

Appendix 9: Oxford Alcohol Disorder PSPO 2023 – Equalities Impact Assessment

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Service Area: Community Safety Service	Section: Community Safety	Date of Initial assessment: 26 th October 2023	Key Person responsible for assessment: Richard Adams		Date assessment commenced: 26th October 2023
Name of Policy to be assessed:	Alcohol Disorder Public Spaces Protection Order 2023				
1. In what area are there concerns that the policy could have a differential impact	<i>Race</i>		<i>Disability</i>		<i>Age</i>
	<i>Gender reassignment</i>		<i>Religion or Belief</i>		<i>Sexual Orientation</i>
	<i>Sex</i>		<i>Pregnancy and Maternity</i>		<i>Marriage & Civil Partnership</i>
Other strategic/ equalities considerations	<i>Safeguarding/ Welfare of Children and vulnerable adults</i>		<i>Mental Wellbeing/ Community Resilience</i>		
2. Background: Give the background information to the policy and the perceived problems	Oxford City Council is considering the removal or extension of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to address alcohol-related disorder within the environs of Oxford city. A breach of the order is a criminal offence that can result in the offender being reported to the court or the breach being discharged through a £100 Fixed Penalty Notice. This was reviewed in 2020 and is reviewed every three years.				

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<p>with the policy which are the reason for the Impact Assessment.</p>	<p>Restrictions on the proposed behaviours may have an impact on protected characteristics or other strategic equalities considerations, in particular the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, mental well-being and community resilience, and disability. The impact on all factors has been considered.</p> <p>The assessment gives due regard to whether implementation of the order will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Equality Act. • Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not. • Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
<p>3. Methodology and Sources of Data: The methods used to collect data and what sources of data.</p>	<p>Data used to identify the types of behaviours within the proposed PSPO has come from police databases and public consultation. (Ongoing)</p> <p>Use of the PSPO powers and advice given will be recorded in pocket notebooks and on council databases in accordance with the Council’s Data Protection Policy. The information will be analysed to determine whether the implementation of the powers has had a disproportionate effect upon the equality factors.</p>
<p>4. Consultation</p> <p>This section should outline all the consultation that has taken place on the EIA. It should include the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why you carried out the consultation. 	<p>Implementation of a Public Spaces Protection Order requires public consultation as set out in the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.</p> <p>Online consultation (37 responses) gave rise to concerns about alcohol-related disorder in public spaces during the day and night, both in neighbourhood areas and the city centre.</p> <p>Please refer to the consultation report at Appendix 7 and 8 of the attached Cabinet report.</p> <p>Note on data and evidence:</p> <p>The online consultation does not capture age, gender, ethnicity, or religion of the respondents. Thus, it will not be possible to infer, with confidence, how residents from protected characteristics experience and respond to anti-social behaviour. Additionally, we don’t have clear data on which residents with protected characteristics are policed and</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details about how you went about it. • A summary of the replies you received from people you consulted. 	<p>how (time, locations, etc.). This is not unusual (Runnymede 2006). However, based on the Home Office research (Anti-social behaviours: impacts on individuals and local communities, 2023), we have identified some protected characteristics who might need to be considered in this assessment. The assessment of impacts on these protected characteristics are reported below.</p>									
<p>5. Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An assessment of your proposed policy (or policy options) in the light of the responses you received. • A statement of what you plan to do next. 	<p>Alcohol related disorder Alcohol-related disorder in public spaces occurs throughout the city with concentrations in the city centre at night, in the Cowley Road area and in neighbourhoods, more often during the day.</p> <p>Addressing alcohol-related disorder will have a neutral impact on all protected characteristics.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Race Unknown</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Disability Unknown</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Age Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Gender reassignment Neutral</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Religion or Belief Unknown</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Sexual Orientation Neutral</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Sex Neutral</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pregnancy and Maternity Neutral</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Marriage & Civil Partnership Neutral</td> </tr> </table>	Race Unknown	Disability Unknown	Age Unknown	Gender reassignment Neutral	Religion or Belief Unknown	Sexual Orientation Neutral	Sex Neutral	Pregnancy and Maternity Neutral	Marriage & Civil Partnership Neutral
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<p>6. Consideration of Measures:</p> <p>This section should explain in detail all the consideration of</p>	<p>It is important to note that some people are alcohol-dependent and may drink alcohol in public spaces. The PSPO enables the police and Council to address alcohol-related disorder and it not a total ban on drinking alcohol in public spaces.</p> <p>Age. It is illegal for young people under the age of 18 to consume alcohol unless in very specific circumstances, so the PSPO would not apply and other legislation that deals with under-age drinking would be used.</p>									

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<p>alternative approaches/mitigation of adverse impact of the policy.</p>	<p>Gender. There are more instances of males being involved in alcohol-related disorder than females. Special consideration is taken when dealing with females who have alcohol and may be more vulnerable. The PSPO would allow the alcohol to be removed and appropriate support agencies asked to assist, particularly in the night-time economy locations. Females who are separate from friends or unable to manage will be given assistance to connect with friends and family, and in some instances helped to return home.</p> <p>Mental health. The PSPO provides the power to remove alcohol from people causing anti-social behaviour. It is understood that some people are alcohol dependent or use alcohol to self-medicate. The police and Council officers engage with many of the people who drink on the street and help them to access support services including adult homeless pathway organisations, Turning Point and supported housing providers.</p> <p>Health and safety of staff. The police and Council officers engaging with people causing alcohol-related anti-social are trained and experienced in dealing with these situations. Police officers have the training and PPE to address more challenging situations. Council officers do not engage with violent or potential violent situations. There is a risk assessment for dealing with these situations and many of the people engaged with are well known to officers and usually comply with requests to stop drinking or move on.</p> <p>Race and ethnicity. Data has been requested from the police on the ethnicity of suspects where alcohol was a factor in the offence, in Oxford. This is much broader than alcohol-related public order. In terms of alcohol dependent drinkers who drink in public places there is significant portion from Eastern European countries. Officers engage and ensure referrals are made to support agencies who can communicate in range of languages. Drinking on the street to “preload” before entering pubs, for example, is anecdotally related to off-sales being cheaper than on-sales.</p>
<p>6a. Monitoring Arrangements:</p> <p>Outline systems which will be put in place to monitor for adverse impact in</p>	<p>The Community Safety Team will oversee the use of all enforcement actions in accordance with the Council’s ASB Enforcement Policy.</p> <p>Advice, warnings, and enforcement of the PSPO will be logged in pocket notebooks and council and police databases.</p>

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<p>the future and this should include all relevant timetables. In addition, it could include a summary and assessment of your monitoring, making clear whether you found any evidence of discrimination.</p>					
<p>7. Date reported and signed off by Cabinet:</p>	13th December 2023				
<p>8. Conclusions: What are your conclusions drawn from the results in terms of the policy impact</p>	The introduction of the Alcohol Disorder PSPO 2023 will impact positively on the lives of people who live, work, and visit the city. The Council's approach to enforcement is detailed in Oxford City Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy, available on the council's website.				
<p>9. Are there implications for the Service Plans?</p>	No	<p>10. Date the Service Plans will be updated</p>		<p>11. Date copy sent to Equalities Officer</p>	16 th October 2023
<p>13. Date reported to Scrutiny and Cabinet:</p>	NA	<p>14. Date reported to Cabinet:</p>	13th December 2023	<p>12. The date the report on EqlA will be published</p>	13 th December 2023

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Signed (completing officer)

Please list the team members and service areas that were involved in this process:

Richard Adams, Service Manager
Mili Kalia, Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Lead