

39 High Street
Leigh-on-sea
Essex
SS9 2EN

05 August 2020

Dear Carole and Peter,

Petition for alcohol free zones in Old Leigh

As you know, five weeks ago I started a petition for alcohol free zones in Old Leigh. This was just after full lock down was easing and young people were flooding into the area with their drink and drugs, anti-social behaviour and litter. The petition has well over 1000 signatures (1228 at the time of writing) and this indicates the strength of unrest and anxiety that this situation has caused. <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/alcohol-free-zones-in-old-leigh-1>

We felt that the situation might not improve after the pubs re-open as the numbers allowed into pubs would be limited and use of the pub facilities would be restricted. This has proved to be the case. Whenever the weather is warm, and particularly on a Friday or Saturday night, young people still bring their own drink into the area and sit on the sea wall to carry on partying. They then throw their empty glass bottles and cans into the sea and also use the surrounding gardens and alleyways to relieve themselves.

The petition specifically mentions the sea wall but the high street and the wharves are also areas of concern.

We have been told informally by local community police officers that the police would welcome having some legal restriction on alcohol consumption as this would assist them in challenging inappropriate behaviour.

Please present our petition to Southend Borough Council for debate and consideration.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Ronald Sverdloff (Mr)



T0: Councillor Carole Mulroney and Councillor Peter Wexham
Southend Borough Council
CC: Sir David Amess, M.P.

Alcohol free zones in Old Leigh

To: Southend Borough Council

We want Southend Borough Council to agree to alcohol free zones along the sea wall and in the beach areas of Old Leigh in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

Why is this important?

Following the easing of the Corona Virus lockdown, and before the pubs have reopened, the conservation area known as Old Leigh in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, has witnessed hordes of people who have brought their own alcohol, sitting on the sea wall, drinking and then and throwing their empty bottles and cans into the sea. We think that this trend will continue after the pubs reopen, especially as the pubs will not be able to accommodate the same numbers of drinkers as before lockdown. We are also concerned that other aspects of anti social behaviour that have been taking place, such as urinating on local private property, will continue at night after the pubs close their facilities, if people are allowed to continue consuming their own alcoholic drinks in these areas.

We want this ban so that we can reclaim our lovely historic area for the ordinary day trippers and tourists who visit our famous fishing village and who have recently been deterred by these anti social gatherings.