

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX E

Name of activity:	Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Dog Controls		Date Completed:	2nd September 2020			
Directorate / Division responsible for activity:	Technical Services Licensing		Lead Officer:	Roger Wood			
Existing Activity		<input type="checkbox"/>	New / Proposed Activity		<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing / Updated Activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

What are the aims / main purposes of the activity?

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced Public Spaces Protection Orders which allow local authorities to adopt measures for defined areas to combat anti-social behaviour. In October 2017 the existing Dog Controls transferred into PSPOs in Arun for a period of 3 years. It is incumbent on the Council to review the Orders and determine whether they should be extended, amended or withdrawn.

The main aim of the current PSPOs is to encourage responsible dog ownership whilst balancing the needs of dog owners and non-dog owners.

The proposed PSPOs are based on the existing controls (which have developed from byelaws over a period of 30 years) with minor amendments and based upon feedback from the public, ADC officers and their practical experiences in managing land and enforcement issues in relation to dog controls.

What are the main actions and processes involved?

Legislation requires the Council to consult on the proposed restrictions and outline the behaviours that the PSPO aims to tackle. Consultation must be reasonable and should involve local people and organisations that may be affected. Consultation must be open and transparent and include all parties that the Council thinks are appropriate. Responses and feedback from the consultation have been fully considered when formulating the final proposals and report for Cabinet.

Who is intended to benefit & who are the main stakeholders?

The main stakeholders include all residents, visitors, local traders and businesses.

Have you already consulted on / researched the activity?

Public consultation has been undertaken and ran from 6th July 2020 to 17th August 2020. The consultation survey was published via the Council's website and the exercise was publicised on social media and through a local and regional press release. In total, 1036 responses were received from the public. In addition to the wider communication the public consultation was specifically brought to the attention of statutory and non-statutory bodies including Sussex Police, Police and Crime Commissioner, West Sussex County Council, town and parish councils.

Residents, community representatives, statutory and non-statutory partners and interested local organisations including veterinary practices and dog training groups had a reasonable opportunity to consider the draft proposals as contained in the consultation and express their views.

Impact on people with a protected characteristic (What is the potential impact of the activity? Are the impacts high, medium or low?)		
Protected characteristics / groups	Is there an impact (Yes / No)	If Yes, what is it and identify whether it is positive or negative
Age (older / younger people, children)	No	The treatment and process of applying a PSPO Dog Controls is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all regardless of age.
Disability (people with physical / sensory impairment or mental disability)	Yes	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by a disability; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is, solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all. However, access will be improved for individuals with limited mobility and responsible for a dog, wanting to use the ramp to access the beach and promenade at Bognor Regis Yacht Club. Disabilities will be considered when providing signage for the PSPOs to ensure clarity.
Gender reassignment (the process of transitioning from one gender to another.)	No	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by gender reassignment; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all.
Marriage & civil partnership (Marriage is defined as a 'union between a man and a woman'. Civil partnerships are legally recognized for same-sex couples)	No	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by marital or partnership status ; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all.
Pregnancy & maternity (Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant & maternity refers to the period after the birth)	No	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by marital or partnership status ; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all.
Race (ethnicity, colour, nationality or national origins & including gypsies, travellers, refugees & asylum seekers)	No	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by marital or partnership status ; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all. Signage for the PSPOs will be clear, comprehensive and designed to ensure clarity of requirements regardless of ability to read English.

Religion & belief (religious faith or other group with a recognised belief system)	No	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by marital or partnership status ; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all.
Sex (male / female)	No	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by marital or partnership status ; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all.
Sexual orientation (lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual)	No	Arun District Council does not expect enforcement officer's actions to be influenced by marital or partnership status ; the treatment and process of applying a PSPO is solely focused on the restricted activities and will be the same for all.
Whilst Socio economic disadvantage that people may face is not a protected characteristic; the potential impact on this group should be also considered	Yes	The ability to comply with Orders is not dependent on socio economic factors. Persons issued with a fixed penalty notice and being at a socio economic disadvantage have the option not to pay the FPN and allow a Magistrate to consider guilt and appropriate sentence/financial penalty taking into account a person's circumstances means to pay

What evidence has been used to assess the likely impacts?
Ongoing feedback from the public to the existing Dog Controls, responses and comments to the Public Consultation on the proposed PSPO Dog Controls and from ADC officers and their practical experiences in managing land and enforcement issues in relation to dog controls

Decision following initial assessment			
Continue with existing or introduce new / planned activity	Yes	Amend activity based on identified actions	No

Action Plan			
Impact identified	Action required	Lead Officer	Deadline

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Monitoring & Review	
Date of last review or Impact Assessment:	
Date of next 12 month review:	
Date of next 3 year Impact Assessment (from the date of this EIA):	

Date EIA completed:	2nd September 2020
Signed by Person Completing:	R WOOD