value for Money

6.2 None arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 None arising from this report.

8. Risk implications:

8.1 None arising from this report. Risks addressed through service level risk register.

9. Equalities, Community Impact and Human Rights:

9.1 Community Impact Assessment - Not applicable for this report.

9.2 Human Rights – There are no Human Rights Implications arising from this report.

10. Sustainability implications (including climate change, health and wellbeing, community safety)

10.1 None arising from this report.

11. Council infrastructure (including Health and Safety, HR/OD, assets and other resources)

11.1 None arising from this report.

12. Conclusions:

12.1 Not applicable

13. Appendix 1 - Performance Report (attached separately)

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
DMP02	Number of planning applications received	756		730		853		↕	
DMP03	Percentage of planning application refusals appealed against	24.56%	35.00%	32.08%	35.00%	21.67%	35.00%	↕	Well within target.
DMP03 (D)	Number of planning application refusals	57		53		60		n/a	
DMP03 (N)	Number of planning application refusals appealed against	14		17		13		n/a	
DMP04	Percentage of major applications determined within 13 weeks (YTD)	50.00%	60.00%	50.00%	60.00%	62.50%	60.00%	➔	The same performance as last quarter, though remaining above target for the year. The HRA is now preventing the determination of vast majority of Major applications.
DMP04 (D)	Number of major applications due to be determined	6		4		16		n/a	
DMP04 (N)	Number of major applications determined within the 13 week target	3		2		10		n/a	
DMP05	Percentage of minor applications determined within 8 weeks	56.04%	70.00%	66.67%	70.00%	64.77%	70.00%	✘	31 Mar 2022 This is a reflection of high caseloads and vacancies within the team. In addition, it also currently not possible to determine Minor applications relating to net new dwellings.
DMP05 (D)	Number of minor applications due to be determined in Period	91		93		88		n/a	
DMP05 (N)	Number of minor applications determined within the 8 week target in period	51		62		57		n/a	
DMP06	Percentage of other applications determined within 8 weeks	76.54%	70.00%	88.79%	70.00%	84.31%	70.00%	✘	31 Mar 2022 This has fallen due to high caseload and vacancies within the team, though remains above target.

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
DMP06 (D)	Number of other applications due to be determined in Period	260		321		306		n/a	
DMP06 (N)	Number of other applications determined within the 8 week target in period	199		285		258		n/a	
DMP07	Percentage of planning applications refused	11.11%	10.00%	10.47%	10.00%	7.99%	10.00%	✗	31 Mar 2022 The % of planning applications being refused is steadily increasing, though is only slightly above target. Departing Officers have dealt with their trickier applications before leaving and this explains some of the increase in refusals.
DMP07 (D)	Number of planning applications determined in period	396		430		751		n/a	
DMP07 (N)	Number of planning applications refused in period	44		45		60		n/a	
DMP08	Percentage of planning applications validated within 3 working days	26%	70%	60%	70%	88%	70%	✗	
DMP08 (D)	Number of planning applications due for validation in period	761		795		1,053		n/a	31 Mar 2022 Performance has dropped markedly as a result of high caseload and experienced members of the team, having to train very new members of the team. A further Business Support Officer has now moved up to interim BS Lead Officer, creating another vacancy in the team. The team are also having to pick up some of the slack from the vacant ATL Planning Enforcement position.
DMP08 (N)	Number of planning applications validated within 3 working days in period	196		474		928		n/a	

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
DMP30	Appeals dismissed	56.67%	70.00%	50.00%	70.00%	60.00%	70.00%		31 Mar 2022 This measure does not take into account part allowed appeals, which (in reality) have gone in the Council's favour. There was one part allowed appeal in the quarter, which if included, would take the performance up to 60%
DMP30 (D)	Total number of appeals in period	30		10		10		n/a	
DMP30 (N)	Number of appeals dismissed in period	17		5		6		n/a	
FIN16	Planning Fees ytd actual against profiled budget	£4,036,566	£3,849,010	£3,155,967	£2,915,917	£3,139,269	£3,311,880		
FIN17	Search Fees ytd actual against profiled budget	£611,090	£635,250	£480,342	£462,000	£552,587	£635,250		
LC04	Average time taken to process an official Local Land Charges search	7.76	10.00	7.88	10.00	9.83	10.00		31 Mar 2022 The turnaround time has remained constant during this quarter.
PE01	Priority 1 site visits	75.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	50.00%	100.00%		Disappointing this is not 100% - a clear message has been sent to the team that this needs to be 100% moving forward.
PE01 (D)	Priority 1 sites due a visit in period	4		1		2		n/a	
PE01 (N)	Priority 1 sites visited in period	3		1		1		n/a	
PE02	Priority 2 site visits	75.34%	100.00%	56.86%	100.00%	40.00%	100.00%		This measure is steadily improving, but 100% will not be possible with current caseload vs current resources.
PE02 (D)	Priority 2 sites due a visit in period	73		51		25		n/a	
PE02 (N)	Priority 2 sites visited in period	55		29		10		n/a	
PE03	Priority 3 site visits	81.25%	100.00%	13.04%	100.00%	37.04%	100.00%		This measure has improved significantly, but 100% will not be possible with current caseload vs current resources.

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
PE03 (D)	Priority 3 sites due a visit in period	16		23		54		✘	
PE03 (N)	Priority 3 sites visited in period	13		3		20		n/a	

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
SPR05	Number of new homes completed			273		223		?	
SPR20	Level of CIL receipts			2,687,113		1,393,496		?	

Agenda Item 12

SPAE OSC: Work Programme 2021/22
DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	Report Deadline	Items	Contact Details	Background information
Wed 16 March 2022	Mon 7 March 2022	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Environmental Services performance Q3	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q3	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Quarter 3 2021/2022 Planning, Development and Regeneration performance Q3	Alex Robinson – Group Manager (Planning and Development) Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	Quarterly performance report
		Skills Supplementary Planning Document	Alex Robinson – Group Manager (Planning and Development) Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	To set out the content of a draft new supplementary planning policy document to secure proposals for the development of local skills in association with new development proposals.
		Luton Airport expansion proposals	Alex Robinson – Group Manager (Planning and Development)	To set out a proposed response to

		Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	London Luton Airport Ltd on the proposals
14 June 2022	3 June 2022		
	Environmental Services Annual Review	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
	Environmental Services Performance Q4	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
	Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q4	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
	PSPO & Enforcement Review	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
	Quarter 4 2021/2022 Planning, Development and Regeneration performance Q4	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	Quarterly performance report

6 July 2022	27 June 2022			
		SWH Joint Strategic Plan – Reg 18	Chris Outtersides – South West Hertfordshire Joint Strategic Plan Director Chris.Outtersides@dacorum.gov.uk Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Annual Planning Enforcement Update	Philip Stanley – Interim Head of Development Management philip.stanley@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Paradise Employment Area Design Code	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	
August 2022	August 2022			
21 September 2022	9 September 2022			
		PSPO Pilot Review (District Enforcement)	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov	

		.uk	
	Waste Review Update (dependant on Government Release)	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
	Environmental Services Performance Q1 Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q1	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
	Quarter 1 2022/2023 Planning, Development and Regeneration performance Q1	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	Quarterly performance report
12 October 2022	30 September 2022		
	Biodiversity Net Gain SPD	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	
	Infrastructure Delivery Plan Update Report	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk	

		Infrastructure Funding Statement – Developer Contributions Update	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk
			Statutory annual report on funds received and spent through new developments via s106 agreements and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
8 November 2022	28 October 2022		
		Food Service Plan and Recovery Plan	Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk
		Affordable Housing SPD	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk
		Quarter 2 2022/2023 Planning, Development and Regeneration performance Q2	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning Alex.Robinson@dacorum.gov.uk
		Quarterly performance report	
		Environmental Services Performance Q2 Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q2	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk

		AQMA and AQAP update	Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk
6 December 2022	25 November 2022	Joint Budget	

Others to be programmed

			TBC with Chair
		Stewardship Supplementary Planning Document	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning
		Chilterns Beechwoods Mitigation Strategy	Alex Robinson – Assistant Director for Planning