

Briefing note

To: Cabinet

Date: 7th November 2023

Subject: Amendment of the City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)

1 Purpose of the Note

1.1 To let Cabinet know of the comments and recommendations from Scrutiny Coordination Committee of their consideration of the Cabinet Report on Amendment of the City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)

2 **Recommendations**

- 2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee:
 - 1) Support the intentions of the recommendations in the report,
 - 2) Recommend that Cabinet support the recommendations as in the report,
 - 3) Recommend that Cabinet note Scrutiny Co-ordination's concerns about enforcement of the PSPO,
 - 4) Recommend that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities write to both the Police Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner requesting a higher policing presence in the city centre and that they use their powers to seize illegal e-vehicles and a copy be circulated to the Committee.

3 Background and Information

- 3.1 At their meeting on the 6th November Scrutiny considered a report to Cabinet on an Amendment of the City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which proposed the requirement for e-bike and e-scooter riders to dismount when entering the designated area within the pedestrianised area.
- 3.2 The committee considered the report and its appendices, questioned Cabinet Members and officers and received responses on the following points:
 - Concerns around enforcement of the additional amendments to the PSPO, in terms of police capacity and priority within the city centre
 - The powers of the police and how the Council will be working with the police and partners including the BID,
 - How pressure can be put on delivery companies and restaurants to encourage responsible riding in the city centre,
 - How best to communicate the additions to the PSPO, including communication with schools and colleges as well as local news outlets.

- The emphasis on education and changing behaviour of e-cyclists and e-scooter riders.
- The possibility of using planning and licensing powers to address the issue longer term.
- Potentially identifying parking areas or ranks for delivery drivers.
- The economic impact of not just e-bikes and e-scooters in the city centre but anti-social behaviour more widely.

4 Health Inequalities Impact

4.1 A full and comprehensive equalities impact assessment has been completed as part of the Cabinet Report, including a section on Health Inequalities.

Gennie Holmes Scrutiny Co-ordinator gennie.holmes@coventry.gov.uk