

## **CABINET – 17TH SEPTEMBER 2020**

### **Report of the Scrutiny Commission**

#### **ITEM 6      PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO) – LOUGHBOROUGH TOWN CENTRE**

##### Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission in relation to the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in Loughborough Town Centre.

##### Recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission

That the Cabinet be informed that the Commission welcomes and supports the recommendations set out in the report of the Head of Neighbourhood Services.

##### Reason

The Commission, having carefully considered and asked questions on the report felt the Cabinet should approve the recommendations set out.

##### Meeting Discussion

- i. The risk that approval was not provided to extend the PSPO past 20th October 2020 was considered low as legal regulations had been adhered to and so was unlikely to be subject to legal challenge.
- ii. It was acknowledged that delegated authority existed for the Head of Neighbourhoods and Communities, as outlined in section 8.3 of the Council's Constitution. There was a suggestion that the rationale for the delegated authority be emphasized as part of recommendation 2 of the report.
- iii. The maximum amount of extension time for the PSPO was three years. In anticipation of this term expiring, the Council could make preparations for further extension. Any substantial changes to the PSPO would be considered by Cabinet.
- iv. The consultation had received 129 responses which was consistent with previous consultations. It was acknowledged that there was a lack of formal responses from local businesses and partners and this was considered to be due to the ongoing dialogue between the Council and these organisations throughout the consultation period.
- v. The Southfields Park was not included within the PSPO but was within the Civil Injunction area imposed. A Civil Injunction was considered to be the most appropriate course of action, given the issues experienced in the area, involving drug use and begging. If there was a recognised requirement for a PSPO

covering the Southfields Park area, then evidence would be sought in order to facilitate this.

### Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Scrutiny Commission Procedure Rule 11.12 sets out the procedure by which a report of a Scrutiny Committee should be considered by Cabinet.

### Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The information in the Cabinet report is not affected by the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

### Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

#### *Financial Implications*

There are no further financial implications associated with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

#### *Risk Management*

There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Key Decision:       | No   |
| Background Paper:   | Scrutiny Commission Minute 53 2020/21, 14th September 2020                                     |
| Officer to Contact: | Sally Watson<br>Democratic Services Officer<br>(01509) 634969<br>Sally.watson@charnwood.gov.uk |