

Law & Governance

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Central Number: 01865 249811

Date: 29 July 2021

Dear Councillor Wade, Chair of Scrutiny Committee,

I am writing to notify you of the proposed taking of a key decision which will not have been notified on the Council's Forward Plan for 28 days.

The key decision titled "Parks Public Spaces Protection Order" was added to the Forward Plan on Monday. It concerns the proposed making of a public spaces protection order (PSPO) covering four areas of the city with the aim of addressing anti-social behaviour such as fires in parks. The four parks consulted upon all have support from the public for a PSPO. This is considered to be a key decision due to its significant impact on multiple wards.

The intention is to use the "general exemption" rule whereby a key decision can be taken without being notified on the Forward Plan for 28 days if 5 clear days' notice is provided to the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee. The decision to adopt a PSPO covering less than the whole local authority area can be taken by the Chief Executive or an Executive Director, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, under Part 4.9 of the Council's Constitution. The decision will be taken on 4 August 2021 and will be subject to call in to provide the maximum transparency and member oversight commensurate with timeframe for adopting and implementing the PSPO for part of the summer holiday period.

If you would like further details about the circumstances of the decision please let me know and I will arrange for the relevant officer to make contact with you to provide a briefing.

Please note that a copy of this letter will be attached to the public decision notice and the urgent decision will be reported to meetings of Cabinet and Council in the coming weeks.

With best wishes,

Susan Sale
Head of Law and Governance