

To: Cabinet

From: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Date: 1 September 2026

Subject: City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order 2026

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of comments and recommendations from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee following consideration of a report on City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order 2026.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- 1) Approve the new City Centre PSPO.
 - 2) Agree an additional separate public consultation on the removal of face coverings while riding e-bikes and e-scooters.
 - 3) Include the removal of face coverings as part of the consultation on the renewal of the city-wide PSPO.

3 Information and Background

- 3.1 At their meeting on 26 August 2026, Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered a report on the City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order 2026
- 3.2 Members questioned the Cabinet Member and officers, and received responses on the following areas:
- The practicalities of additional consultation on the removal of face-coverings whilst riding e-bikes and e-scooters.
 - The issue of collecting data on face coverings, including police powers for stop and search and the criteria to do so.
 - That officers will liaise with colleagues in Nuneaton and Bedworth to learn from their experiences of removal of face coverings as part of a PSPO.
 - The increase in wardens which will enable more enforcement of the new PSOP compared to the previous, as well as better performance data.
 - The process for requesting licenses for amplification for events in the city centre, ensuring that it is a quick and easy process.

- That the Busking Code of Conduct was being refreshed and could consider locations and timeslots to better manage distribution.
- That the location of gazebos and other furniture does not cause issues for accessibility.

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