

Appendices - 4



CABINET REPORT

Report Title	PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER – JEYES JETTY
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Cabinet Meeting Date:	16 October 2019
Key Decision:	Yes
Within Policy:	Yes
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Community Safety & Engagement
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr Anna King
Ward(s)	Castle

1. Purpose

1.1 To ask Cabinet to agree to make a Public Spaces Protection Order (“PSPO”) as set out in sections 59 to 68 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“the Act”) in order to restrict the public right of way over the highway known as Jeyes Jetty, which runs from The Drapery to College Street.

2. Recommendations

That Cabinet:

2.1.1 Resolve to make a PSPO as per Appendix 1 to this report restricting the public right of way over Jeyes Jetty for a period of three years after taking into account the results of a public consultation carried out between 19th June and 11th September 2019.

- 2.1.2 Resolve to delegate to the Borough Secretary the authority to comply with all legal steps and processes required by Chapter 2 of Part 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 for the Council to make a PSPO restricting the public right of way over Jeyes Jetty for a period of three years as per Appendix 1 in order to give effect to the decision at 2.1.1.
- 2.1.3 Resolve to delegate to the Chief Executive authority to make an application for listed building planning permission for the installation of secure gates at each end of Jeyes Jetty and, subject to approval being granted, arrange for the installation, operation and maintenance of said gates.
- 2.1.4 Resolve to delegate to the Chief Executive authority to enforce a PSPO made under the power delegated at 2.2 and to authorise Council officers and appropriately trained external contractors working on behalf of the Council as authorised persons to issue fixed penalties of £100 to any person suspected of committing an offence under section 67 of the Act.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 On 20th October 2014 the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 came into force. The purpose of the Act is to give local authorities and the Police more effective powers to tackle anti-social behaviour (“ASB”), providing better protection for victims. Amongst these new tools and powers are PSPOs, which are designed to stop all individuals or a specific class of persons committing anti-social behaviour in a public space.
- 3.1.2 The statutory criteria that must be satisfied when considering whether to make a PSPO is whether a particular activity is likely to have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and that the activity is or is likely to be persistent or continuing in nature or that the activity is unreasonable and any restriction is justified.
- 3.1.3 There is a requirement to undertake a statutory public consultation exercise and to consider any responses prior to making any PSPO. The Council must consult with the following for the proposed area to be restricted;
- (a) the chief officer of police, and the local policing body for the area;
 - (b) whatever community representatives the local authority thinks it appropriate to consult;
 - (c) the owner or occupier of land within the area;
 - (d) the parish council or community council (if any) for the area and
 - (e) the county council (if any) for the area.

- 3.1.4 PSPOs provide Councils with a flexible power to implement local restrictions to address a range of anti-social behaviour issues in public places in order to prevent future problems. It is important that PSPOs are used proportionately and that they are not seen to be targeting behaviour of the children/young people where there is a lack of tolerance and understanding by local people.
- 3.1.5 Restrictions and requirements can be placed on an area where activities have, or are likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of local people, is persistent or continuing in nature and is unreasonable. These can be blanket restrictions or requirements or can be targeted against certain behaviours or certain groups at certain times.
- 3.1.6 The legislation provides they can be extended at the end of the period, but only for a further maximum period of up to three years. However, Orders can be extended more than once. Local authorities can increase or reduce the restricted area of an existing order, amend or remove a prohibition or requirement, or add a new prohibition or requirement. They can also discharge an order. Both variation and discharge of an Order are subject to statutory consultation requirements.
- 3.1.7 Enforcement may be shared between the Council and the Police. Breach of a PSPO is a criminal offence which can result in the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice (“FPN”) for a maximum of £100 or a prosecution resulting in a fine of up to £1,000 on conviction. Enforcement can be undertaken by Council Officers and any person designated by a local authority for the purpose of issuing fines for breaches of a PSPO and Police officers.
- 3.1.8 Once the PSPO has been made the Council must publish it on its website and erect notice or notices on or adjacent to Jeyes Jetty setting out the effect of the order. On 22 May 2019 Cabinet authorised the undertaking of a statutory consultation on the introduction of a PSPO to restrict the public right of way over Jeyes Jetty.

3.2 Outcome of Consultation

- 3.2.1 The Council engaged in a 12 week online public consultation via an open access online survey using ‘Survey Monkey’. This was promoted through;
- Council’s social media sites
 - Councillors for the Ward
 - Adjacent businesses & residents
 - Community Safety Partnership
 - Town Centre Tasking Group
 - Council Officers
 - Northamptonshire Office of Police & Crime Commissioner
 - Northamptonshire Police
 - Northamptonshire County Council
 - Members of the public
 - Local press and media channels
 - Northampton Town Centre BID

Paper copies of the consultation were also made available on request and were also posted through the letterboxes of residents living in the immediate vicinity of Jeyes Jetty.

3.2.2 The consultation sought views on the levels and frequency of ASB witnessed and reported to the Council, views on the acceptability of the reasonable alternative route and also asked for other comments and ideas for dealing with ASB issues in Jeyes Jetty. Full results of the consultation are available to view in Appendices 2 and 3. The Council received 188 responses to this consultation in total.

3.2.3 81.9% of the responders felt that anti-social behaviour was a problem in Jeyes Jetty, whilst 47.9% had directly experienced anti-social behaviour there.

3.2.4 Below provides a summary of incidents that have specifically taken place in the last 12 months;

Crimes and Incidents at Jeyes Jetty in the Central Area of Northampton between 24/09/2018 – 24/09/2019	Crime Type	Details
2019-02	Violence with injury	Male is enticed down an alley way by 5 or 6 known males and beaten up.
2019-02	Robbery of Personal Property	Male caller is walking down an alleyway near to the drapery McDonalds when he a male approaches him, trips him over, and while the ip is on the floor, the suspect takes his rucksack and runs off with the bag and contents. Nothing of value inside the bag.
2019-03	Other Sexual Offences	Male i/p was urinating in the alleyway between Timpson's and McDonalds when a white male who had also been urinating came and stood by the side of the i/p and tried to grab his penis. I/p challenged the male and he tried to laugh it off before running to get in to a taxi.
2019-04	Drug Possession	In enclosed area of college

		street and the alleyway that leads to drapery, Northampton strong smell of cannabis and only male smoking in the area is spoken to who states "he is just finishing his spliff."
2019-01	Suspicious Circumstances	Deliberate fire reported at Jeyes Jetty which is an alleyway leading from the Drapery through to College Street.
2019-04	Concern for Safety	Wallet was stolen from IP whilst walking through the alleyway towards College Street.
2019-04	Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour	Screaming and breaking glass –caller reported male and female voices screaming and shouting in the alleyway leading to College Street. Caller also heard breaking glass. Caller can't see anyone but he can hear

3.2.5 70.21% of respondents support the closure of Jeyes Jetty, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 73.36% of the respondents agreed that there is a suitable alternative route. 31 additional comments were made by members of the public supporting the closure of the alleyway (under the any further comments to be made question).

3.2.6 9.57% of the responders felt that anti-social behaviour isn't a problem in Jeyes Jetty and 51.6% haven't directly experienced anti-social behaviour in Jeyes Jetty.

3.2.7 42 comments were received to the alternative proposal question. These comments included the installation of CCTV, lighting, daily street-cleaning and policing. 7 of the respondents suggested temporary closure, just of an evening.

3.2.8 In summary, the public consultation supports the making of a PSPO with 70.21% of respondents in favour of gating Jeyes Jetty for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 47.87% of 188 respondents suffered ASB in Jeyes Jetty. Further details of the consultation responses can be seen in Appendix 2 and responses from statutory consultees in Appendix 3.

3.2.9 The Jetty is in the All Saints Conservation Area and is adjacent to a Grade II Listed Building. The public consultation highlights the historic significance of

the route. As a result it is important to note that whilst access would be restricted, the design of the gates would be such as to enable a visual appreciation of the historic route.

3.3 Choices (Options)

- 3.3.1 Cabinet can decide to do nothing, taking into the representations objecting to the making of a PSPO restricting access to Jeyes Jetty. However, this is not recommended because it would not meet the needs of the wider community or address the ASB issues and criminal activities being experienced in Jeyes Jetty on a regular basis. The negative responses suggest that the PSPO would remove a much needed route between Derngate and College Street and that it would result in the loss of a historic asset. However, it would seem sensible to reject these on the grounds that a suitable alternative route between Derngate and College Street is available via Gold Street and that the Council's duty to prevent ASB and crime outweighs the benefit in keeping the alleyway, albeit a historically significant one, open. The alleyway, as previously mentioned, will be preserved and fitted with secure ornate gates. Rights of public access over the alleyway are not being removed completely and any PSPO can only last a maximum of three years before it must be reviewed and, if appropriate, renewed following a full statutory consultation process.
- 3.3.2 Cabinet can decide to make a PSPO to remove the public right of way over Jeyes Jetty for a period of 3 years as per the draft PSPO at Appendix 1 and also to install gates to restrict access, as supported by all of the statutory consultees and 70.21% of responses to the public consultation. This is recommended as it will remove the alley as a site of anti-social and criminal behaviour for a period of three years. Emergency services and employees of local businesses will continue to have access to Jeyes Jetty.
- 3.3.3 Cabinet can decide to make a PSPO restricting the public right of way between specific times of the day in order to try and reduce ASB in the alleyway but still allow it to be used as a public right of way at certain times. However, this is not recommended because the evidence indicates that anti-social behaviour takes place in the alleyway throughout the day and that only gating for specific hours would not completely eradicate the criminal activity and ASB that is taking place.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 The approach supports the multi-agency Countywide Anti-Social Behaviour Policy that Northampton Borough Council is signed up to.
- 4.1.2 Under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, any local authorities have a statutory duty to;

“exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area, including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment, the misuse of drugs , alcohol and other substances and re-offending ”.

In practice, the Council works in partnership with statutory, non-statutory, community and voluntary agencies to develop and implement strategies and policies for tackling crime, disorder and ASB.

- 4.1.3 Should the PSPO made, listed building planning permission pursuant to section 57 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 will be required before the Council can install gates at either end of Jeyes Jetty in order to restrict access. Installation of these gates does not qualify as permitted development pursuant to the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 as advised by NBC Planning.

4.2 Resources and Risk

- 4.2.2 A PSPO can be enforced by both the Police and appropriately authorised Council officers or external contractors. The aim is that the Council will be the agency to process any Fixed Penalty Notices (“FPNs”) issued to any person found to have breached the PSPO, as an alternative to prosecution, regardless of which agency issues them, but this has yet to be agreed with the Police.
- 4.2.3 There are financial implications for the Council with regard to making an application for listed building planning permission, purchasing two sets of gates and installation and ongoing maintenance of the same. Initial costs will be covered from the Community Safety budget and ongoing maintenance costs from the PSPO FPN pot. Three quotes will be obtained for cost and installation of the gates, this is expected to be approximately £15,000 to £18,000.
- 4.2.4 It would be very difficult to make any projection as to the number of FPNs that will be issued and therefore what income can be reasonably be expected to be generated through the making of this PSPO. Any income generated by payment of FPN’s for a PSPO is not required to be directed back into management of the PSPO process as the 2014 Act is silent on this issue.

4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 A PSPO can be made by a Local Authority under section 59 of the Act for a maximum of three years if it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met. Firstly, that;
- (i) 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
 - (ii) 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 of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature such as to make the activities unreasonable and therefore justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

- 4.3.2 A prohibition in a PSPO may apply to all persons or persons in, or not in, specified categories and it may apply at all times.
- 4.3.3 Once a PSPO is made it must be published on the local authority's website and notices must be erected on or adjacent to the public place to which the PSPO relates in sufficient number to draw the public's attention to it and its effect.
- 4.3.4 With regard to restricting the public right of way over a highway, a local authority **must** consider the likely effect of making such a PSPO on the occupiers of premises adjoining or adjacent to the highway and other persons in the locality, such as other residents living locally. In a case where the highway constitutes a through route, the local authority **must** also consider the availability of a reasonably convenient alternative route. This statutory requirement to consider applies with regard to the proposed PSPO for Jeyes Jetty.
- 4.3.5 The local authority **must** also consider any representations that have been made by persons potentially affected by the proposed PSPO. A local authority should consider whether the consequences of restricting access by the public would be disproportionate compared to the consequences of allowing ASB to occur and/or continue in or on that highway.
- 4.3.6 The Order must also not restrict the public right of way over a highway for the occupiers of premises adjoining or adjacent to the highway or where the highway is the only or principal means of access to a dwelling.
- 4.3.7 The PSPO must also not restrict a highway that is the only or principal means of access to business premises during periods when the premises are normally used for those purposes.
- 4.3.8 Any public right of way over a highway which is restricted by a PSPO does not cease to be a highway in law, but a local authority may authorise, install, operate and maintain a barrier or barriers to enforce the restriction.
- 4.3.9 An individual who lives in the area restricted by a PSPO or who regularly works in or visits that area may apply to the High Court to question the validity of that Order. The only grounds for such an application are that the local authority did not have power to make the Order or to, in this case, restrict the public right of way over the highway in question and/or that the local authority did not comply with a statutory requirement with regard to the making of the PSPO. Any such challenge must be made within 6 weeks of the PSPO being made and the High Court has a discretion whether or not to suspend the operation of the Order until the final determination of the challenge.

4.3.10 The High Court may quash any PSPO or any prohibition if it is satisfied that the local authority lacked the power to make the Order or any prohibition or if it is satisfied that the interests of the applicant have been **substantially prejudiced** by a failure to comply with a statutory requirement with regard to the making of the Order.

4.4 Equality and Health

- 4.4.1 Incidents of ASB will continue to be dealt with in line with the Council's equalities framework.
- 4.4.2 These legislative changes are designed to have a significant community impact in preventing and limiting anti-social behaviour, improving the quality of life for those people living and working in the area.
- 4.4.3 Equality Impact Assessment screening has been carried out and can be viewed at Appendix 4.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

Legal Services
Environmental Health & Licensing Manager, NBC
Community Safety and Engagement Manager, NBC
Northants Police
Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Engagement, NBC
Highways Authority
Northants Fire Service
Planning Department, NBC
Conservation Team, NBC
Local Businesses
Landlords
Residents living in the vicinity of Jeyes Jetty
Members of the public who work in or visit the area

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

- 4.6.1 One of the Council's priorities is "invest in safer, cleaner neighbourhoods" and the PSPO has the potential to contribute towards this priority.

4.7 Other Implications

- 4.7.1 Five businesses have premises adjoining Jeyes Jetty. Although supportive of restricting the public right of way over the alleyway, they do have requirements with regard to access. With regard to business premises, A PSPO must not restrict a highway that is the only or principal means of access to those premises during periods when the premises are normally used for business purposes. This does not apply to any of the five businesses in question and therefore the Council has a discretion whether to permit access as an exemption to the Order for either general or specific purposes.

4.7.2 Access arrangements with these businesses as an exemption to the Order have been agreed in principle on the condition that the gates are kept locked and the alleyway kept clean and tidy. Failure to comply with these conditions may result in enforcement action and specifically withdrawal of this exemption, subject to a right of appeal to the Chief Executive through the Council's complaints procedure.

4.7.3 There will be ongoing monitoring of the alleyway by the Neighbourhood Warden to ensure acceptable levels of cleanliness.

5. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft Jeyes Jetty PSPO.

Appendix 2 – Consultation results.

Appendix 3 – Responses from statutory consultees.

Appendix 4 – Equality impact assessment.

6. Background Papers

6.1 Chapter 2 of Part 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014

6.2 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Reform of Anti-Social Behaviour Powers Statutory Guidance for Frontline Professionals – August 2019 – Para 2.5 (pages 47 to 56)

George Candler
Chief Executive

APPENDIX 1

THE ORDER

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL (JEYES JETTY) PUBLIC SPACES

PROTECTION ORDER 2019

Northampton Borough Council in exercise of its powers under Section 59, 64 and 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 ('the Act') hereby makes the following Order:-

1. This Order shall come into operation on (...) and shall have effect for a period of 3 years thereafter, unless extended by further orders under the Council's statutory powers.
2. This Order relates to Jeyes Jetty, which runs from The Drapery to College Street as shown in the attached plan ('the Restricted Area').
3. The effect of this Order is to restrict the public right of way over the Restricted Area 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for the period of 3 years ("the Restriction")
4. The alternative route for pedestrians from The Drapery to College Street will be along Gold Street or through Swan's Yard, as shown in the plan which forms the Schedule to this Order
5. Responsibility for the maintenance of any gates installed in order to enforce the Restriction will lie with Northampton Borough Council, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE.
6. Police, Fire and Ambulance emergency services, statutory undertakers with equipment situated under, over, along or in the highway, council officers and other persons authorised by the Council shall be exempt from the provisions of this Order.
7. The Council may exempt from the provisions of this Order such specific persons as authorised by any owner or director of those businesses whose premises are adjacent to the highway. The Council may withdraw any exemptions issued to such persons as a matter of discretion at any time, subject to a right of appeal to the Council's Chief Executive within seven calendar days.
8. The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Sections 59, 64 and 72 of the Act have been satisfied and that it is in all the circumstances expedient to make this Order for the purposes of reducing anti-social behaviour, specifically street drinking, drug taking and fly tipping in the restricted area. The Council makes the Order

because the anti-social behaviour has had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. The effect or likely effect of this is of a persistent or continuing nature such as to make this unreasonable and justifies the restrictions imposed by the Order.

FIXED PENALTY NOTICES AND OFFENCES

9. It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse to engage in any activity that is prohibited by this Order.

10. In accordance with section 67 of the Act, a person found to be in breach of this Order is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (£1000).

11. In accordance with section 68 of the Act, a person may be offered the opportunity to avoid prosecution for an offence under section 67 by paying a fixed penalty notice of £100. If the penalty notice is paid within 10 days, then the lower amount of £80 will be accepted by the Council in full and final settlement of that notice.

APPEALS

12. If any interested person desires to question the validity of this Order on the grounds that the Council had no power to make it or that any requirement of the Act has not been complied with in relation to this Order, he or she may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date on this this Order is made.

Given under the Common Seal of Northampton Borough Council

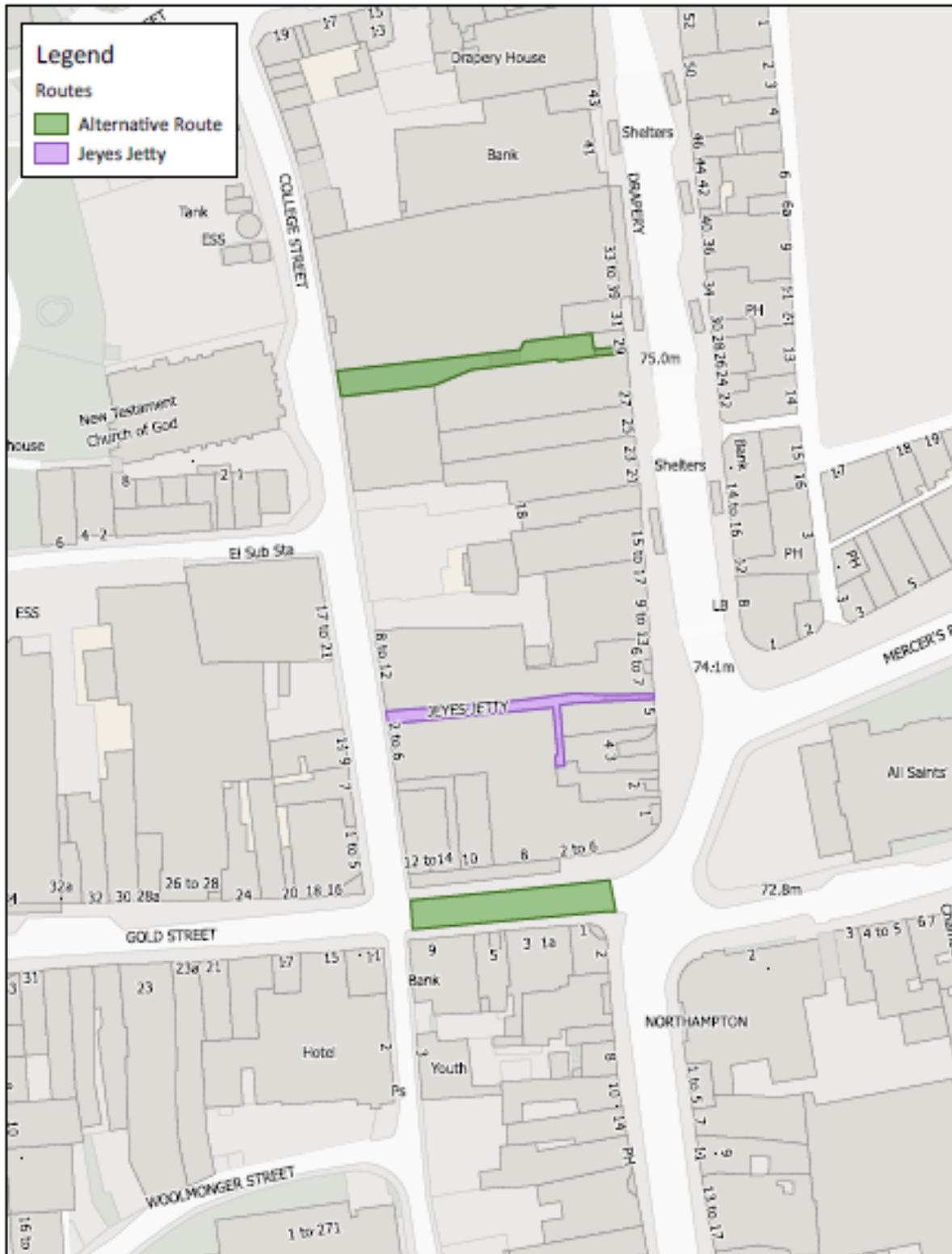
On the day of 20

The Common Seal of the Council

Was hereunto affixed in the presence of

..... Authorised Signatory

SCHEDULE



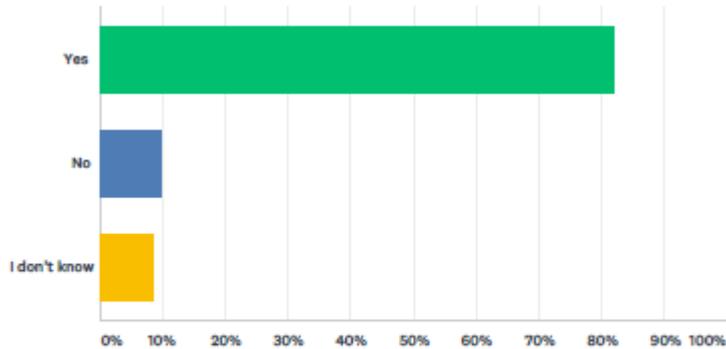
 <p>NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL</p>	<p>Title: Drapery, Northampton</p>	<p>Date: 09-08-2019</p>
	<p>© Crown copyright and database rights 2018 Ordnance Survey licence no. 10019655</p>	<p>Scale: 1:1,000</p>

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESULTS

Q1 Do you think anti-social behaviour is an issue in the area of Jeyes Jetty? (alleyway between College Street and Drapery, see map)

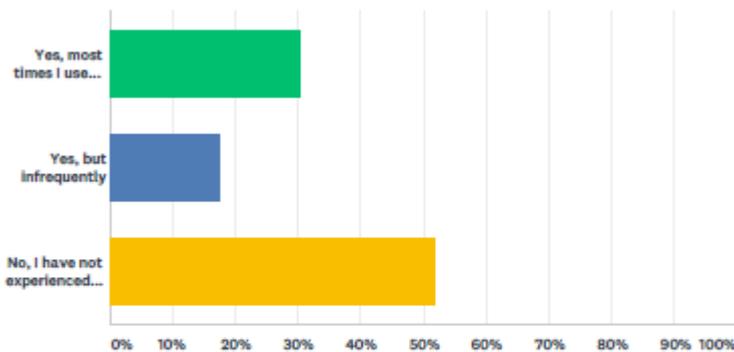
Answered: 188 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	81.91%	154
No	9.57%	18
I don't know	8.51%	16
TOTAL		188

Q2 Have you experienced any anti-social behaviour in Jeyes Jetty?

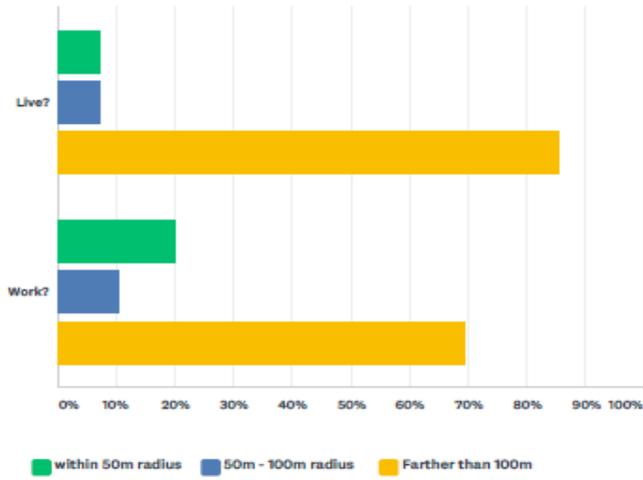
Answered: 188 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, most times I use Jeyes Jetty	30.32%	57
Yes, but infrequently	17.55%	33
No, I have not experienced anti-social behaviour in Jeyes Jetty.	51.60%	97
TOTAL		188

Q3 How close to Jeyes Jetty do you ...

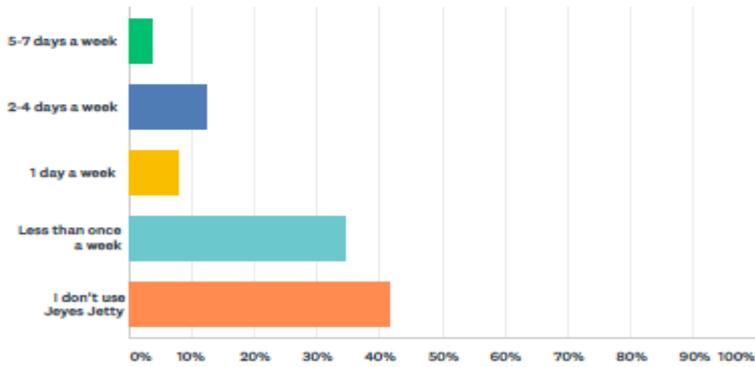
Answered: 184 Skipped: 4



	WITHIN 50M RADIUS	50M - 100M RADIUS	FARTHER THAN 100M	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Live?	7.36% 12	7.36% 12	85.28% 139	163	3.78
Work?	20.12% 33	10.37% 17	69.51% 114	164	3.49

Q4 How often do you use Jeyes Jetty?

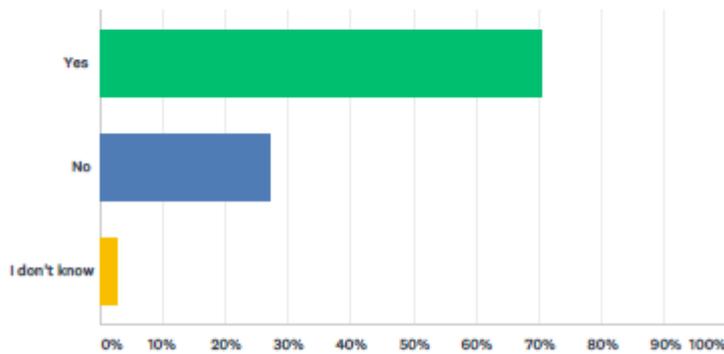
Answered: 187 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
5-7 days a week	3.74%	7
2-4 days a week	12.30%	23
1 day a week	8.02%	15
Less than once a week	34.22%	64
I don't use Jeyes Jetty	41.71%	78
TOTAL		187

Q5 Do you support the closure of Jeyes Jetty for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week?

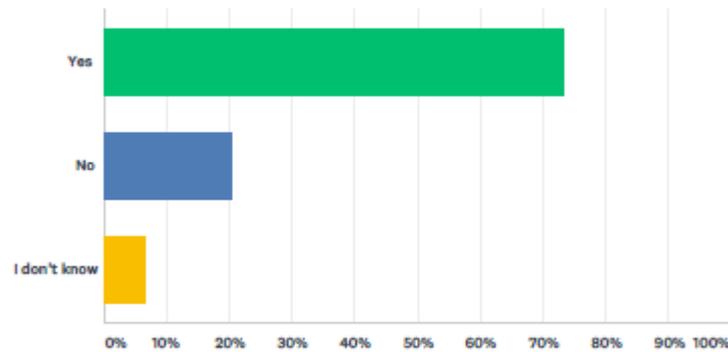
Answered: 188 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	70.21%	132
No	27.13%	51
I don't know	2.66%	5
TOTAL		188

Q6 Do you agree Swan Yard and/or Gold Street are acceptable alternative routes to Jeyes Jetty? (see map)

Answered: 187 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	73.26%	137
No	20.32%	38
I don't know	6.42%	12
TOTAL		187

Q7 If you do not agree with the gating of Jeyes Jetty as outlined in the attached plan, what other alternatives do you suggest?

Sep 11 2019 10:19 AM	Police it properly
Sep 11 2019 12:07 AM	Has drug use got so bad that closing off alleyways is the only solution?
Sep 09 2019 07:12 PM	Increase policing and street cleaning activities
Sep 08 2019 12:10 AM	A clean up and possibly more lights. Not rocket science!
Sep 07 2019 12:49 PM	Provide some public toilets in the town centre, so that there is no need for the homeless to defecate in places like this. And make the police do their primary job, which is maintaining public order. I cannot think when I last saw an officer walking a beat anywhere in town, even in the town centre.
Sep 05 2019 12:27 PM	Better paving, lighting, clean it up.
Sep 04 2019 02:29 PM	Leave it as is. Honestly, the town is full of smelly alley ways, you are more likely to get mugged in Bridge Street, Abington Street or on the Barrack Road. Locking of streets is no substitute for proper cleaning, proper social welfare services and effective policing; none of which are much in evidence in central Northampton.
Sep 04 2019 01:19 PM	Leaving it open
Sep 04 2019 12:42 PM	Use gates over night, and you can get the cheaper than the £20k quoted, you're being ripped off, but get some high quality CCTV cameras and an automatic spotlight then you will have clear images of the offenders AND CAN ACTUALLY PROSECUTE THEM rather than doing nothing to stop the antisocial behaviour.

Sep 04 2019 11:17 AM	Just gate it at night.
Sep 04 2019 10:37 AM	Dont close it
Aug 20 2019 10:55 AM	CCTV
Aug 08 2019 01:50 PM	Lighting, cleaning, regular warden checks, ASB warning signs, enforcement
Aug 07 2019 09:07 AM	clean it up/maintenance
Jul 31 2019 01:12 PM	as above; address the issue, install more CCTV; light the area to discourage anti-social behaviour
Jul 19 2019 02:44 PM	Spend some money on the town centre and get the cleaners to go down there and power wash the hell out of it.
Jul 19 2019 12:33 PM	Gate and lock at night only.
Jul 12 2019 05:28 AM	See my previous comment
Jul 11 2019 10:34 PM	Possibly gating from nightfall to dawn bit open during dat light hours. The jetty is not the only place that is unhygienic and foul. For example St Giles Street stinks after the weekend as all the doorways are used as urinals or vomitaria by drunks. Surely the councillors can see that this is a much bigger problem than one alleyway? The whole town centre is dirty, uncared for and pretty disgusting. This needs sorting out. You can't gate the whole town!
Jul 11 2019 01:21 PM	Keeping it clean, providing adequate toilet facilities in the area, regular monitoring and patrols. Closing it permanently just moves the problem elsewhere
Jul 11 2019 01:02 PM	The same issues exist in swan yard
Jul 11 2019 11:01 AM	Clean the alleyways! Signpost businesses! Hanging baskets! Buskers! Lighting schemes. Policing them! Work with businesses.
Jul 05 2019 02:50 PM	Keep it open. Police and local businesses to coordinate on palliative measures.
Jul 05 2019 01:19 PM	Camera and community policing would protect the users of this ancient right of way.
Jul 05 2019 12:48 PM	If people are using an alley as a toilet, then they probably can't find anywhere else to go, if they had access to a public toilet that was open and clean surely they would use that instead.
Jun 30 2019 08:42 AM	CCTV, windows overlooking the jetty, public education, more residential on upper floors to bring more activity into the jetty.
Jun 28 2019 06:41 PM	Again you cannot put all the blame on ASB, if we don't have toilets where do the rough sleepers go? I'm not condoning the filth Swan yard also has human waste and rubbish dumped from the flats
Jun 28 2019 02:48 PM	The council cleaning services hose and clean the area on a regular basis, police patrol it on a regular basis at night.
Jun 28 2019 08:30 AM	Increased patrols or other visible deterrents.
Jun 27 2019 04:48 PM	Find a means of reclaiming safe use for the public. Very limited closure, for example overnight, might be acceptable if accompanied by other positive use measures - such as re-introducing adequate 24hr public toilets in the area.
Jun 27 2019 01:44 PM	Can you not shut it off at night? What about efficient security cameras?
Jun 27 2019 10:55 AM	Think the area should be covered by CCTV and streetlighting to deter anti social behaviour.

Jun 27 2019 10:21 AM	Have you considered a camera link to the police .
Jun 27 2019 09:46 AM	if its not to be used then why not brick it up?
Jun 26 2019 10:46 PM	I do agree with it but I also have another idea u could install CCTV so can still see what is going on an maybe more wardens or police presence In the alley.
Jun 26 2019 10:03 PM	Anti -social behaviour in this jetty has been a feature of Northampton for the last 50 years to my certain and personal knowledge but it has increased during these recent times of increased tolerance by the authorities. this disgraceful behaviour is almost always perpetrated at night time or in periods of darkness and it is during these hours that access should be denied.
Jun 26 2019 09:47 PM	Gate at night only. Increase use of CCTV.
Jun 26 2019 08:18 PM	Clean up the whole town. Invest and move it forward
Jun 26 2019 07:36 PM	Open public toilets and patrol the area until the problem is solved, prosecute offenders as necessary.
Jun 26 2019 06:31 PM	Daily cleaning - as happens in many such areas of town centres across Britain and Europe. If necessary - use of better lighting and low cost cctv monitoring to detect and prevent anti-social behaviour. Increased policing is probably too much to ask given the current demolition of public service funding - but that would be the single best option.
Jun 26 2019 06:22 PM	CCTV cameras and prosecute antisocial behaviour
Jun 26 2019 05:27 PM	Already mentioned alternative in above answer
Jun 26 2019 12:36 PM	Police the area to remove the ant social behaviour with wardens, police officers, cctv and sensible punishments for those caught committing crime or acting in an anti social manner

Q8 Do you have any other comments relevant to the potential gating of Jeyes Jetty?

Sep 11 2019 10:19 AM	You are stopping historic public access by withdrawing a service route because of money.
Sep 11 2019 09:46 AM	The alleyway is very narrow and does not allow for people to pass who are approaching from different directions. This could be used to the advantage of criminals targeting individuals using the alleyway.
Sep 11 2019 12:07 AM	You said its part of Northampton's historical network and yet..... you are closing it off. It'll be demoted from living history to lost history.
Sep 09 2019 07:12 PM	This is a right of way being closed to mask council and police lack of funding
Sep 08 2019 12:10 AM	Another over thought plan that benefits no one. The issue with it being used as a toilet is easier sorted with toilets provided in the town in the form of pop ups at busy or night time. And lights will obviously stop most other problems. Honestly. You need this asking?
Sep 07 2019 09:15 PM	I don't use the area due to anti-social behaviour and the general area as it smells so bad.
Sep 07 2019 09:11 PM	It's disgusting and seems like people just use it as a toilet or for the use of drugs. But from my experience on that night an attempt at using a knife.
Sep 07 2019 12:49 PM	Is this a proper use of a PSPO? The relevent law allows PSPOs to prevent certain activities being done in an area, but so far as I can see it does not give a power to prevent people being in that area.

Sep 06 2019 07:50 AM	I would like this to stay open as I use it for emergencies when running late for the train station.
Sep 05 2019 02:05 PM	It needs to be closed permanently to stop it from being used by antisocial behaviour, drinks and homeless. It smells constantly of urine and vomit.
Sep 05 2019 12:27 PM	Another piece of historic Northampton gone!
Sep 04 2019 10:33 PM	Before you lock it up with a gate you will need to have a good deep clean down the jitty before locking it, Otherwise you will still smell all off the urine from the Jitty, Timpsons and the Old DW Sports.
Sep 04 2019 09:23 PM	As a young woman I'm scared to walk past or near it at night
Sep 04 2019 08:14 PM	Please get this done as soon as possible - there are alternative routes people can use
Sep 04 2019 04:00 PM	Take into account clues clothes shop, everyone will have to walk past Circus to get there and Clues may lose business due to this
Sep 04 2019 02:29 PM	This is a blinkered fetishistic response to complex urban issues. There has not been a shred of comparative empirical evidence put forwards to make this case. Blaming physical spaces for human problems is utterly ludicrous. Why not try restoring Northampton's lanes and jettys? Actually make something of them as heritage spaces like other towns and cities do? Revel in what is left of the town's few unique features rather than simply fantasising that padlocking them will magically fix problems that are pretty visible on every major thoroughfare in the town centre.
Sep 04 2019 01:37 PM	Close it asap it is a disgusting Health risk and nobody needs to experience the depth of hideousness of that alley
Sep 04 2019 01:19 PM	Shutting down the statue did not stop antisocial behaviour, it just moved to another area of town centre- closing alleyways will not stop illicit behaviour, just move it to other alleyways in town
Sep 04 2019 01:18 PM	I shall be happy if it is gated off and preserved as a heritage area due to the Jates connection. Is there any way it can be preserved and made to look nice behind the new gates. (Rather than looking like a black entrance to Hell?) Or will the new gates be totally solid anyway so we can no longer see down there??
Sep 04 2019 01:10 PM	Close the street or properly illuminate it! Stop the thugs using it to pry on innocent and vulnerable people!
Sep 04 2019 12:42 PM	As above, dont get ripped off and do something about the behaviour, if you close this alley way it will only move to a different one.
Sep 04 2019 12:06 PM	The whole Town needs Cleaning from disgusting Behavior lets start cleaning the Town by closing these Jetty'S
Sep 04 2019 11:20 AM	Action must be taken to ensure that the antisocial behaviour is not simply displaced to Swan Yard. Were this to occur, then this alternative route would essentially be closed to the law-abiding public, particularly with regard to vulnerable groups, and local amenity would be compromised.
Sep 04 2019 11:16 AM	GET ON WITH IT—SOMETHING REALLY HORRIBLE COULD HAPPEN ALONG THERE
Sep 04 2019 10:56 AM	There is nothing nice about this alley, I do not use it anymore as it is always dirty smells off urine and is just generally dirty
Sep 04 2019 10:11 AM	I have concerns for how the neighbouring buildings whose fire escapes lead out onto Jeye's Jetty will be able to get out in case of an emergency. Please consider some sort of emergency catch release inside the gates.

Aug 29 2019 06:04 PM	Yes, please also close swan yard as people are peeing in there and dealing drugs. Residents can't even open windows at home as it always smell like urine. Drug dealers and homeless people spend a lot of time in there as well and disturb the residents who live in there
Aug 21 2019 02:38 PM	Can the area be redeveloped, added lighting, shops, retail, to entice people to use the area positively?
Aug 21 2019 01:04 PM	If not closed, making it larger, better lighting/ CCTV/ alarms would be alternatives
Aug 20 2019 02:38 PM	Gate all the Jetty's, there are alternative routes and access. The Jetty's are no longer required, they all attract ASB and crime, they are dirty and unsightly.
Aug 20 2019 11:00 AM	I don't use it because it smells
Aug 20 2019 10:56 AM	Needs to be cleared of rubbish. Full of rats.
Aug 20 2019 10:53 AM	I avoid using the jetty at all costs. I support the closure.
Aug 20 2019 10:52 AM	doesn't feel safe
Aug 13 2019 10:47 AM	<p>I agree that Jeyes Jetty has become a hotspot for Anti Social Behaviour. I feel genuinely sorry for the cleansing team who have to visit here, to pick up human waste and be forced to visit an area which smells highly of urine. They have a losing battle from the moment it is cleaned, to the state it becomes, how can this area be maintained?</p> <p>Many people avoid this area anyway, opting for the better alternative of Gold Street/Swan Yard, which is a safer route. I certainly wouldn't give directions down the Jetty. I also have concerns that there is a restaurant which Jeyes Jetty backs on to, which surely would have a negative impact.</p> <p>Regarding the history of the jetty; surely a better way of keeping a part of the history is to protect an area instead of letting it become a dirty eyesore.</p>
Aug 13 2019 10:20 AM	I choose not to use the Jetty because of the issues present
Aug 12 2019 06:22 PM	I personally avoid Jeyes Jetty as I would not feel safe using this walkway. I consider that it is an area that can and is easily used for crime and disorder during the daytime and night time economy.
Aug 08 2019 02:07 PM	In the night time economy I am aware there have been a number of assaults and other criminal issues in the jetty. I would not feel safe using the alleyway alone.
Aug 08 2019 02:03 PM	Arrest the culprits
Aug 08 2019 02:02 PM	No need for it to be open.
Aug 08 2019 02:02 PM	Is a good alternative if the drapery is over crowded but would be better if no ASB. Other routes are good alternatives if this was closed.
Aug 08 2019 02:01 PM	Jetty could be a good route if it was nicer.
Aug 08 2019 01:50 PM	Good to be consulting with the public
Aug 08 2019 01:43 PM	Do it!!
Aug 08 2019 01:40 PM	The entrance is too small. Unless it was being cleaned hourly it will never be a suitable walkway. Swan Yard is better to use. The state of the alleyway at the back of the restaurant puts me off eating there.
Aug 08 2019 01:34 PM	I refuse to use it as it is a state. It should have been closed years ago.

Aug 08 2019 09:43 AM	The gating would stop those using the areas for illegal activities and will improve public safety.
Aug 01 2019 08:53 AM	Concerned that the ASB will just transfer to Swan Yard
Jul 19 2019 02:44 PM	It's just a simple solution why can't you think out of the box why do you always have to go to the lowest common denominator?
Jul 19 2019 12:33 PM	As above, gate and lock only at night
Jul 11 2019 01:21 PM	Please look after our town, keep it clean and safe. Don't just shut it down
Jul 11 2019 11:01 AM	Just that it is a stupid idea. Pay to block off an access route instead of being innovatiOve. No. Don't do it.
Jul 07 2019 06:01 PM	The cost £15000-£20000. ??? Seems excessive
Jul 05 2019 02:50 PM	Jetties are a characteristic and historical asset of Northampton.
Jul 05 2019 10:34 AM	I don't see it having and relevance or significance to the town centre. It attracts nothing positive and would benefit us all for it to be entirely removed as opposed to just gated up
Jun 30 2019 08:42 AM	The jetties are a key part of Northapton's heritage and should be protected.
Jun 28 2019 06:41 PM	Jayes Jetty and Swan lane are disgusting however, it seems the shops and businesses can get away with dumping their rubbish and allowing staff to smoke to the rear which results in hundreds of dog ends and filth they just dump at the rear doors. should you need any pics let me Know. it should be gated. but it really annoys me to see business getting away with dumping their rubbish in them.
Jun 28 2019 02:48 PM	This walk-way is a public right of way and no council has the right to deprive the public of the use of it.
Jun 28 2019 09:32 AM	you should public protection to control travellers in Npton
Jun 28 2019 09:21 AM	I don't really want to lose a piece of our history but for the foreseeable future we have to stop it being abused in such disgusting ways. For safety of persons too. It would be nice to have the option of opening gates for such things as Heritage Days, etc. Our history is vital.
Jun 27 2019 08:28 PM	I am a police officer and have seen this whilst at work being used as a toilet and an escape route for offenders and ASB gathering point. I have also seen 100+ rats emerging from the bins stored down there and this along with the constant smell of urine makes this jetty disgusting and a health risk. please close this off soonest.
Jun 27 2019 04:48 PM	It's important to retain and protect historic parts of Northampton rather than aid in their loss. It may not be easy but it is vital. Loss of Jeyes Jetty to public use will otherwise contribute to the ongoing piecemeal loss of historic components of our town. This is not acceptable.
Jun 27 2019 01:44 PM	It will only drive people to Swan Yard. Then you will want to shut that. These cut through's are extremely useful getting to and from College Street. It is an awful long way round to walk if you have to go via Gold Street when shopping/walking into the town during the day. To easy a way round doing this. Northampton does not need any closures, however small!
Jun 27 2019 10:21 AM	Seems unfair for people who use the alley way for good reasons
Jun 27 2019 08:19 AM	Jeyes jetty has been in the news for being a place where people have been seriously injured, sexually assaulted and drug dealing and appears to be a place where criminals can hide, commit crime and escape being caught by using it as a cut through. Its not safe and I believe it should totally be fayed of 24/7.

Jun 27 2019 03:35 AM	I live in area near the Wellingborough Road pub which has many 'rat runs' ie alleys where scum can escape quickly. At present there is an epidemic of smashing car windows & residents want one closed here.
Jun 26 2019 10:37 PM	Well i just think, in general, that sooo many people lack respect nowadays.
Jun 26 2019 10:03 PM	A higher light intensity along the length of this alley should be installed with a concentration of GOOD QUALITY CCTV. It should be realised that if access to this area is totally denied the current perpetrators will almost certainly move to another area close by to continue their misdeeds. You will only move the location of their activities to another area and will not have solved the problem. What do you do then - presumably continue closing areas until there is nothing left to close. This means the yobs win and the general public suffers.
Jun 26 2019 08:18 PM	Absolute joke it's a part of the heritage of the town centre and should be cleaned up along with the rest of the town centre
Jun 26 2019 07:17 PM	The sooner the better!
Jun 26 2019 06:31 PM	If the gating does go ahead consideration should be given to regular cleaning of the areas behind the gates since they are likely to become litter traps / flytipping hotspots - further degrading the appearance of the town centre. Heaven knows it needs all the help it can get right now.
Jun 26 2019 05:27 PM	Gate it off . But have it open during the day and locked during the night.
Jun 26 2019 04:37 PM	Save some money and brick up both ends
Jun 26 2019 04:30 PM	I think it will be safer for all involved, and cheaper for the Local Authority in that they wont have to pay to get it cleaned
Jun 26 2019 03:48 PM	Only Gold Street is an acceptable alternative route, not Swan Yard where other behaviour takes place
Jun 26 2019 03:44 PM	Places like Jeyes Jetty have become unsafe due to the high crime rate around the town centre, I believe if people continue using it there may be a serious incident as it is already a dangerous place and the number of attacks centred around northampton town centre have not diminished
Jun 26 2019 03:13 PM	Would this not push the ASB onto Ally Ways so just moving the problem rather than resolving it from the Town Centre.
Jun 26 2019 12:36 PM	Don't close another piece of our history

Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation on proposed closure of Jeyes Jetty – response from the Town Centre Conservation Areas Advisory Committee

The Committee is supported by the Borough Council and its role is to comment on planning applications and other matters related to the town centre conservation areas. We are a statutory consultee on planning matters and have been a continuous voice on heritage matters in the town for over 20 years.

It is noted that the proposed PSPO will apply for 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, initially for a period of 3 years, subject to access for local employers and public sector officers.

Northampton's jetties are a key characteristic of the town centre conservation areas and are thus, of historical importance. The jetties contribute greatly to the character of the All Saints Conservation Area, giving it a distinct sense of place, and framing important views (e.g. down Drum Lane to All Saints Church, along Swan Yard to the College St Church).

While the Committee does recognise the issues associated with this jetty, in particular, in terms of cleanliness and public safety, it is the committee's view that, wherever possible, the jetties should be kept open and their use should be encouraged. The Council should see the jetties as part of Northampton's answer to creating a distinct character, and not just as a problem. They should encourage more people to pass through and enjoy the jetties, discouraging antisocial behaviour by increasing public surveillance. Once public access to one of the jetties goes, it will be a small step to closing the rest and a key aspect of the character of the conservation area will be lost.

The Committee has identified a number of issues:

- Are the jetties public or private spaces; if the former, will the gating of the jetty result in the privatisation of the space?
- In the light of the draft Master Plan proposals, can the 3-year closure be viewed as a temporary measure, pending measures to integrate the jetty as a pedestrian link, in order to improve permeability from the surrounding area into the town centre?
- Would measures such as CCTV and working with adjacent properties to manage the area mean that it would not have to be closed, particularly during daylight hours?
- Could the public be made more aware of its existence?
- Is planning permission required for the provision of the gates?
- The design of a gate is important in order that it enhances the conservation area.

The Committee welcomes the opportunity to submit its comments and would like to be informed about the measures that are agreed.

August 2019

What's in a name – losing our heritage.

There is talk of gating off an ancient right-of-way for a cost of somewhere between £15,000 and £20,000. Described as a 'notorious alley' it is proposed to gate off Jeyes Jitty [please note the correct word is 'Jitty' NOT jetty it has been a jitty for time out of mind, we are about as far away from the sea as one can be!].

Alderman Frank Lee published in the Archaeological Journal in 1954 his theory, '*A New Theory of the Origins And early Growth of Northampton*' in which he discusses '*certain narrow passage-ways or 'jitties' as they are called locally*' and theorises that these occurred when parts of the old Anglo-Saxon palisade was thrown down and ways made through from the old Anglo-Saxon Town to the New Norman Borough.

We think the Ditch was finally completely filled in around the revamping and extension of the Town c1300. The explanation given in a Council 'guide' that it comes from buildings jetting out on the second storey is unfounded and ignorant rubbish!

The Saxon defenses would have lain between the double streets seen on the map thought Frank Lee. In the 1970s we put several trenches through areas where we could and confirmed his theory, but for the actual line of the Ditch.

He lists several including Francis Jitty [Bridge Street to Kingswell Street], Jeyes Jitty [Drapery to College Street], and one widened now to form Bradshaw Street. Excavations by Northampton Development Corporation in the 1970s largely confirmed Alderman Lee's theory.

Jeyes Jitty is a part of our heritage and I feel should remain open, there has always been some crime along here, in past days the common name was 'Cut-Purse Alley'. However without spending fifteen to twenty thousand pounds on gates I would suggest removing the large waste bins at the western end, and install some proper lighting, there is one dim light at the eastern narrow end and a sort of lantern with no bulb that I can see in it half-way along. And installing some CCTV. A regular once a week clean through would help, maybe the use of a pressure wash would remove the smell of urine. The solution to the problem of people urinating and occasionally defecating is, of course, to have the public toilets open.

Note:

The known jitties are: -

Jeyes Jitty.

Connects College Street with the Drapery at the southern end. It is named after Philadelphus Jeyes a chemists that were in Northampton from 1635 to 1969 when they departed for Earls Barton. Called **College Yard** on Laws Map 1847 after the All Saints' College in college Street. The wall sign and arch sign both have 'Jeyes Jetty' – ugh!

Alley Yard.

Connects Silver Street with Sheep Street. Now to all intents and purposes lost to the recent development of the so-called "Bus Interchange" popularly known as 'Mackintosh's Folly' or 'The Shed'. I have no idea as to why this jitty is called 'Alley Yard'.

Swan Yard.

Connects College Street with the Drapery near the middle. Named after the long gone Swan Inn. I have no definite closure date, but **Law's** Map of 1847 has Swan Yard marked and I'm sure if the inn was still running it would have been indicated. (*Northampton Public Houses and Their Signs* Jack Plowman, Azlan Publications Northampton 2010).

Francis Jitty

Connects Kingswell Street and Bridge Street. The Earliest O/S Plan that gives this name is 1964. I imagine the name is derived from a business close by.

Other probable Jitties are, **Bradshaw Street, Upper and Lower Cross Street and Fort Street.**

I am writing to you to register my objection to the proposed closure under a PSPO of Jeyes Jetty- a public right of way in the town centre.

Jeyes Jetty is part of the heritage of our town, and a public space and footpath that is permanently closed to the public ,with the threat of fines if they disobey -is no longer a public space !

I would respectfully point out that maintenance of a public area cannot be used under the Crime and Policing Act ,as a reason for closure, so any cleanliness (i.e littering urinating etc) issues although unpleasant are part of the councils maintenance duties.

The remit for restriction is identifying activities that will have a detrimental effect on the local residents of which the public should be informed, but the council as far as I know have no evidence that more criminal/anti social activity takes place on this footpath than in any other area of the town.

The reasons on the draft order appear to be drinking, drug taking and fly tipping away from scrutiny of the public ,and wardens , and I also assume the police . It would be helpful to know how often we have police or wardens patrolling this Jetty .

The order is described as restriction, not a complete closure,so this action would go against the wording of the act ,one solution to anti-social activities which by their nature mostly take place at night could be to have locked gating between 10pm and 6am. This would then not hinder people going about their normal activities.

Another problem with permanent closure apart from the legalities would be the undisturbed proliferation of rats and other vermin. Litter and food debris would blow in, and rodents would occupy the drains and walls and gain easy access to buildings.

Closure of this path would personally affect me as I am disabled ,and have difficulty walking any distance which would be simple for an able bodied person, this is a valuable short cut, alternative routes would add hundreds of metres to my journey from the Drapery to College St.and vice-versa.

I look forward to your reply on the issue of reasons given for complete closure of a public footpath and right of way, I would like to request a copy of the reasons for the proposed order.

APPENDIX 3 - RESPONSES FROM STATUTORY CONSULTEES

Northamptonshire Council Council Highways:

I can confirm that Northamptonshire County Council, acting as Highway Authority, have no objection to the temporary gating of Jeyes Jetty, Northampton by way of a Public Spaces Protection Order.

However, I must point out that this order will not affect the legal status of this route. Northampton Borough Council will be obliged to continue with their duties along Jeyes Jetty, as on any other section of highway within their jurisdiction, such as street cleansing.

Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service

The fire service has attended eight incidents involving fire at Jeyes Jetty, these fires have ranged from discarded rubbish wheelie bins against walls and unknown homeless persons possession's (bedding, Clothing), I have attended Jeyes Jetty several times to carry out inspections regarding the incidents that we have attended,

upon my inspection it was evident that the this alley was being used by the homeless for sleeping and as a toilet as the smell of urine was quite strong and human faeces was evident, there was also discarded drug paraphernalia evident within the confines of Jeyes Jetty.

Jeyes Jetty is a target of anti-behaviour and more recently the location of a stabbing.

There are several fire escapes that exit into to the alley and as well as business wheelie bins and the fear from the fire service is that if a wheelie bin was to be moved against one of these exits and set alight then escape from these exit would be compromised thus endangering life.

It is important that if the alleyway is to be gated that they are of fire escape standard but at the same inaccessible from person trying access the alley from the drapery and College street.

The cost to the service attending these fires £7200.00

This cost only includes first attending appliance and does not include any attending officers.

East Midlands Ambulance Service

Thank you for asking East Midlands Ambulance Service to comment on the consultation on the closure/gating of Jeyes Jetty in Northampton.

2 Operational Paramedics, one a Clinical Operations Manager, The other a Staff Side Lead and Cycle Response Paramedic undertook a local review with one using data available, local knowledge and a site visit.

Both Paramedics identify no new operational risk in directly linked to the closure of Jeyes Jetty, however both identify current risks of removing patients for tight sections of the Jetty, access for equipment to extricate or treat a patient currently provides challenges.

The previous 12 months data states that we responded to >175 calls in the vicinity of Jeyes Jetty mainly in the area of The Drapery or MacDonald's with a high number relating to the Night-time Economy

I would support the closure of Jeyes Jetty, for these main reasons

- difficulty of accessing patients with our equipment.*
- extrication of patients forms the tight sections of the alleyway*

Northamptonshire Police

I am the Neighbourhood Policing Inspector for Northampton and am responsible for Community Policing across the Borough of Northampton.

Part of the role includes overseeing long term problem solving initiatives and linking in with the public and other agencies.

I have held the equivalent position under different titles, covering the Town Centre of Northampton, since March 2008 and have a good working knowledge of Town Centre matters, including those occurring during the Night Time Economy.

An issue of concern that has been raised to the local Police Officers on numerous occasions is Jeyes Jetty, which cuts through from The Drapery to College Street, Northampton.

This has been through previous environmental visual audits undertaken by Crime Prevention Officers and by numerous Police Officers of varying ranks, including CID supervisors, who have investigated serious crimes at the location.

From a policing perspective it is difficult to see what is going on in the alley unless people are directly in front of the entrance. It is dark, relatively narrow and has no way out for anyone who is threatened.

Although individual statistics are difficult to obtain for Jeyes Jetty itself due to the standardised computer recording locations, there have been 257 incidents called into the Force Control Room and 529 occurrences logged onto the Police Recording database from 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2019 for The Drapery. In the same period there have been 15 incidents and 72 occurrences logged for College Street.

From personal knowledge I can say that there have also been incidents of robbery, sexual assaults and serious violence in Jeyes Jetty itself.

Local Officers and PCSO's have also identified the area as an emerging key location for Class "A" Drug dealing, with various Stop Searches having been conducted in the Jetty.

If Jeyes Jetty were no longer accessible to members of the public, I am confident this would have an impact on the incident and crime numbers in the vicinity. It would also increase public safety and reduce the burden on police resources.

As such, from the Policing perspective, I would fully support the gating of the alleyway through the introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order in order to prevent crime and disorder and increase public safety.

Environmental Health and Licensing Manager

I have worked in Environmental Health at Northampton Borough Council for over thirty years and for the last ten years I have been part of the environmental health management team. During the time that I have worked for the Council I have been aware of anti-social behaviour associated with Jeyes Jetty, in particular reports of urination and defaecation and accumulations of litter in the alleyway.

A 2007 report prepared by Northamptonshire Police as part of a proposal to develop a cumulative impact policy notes that "the second largest night time street crime

hotspot in the town was The Drapery and the main crimes were violence and robbery. Many of these crimes occurred in the alleyways leading off The Drapery. Other crimes in these alleyways included urinating in a public place and a murder during this period (2000 – 2007).”

In 2014 /15 a Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny Panel considered the topic of Keep Northampton Tidy. One of the recommendations of the panel was “consider the gating of jetties at night in the town centre that are currently subject to anti-social behaviour.” I provided officer support to this panel and can confirm that Jeyes Jetty was one of the main focus of their discussions on this topic.

Police Crime Prevention Officer

I have been in post since 1994 and in my capacity as the Town Centre Crime Prevention Officer and latterly as the Crime Prevention Design Adviser I have over that time repeatedly visited Jeyes Jetty at the request of local companies, the Community Safety Partnership and latterly the Town Centre Violence Group (now known as the TCTG) to provide advice on ways of gating the space or to recommend ways of enhancing the environment to reduce the anti-social behaviour associated with it. It has always been a place where shop lifters removed tags, where homeless people and intoxicated people urinated or defecated due mostly to its narrow character and lack of town centre CCTV. It is an environment where criminal behaviour will go unnoticed and provides a perfect example of the behaviour described by Skogan in his book ‘Disorder and Decline’

Where disorder is common and surveillance capabilities are minimal criminals will feel their chances of being identified are low and may be confident that no-one will intervene in their affairs. Certain disorders are self-propagating, once they appear they generate more disorder unless they are energetically stamped out. Skogan Disorder and Decline 1992

Gating this alley is a good example of energetically stamping out the behaviour.

CCTV

From a point of view of the CCTV Operators, all though we don’t have a CCTV camera that see’s down the alleyway we do believe a lot of very different issues occur in and around the area and it is our opinion if this alley was closed, it would help alleviate these issues, as well as prevent drug dealing and potentially reduce crime and ASB in that area. Closing it would also force people that have committed offences to take a route that is covered by CCTV and therefore assist the police to identify and track offenders when they are reviewing the footage for incidents that have occurred in other areas of town, but they use this as an escape.

This alley is often used by shoplifters to transfer stolen goods between each other, hide goods whilst they commit further offences and use it to evade security the police, and the CCTV operators tracking them. The CCTV operators have become

familiar with the towns drug dealers, and have (in the past) seen them go in and out of this alley. Again because we cannot see down it we can only assume they are carrying out their deals in the alley. As we are only seeing them meet up with people, go in the alley, come out and go their separate ways, and as we can't see a transaction take place, we are not able to see the deal and so there for we are not able to call upon the police.

When the street drinkers congregate on the benches (during the day) outside Timpson they are also seen to go in and out of the alley during the time they are there, and again use it to relieve themselves. That said it is not just the street drinkers and homeless that use it for a toilet.

APPENDIX 4 – Equality Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessment

Part 1: Screening

When reviewing, planning or providing services Northampton Borough Council needs to assess the impacts on people. Both residents and staff, of how it works - or is planning to – work (in relation to things like disability). It has to take steps to remove/minimise any harm it identifies. It has to help people to participate in its services and public life. “**Equality Impact Assessments**” (EIAs) prompt people to think things through, considering people’s different needs in relation to the law on equalities. The first stage of the process is known as ‘screening’ and is used to come to a decision about whether and why further analysis is – or is not – required. EIAs are published in line with transparency requirements.

A helpful guide to equalities law is available at: www.northampton.gov.uk/equality. A few notes about the laws that need to be considered are included at the end of this document. Helpful questions are provided as prompts throughout the form.

1 Name of policy/activity/project/practice	Public Places Protection Order – Jeyes Jetty
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2. Screening undertaken (please complete as appropriate)	
Director of Service	George Candler
Lead Officer for developing the policy/activity/practice	Vicki Rockall
Other people involved in the screening (this may be people who work for NBC or a related service or people outside NBC)	Legal Services Finance, LGSS Environmental Health & Licensing Manager, NBC

	Environmental Services Manager, NBC Northants Police Cabinet Member for Community Safety, NBC Highways, KIER WSP
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3. Brief description of policy/activity/project/practice: including its main purpose, aims, objectives and projected outcomes, and how these fit in with the wider aims of the organisation.

- A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) allows a local authority to introduce a series of measures into a defined locality.
- The proposed PSPO will allow gating of the highway known as Jeyes Jetty, a hotspot for anti-social behaviour and criminal activities for many years.
- Gating Jeyes Jetty will make it more difficult for offenders to evade the police.
- This is a legal order that can last for up to three years and it will prohibit a number of anti-social behaviour activities in the area including street drinking and fly-tipping.
- If an element of this order is breached, the outcome could be that the individual is issued with a fixed penalty notice for £100 or fined up to a maximum of £1000 if at court.

4 Relevance to Equality and Diversity Duties

A Public Spaces Protection Order is designed to stop all individuals or a specific group of persons committing anti-social behaviour in a public space. This Order allows gating of a highway known as Jeyes Jetty. This highway is currently for pedestrian through access only. There are 2 parallel pedestrian through access routes close by – Gold Street and Swan’s Yard.

If you have indicated there is a negative impact on any group, is that impact:

No – all individuals/sections of the community will be dealt with in the same manner.

Incidents of ASB will continue to be dealt with in line with our equalities framework

Legal?

N/A

Please explain:

5 Evidence Base for Screening

Equality Human Rights Commission

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/resources/case-studies-of-how-organisations-are-using-the-duties/case-studies-equality-impact-assessments/>

Section 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour and Policing Act 2014 requires the Cabinet as decision maker to pay particular regard to rights of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly set out in articles 10 (the right to freedom of expression) and 11 (freedom of assembly and association) of the European Convention on Human Rights in considering the making any such order. The making of the said order is considered to be proportionate and will fulfil a legitimate aim of curbing anti-social behaviour in public places for the benefit of the law abiding majority and hence will not infringe article 11 ECHR.

6 Requirements of the equality duties:

(remember there's a note to remind you what they are at the end of this form and

more detailed information at www.northampton.gov.uk/equality)

Will there be/has there been consultation with all interested parties?

- A 12 week online public consultation via an open access online survey using 'Survey Monkey' Councils social media accounts, the following stakeholders have been consulted with:
 - Businesses adjacent to Jeyes Jetty
 - Councillors
 - Community Safety Partnership
 - Town Centre Task Group
 - Council Officers
 - Northamptonshire Office of Police & Crime Commissioner
 - Northamptonshire Police
 - Northamptonshire County Council
 - Members of the public
 - Local press and media channels
 - Town Centre BID

Are proposed actions necessary and proportionate to the desired outcomes?

Yes/No Public Spaces Protection Order is designed to stop all individuals or a specific group of persons committing anti-social behaviour in a public space

Where appropriate, will there be scope for prompt, independent reviews and appeals against decisions arising from the proposed policy/practice/activity?

Yes/No The implementation of the PSPO can be challenged by any interested

person within 6 weeks of the making of the Order, the challenge is made at the High Court. Anyone who is directly affected by the making of the PSPO can challenge the order

Does the proposed policy/practice/activity have the ability to be tailored to fit different individual circumstances?

Yes/No Public Spaces Protection Orders provide the opportunity to address specific problems in specific areas and create an ‘Order’ to enable appropriate and proportionate action to be taken.

Where appropriate, can the policy/practice/activity exceed the minimum legal equality and human rights requirements, rather than merely complying with them?

The making of the said order is considered to be proportionate and will fulfil a legitimate aim of curbing anti-social behaviour in public places for the benefit of the law abiding majority and hence will not infringe article 11 ECHR.

From the evidence you have and strategic thinking, what are the key risks (the harm or ‘adverse impacts’) and opportunities (benefits and opportunities to promote equality) this policy/practice/activity might present?

	Risks (Negative)	Opportunities (Positive)
Race		There is no evidence that the ‘Order’ will impact on any specific person based on their race
Disability	Mental Health issues and physical disability will be taken into account by officers. The restriction on the consumption of alcohol	The ‘Order’ may well have the opposite effect and encourage those that are drug/alcohol dependant to engage with the support that is available and this in

	could also affect those that are alcohol dependant. The proposed 'Order' will not bring in any new powers in this area and will simply replace the existing Designated Public Spaces Protection Order.	turn will deliver health benefits.
Gender or Gender Identity/Gender Assignment		There is no evidence that the 'Order' will impact on any specific person based on their gender
Pregnancy and Maternity (including breastfeeding)		There is no evidence that the 'Order' will impact on any specific person based on pregnancy or maternity. If required pregnant women will be referred into safeguarding mechanisms
Sexual Orientation		There is no evidence that the 'Order' will impact on any specific person based on their sexual orientation
Age (including children, youth, midlife and older people)		Young people will be referred into safeguarding mechanisms. In some cases parent/guardian of under 16's will be spoken to
Religion, Faith and Belief		There is no evidence that the 'Order' will impact on any specific person based on their beliefs or religion

Human Rights	Some people may feel the consultation process will provide the opportunity to capture their views.	The 'Order' has been proposed due to the volume of incidents that are occurring that are having a significant impact on the peoples quality of life. The introduction of this 'Order' will have a positive impact on residents, businesses, and visitors to the town.
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7 Proportionality

All cases will be treated on an individual basis, and any decisions reached will be within existing legislative guidelines. Use of the PSPO powers and advice given will be recorded in pocket note books and on ECIN's data base. The information will be analysed to determine whether the implementation of the powers has had a disproportionate effect upon the equality factors.

Enforcement action will always be seen as a last resort. Through the multi-agency groups and individual case management, support and intervention will continue to be offered.

8 Decision

Set out the rationale for deciding whether or not to proceed to full impact assessment

Full Equality Impact Assessment is not required as all sections of the community are treated fairly. The proposed restrictions will impact positively on people whose protective characteristics are impacted upon by the anti-social behaviour the order is designed to address

Date of Decision:

We judge that a full impact assessment is not necessary since there are no identified groups affected by these changes.

1. Equality Duties to be taken into account in this screening include:

Prohibited Conduct under The Equality Act 2010 including:

Direct discrimination (including by association and perception e.g. carers); Indirect discrimination; Pregnancy and maternity discrimination; Harassment; third party harassment; discrimination arising from disability.

Public Sector Duties (Section 149) of the Equality Act 2010 for NBC and services provided on its behalf: (due to be effective from 4 April 2011)

*NBC and services providing public functions must in providing services have due regard to the need to: **eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different groups.** ‘Positive action’ permits proportionate action to overcome disadvantage, meet needs and tackle under-representation.*

Rights apply to people in terms of their “Protected Characteristics”:

Age; Gender; Gender Assignment; Sexual Orientation; Disability; Race; Religion and Belief; Pregnancy; Maternity. But Marriage and Civil Partnership do not apply to the public sector duties.

Duty to “advance equality of opportunity”:

The need, when reviewing, planning or providing services/policies/practices to assess the impacts of services on people in relation to their ‘protected characteristics’, take steps to remove/minimise any negative impacts identified and help everyone to participate in our services and public life.

Equality Impact Assessments remain best practice to be used. Sometimes **people have particular needs** e.g. due to gender, race, faith or disability that need to be addressed, not ignored. NBC must have due regard to the **duty to make reasonable adjustments** for people with disabilities. NBC must **encourage people who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life** or any other activity in which their participation is too low.

Duty to ‘foster good relations between people’

*This means having due regard to the need to **tackle prejudice** (e.g. where people are picked on or stereotyped by customers or colleagues because of their ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, etc) and **promote understanding**.*

Lawful Exceptions to general rules: can happen where action is proportionate to achieve a legitimate aim and not otherwise prohibited by anything under the Equality Act 2010. There are some special situations (see Ch 12 and 13 of the Equality Act 2010 Statutory Code of Practice – Services, Public Functions and Associations).

2. National Adult Autism Strategy (Autism Act 2009; statutory guidelines) including:

3. to improve how services identify and meet needs of adults with autism and their families.

4. Human Rights include:

5. *Rights under the European Convention include not to be subjected to degrading **treatment**; **right to a fair trial** (civil and criminal issues); **right to privacy** (subject to certain exceptions e.g. national security/public safety, or certain other specific situations); **freedom of conscience** (including religion and belief and rights to manifest these limited only by law and as necessary for public safety, public order, protection of rights of others and other specified situations); **freedom of expression** (subject to certain exceptions); **freedom of peaceful assembly and to join trade unions** (subject to certain exceptions); **right not to be subject to unlawful discrimination** (e.g. sex, race, colour, language, religion, political opinion, national or social origin); **right to peaceful enjoyment of own possessions** (subject to certain exceptions e.g. to secure payment of taxes or other contributions or penalties); **right to an education**; **right to hold free elections by secret ballot**. The European Convention is given effect in UK law by the Human Rights Act 1998.*