



Oversight and Governance

Chief Executive's Department
Plymouth City Council
Ballard House
Plymouth PL1 3BJ

Please ask for Jamie Sheldon
T 01752 668000
E democraticservices@plymouth.gov.uk
www.plymouth.gov.uk
Published 29 August 2025

CABINET

Monday 8 September 2025
2.00 pm
Council House, Plymouth

Members:

Councillor Evans OBE, Chair

Councillor Laing, Vice Chair

Councillors Aspinall, Briars-Delve, Dann, Haydon, Lowry, Penberthy, Cresswell and Stephens.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

This meeting will be webcast and available on-line after the meeting. By entering the Council Chamber, councillors are consenting to being filmed during the meeting and to the use of the recording for the webcast.

The Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with authority's published policy.

You can watch any of our webcast meetings on [YouTube](#). For further information on attending Council meetings and how to engage in the democratic process please follow this link - [Get Involved](#)

Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

Cabinet

Agenda

Part I (Public Meeting)

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence submitted by Cabinet Members.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cabinet Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

3. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 22)

To sign and confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2025.

4. Questions from the Public

To receive questions from the public in accordance with the Constitution.

Questions, of no longer than 50 words, can be submitted to the Democratic Support Unit, Plymouth City Council, Ballard House, Plymouth, PL1 3BJ, or email to democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk. Any questions must be received at least five clear working days before the date of the meeting.

5. Chair's Urgent Business

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

Items for decision

6. **Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for the management of anti-social behaviour in designated Plymouth City Council Car parks:** (Pages 23 - 52)

Items for discussion

7. **Corporate Plan Monitoring Report - Quarter four of 2024/25:** (To Follow)

Items for noting

8. **Leader's Announcements:**

9. Cabinet Member Updates:

10. LGA Update:

This page is intentionally left blank

Cabinet

Monday 11 August 2025

PRESENT:

Councillor Evans OBE, in the Chair.

Councillor Laing, Vice Chair.

Councillors Aspinall, Briars-Delve, Dann, Haydon, Lowry, Penberthy, Cresswell and Stephens.

Also in attendance: Paul Barnard (Service Director for Strategic Planning and Transport), Helen Bone (Homes England), Glenn Caplin-Grey (Strategic Director for Growth), Hannah Chandler-Whiting (Democratic Advisor), Alison Critchfield (Assistant Head of Legal Services), David Draffan (Service Director for Economic Development), David Haley (Director of Children's Services), Alan Hocking (Commissioning Officer), Tracey Lee (Chief Executive), Colette McMullen (Babcock), Cliff Morgan (Strategic Lead for Provision and Delivery), Gill Nicholson (Head of Innovation and Delivery), Amanda Ratsey (Head of Economy and Investment), Jamie Sheldon (Senior Governance Advisor), Ian Trisk-Grove (Service Director for Finance), Gary Walbridge (Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities) and Joe Wharton (Homes England).

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 4.38 pm.

Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at www.plymouth.gov.uk. At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

14. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

15. **Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting held on 07 July 2025 were agreed as a correct record.

16. **Questions from the Public**

There were no questions from members of the public.

17. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of chair's urgent business.

18. **Defence Partnership and City Centre Regeneration Programme Update**

Councillor Evans OBE (The Leader of the Council) introduced the item to Cabinet and highlighted the following points:

- a) As part of the economic plan, there would be a £4.4 billion investment in defence for the City which would generate 7,000 new jobs for the Dockyard alone. There would be 25,000 more job opportunities in the size of Plymouth's workforce by 2035;
- b) A new industrial strategy which featured Plymouth as a case study;
- c) 2,000 Babcock employees would relocate to the City Centre;
- d) Plymouth was announced as the National Centre for marine autonomy;
- e) New businesses were arriving in the City such as Helsing;
- f) There had been Memorandum of Understanding with Homes England for 10,000 new homes to be built in the City Centre;
- g) The Council received £519 million of investment in strategic transport infrastructure as well as over £300 million of investment in public transport altogether;
- h) There was a £40 million public investment in the Civic Centre, creating a brand-new City College campus focusing on blue and green skills;
- i) There was significant interest in Plymouth's housing at UKREIIF;
- j) The celebration of the opening of the first phase of the Armada Way scheme;
- k) The development of Plymouth's health hub with the start of the CDC;
- l) Major upgrades by the Freeport, with £73 million investment;
- m) A £3 billion investment in Plymouth's NHS, going towards Derriford Hospital;
- n) The Growth Alliance was established to make sure Plymouth maximised the opportunity given by government. It would support all Plymouth businesses to benefit, grow and attract new levels of inward investment. It would become a world-class centre for marine autonomy ensuring Plymouth children got the best jobs with first class education. It would ensure Plymouth was able to attract the very best talent and make sure Plymouth drove social value and good growth. Plymouth would have the very best transport and accessibility as well as promoting the city not only nationally but globally.
- o) The new defence investment was an opportunity to reimagine the city centre and create an amazing destination. Plymouth would create new homes for its new workforce and use this as the catalyst to regenerate the city centre;
- p) There was new investment into shopping and leisure at the Barcode and Drake Circus;
- q) There had been major investment from the university at Inter City Place;
- r) There had been a new City Centre Arts University;

- s) There had been significant investment into high quality public realm which was on-going;
- t) The celebration of The Box museum received one million visitors;
- u) Housing in the city centre would be underpinned by the growing workforce based there over the next 50 years;
- v) Work would begin on detail planning and place making. Technical studies would be done dealing with transport, accessibility, utilities, net zero, repurposing buildings and getting the housing mix right. Plymouth would need public engagement to drive buy-in and civic pride;
- w) The council would work to formalise its partnerships and securing additional resources into the future;
- x) The council was engaging the government's new towns taskforce to ensure future success.

Collette McMullen (Skills Director at Babcock International Group) highlighted the following points:

- y) The commitment of decades of partnership with Babcock and Plymouth City Council;
- z) There was a long term surety of work in the dockyard for decades into the future;
- aa) As a leading UK sovereign company, Babcock delivered with employment and growth, with the investment in skills development and regeneration of local communities;
- bb) Dockyard operations would be optimised to help deliver better for customers and for the nation as well as Plymouth;
- cc) For engineering and nuclear skills development, Babcock were at the forefront of the nationally funded skills plan. Babcock worked across the region with higher and further education including independent training providers, to ensure that they were training the right skills. Leading on nuclear skills had led Babcock to being at the forefront and able to take on pilot schemes that were on offer, develop courses and to support colleges;
- dd) Off-site facilities would be developed such as:
 - I. An advanced manufacturing facility;
 - II. An integrated logistics hub.
 - III. Assisting Plymouth in removing poverty.

- ee) Babcock was looking to relocate 2,000 employees from the dockyard into the city centre which was part of their commitment to the regeneration of the city;
- ff) Babcock would develop the projects in the spirit of partnership and in the partnership commitments that had been made;
- gg) Babcock referenced the additional workforce they required for defence and there was a need to attract and retain.

Joe Wharton (Assistant Director, Homes England), supported by Helen Bone (Regional Head MPP, Homes England) discussed the following points:

- hh) Tangible steps were being made from internal investment and external investment, facilitating key projects in the City Centre;
- ii) Thanks were given to local businesses and authorities for their funding and partnership towards the plan;
- jj) Work was underway with the Economic Development team to develop the city living framework scope that would rewire the city;
- kk) Homes England would continue to endorse and promote Plymouth beyond the city whilst bringing future funding into the city;
- ll) Homes England were hosting the Inaugural Southwest Housing Construction Conference in September 2025 which would tell the story of the Southwest's contribution to the UK growth mission.

Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) highlighted the following points:

- mm) At the time of when Councillor Lowry worked at the dockyard at the age of 16, there were around 20,000 employees. Within 10 years, the number reduced to 5,000 employees. There was an opportunity for Babcock to grow when there was an expansion of the submarine facilities, but the net benefit for Plymouth did not happen;
- nn) As part of the plan, Babcock would again grow their facilities and it was exciting to hear that Plymouth would benefit from the building work, training and long term opportunities for young people;
- oo) Plymouth had invested heavily in its high street which was showing dividend with the number of empty properties being bought;
- pp) Plymouth had approximately 800 people living in the city centre but this needed to expand to 8,000 people for a city centre of Plymouth's size.

Councillor Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing Cooperative Development and Communities and Chair of Child Poverty Working Group) highlighted the following points:

- qq) The city of Plymouth and the dockyard were inextricably linked and the success of one was dependent on the success of the other;
- rr) Quality of life and housing were essential to living within the City;
- ss) Plymouth's City Centre was densely populated pre-war and what was created was a central business district but one that did not continue to develop over the years;
- tt) There will be focus on housing towards Brownfield sites in the St Peter and the Waterfront ward;
- uu) Housing in walkable areas was paramount;
- vv) Working with Plymouth Community Homes would be key;
- ww) The City regeneration is key for future generations, similarly to the post-war development;
- xx) The redevelopment of the civic centre was important as Plymouth would be creating a new marketplace with a whole new set of people living in a different way in the centre of Plymouth.

Tracey Lee (Chief Executive) highlighted the following points:

- yy) It had been identified after liaising with government officials and ministers for many years, that the gap to restructuring and reinventing the City Centre is with a housing offer;
- zz) The Growth alliance not only needed to make sure there was sufficient housing for defence jobs but also needed to move forward with business innovation and the support for business;
- aaa) The work around Defence with Babcock and the Ministry of Defence was essential but also linked closely with businesses in the city who were expanding the work they did on marine autonomy, marine engineering, thinking about the future and future technologies, future industries and businesses that Plymouth needed;
- bbb) Tracey Lee (Chief Executive) and Councillor Evans OBE (The Leader of the Council) attended a Devonport open day recently, where children learned about the docks and the initiatives undertaken now would provide jobs for the children in the city into the future;
- ccc) The need for a world-class education system to ensure access to high-quality and well-paid jobs in the City;
- ddd) The transport system would need to be reliable for 2050 and beyond;
- eee) The partnership would bring this all together ensuring the upskilling of people who were in work and supporting those not in work to find work;

- fff) The collaboration with colleagues in Cornwall, Devon and Torbay was important as the endeavour was a regional one and Plymouth's reach went beyond city boundaries.

The Cabinet agreed to:

1. Endorse the partnership working with the MoD, MHCLG and Babcock as set out in the report;
2. To note the MOU to progress our ambition to deliver a new town within the City, supporting 10,000 new homes;
3. To note the engagement by the City Council with the new town's task force, call for evidence and to endorse further discussions with the government;
4. To accept up to £1 million pounds of external funding for the procurement of technical studies and master planning work, as set out in the report and delegate the award of contracts to the Strategic Director of growth.

19. **Modern Slavery Statement 2024/25**

Councillor Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities) introduced the item and highlighted the following points:

- a) In 2018 Plymouth signed the collective party's modern slavery charter. Each year since 2018, a report had been taken to Cabinet to talk about the work done and work to be done;
- b) Modern slavery was a largely hidden crime and Plymouth had relatively low levels of this occurring in the city;
- c) The council would continue to look at its own working practices, procurement and supply chains to continue to combat modern day slavery;
- d) Vigilance within communities was essential to ending modern day slavery and if anyone had any concerns they needed to report to the Police in order for it to be tackled.

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council) added:

- e) The Safeguarding Assurance Board heard of two harrowing reports of modern slavery and how it manifested itself and how it kept itself hidden.

The Cabinet agreed to:

1. Note the progress made on the delivery of the modern slavery statement and the next steps required to further tackle modern slavery;
2. The updated modern slavery statement.

20. **Finance Monitoring Report Q1**

Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) introduced the item supported by Ian Trisk-Grove (Service Director for Finance) and highlighted the following points:

- a) From April, May and June, there was a predicted overspend of £2.6 million against an overall approved revenue budget of £253 million. Work would be undertaken by the council to reduce the variance to nil;
- b) Children's directorate had a pressure of £418,000 due to an increase in the number of placements in the independent sector;
- c) The number of unregistered placements had risen to nine, which was two above the planed figure and had given the council a variance of £697,000, associated with the provision of short breaks;
- d) Customer services and corporate directories are forecasting a variance of £1.557 million. This was largely due to undertaking a number of surveys within the Facilities Management department and additional work needing to be carried out;
- e) The savings for 2025/26 were in the region of approximately £10 million;
- f) The savings for the first three months totalled £4.7 million;
- g) Children, Adults, SEND and homelessness consumed 83% of the Council's budgets;
- h) The capital programme had seen a net increase of £38.2 million during quarter one due to funds going towards the Civic Centre re-development, with the addition of grant funding from government and Homes England. There has been a £45 million allocation in the capital programme from grants to undertake those works;
- i) £5.5 million from Plymouth and South Devon Freeport was given to the Council as a grant, to undertake the Millbay terminal re-development.

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council) added:

- j) The cabinet would continue to keep downward pressure on the council spending no matter how challenging it was;
- k) Children's services was a demand led service that sometimes couldn't be controlled but the department was working hard to keep the pressure on their budget to a minimum;
- l) The quality of the work done on the ferry terminal in Millbay was to a good standard and was much more welcoming as a departure and arrival zone for Plymouth.

Councillor Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change) provided a net-zero update and highlighted the following points:

- m) Some of the capital programme funds had gone towards freight turnaround, a green way of doing export;
- n) A partnership had been made with Brittany Ferries and Associated British Ports, so that boats were not being reliant on fossil fuels, they could do so on electric energy instead.

The Cabinet agreed to:

- I. Note the forecast revenue monitoring position;
- 2. Note the overall capital budget;
- 3. Note the performance against credential indicators for quarter one.

21. **Contract award for the provision of Community Equipment services**

Councillor Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care), supported by Gill Nicholson (Head of Innovation & Delivery) and Alan Hockings (Commissioning Officer, Integrated Commissioning) introduced the item and highlighted the following points:

- a) That Cabinet recommends awarding a 3.25 year contract to Milbrook Healthcare limited for the delivery of Plymouth community equipment service following the liquidation of the previous provider NRS Healthcare Limited;
- b) NRS Healthcare Limited (NRS) was awarded the contract in 2022 through a competitive tendering process with the agreement intended to run until January 2029 subject to all available contract extensions;
- c) In June 2025, Plymouth City Council was notified along with 40 other contracting authorities, of NRS healthcare's unstable financial position and the risk of insolvency by the 31st July 2025;
- d) Although NRS proposed a recovery plan, it required unanimous support from all the contracting authorities, and was not considered viable for a long-term solution;
- e) The NRS contract provided and maintained equipment and minor adaptations that were critical in helping people maintain independence and supporting carers in their valued role;
- f) Council officers began exploring alternative arrangements for the service, including:
 - I. Compliant procurement options;
 - II. The possibility of an emergency response;
 - III. To ensure continuity of care;
 - IV. To reduce disruption to local services and individuals.

- g) A short term emergency contract was put in place with Millbrook Healthcare, which provided the supply of essential equipment during a two month period;
- h) The proposed long-term contract with Millbrook Healthcare would restore the service to its intended standards and procure a new contract for February 2029;
- i) The service provided equipment relating to prescribed clinical need to support people within their own homes, and this included equipment such as:
 - I. Beds
 - II. Mattresses
 - III. Mobility Aids
- j) Referrals to the service were made from prescribing organisations such as:
 - I. Livewell Southwest
 - II. University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust
 - III. St. Luke's Hospice
 - IV. Practice Plus Group Hospitals
- k) The contract for Plymouth included the delivery and maintenance of equipment, and returned equipment and supported 17,000 people across Plymouth each year;
- l) The key service objectives for CES were:
 - I. To provide services that were safe, sustainable, cost efficient and effective for the benefit of all service users;
 - II. To contribute to the prevention of inappropriate hospital emissions;
 - III. To reduce the use of domiciliary care, care home placements, residential children's placements through the provision of timely and safe community equipment and minor adaptations;
 - IV. To support safe and timely hospital discharge;
 - V. To reduce the number of separate visits to individual service users within their homes;
 - VI. Offering coordinated holistic services delivered by multi-skilled workforces;
 - VII. To support carers and prevent carer breakdown;
 - VIII. To support end of life with the individuals, in their chosen environment;
 - IX. To provide a service in a manner that meets the principles of best value, including and not limited to the value of money;
 - X. The equipment being issued following assessment by the needs of a clinician would be loaned to the service user for the duration of their clinical need;

- XI. Providing adults and children a vital gateway to growth, development, independence, dignity and well-being within the community;
 - XII. It was proposed that the Plymouth Community Equipment Service contract would be passed to Millbrook Healthcare under section 41 of the Procurement Act 2023 and schedule 5 direct award justification for urgency;
 - XIII. The proposed contract would run for 3.25 years, allowing time to restore the service standards and prepare the full procurement process by February 2029;
 - XIV. The estimated annual spend was around £2.8 million pounds with a total contract value of £9.1 million;
 - XV. The next steps were to publish the required transparency notices under the Procurement Act 2023.
- m) Residents were urged to return any unused or old equipment so it could be re-used and re-purposed.

The Cabinet agreed to:

- I. Direct award a new contract for the provision of community equipment services to Millbrook Healthcare from 01 October 2025 until 31 January 2029.

22. **Meadow View Update**

Councillor Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) introduced the item and highlighted the following points:

- a) Meadow View was the Council's new day and respite care service for adults with learning difficulties and complex needs. Once complete, the service would provide a day service for more than 60 adults, as well as overnight respite care in seven bedrooms and seven self-contained apartments;
- b) Construction had now begun on site, which was located at the edge of Central Park, close to main bus services and offering easy access to the park;
- c) The site would offer access to disability bikes, as well as specially designed changing spaces and toilet facilities;
- d) PCC had worked closely with users, families, staff and the public to ensure the design reflected people's needs, providing a space to build independent skills and connect with others;
- e) The new building would feature a broad range of appropriately designed facilities, including:
 - i. Art and craft spaces;
 - ii. Sensory gardens;

- iii. Purpose-built sensory rooms;
 - iv. Accessible cycle hub.
- f) The new building has been designed to support the Council's ambition to reduce carbon emissions and would incorporate efficiency measures including:
- i. Solar wind systems;
 - ii. Air source heating;
 - iii. Triple glazing;
 - iv. Biodiversity of the site.

Councillor Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change) added:

- g) It was challenging to minimise carbon impacts of such buildings due to the complex needs of the residents using the services. To mitigate this, the building would be comprised of a timber frame, which was fundamental for carbon cutting;
- h) The building would be heated throughout by air source heat pumps, covered with solar PV, and utilise efficient technology throughout, including LED lights and low water sanitary systems;
- i) Due to its central location, the site would make sustainable travel easier for residents, staff and families, enabling electric buses to pass directly outside. The site would also feature new EV charging facilities and a cycle hub, offering accessible bikes;
- j) New planting in the area would include:
- i. Native hedgerows
 - ii. Wild flowers
 - iii. Ornamental shrubs
 - iv. Raised beds
 - v. 55 new trees, ranging from Silver Birch to Holm Oak.

Cliff Morgan (Strategic Lead for Provision & Delivery, Adult Social Care) added:

- k) The project was the culmination of six years of design and planning work;
- l) Following engagement with clients, staff and families, it was recognised that existing complex needs facilities required greater accessibility. The new purpose built facility was located in the heart of a community in the city centre, and was specifically designed to maximise accessibility;
- m) Following a £13 million investment, the modern, purpose built facility would provide daytime services and activities for more than 60 people with learning disabilities and complex needs;
- n) Funding had been secured from the Climate Emergency Investment Fund to future proof the building with energy efficient and carbon mitigating materials and technologies;

- o) The building would feature seven self-contained apartments providing planned short breaks and emergency accommodation. The service would focus on person-centred care, education, and increased opportunities to support independent living skills, becoming a centre of excellence for care and support;
- p) The building would include a pottery room and a kiln, allowing service users to produce and sell high standard pottery crafts at local markets. This helped integrate service users into the wider community;
- q) While it was recognised nationally that there was a lack of appropriate changing spaces for people with physical disabilities, the Meadow View project would create seven new changing facilities, with one made accessible to members of the public;
- r) It was estimated that the service would be operational in the new facility by summer 2026. A time-lapse camera had been established to enable patients, families and the public to follow the build, and updates were available on the Council's website.

(A video was played at this point)

The Cabinet agreed to note the report.

23. **Ofsted Focused Visit – Review of Arrangements for Care Leavers**

Councillor Laing (Deputy Leader of the Council, and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications), introduced the item and highlighted the following points:

- a) As part of the Ofsted inspection framework, a visit was made on the 01 and 02 July 2025, to Plymouth's Children's Services;
- b) The visit reviewed the Council's arrangements for care leavers and the progress that had been made since the previous inspection which took place in January 2024;
- c) The Care Leavers team were supporting 286 young people, aged 18 to 24. Each young person had an allocated personal advisor (PA);
- d) The team jointly worked with social workers a further 131 children in care, aged 16 or 17;
- e) The team of personal advisors and social workers supported the young people with all aspects of their lives as they navigated their pathway from childhood to adulthood;
- f) Ofsted reported that Plymouth City Council was an ambitious corporate parent;
- g) Ofsted concluded that Plymouth City Council knew their service well and noted that many improvements had been made for our care experienced young people since the previous inspection;

- h) As part of Ofsted's visit inspectors spoke to a number of care experienced young people who all told them how much they valued their personal advisors and described them as committed individuals who stayed alongside them no matter what, who were kind, who were responsive and who were tenacious;
- i) The personal advisors were strong advocates for their young people;
- j) Ofsted inspectors highlighted two areas where improvement was needed, they are:
 - I. Accommodation pathways: Some young people were living in bed and breakfast accommodation for too long and;
 - II. Quality of supervision and management.
- k) The next full inspection will be in the Spring/Summer of 2027.

David Haley (Director of Children's Services) added:

- l) The commitment of elected members and the whole council to our care experienced young people which was a credit to the outcomes achieved;
- m) Ofsted recognised that despite Plymouth's geography and some care leavers being in other parts of the country including asylum seeking children, the level of service was equally as good from Plymouth City Council;
- n) Other local authorities were approaching Plymouth in relation to treating care experience as a protected characteristic;

The Cabinet agreed to:

- 1. To note the published Ofsted report;
- 2. To endorse that all areas for improvement and further development are being incorporated into the Care Leavers Service Plan and monitored through Corporate Parenting Operational Managers Group (monthly) and Corporate Parenting Board (Quarterly).

24. **Leader's Announcements**

Councillor Evans OBE (The Leader of the Council) made the following announcements:

- a) Plymouth had featured in an article in the Financial Times, citing a 'booming university and revised defence industry puts Plymouth on the map', 'a city for the 21st Century' and referencing ongoing cultural place-making work, including The Box;
- b) Councillors had recently attended a celebratory opening event at Tinside Lido following the improvement works. The scheme had delivered an amazing new event space with some of the best views in Plymouth, alongside a new kitchen and bar facility, a new public sun terrace and coffee pod, a revamped youth hub and learning space with changing facilities, and improved public accessibility;

- c) Guest attendances at the opening event had included representatives from the National Lottery, the Levelling Up Fund (MHCLG) and Youth Investment Fund, as well as Lewis Pugh (UN Ambassador of the Oceans). Councillor Evans OBE had been given the privilege of unveiling two plaques;
- d) The refurbished spaces were previously derelict or unused, and had now been unlocked to celebrate heritage, with generated income supporting the National Marine Park;
- e) All businesses in Plymouth were encouraged to consider the space for their business meetings and events;
- f) Thanks were given to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for their investment, and to all participants in the project for their hard work;
- g) Similar heritage works were ongoing at the Mountbatten Centre and the Mount Edgumbe Garden Battery.
- h) The National Marine Park annual report had been published, highlighting the following statistics from the first year of the project:
 - i. 970 students had visited the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park in its first year;
 - ii. 100% of teachers would 'Our Sea' in their school programme;
 - iii. The equivalent of £116,000 had been contributed through voluntary hours;
 - iv. 328 volunteer hours had been dedicated to beach cleans alone;
 - v. 8,700 people were engaged through the 'Meet the Marine Park' events;
 - vi. 25,000 visitors had attended Sea Fest;
 - vii. 340,000 people were reached on social media;
 - viii. 6 million people viewed Country File's TV episode, showcasing the National Marine Park;
 - ix. £5 million of match funding had recently been secured.

25. **Cabinet Member Updates**

Councillor Haydon (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Events, Cemeteries and Crematoria) introduced the item and provided the following updates:

- a) The 12 August 2025 would mark the first anniversary of the opening of the Plymouth Park Crematorium;

- b) The Park were now supporting bereaved families across Plymouth, Cornwall and the South Hams. The Park had now delivered just over 2,400 cremations, the function rooms had delivered 380 wakes, and the public cafe had seen steady increase in business;
- c) The British Firework championship would be returning to Plymouth on the 13-14 August 2025. The event would feature entertainment, live music and fireworks displays. Thanks were given to the Association of British Ports who were sponsoring the event for the second consecutive year. Plymouth Citybus would be sponsoring the Young Person's Choice Award;
- d) Friday the 15 August 2025 was the 80th anniversary of VJ Day, and would be marked by a parade from St. Andrews Church to the Crowne Plaza. The parade was organised by the Far East Prisoners of War Group;
- e) The West End Carnival would be held on 23 August 2025 offering a full programme of events and free entertainment;
- f) From the 20 August 2025, Santander would be offering a banking service at Plympton Library every Wednesday. This formed part of ongoing partnership work to transform libraries into community hubs;
- g) Libraries continued to work closely with families and wellbeing hubs across the city. At Plymstock Library, a Satellite Family Hub had been launched with support from Bernado's charity, and progress was ongoing with Estover and North Prospect libraries.

Councillor Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change) provided the following updates:

- h) Plymouth City Council, in partnership with Plymouth and South Devon Community Forrest, Transforming Plymouth Together, and Food Plymouth, had developed a DEFRA Grant funded, multi-faith project, to plant trees in city churchyards. The concept had originated from a city resident, who had identified that city churchyards were well suited for new trees, situated in the heart of communities, with ample green space;
- i) Local churches, mosques, synagogues and other places of worship were all encouraged to submit suggestions for the planting pipeline for Winter 2025. Thanks were given to all partners involved for their collaboration, with similar projects resulting in over 50,000 new trees planted in recent years across Plymouth;
- j) Poole Farm had recently hosted the 'Wild and Well' event, promoting how nature connection could boost children's wellbeing. Over 300 people attended the event, as well as 24 stalls hosted by local groups including Devon Wildlife Trust, Food Plymouth, the National Marine Park and the Local Devon Moth Group;
- k) Thanks were given to the staff and volunteers who helped organise and run the event. The project encapsulated the work being developed under the Plymouth Plan

for Nature and People, demonstrating empowered volunteers, connected communities, and young people learning green skills and boosting their wellbeing;

Councillor Cresswell (Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships) provided the following updates:

- l) The national campaign for 'attendance' would be launched in September 2025. As a pilot location, Plymouth were working in partnership with the Department for Education (DfE) to help shape the national attendance campaign, which sought to improve attendance and inclusion across the city's schools;
- m) The DfE was working closely with families to ensure appropriate messaging, and focussed on parents and children who were at risk of becoming permanently absent from school;
- n) A city-wide attendance survey had been completed by 1,500 children and young people and 2,200 parents. The DfE was using these early research findings to inform the campaign, and would share the research with the national and international research space once the campaign had concluded;
- o) Supported internships for SEND young people continued to grow, and had reached 67. For the second consecutive year, 100% of the students undertaking supported internships at Discovery College had received an offer of paid employment;
- p) Plymouth had been shortlisted for further nasen Awards, recognising individuals, teams and organisations who celebrate and champion SEND. Plymouth had been shortlisted for awards in two categories, and the award ceremony would take place in Birmingham on 03 October 2025;
- q) The Plymouth GATI (Plymouth Graduated Approach to Inclusion website) had been nominated for the 'resources for SEND' category, having been recognised by teachers, SENCO's, parents, carers, head teachers, and others as a practical resource for guidance, advice and support;
- r) The supported internships offer through Discovery College YMCA had been nominated in the 'co-production initiative of the year' category, delivering supported internships in the fields of:
 - I. Sport;
 - II. Leisure;
 - III. Hospitality;
 - IV. Green spaces.
- s) The initiative demonstrated genuine commitment to co-production work which was becoming engrained between partner organisations, resulting in the delivery of successful results.

Councillor Laing (Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications) provided the following updates:

- t) Congratulations were given to four Care Experienced young people had recently graduated from Plymouth University with degrees in nursing, graphic design, economics and fine art;
- u) Foster for Plymouth now had two established Mockingbird constellations, supporting 31 children across 17 fostering and kinship households;
- v) The third Mockingbird constellation would be launched in early September 2025, with plans ongoing for the development of a fourth constellation before the end of 2025, supporting Plymouth's Foster Carers;
- w) The Mockingbird families enjoyed a range of activities together including:
 - I. A trip to Butlins;
 - II. Swimming;
 - III. Cinema trips;
 - IV. Litter picking;
 - V. Park trips;
 - VI. Arts and crafts;
 - VII. Breakfast mornings;
 - VIII. Picnics;
 - IX. Movie evenings;
 - X. Fit and Fed activities.
- x) Councillor Laing had met with Baroness Longfield, a former children's commissioner, having been invited to the House of Lords to discuss the Council's work in the care sector, including classifying care experience as a protected characteristic;
- y) Councillors had recently toured three youth centres in Plymouth that were being transformed through the Youth Investment Fund (Frederick Street, Efford and Honicknowle). Through coproduction, the needs of young people had been placed at the heart of the project's design;
- z) There were a vast array of activities and workshops available for children and young people at The Box all throughout the summer holidays. The Surrealism Show would end on the 7th September 2025, and plans were ongoing for a public event to commemorate The Box's fifth birthday in September 2025;
- aa) The Beryl Cook inflatable figure had been the centrepiece of the national celebration at Trafalgar Square;
- bb) Councillor Laing had attended Summer in the Scene Dot on the 8 August 2025 at the Theatre Royal, featuring a poetry performance and a set from DJ Snake. The musical theatre quiz would take place next Thursday, and a range of other events had been planned.

Councillor Dann (Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Sport, Leisure & HR, and OD) provided the following updates:

- cc) In June, over 10,000 people had attended swims at Mount Wise pools, which remained free entry;
- dd) Nearly 100,000 people had attended Plymouth Active Leisure centres including the Life Centre, Mount Wise, Plympton Pool and Tinside Lido during June 2025;
- ee) After investment from the Council, gym memberships at The Life Centre had increased by 17% in 2025;
- ff) Over 200 young people attended free youth events held at Tinside Lido;
- gg) £1 pound family swims were offered at the Life Centre and Plympton Pool;
- hh) Investment in the Fit and Fed programme had increased this year, with extra spaces allocated due to high demand;
- ii) The initiatives were key to broadening access to health and wellbeing facilities, and demonstrated Council and partner investment for Plymouth's residents;
- jj) In the wake of the Lionesses victory, football in Plymouth was growing in popularity. Councillor Dann had recently met the newly formed Plymouth School Girls Under 13's Football Team. Over 220 young girls from schools across Plymouth had applied, with 25 finally selected;
- kk) A new ladies football team, True Blue Ladies, had formed in St. Peters;
- ll) The Council were working with the Devon Football Association, the Football Foundation, and Argyle to promote the sporting aspirations of the city, including the Foulston Park project which would become a base for Women's football in Plymouth;
- mm) An aquatics and diving lead had been appointed at the Life Centre.

Councillor Stephens (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport) provided the following updates:

- nn) In July 2025, the Leader had received a letter from the Department of Transport outlining the announcements for the major road networks and large local projects in England. The government had a list of 72 projects, designed to relieve congestion, unlock housing and stimulate growth;
- oo) Out of the 72 projects, only 28 were approved. Plymouth had received approval for two projects, making Plymouth the only town/city to receive multiple successes;
- pp) The first accepted proposal was the Manadon Interchange Scheme, which would bring additional off-road slip lanes and improved bus and cycling lanes to reduce congestion, improve journey times and reduce carbon emissions;

- qq) The second approved project was the Plymouth Major Network Phase I from Marsh Mills to Camels Head, which would deliver improved flood defence works, localised road winding and improved traffic flow;
- rr) The footpath on Central Park Avenue would be opening in the next few weeks;
- ss) The Velocity pothole-repair machine had been operating in Moor View, Budshead, Honicknowle and Ham wards, and would next move to Eggbuckland;
- tt) 23 sites of road defects have been fixed, and various schemes had been completed to repair street lights in the city;
- uu) The Royal Parade Bus Improvement Scheme was progressing on time and on budget. Excavation of area one was underway, with contractors having completed excavations, located underground utilities, installed pre-cast concrete blocks and started the form work. Works would soon move on to the kerb-line and paving;
- vv) Pedestrian management had been managed well, and signage and seating had been installed at Derry's Cross where the temporary bus-stop was located;
- ww) Work to install two bus-stops outside the Park Crematorium had begun, alongside a Puffin crossing. Once installed, the number 19 bus service would serve the Park, and the completed works would allow the Public to safely cross Merrifield Road. This would provide access to the Cafe, Drake Memorial Park and Gables Cats and Dogs Home. The bus stops and the roadside of the Park would be completed by the end of September 2025, with the entire scheme expected for completion in October 2025;
- xx) Thanks to the Department for Transport's Active Travel fund, the Council had secured the expansion of secure lockers for bikes. Additional lockers had been installed due to high demand, and were located in Vauxhall Street and at the Life Centre. The lockers were manufactured in Plympton by BikeAway, thus supporting local businesses;
- yy) The additional hubs for the lockers would be located at Cremyll Street, Admiral's Hard, Vauxhall Street, Barbican Approach, Theatre Royal, Grand Parade, Regent Street Car Park, St. John's Road in Turnchapel and Napier Terrace Car Park;
- zz) Plymouth had received confirmation that it was in the top five cities for participation of children in the Bikeability scheme. This marked the third consecutive year, with 96.8% of eligible children undertaking the Bikeability course, delivering skills, confidence and experience to maintain safety as well as developing healthy and active travel habits.

Councillor Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) provided the following updates:

- aaa) In partnership with organisations across NHS, the Council had developed a 'Vaccinate Plymouth Campaign' to support with messaging across the city and

encourage the uptake of vaccines. Messages had been tailored to different age cohorts and vaccine types;

- bbb) The Council recently had utilised social media posts to encourage uptake of the MMR vaccine prior to the summer holidays, in response to rising cases of Measles in Europe;
- ccc) The Council had also coordinated with the Family Hubs to distribute leaflets detailing immunisation requirements for children starting school in September;
- ddd) Devonport naval base open days had commenced this year, and had been well attended by thousands of residents. Members of the Public Health team had collaborated with stalls from Livewell Southwest and the Wellbeing Hubs, providing information and engagement on topics including health and wellbeing, body-composition scales and blood pressure machine checks;
- eee) 'Know your Numbers Week' would run during 8-14 September, encouraging people to check their blood pressure at a local hub, pharmacy or GP.

26. **LGA Update**

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (The Leader of the Council) delivered the Local Government Reorganisation (LGA) update and discussed:

- a) The Leader was looking forward to the arrival of Councillor Louise Gittins (LGA Chair) to Plymouth shortly, and the opportunity to discuss the LGA's response to the new Local Government English Devolution Community Empowerment Bill;
- b) The LGA was currently required to balance unitary, county and district councils, whilst simultaneously managing the transition towards unitary authorities, which presented a challenge;
- c) The LGA had made a statement that: "It is critical that the full breadth, diversity and capability of local government is recognised and all councils are enabled to play a meaningful role as partners and, where appropriate, as part of strategic authorities in driving growth, improving services, and improving the lives of our residents". This was particularly important for Plymouth who were undergoing a journey towards Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and a Strategic Mayoral Authority;
- d) The government had launched an Election Strategy Paper, which aimed to remove barriers to participation, including expanding the franchise to include 16 year olds. The Bill was designed to encourage participation in politics and elections, and redress a climate of hostility which had developed in recent years. This was evidenced by significant abuse directed toward candidates and councillors during the recent Mayoral Campaign;
- e) The rise of hostilities had discouraged many candidates from entering public service and representing their communities. This was concerning, and required action;

- f) The LGA had formed a coalition on grassroots sports funding, designed to ensure that the £400 million announced by the Government for grassroots sports was delivered to vital community facilities provided by local Councils and partners, such as:
 - I. Leisure centres;
 - II. Swimming pools;
 - III. Local gyms.
- g) The LGA were campaigning for recognition of the role of grassroots sports facilities for preventative health, with closures likely to have long-term impacts for the Health Service;
- h) The LGA had published new research on the growing need and funding pressures for home-school transport. The research explored opportunities for future policy change in the context of potential wider reforms to the SEND system. It was important that progress was monitored, and that Plymouth City Council (PCC) fed back evidence of 'lived experience';
- i) 10 new Reform Councils were considering scrapping home-school transport. Cutting off parent's and children's access to school as not the answer, and pressures were instead attributed to market failure and excess costs;
- j) The Mayoral Referendum had now concluded. Councillor Evans OBE thanked Council staff for their work organising and conducting the referendum, despite low public support and challenging legislation;
- k) The legislation applying to local referendums varied significantly to that of local council and national elections. This had resulted in significant intimidation and toxicity, with campaigns not required to formally register, nor file financial accounts. Campaigning had occurred outside of polling stations, and councillors had received unacceptable abuse. It was hoped that councillors would never have to endure a similar event, and the Audit and Governance Committee would look to recommend appropriate legislative changes to Government;
- l) The Council would clearly set out the rules and expectations of candidates, agents and campaigns ahead of the next local elections.

27. **Exempt Business**

(There were no items of exempt business)

28. **Contract award for the provision of Community Equipment services**

(This item was discussed under minute 21 and Cabinet did not enter part 2 to have further discussions)

Cabinet



Date of meeting:	08 September 2025
Title of Report:	Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for the management of anti-social behaviour in designated Plymouth City Council Carparks
Lead Member:	Councillor Sally Haydon (Cabinet member for Community Safety, Events, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria)
Lead Strategic Director:	Gary Walbridge, Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities
Author:	Tracey Naismith
Contact Email:	Tracey.naismith@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	TN/O5/08/25
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval for the implementation of a new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for a period of 3 years in nine council-owned car parks across Plymouth. These locations have experienced a sustained increase in anti-social behaviour (ASB), resulting in heightened safety concerns, a rise in complaints to both the Council and Devon and Cornwall Police, and reports from members of the public and local business owners indicating that they no longer feel safe using these facilities.

The proposed PSPO is intended to promote the safe and appropriate use of these car parks, ensuring they serve their intended purpose and support a positive experience for those visiting the city for work, leisure, and shopping. The order will enable enforcement action against behaviours that are persistent, unreasonable, and detrimental to the quality of life of those in the locality.

Consultation took place with key stakeholders and partners; 23 responses were received. Feedback was that key stakeholders would welcome this proposal with 88% showing support.

Public consultation was conducted and received 372 responses, with the overwhelming majority expressing support for the proposal. 94% of respondents agreed that the proposed prohibitions were fair with only 3% disagreeing.

The PSPO will contribute to improved public safety, particularly for women and girls, and aligns with the Council's commitment to tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). It will also help restore confidence in the use of these facilities and support the city's economic vitality.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. That Cabinet approve this proposal and support the making and implementation of the PSPO with the suggested prohibitions.

Reason: PSPO's are designed to empower local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour that adversely affects other people using public spaces. In this case the introduction of a PSPO is a reasonable, legal and proportionate response to ongoing anti-social behaviour. It will increase feelings of public safety and support our police colleagues in tackling behaviours that are persistent and detrimental to residents. The proposed prohibitions are measured and considered and suitably justify the restrictions imposed by the notice.

Alternative options considered and rejected

1. Maintain Current Arrangements Without a PSPO

Rejected: This option was not considered viable due to the persistent and escalating nature of anti-social behaviour in the affected car parks. Existing enforcement mechanisms have proven insufficient to deter repeat offenders or address the full scope of the issues.

2. Increased Police, PARC or Council Patrols Without a PSPO

Rejected: While increased patrols may offer short-term visibility, they lack the legal framework and enforcement powers provided by a PSPO. Without the ability to impose restrictions or issue penalties, this approach would be limited in effectiveness and resource-intensive.

3. Environmental Design Improvements Alone (e.g. lighting, signage, layout changes)

Rejected: Although environmental improvements can support crime prevention, they do not directly address behavioural issues. These measures are best used in conjunction with enforcement tools like a PSPO, not as standalone solutions.

4. Targeted Youth or Outreach Interventions Without Enforcement

Rejected: While outreach and support remain essential components of the wider ASB strategy, they must be complemented by enforcement powers to manage persistent and disruptive behaviour. The PSPO framework allows for both intervention and enforcement.

The proposed PSPO offers a balanced and proportionate response, combining enforcement with opportunities for support and signposting, and is therefore recommended as the most effective and sustainable option.

5. PSPO With the recommended prohibitions to cover all council Carparks

Rejected: This is not proportionate, and agencies do not have evidence linked to ASB in all car parks. Only Car parks with recorded ASB meet threshold.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and the Plymouth Plan

The Plymouth Plan sets out a long-term vision for the city to 2034, aiming to create a healthy, prosperous, and safe city with a high quality of life for all residents. The proposed PSPO supports several key objectives of the plan:

Improving public safety and wellbeing: By addressing persistent anti-social behaviour, the PSPO contributes to creating safer public spaces, which is central to the Plan's ambition for a healthy city.

Supporting economic vitality: Ensuring car parks are safe and welcoming encourages footfall into the city centre for work, leisure, and shopping, aligning with the Plan's goals for economic growth and a vibrant urban environment.

Enhancing the experience of public spaces: The Plan promotes the appropriate use of public infrastructure. The PSPO ensures car parks are used for their intended purpose, improving the overall urban experience.

The Corporate Plan outlines the Council's mission to be a values-led organisation focused on fairness, environmental sustainability, and cooperation. The PSPO proposal directly supports several of the six priority areas:

Working with the Police to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour: The PSPO is a collaborative initiative with Devon and Cornwall Police to reduce ASB in key locations.

Keeping children, adults and communities safe: By improving safety in public car parks, the proposal contributes to safeguarding vulnerable groups and enhancing community confidence.

Supporting a vibrant waterfront city with outstanding quality of life: The PSPO helps ensure public spaces are safe and welcoming, reinforcing the city's vision and values.

Implications for the Medium-Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

The resourcing of responding to this will sit initially for response with our Police partners. Any escalation through ASB escalation processes will sit into the Community Safety Team.

Legal Implications

A PSPO is designed to prevent anti-social behaviour in a public place. Public place is defined as 'any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission'.

There is a requirement to ensure that the relevant legislation is complied with when making a PSPO. As set out in the report, this includes ensuring the measures proposed are necessary and proportionate to the problem as well as giving due regard to the rights of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly set out in the Human Rights Act 1998. In addition, there is a statutory and legal requirement to consult on the PSPO proposals. The results of the consultation process that has been undertaken are set out in the report.

Any failure to meet the statutory requirements for the making of a PSPO carries the risk of a legal challenge as to the validity of the order. Therefore, before reaching a decision in relation to the making of the PSPO and its implementation, Cabinet must consider the results of consultation, be clear about what the detrimental activities are that the PSPO seeks to address and whether the prohibitions are a

proportionate means of effectively managing those activities. In addition, Cabinet should consider the areas covered and the period for which the PSPO will have effect.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

Whilst this is not intended to be a carbon reduction initiative. One of the prohibitions is directly linked to prohibiting the “revving” of vehicles. Ensuring that vehicle engines are switched off when not in use and not being constantly and consistently revved will have a positive impact on the environment.

Other Implications:

A full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed and is attached to this report. In summary, the assessment identified potential impacts on young people and street-attached individuals, who may be disproportionately affected by the proposed PSPO. Consultation was carried out with 22 young people aged 10–18 via a designated Youth Worker. Feedback revealed mixed views: while some understood the need to address behaviours such as noise and public urination, others expressed concern about losing access to what they perceive as safe social spaces.

The EIA acknowledges that PSPOs can unintentionally marginalise vulnerable groups if not implemented alongside supportive measures. To mitigate this, the Council will ensure that enforcement is balanced with outreach, youth engagement, and signposting to relevant services. The ASB process underpinning the PSPO includes pathways for support and intervention, helping to reduce the risk of exclusion or criminalisation.

Appendices

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)							
B	PSPO Prohibitions							
C	PSPO Map							
D	EIA							

Background papers:

**Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are **unpublished** works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	<i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin	OW.25. 26.075	Leg	LS/0000 3197/31 /LB/26/0 8/25	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Assets	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
-----	------------------	-----	--	------------	-----	----	-----	--------	-----	---------------	-----

Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Matt Garrett, Service Director for Community Connections

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes
Date agreed: 26/08/25

Cabinet Member approval: Approved by Councillor Sally Haydon (Cabinet member for Community Safety, Events, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria)
Date approved: 06/08/25

This page is intentionally left blank

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO) PROPOSAL



Safer Communities, Community Connections

1. Introduction

This briefing details the relevant information in relation to the approval of a proposed Public Spaces Protection Order focused on Anti-Social behaviour (ASB) in nine of the Council owned car parks for a period of 3 years.

2. Background to Public Space Protection Orders

Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) were introduced in the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The primary purpose of the PSPO is to empower local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour that adversely affects other people using the same public space.

A PSPO may only prohibit or impose requirements that are reasonable to prevent or reduce the detrimental effect from anti-social behaviour continuing, occurring or recurring. A local authority may make a PSPO if they are satisfied that the following 2 conditions are met:

1. Activities carried out in a public place within the authority's area are having or have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that the activities will be carried out in a public place within that area and they will have such an effect;
2. The effect or likely effect of the activity:
 - 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

A person will commit an offence if they do something that is prohibited or fails to comply with a PSPO.

A PSPO can be put in place for up to 3 years. Then the PSPO must be reviewed to ensure it is still necessary. Before extending or varying the PSPO, local authorities must consult with the local chief of police, the police and crime commissioner, and owners or occupiers of land within any affected area and appropriate community representatives.

3. Historical context to application

In recent years, Plymouth city centre car parks have become hotspots for persistent antisocial behaviour, prompting growing concern among car park user, businesses, Plymouth City Council and the police. Reports have highlighted issues related to street and youth attached ASB, including behaviours such as public intoxication, drug use, intimidation, and the misuse of stairwells as toilets.

These behaviours have not only undermined public safety but also deterred legitimate use of these facilities. In response, Plymouth City Council, in collaboration with Devon and Cornwall Police, has proposed a targeted PSPO to address these behaviours in the most affected areas. The proposed order aims to restore a sense of security and ensure that these spaces are used solely for their

intended purpose—parking—by granting enforcement powers to move on individuals causing a nuisance and address serial perpetrators of ASB in our car parks.

4. Consultation: - Methodology and communication

A series of questionnaires were used to engage with partner agencies, MPs, Councillors, local businesses and members of the public. The public questionnaire was available online through Plymouth City Council's consultation portal and hard copies were made available upon request. Engagement was promoted through press releases and the Council's website, social media channels and email bulletins for residents.

Children and Young People: A designated Youth Worker facilitated age-appropriate engagement to ensure meaningful feedback was gathered.

Street-Attached and Homeless Communities: Direct consultation was carried out with partner organisations Shekinah and Plymouth Access to Housing (PATH) to ensure the voices of those with lived experience of homelessness and social exclusion, and those who support them were captured.

This inclusive approach reflects the Council's commitment to ensuring that the implementation of the PSPO is informed by those most impacted, and that any enforcement is balanced with support and understanding.

4.1 Consultation with internal departments and partner agencies

Consultation took place with relevant internal departments within Plymouth City Council as well as key partners within the Safer Plymouth Community Safety Partnership. 23 responses were received including from the Police and Crime Commissioner, Devon and Cornwall Police, The Zone, City Centre Company, Plymouth Access to Housing (PATH) and Shekinah.

The consultation responses were as follows:

1. Do you feel that the frequency or severity of anti-social behaviour within the above car parks has changed over the past 12 months?
 - a. 76% worsened, 20% don't know, 4% stayed the same.
2. Do you agree that the car parks should be subject to a PSPO over the next 3 years to try and prevent anti-social behaviour?
 - a. 88% yes, 12% don't know, 0% no

We also received a significant number of comments in support of the PSPO, including respondents who suggested this order was well overdue. Agencies wanted to see proactive rather than reactive targeting of serial perpetrators of ASB.

4.2 Consultation with members of the public

Consultation took place via the Plymouth City Council Consultation Portal over a 4-week period. 372 responses were received. The consultation responses were as follows:

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that ASB is an issue in Plymouth city council car parks?

a. 63% strongly agree, 26% agree, 4% neither agree or disagree, 2% disagree, 2% strongly disagree

2. How safe or unsafe do you feel when using any of the car parks mentioned?

a. 32% very unsafe, 37% fairly unsafe, 10% neither unsafe safe, 13% safe 3% very safe.

3. When asked if the proposed prohibitions were fair:

a. 94% agreed 3% disagreed and 3% didn't respond.

We also received a significant number of comments in support of the PSPO detailing why they felt it was needed:

"As a woman alone, I loathe it when I see people loitering, drinking, shouting anywhere - but in an enclosed space it's even more frightening"

" Carparks are dark, full of poo and urine, and there are discarded drug needles"

"A lot of homeless people sleeping/using it as a bathroom. Big groups of teenagers/young adults using it as a social meet up. Both block stairways and you end up walking down the car ramps as they don't move"

4.3 Consultation with young people/charities supporting street attached individuals.

Consultation took place with 22 young people of varying ages ranging from 10-18yrs. This was completed with the support of a designated Youth Worker. Young people were asked questions ranging from how they used car parks, how safe they thought they were currently, to how they would be affected by the proposed PSPO prohibitions.

The response to views on the prohibitions were mixed with some understanding why, but others expressing concern around the potential impact on them. We received the following feedback:

"This isn't fair for everyone. I agree with racing and revving at night times when the locals are trying to sleep. The peeing is disgusting."

"It is a safe space to do our stunts as we're away from the public"

"This isn't fair on us we want to be able to hang with our mates in a safe place away from the public."

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) are intended to address persistent antisocial behaviour and improve community safety. However, national guidance and local feedback highlight the potential for unintended consequences, particularly for vulnerable groups such as street-attached individuals and young people.

It is recognised that behaviours often associated with homelessness or social exclusion — such as loitering or congregating in public spaces — may be penalised under a PSPO, despite being driven by necessity rather than intent to cause harm. Similarly, young people gathering in car parks or public areas may be perceived as disruptive, increasing their contact with enforcement officers and risking unnecessary criminalisation.

Consultation with affected communities has underscored the importance of a trauma-informed and proportionate approach. Concerns were raised that without appropriate safeguards, the PSPO could exacerbate marginalisation and reduce trust in public services.

In response, the following mitigating measures have been embedded into the implementation plan:

- Continued Trauma-Informed Training for officers to ensure respectful and empathetic engagement;
- Supportive Interventions including outreach, youth engagement, and signposting to services for those impacted;
- Accessible Information through an easy-read leaflet explaining the PSPO and available support;
- Education-Focused Communications to promote understanding and voluntary compliance before enforcement.

While PSPOs can enhance public safety, their success depends on a balanced approach that protects the rights and dignity of all individuals, especially those most at risk of exclusion.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The Council have undertaken the required consultation process around the proposed PSPO. The feedback from both partner agencies and members of the public shows significant support for the introduction of a PSPO to tackle this behaviour in the identified locations. This is also supported by police held crime data and PCC ASB data showing an increase in reports of public incidents related to ASB within the car parks identified.

The PSPO aims to enhance public safety for all residents of, and visitors to the city and improve the overall user experience. By reducing ASB, the PSPO will support our Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) commitment, increase residents' confidence in these facilities, and contribute to the city's economic vitality.

Recommendations:

- Adopt the PSPO for nine PCC car parks — final draft attached.
- Training Package by Safer Communities team — focused on trauma-informed enforcement.
- Support Services Engagement — for individuals adversely affected by the prohibitions.
- Easy-Read Leaflet — explaining PSPO terms and signposting to support services.
- Targeted External Communication — promoting education and voluntary compliance before enforcement.

Next Steps:

- Stakeholder Engagement: Ensure frontline staff, support services, and community groups are consulted during the training and implementation stages.
- Monitoring & Evaluation Plan: Consider how we will measure the impact of the PSPO — e.g., reduction in anti-social behaviour, feedback from affected individuals, enforcement data.
- Feedback Loop: Create a mechanism for ongoing feedback from both enforcement officers and community members to refine the approach.
- Accessibility Review: Ensure the leaflet and communications are accessible to people with varying literacy levels, languages, and disabilities.
- Timeline & Ownership: Assign clear leads and timelines for each recommendation to ensure smooth implementation.

Annex B proposed Public Spaces Protect Order. (PSPO)**Plymouth car park PSPO**

- 1) No person shall occupy, loiter in, congregate with other people or use the Designated Area for any other purpose other than to park a motor vehicle, motorbike or moped.
- 2) No person being a driver of, or in control of a motor vehicle in any part of the Designated Area, shall:
 - Rev (i.e. accelerate, whilst the vehicles clutch is disengaged) an engine of a motor vehicle.
 - Suddenly or rapidly accelerate a motor vehicle.
 - Leave the engine of a motor vehicle running on idle other than when queueing to park or depart.
 - Perform any motor vehicle stunts.
 - Sound a horn repetitively; or a Play music audible outside of the motor vehicle
- 3) No person in any part of the Designated Area shall:
 - Use behaviour towards another person reasonably perceived to be threatening, aggressive or intimidating.
 - Gather or loiter with any other person(s) in a manner which is (or may reasonably be perceived as) intimidating or threatening to any other member of the public.
 - Use any part of the Restricted Area to urinate and/or defecate other than in a serviced public convenience.
- 4) No person in any part of the Designated Area shall consume of alcohol: -
Any person(s) who intend(s) to, is or has been consuming alcohol, without reasonable excuse. This person must.
 - a. cease the consumption of alcohol immediately.
 - b. surrender any alcohol that the authorised officer reasonably believes to be, alcohol or a container for alcohol (this includes any sealed containers).

This page is intentionally left blank

Annex C: - List of designated carparks for purposes of the PSPO.

Regent street carpark



Theatre Royal carpark



Western Approach carpark



Jennycliff carpark



Mayflower East car park



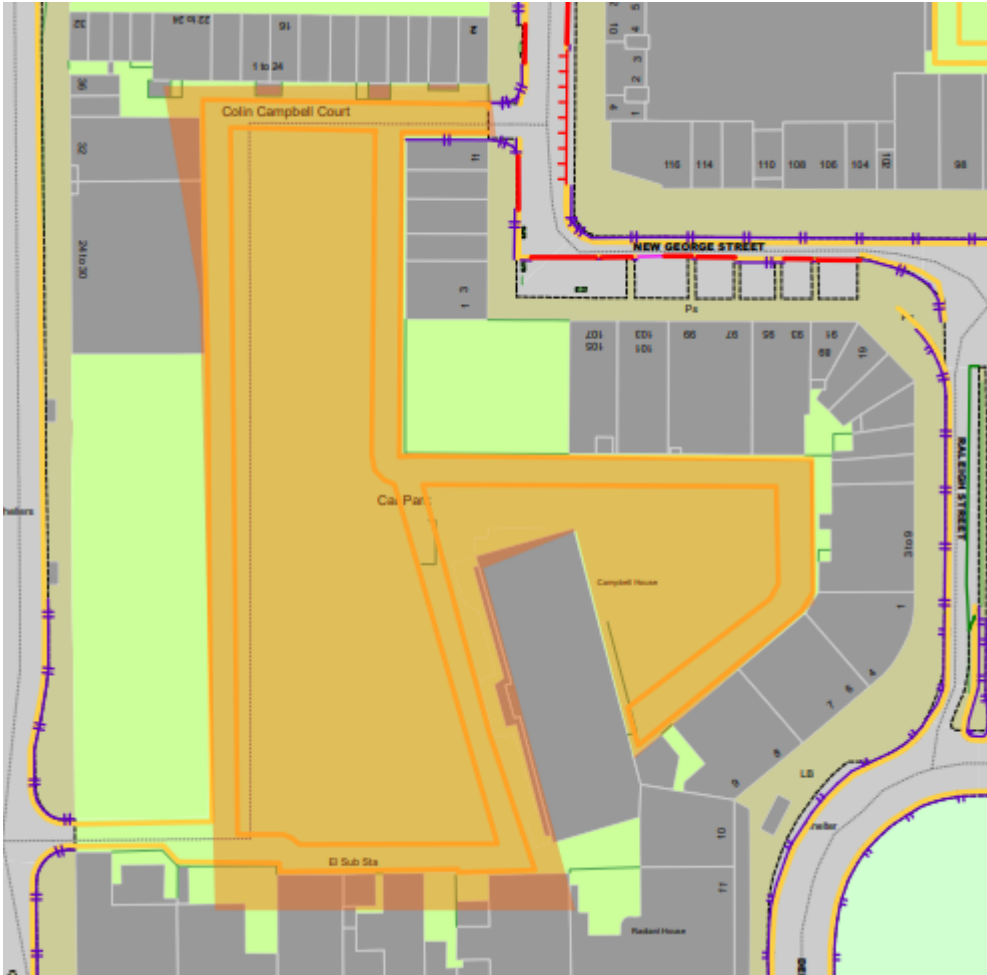
Mountbatten Pier Carpark



Mountbatten Castle carpark



Napier street carpark




Colin Campbell Court Carpark



This page is intentionally left blank

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – CITY-WIDE PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

SECTION ONE: INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSAL

Author(s): This is the person completing the EIA template.	Steve Foale	Department and service:	Adults, Health and Communities – Community Connections	Date of assessment:	15/07/25
Lead Officer: Please note that a Head of Service, Service Director, or Strategic Director must approve the EIA.	Matt Garrett	Signature:		Approval date:	15/07/25
Overview:	<p>This EIA assesses the impact of a proposed three-year Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in relation to youth and street attached anti-social behaviour and car cruising in six Plymouth City council car parks namely Napier Street, Regent Street, Mayflower East, Theatre Royal, Western Approach, Colin Campbell, Mount Batten and Jennycliff. The prohibitions are as follows:-</p> <p>1) No person shall occupy, loiter in, congregate with other people or use the Designated Area for any other purpose other than to park a motor vehicle, motorbike or moped.</p> <p>2) No person being a driver of, or in control of a motor vehicle in any part of the Designated Area, shall:-Rev (i.e. accelerate, whilst the vehicles clutch is disengaged) an engine of a motor vehicle. Suddenly or rapidly accelerate a motor vehicle. Race with any other motor vehicle. Leave the engine of a motor vehicle running on idle other than when queueing to park or depart. Perform any motor vehicle stunts. Sound a horn repetitively or play music audible outside of the motor vehicle.</p> <p>3) No person in any part of the Designated Area shall:-Use behaviour towards another person reasonably perceived to be threatening, aggressive or intimidating. Gather or loiter with any other person(s) in a manner which is (or may</p>				

reasonably be perceived as) intimidating or threatening to any other member of the public. Use any part of the Designated Area to urinate and/or defecate.

4) No person in any part of the Designated Area shall consume alcohol.

The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is one of the powers available to Local Authorities under the Anti-Social behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This legislation enables the Local Authority to introduce a PSPO to an area to deal with a particular nuisance which is detrimental to the local community’s life. It is designed to ensure the majority can use and enjoy Council owned carparks safe from crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB). The aim of this PSPO is to reduce anti-social and nuisance behaviour that is currently prevalent in the six carparks identified by extensive research and consultation.

This is an issue that is known to have a detrimental effect on communities and retailers. The research and engagement suggest it is particularly impactful on females of all ages who have identified that they find parking of cars in PCC carparks intimidating and daunting. The PSPO The Council have undertaken the required consultation process to establish whether the scope and content of the PSPO addresses the concerns of the public, partner agencies and retailers. The feedback from all that engaged with the engagement emphatic support for the PSPO both in its scope and its prohibitions.

The consultation did however also highlight a lack of understanding around the PSPO within some communities and a disparity in the way it was applied across the city. Concerns were also highlighted about the impact on those who were alcohol-dependent including the risk of removing their alcohol and missed opportunities for diverting this community to support agencies.

Based on the above, the following recommendations have been made:

- 1. The city-wide alcohol-related PSPO should continue, with the same terms, for a further three years – from October ’23 until 20th October ’26. A final draft of the PSPO is attached with this briefing.

	<div>2. A training package will be created by PCC Safer Communities team in relation to the PSPO and how it should be applied in a trauma-informed way.</div> <div>3. An easy-read leaflet will be produced so this can be given to those who are asked to stop drinking or those who have their alcohol removed under the PSPO. This leaflet will explain the terms of the PSPO and have information about agencies who may be able to offer support, e.g. with alcohol dependency and homelessness.</div> <div>4. PCC to release external comms in relation to the renewal of the PSPO and an updated copy published on the PCC website.</div>
Decision required:	That Cabinet approve this proposal and support the making and implementation of the PSPO with the suggested prohibitions.

SECTION TWO: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL

<div>Potential external impacts:</div> <div>Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact service users, communities or residents with protected characteristics?</div>	Yes	x	No	
<div>Potential internal impacts:</div> <div>Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact Plymouth City Council employees?</div>	Yes		No	x
<div>Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (if you have answered yes to either of the questions above then a full impact assessment is required and you must complete section three)</div>	Yes	x	No	
<div>If you do not agree that a full equality impact assessment is required, please set out your justification for why not.</div>				

SECTION THREE: FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act, 2010)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and consultation feedback)	Adverse impact	Mitigation activities	Timescale and responsible department
Age	Plymouth does not hold any precise data as to the average age of those who are alcohol addicted “street drinkers”. For the purpose of this EIA the term “street drinker” refers to those who regularly drink alcohol in public places, and while they may have accommodation they are known to lead street-based lifestyles.	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO on any particular age demographic. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely focussed on the prohibitions in the order, which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.	All ages of vulnerability will be referred onto relevant support agencies.	Community Connections – as required
Care experienced individuals (Note that as per the Independent Review of Children’s Social Care recommendations, Plymouth City Council is treating care experience as though it is a	It is estimated that 26 per cent of the homeless population in the UK have care experience. Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to those alcohol-addicted ‘street drinkers’ who are care experienced individuals however it is recognised that a number of street drinkers are homeless and may be care experienced.	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO on those who have cared experienced. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely focussed on the prohibitions in the order, which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.	n/a	n/a

protected characteristic).				
Disability	<p>Addiction to alcohol is not a recognised disability however you might be disabled if your addiction caused an impairment. For example if you have liver disease or depression caused by alcohol dependency, that would be an impairment.</p> <p>Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to disabilities of those who are alcohol-addicted 'street drinkers' however it is recognised that many alcohol dependent street drinkers have multiple complex interlinked conditions.</p>	<p>This PSPO may impact those who are alcohol dependent more than other communities as they are more likely to have their alcohol removed or be asked to stop drinking.</p> <p>However, it is only those who are causing ASB when they drink alcohol that will be impacted by the prohibitions within the PSPO. An alcohol-dependent individual can drink alcohol anywhere in the city so long as they are not causing ASB.</p> <p>The PSPO will also have a positive impact as it provides opportunities for those dependent on alcohol to be referred into appropriate support mechanisms or safeguarded.</p>	<p>The impact will be mitigated by additional training for police and PARC officers to ensure that 'every contact counts' and that those who are asked to stop drinking or hand over their alcohol are signposted to relevant support services or safeguarded, where appropriate.</p> <p>In acknowledgement that some of the street drinking community will have low levels of literacy or may have learning difficulties, we will also produce an easy read leaflet to ensure all can understand the terms of the PSPO and why they need to comply with it.</p>	Community Connections – as required
Gender reassignment	The 2021 Census found that 94.2 per cent (205,959) people aged 16 years and over in Plymouth have a gender identity the same as their sex observed and registered at birth compared to 93.5 per cent in England and	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO linked with gender reassignment. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely	n/a	n/a

	<p>Wales. Just over 5 per cent chose not to respond. The remaining 0.5 per cent (1,221) have a gender identity different from their sex observed and registered at birth. This is identical to the England and Wales rate.</p> <p>Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to those who are alcohol-addicted street drinkers who have a gender identity the same as their sex observed and registered at birth.</p>	focussed on the prohibitions in the order, which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.		
Marriage and civil partnership	<p>40.1 per cent of residents have never married and never registered a civil partnership. 10 per cent are divorced, 6 percent are widowed, with 2.5 per cent are separated but still married.</p> <p>0.49 per cent of residents are, or were, married or in a civil partnerships of the same sex. 0.06 per cent of residents are in a civil partnership with the opposite sex (2021 Census).</p> <p>Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to the marriage or civil partnership status of those who are alcohol-addicted street drinkers.</p>	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO linked with marriage or civil partnership status. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely focussed on the prohibitions in the order, which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.	n/a	n/a
Pregnancy and maternity	<p>The total fertility rate (TFR) for England was 1.62 children per woman in 2021. The total fertility rate (TFR) for Plymouth in 2021 was 1.5.</p> <p>Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to the pregnancy or maternity status</p>	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO linked with pregnancy or maternity status. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely focussed on the prohibitions in the order,	n/a	n/a

	<p>of those who are alcohol-addicted street drinkers.</p>	<p>which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.</p> <p>However, the PSPO will have a positive impact as it provides opportunities for those who may be pregnant and dependent on alcohol to be referred into appropriate support mechanisms or safeguarded.</p>		
Race	<p>In 2021, 94.9 per cent of Plymouth's population identified their ethnicity as White, 2.3 per cent as Asian and 1.1 per cent as Black (2021 Census)</p> <p>People with a mixed ethnic background comprised 1.8 per cent of the population. 1 per cent of the population use a different term to describe their ethnicity (2021 Census)</p> <p>92.7 per cent of residents speak English as their main language. 2021 Census data shows that after English, Polish, Romanian, Chinese, Portuguese, and Arabic are the most spoken languages in Plymouth (2021 Census).</p> <p>Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to the race of those who are alcohol-addicted street drinkers.</p>	<p>There could be an adverse impact on those who do not speak English as their main language as they may not be aware, or understand, the terms of the PSPO. Should they refuse to stop drinking or hand over their alcohol, they would be in breach of the PSPO - which is a criminal offence - but this may be because they do not understand what the authorised officer is saying.</p>	<p>Training will be provided to Police and PARC Officers in relation to dealing with situations where a person does not understand English. Police have access to interpretation services. PARC can take a person's details so PCC can provide further follow-up or call Police for assistance. PCC will work with partner agencies to ensure those who do not speak or understand English, can have the terms of the PSPO fully explained to them.</p>	

Religion or belief	<p>48.9 per cent of the Plymouth population stated they had no religion. 42.5 per cent of the population identified as Christian (2021 Census).</p> <p>Those who identified as Muslim account for 1.3 per cent of Plymouth's population while Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish or Sikh combined totalled less than 1 per cent (2021 Census).</p>	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO linked with a person's religion or belief. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely focussed on the prohibitions in the order, which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.	n/a	n/a
Sex	<p>51 per cent of our population are women and 49 per cent are men (2021 Census).</p> <p>Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to the sex of those who are alcohol-addicted street drinkers. However, data from a Plymouth partnership seeking to address issues of street drinking, homelessness and begging show there are currently 12 males and 7 females open to services.</p> <p>National data indicates that men are more likely to drink alcohol than women.</p>	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO linked with a person's sex. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely focussed on the prohibitions in the order, which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.	n/a	n/a
Sexual orientation	88.95 per cent of residents aged 16 years and over in Plymouth describe their sexual orientation as straight or heterosexual. 2.06 per cent describe their sexuality as bisexual, 1.97 per cent of people describe their sexual orientation as gay or lesbian. 0.42 per cent of residents describe their sexual orientation using a different term (2021 Census).	There is no anticipated adverse impact of the PSPO linked with a person's sexual orientation. The process of enforcing the PSPO is solely focussed on the prohibitions in the order, which is ASB linked to the consumption of alcohol in public spaces.	n/a	n/a

	Plymouth does not hold any precise data in relation to the sexual orientation of those who are alcohol-addicted street drinkers.			
--	--	--	--	--

SECTION FOUR: HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

Human Rights	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
	<p>The proposal is in accordance with the Human Rights Act 1998. The terms of the PSPO, whilst restricting individuals' ability to gather and potentially express themselves in a public space, are proportionate, necessary and justified to prevent behaviour that is detrimental to the quality of life in the locality</p> <p>The following articles of the Human Rights Act 1998 have been considered:</p> <p>Article 1: Protection of Property</p> <p>Point to be considered:</p> <p>Every natural or legal person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions. No one shall be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions</p>	<p>The removal of a container of alcohol will deprive a person of his possession. However, alcohol is only removed when its use is impacting upon others' right to have peaceful enjoyment of the local area. Prevention of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour is in the public interest. The ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014</p>	n/a

	<p>provided for by law and by the general principles of international law.</p> <p>Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life</p> <p>Point to be considered:</p> <p>8.2There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.</p>	<p>provides the legislative framework for this.</p> <p>The removal of a container of alcohol from a person within a public space may remove their right to a public and private life. However, alcohol is only removed when its use is impacting upon others' right to have peaceful enjoyment of the local area and is necessary for the prevention of crime or disorder. The ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 provides the legislative framework for this.</p>	
--	---	--	--

SECTION FIVE: OUR EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

Equality objectives	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
Celebrate diversity and ensure that Plymouth is a welcoming city.	The PSPO will have a positive impact on helping to Plymouth to be a welcoming city.	n/a	n/a
Pay equality for women, and staff with disabilities in our workforce.	No implications	n/a	n/a
Supporting our workforce through the implementation of Our People Strategy 2020 – 2024	No implications	n/a	n/a
Supporting victims of hate crime so they feel confident to report incidents, and working with, and through our partner organisations to achieve positive outcomes.	The PSPO will help to reduce incidents of all crime in the city, including hate crime	n/a	n/a
Plymouth is a city where people from different backgrounds get along well.	No implications	n/a	n/a

This page is intentionally left blank