

**Coventry City Council  
Equality and Consultation Analysis (ECA) Form**

***In line with the principles of decision making outlined in the City Council Constitution, the Council will ensure that its decision making is open and transparent, and that due regard is given to the Council's obligations and desire to promote equality of opportunity and equal treatment.***

## **Part 1**

***This part must be completed and before formal consultation is undertaken and must be available during the consultation stage.***

**Author of this document: Liam Nagle**

**Name of Service Area/Proposal: Public Space Protection Order – St Michaels and surrounding areas**

**Head of Service: Craig Hickin**

**Date of completion: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

### ***Background to the planned changes***

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1. What is the background to the planned changes? Why is this change being considered? *If further information is available on the different scenarios that have been considered as part of this work, provide a link to the public document which contains this information.*

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 gained Royal Assent in April 2014. The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) provision has been in operation since 20th October 2014. PSPOs are intended to provide means of preventing individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour in a public space where the behaviour is having, or likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality; be persistent or continuing in nature; and be unreasonable.

The Council's aim is to improve the City as place to live, shop and do business. It is recognised that in order to do this we need to make the City as safe and attractive a destination as possible. This can be helped by minimising any factors that may deter people from visiting the City. A PSPO is a useful tool in achieving this aim.

The introduction of a specific PSPO for St Michaels and surrounding areas would provide useful powers for officers (Police and Council) in addressing adverse behaviours in the City. It is quick and easy to use, which is an important consideration when both organisations are facing reductions in resources. It also has the added benefit of enabling the offender to accept a fixed penalty notice rather than appear in court and receive a criminal record.

In line with other PSPOs in Coventry, any Fixed Penalty Notice for non-compliance with a PSPO will be set at £100 reduced to £60 if paid within 14 days. If the Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid, it is the Council's policy to prosecute the offender in the Magistrates' Court, where the maximum fine is currently £1000 (level 3 on the standard scale).

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The power to make a PSPO rests with the Council, in consultation with the police, other relevant bodies and the general public.

2. Who do you need to consider as part of this ECA? *\*stakeholder analysis*

Coventry citizens (visitors and users of the city centre), residents in the defined area, businesses and organisations in the defined area and their representatives and the Police.

### *Pre-Consultation Engagement*

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Police Crime and Community Safety Partnership Board, City Tasking (a sub group of the Police Crime and Community Safety Partnership Board who deal with operational issues in the city centre), Coventry University, Business Improvement District.

3. What engagement activities took place prior to formal consultation and what feedback was received in relation to equality issues?

A series of partnership meetings and face-to face interviews were held with the above mentioned organisations to include issues, that require action and also the proposed wording of the order ahead of formal public consultation.

### *Analysis of Impact*

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In this section please ensure that you consider the three aims of the general duty as they affect **protected groups**. These groups are:

Age  
Disability  
Gender  
Gender reassignment  
Marriage/Civil Partnership  
Pregnancy/Maternity  
Race  
Religion/Belief  
Sexual Orientation

The **three aims of the general duty** require that a public authority, in the exercise of its functions, must have due regard to the need to:

1. Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
2. Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

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3. Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

**Note – when identifying potential impacts below, please only include impacts that may exist over and above general impacts that may affect the wider community/population.** For example, a reduction in grant to Coventry Citizens Advice would affect all service users through a reduced level of first line advice being available to all – but it would affect the following groups more; age, disability, gender and race as they represent a larger proportion of the clients who use the advice service.

4. Outline below how this proposal/review could impact on protected groups positively or negatively, and what steps (if any) could be taken to reduce any negative impact that has been identified. *NB. Only include realistic mitigating actions that could be delivered.*

**Age:** This proposed order will affect all Coventry people. However there are concerns that possibly younger people (up to the age of 25) may be disproportionately affected, however Police intelligence and similar suggests they are the group potentially at most risk and in need of this protection. We are in discussion with Coventry University to discuss possible oversight of the PSPO process if adopted and how this can be measured.

**Disability :**Insufficient information available

**Gender:** As for age, it's thought that young males will be most affected by this order should it be introduced. Again we are in discussions with Coventry University to see how the order may be measured and assessed if introduced.

**Gender Reassignment:** Insufficient information available

**Marriage/Civil Partnership:** Insufficient information available

**Pregnancy/maternity:** Insufficient information available

**Race:** It is recognised there is a possibility that Black males may be most affected by this order should it be introduced. We are in discussion with Coventry university to see how the order may be measured and assessed if introduced.

**Religion/belief:** Insufficient information available.

**Sexual orientation:** Insufficient information available

5. Are there any other vulnerable groups that could be affected? i.e. deprivation, looked after children, carers.

Insufficient information available

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Also include any information about the health/Marmot implications of this proposal. Contact Georgia Faherty ([georgia.faherty@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:georgia.faherty@coventry.gov.uk) or tel. 7683 1950) or Hannah Watts ([hannah.watts@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.watts@coventry.gov.uk) or tel. 7683 3973) in Public Health for more information.

This proposal is likely to have a positive impact on the current levels of public place violence and knife crime in the City.

This proposal may lead to less young people being criminally or sexually exploited, both of which are likely to lead to outcomes that may impact future life chances and outcomes.

The order offers officers the opportunity to deal with certain behaviours by breaking up groups and dispersing individuals and potentially halting escalation. Equally it allows officers to nip behaviours in the bud without the need to consider criminal proceedings.

The order risks displacement of individuals and behaviours to another area of Coventry, this will be monitored regularly by agencies.

These adverse impacts are being mitigated by encouraging interactions with vulnerable people to encourage their use of services (such as substance misuse or homelessness services) to address their needs. In addition, when an individual comes into contact with the criminal justice system they can be ordered to attend substance misuse services.

Positive impacts of the proposal include improving access to the designated area for vulnerable people, including people with disabilities and health conditions who may be fearful or intimidated by behaviour of groups, as well as attracting businesses to the city which will bring jobs and opportunities to the people of Coventry

6. What are the gaps in evidence? Can this be addressed during the consultation stage? If so, how?

There is no specific data for any protected group (see above). The public consultation will determine if this proposed order has the public's support.

7. What are the likely impacts of this project/review on staff from protected groups?

Employees who enforce this order are existing enforcement officers. There are no additional adverse impacts on our officers.

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## Part 2

*This section should be completed AFTER the consultation stage has been concluded.*

Author of this document: Liam Nagle

Date of completion: 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

### Post-Consultation

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8. Referring to the information detailed in question 4 of Part 1 of the ECA Form, state if the consultation has confirmed the potential impacts identified that were identified. Also detail below any additional information about potential impacts that has been highlighted during the consultation.

The consultation did not bring up any concerns regarding any disproportionate effect there may be on young people or those from a black or BME background. The questions posed did not address these concerns as it is not apparent that this affect can be mitigated due to the information we already have regarding the involvement of young people and in particular young black males in the behaviours that are looking to be addressed.

We will be looking to analyse the use of the power to review this and be making it clear via youth groups and similar that people have the right to complain if they believe they are being unfairly targeted by the use of this power. All operational Police Officers now wear body cam cameras.

### Outcome of equality impact

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9. Indicate which of the following best describes the equality impact of this project/review:

- There will be **no** equality impact if the proposed option is implemented
- There will be **positive** equality impact if the proposed option is implemented
- There will be **negative** equality impact if the proposed option is implemented but this can be objectively justified
- There will be both **positive and negative** impacts if the proposed option is implemented

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## Summary of ECA

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Write a paragraph below which summarises the key aspects of this ECA.

*NB. - This paragraph will be included in the Decision-making Report as well as the end of year ECA report*

Where specific objectives have been set for any protected groups around equality impact, also include this information below.

There is a recognition that due to Police information and actual statistics there is a higher proportion of young and young black males that are involved in the behaviours that we are looking to address, both as potential perpetrators and victims.

Use of the power proposed is intended to disrupt behaviours to prevent them affecting the local community and also to protect both the people effecting the behaviour and others that may be affected.

It will be made clear to officers that their use of the power needs to be defensible and that people will be made aware of how to complain if they believe they have been unfairly treated. Where large groups are moved on, it will sometimes be done because of the behaviours of others within the group so people need to be aware of the concept of group enterprise.

## Next steps

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Please send this completed ECA to the Insight Team as follows:

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## Version Control

Version	Date	Summary of changes (Author)