

# Southend on Sea Borough Council - Equality Analysis

## 1. Background Information

- 1.1 Name of policy, service function or restructure requiring an Equality Analysis:  
Old Leigh PSPO
- 1.2 Department:  
Neighbourhoods and Environment
- 1.3 Service Area:  
Community Safety
- 1.4 Date Equality Analysis undertaken:  
June 2021
- 1.5 Names and roles of staff carrying out the Equality Analysis:

Name	Role	Service Area
Gemma Robinson	Community Safety Data & Insights Analyst	Community Safety

- 1.6 What are the aims or purpose of the policy, service function or restructure that is subject to the EA?

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 enables local authorities to make a PSPO where they are satisfied 'on reasonable grounds' that two conditions are met. The first is that:

- (a) activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or
- (b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

The second condition is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities—

- (a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
- (b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
- (c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

The aim therefore of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) is to provide local authorities with the necessary powers to prohibit or restrict certain actions

or require specified actions in public spaces but only where the provisions prevent or reduce the identified 'detrimental effect'. Introduce restrictions upon activity and behaviours deemed to be antisocial and occurring in "public spaces". A PSPO is designed to restrict and prohibit certain behaviours where evidential tests are satisfied, and restrictions are set and implemented by the local authority in designated locations.

The aims of the Old Leigh PSPO are to address the concerns (behavioural and activity related) witness through 2020 and already this year. The PSPO will also provide a key enforcement tool for the Police and the council to deliver a long-term solution to persistent anti-social behaviour which is affecting the 'restricted area.' It also provides a structured opportunity to assist those undertaking offending behaviours, increasing opportunities for outreach and signposting to support services.

The PSPO will apply to all persons, and not 'persons in specified categories' (s59 6a of the Act), however, an equality analysis is required as the specified activities to be covered by the PSPO will be undertaken by individuals with protected characteristics, and the impact of the PSPO on these protected characteristics needs to be understood and reviewed. The PSPO will also impact on residents in, and visitors to, the restricted area so a review of the impact on their protected characteristics is also required.

1.7 What are the main activities relating to the policy, service function or restructure?

Under this PSPO the following activities will be prohibited within the restricted area:

- a) Urination, defecation, spitting or littering
- b) Consuming alcohol and behaving in an anti-social manner or failing to surrender any containers (sealed or unsealed) which are reasonably believed to contain alcohol, in a public place, when an Authorised Officer has required such consumption to cease
- c) Ingesting, inhaling, injecting, smoking or otherwise using drugs or substances reasonably believed to be Psychoactive Substances.

## 2. Evidence Base

2.1 Please list sources of information, data, results of consultation exercises that could or will inform the EA.

Source of information	Reason for using (eg. likely impact on a particular group).
Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2019 GOV.UK	The index of multiple deprivation (IMD) is a measure which is used to determine deprivation in every small area in England.  The area considered for a PSPO falls into Southend-on-Sea 011D and is

	<p>within the Leigh Ward. This is amongst the 40% least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.</p>
<p>ONS Mid Year Estimates Office of National Statistics</p>	<p>Mid estimates provide Southend population data by age and gender.</p> <p>0-4year olds 11,304 5-19 year olds 31,803 20-64 year olds 104,259 65+ year olds 35,097</p> <p>49.0% of our population are males, 51% of our population are females (Population Pyramid, ONS).</p> <p>By 2031 the projected population for Southend on Sea will be 195,875 an increase of 5%.</p> <p>It is estimated 10,465 people live in the Leigh Ward (E05002217), 0-4 year olds: 369 males, 299 Females 5-19 year olds: 856 males, 856 Females 20-64 year olds: 3124 males, 3191 Females 65+ year olds: 758 males, 1012 Females</p>
<p>Southend Insights/Nomis</p>	<p>Southend-on-Sea local area report sourced from the 2011 census of key statistics across the borough.</p> <p>Southend Ethnic Group is as follows: All categories: Ethnic group, 173,658 White 158,861 Gypsy / Traveller / Irish Traveller 162 Mixed / Multiple ethnic group 3,651 Asian / Asian British: Indian 1,810 Asian / Asian British: Pakistani 1,059 Asian / Asian British: Bangladeshi 933 Asian / Asian British: Chinese 1,084 Asian / Asian British: Other Asian 1,554 Black / African / Caribbean / Black-British 3,647 Other Ethnic Group 897</p> <p>2011 Census shows 2012 people do not use English as a household language. The PSPO will affect anyone committing certain behaviours within the restricted area.</p>

	Alternative formats of communication should be provided, where a language requirement has been identified from working with local communities.
Southend 2050 Southend-on-Sea Council	People in all parts of the borough feel safe and secure at all times. We are effective at protecting and improving the quality of life for the most vulnerable in our community
2020-2050 Destination Southend, Southend Tourism Partnership Research conducted by Destination Research	Figures obtained from Economic Impact of Tourism Southend 2019, produced by Destination Research using the Cambridge Model.  Southend receives 7,450,900 trips (day & staying) 51% Holiday 32% Visiting Friends and Family 14% Business 3% Other/Study  It is unclear if visitors to the area will likely witness or undertake the offending behaviours. But it is likely that visitors to Southend will encounter the area.
Community Safety Unit, Borough wide ASB reports and incident data	Community Safety Unit receives anti-social behaviour complaints from citizens. Comparing 2019/20 to 2020/21 the unit received a significant increase of ASB complaints across Southend in the following categories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance Dealing by 111.5%</li> <li>• Street Drinking by 143%</li> <li>• Youth Nuisance by 74.1%</li> </ul> Southend Community Safety Officers keep records of ASB engagements/incidents. Comparing 2019/20 to 2020/21 SBC Officers record a 162.2% (60 incidents) increase in Youth Nuisance
Police Data UK	Open data about crime and policing. Street level crime was downloaded to provide an overview of type of offences committed by ward.  Crime in 2020/21 in most wards has reduced compared to 2019/20. This is likely due to the impact of Covid-19 and

	<p>decrease in crime nationwide.</p> <p>Anti-social behaviour increased; Leigh increased by 45.1% West Leigh increased by 60% Chalkwell increased by 86.3%</p> <p>Public order also increased in West Leigh by 79.2% compared to the previous year.</p>
<p>Strategic Intelligence Assessment</p>	<p>A yearly statutory document completed by community safety unit and Essex Police, drawing on a range of national and local data re Crime and ASB to produce recommendations for the Community Safety Partnership.</p> <p>The assessment highlights the concern of under reporting of open air substance misuse and associated ASB. Substance misuse is also commonly raised at community forums by citizens. The assessment also presents data identifying Community Safety Officers spend a lot of time across the borough engaging with people street drinking. It is a CSP Priority to focus on ASB with an emphasis on alcohol and substance misuse in public spaces.</p>
<p>PANSI data 'Total population aged 18-64 predicted to be at higher risk of alcohol-related health problems, by gender, projected to 2040'</p> <p>Total population aged 18-64 predicted to be dependent on drugs, by gender, projected to 2040</p>	<p>This data set shows 3117 males in Southend are predicted to be at higher risk of alcohol-related health problems</p> <p>This data set shows 1963 females in Southend are predicted to be at higher risk of alcohol-related health problems</p> <p>This data set shows 2537 males in Southend are predicted to be dependent on drugs. Mostly aged between 18-24 years.</p> <p>This data set shows 1248 females in Southend are predicted to be dependent on drugs. Mostly aged between 25-34 years.</p> <p>This data set shows that 3785 people in Southend are predicted to have a dependence on drugs or alcohol. Out of an estimated total population aged 18-</p>

	<p>64 114,400 this means that 3.3% have a dependence of some kind.</p> <p>Whether this proportion would be representative and therefore applicable to individuals likely to undertake offending behaviours is not clear.</p>
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Please Note: reports/data/evidence can be added as appendices to the EA.

2.2 Identify any gaps in the information and understanding of the impact of your policy, service function or restructure. Indicate in your action plan (section 5) whether you have identified ways of filling these gaps.

The data sources outlined in 2.1 above have been sourced to provide an overview demographic data from which to draw some average conclusions where the specific restricted area data is unavailable.

However, there are gaps in the following data:

- Crime and ASB occurring in the restricted area.
- Perception of safety within in the restricted area.
- Demographics of those living in, working in and visiting the restricted area.

As the implementation of the PSPO is likely to have a larger impact on certain sections of the community, analysis will take into account the likely impact of the PSPO on the communities and their associated characteristics.

### 3. Analysis

3.1 An analysis and interpretation of the impact of the policy, service function or restructure should be undertaken, with the impact for each of the groups with *'protected characteristics'* and the source of that evidence also set out against those findings.

In addition, the Council has identified the need to assess the impact of a policy, service function or restructure on carers, looked after children (as part of the age characteristic) as well as the socioeconomic impact of different groups, such as employment classifications.

Initial assessment of a perceived impact of the policy, service function or restructure. The impact can be positive or negative (or in some circumstances both), none or unclear:

	Impact - Please tick				
	Yes			No	Unclear
	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
<b>Age (including looked after children)</b>	x				
<b>Disability</b>	x				
<b>Gender reassignment</b>					x

<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>				X	
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	X				
<b>Race</b>	X				
<b>Religion or belief</b>					X
<b>Sex</b>			X		
<b>Sexual orientation</b>					X
<b>Carers</b>				X	
<b>Socio-economic</b>	X				

Descriptions of the protected characteristics are available in the guidance or from: [EHRC - protected characteristics](#)

- 3.2 Where an impact has been identified above, outline what the impact of the policy, service function or restructure on members of the groups with protected characteristics below:

	<b>Potential Impact</b>
<b>Age</b>	<p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b></p> <p>Likely for all ages to see a positive impact due to reduced exposure. Particularly those who are most vulnerable in terms of age – the very young and the elderly who can feel intimidated by certain behaviours such as consuming alcohol and using drugs/substances will see a benefit as these activities will diminish.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b></p> <p>An authorised officer of the Council may issue a FPN to anyone they have reason to believe has committed an offence under section 67 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. A FPN can be issued to anyone from the age of 10 years old</p> <p>However, enforcement will always signpost to services as first resort with enforcement action taken as a second option. It is recognised that young offenders may be unable to absorb the financial impact and enforcement officers would look at referring to intervention services than issue a financial penalty. The overall</p>

<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>impact on this group will be positive.</p> <p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b></p> <p>Likely to have a positive impact as people with a disability may be disproportionately affected by certain activities and behaviours, so the introduction of the PSPO should result in an overall benefit as these activities diminish.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b></p> <p>Anecdotally, mental and physical health issues are increasingly linked to anti-social behaviour as they are often linked to drug and alcohol misuse.</p> <p>The introduction of the PSPO will;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Accessibility to information – based on communication needs. Information about the requirements of the PSPO will need to be provided and delivered in a consistent and clear way, and in formats people with learning difficulties, hearing or sight impairment, for example, can understand.</li> <li>2) Tailored needs. Enforcement officers will be trained in dealing with cases on an individual basis to ensure information about available support is provided based upon individual needs and a consistent but fair approach is adopted in order to try and address any issues.</li> </ol> <p>Because enforcement officers will be sign posting individuals to appropriate services as the first resort (taking into account communication and mobility needs) with enforcement action as a second option, the impact overall on this group will be positive.</p>
<p><b>Gender reassignment</b></p>	<p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b></p> <p>An understanding of the perception of safety within this area is required.</p> <p>It is likely that the implementation of the PSPO will have a positive impact on those who have undergone gender reassignment as feeling of safety in the area increases.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b></p>



	<p>No data available to indicate what proportion of individuals undertaking offending behaviours may have undergone gender reassignment because enforcement officers will be adopting a consistent and fair approach by sign posting individuals to appropriate services based on their needs as the first resort, with enforcement action as a second option, the impact overall on this group will be positive as help and support is made available.</p>
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	<p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b> Likely to have a positive impact in terms of safety for expecting parents and young infants.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b> Where necessary additional support measures would be put in place through prevention, education and sign posting to relevant services. Enforcement action will be a second option.</p>
<b>Race</b>	<p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b> Likely to have a positive impact on those with protected characteristics.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b> Where necessary additional support measures would be put in place through prevention, education and sign posting to relevant services. Enforcement action will be a second option.</p>
<b>Religion or belief</b>	<p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b> An understanding of the perception of safety within this area is required. It is likely that the implementation of the PSPO will have a positive impact as feeling of safety in the area increases.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b> Where necessary additional support measures would be put in place through prevention, education and sign posting to relevant services. Enforcement action will be a second option.</p>
<b>Sex</b>	<b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b>

	<p>Likely to have a positive impact on those with protected characteristics.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b> The data sources in section 2.1 indicate that the majority of individuals likely to undertake offending behaviour will be male. It is therefore likely to presume that this group will be disproportionately impacted by the implementation of the PSPO.</p> <p>Where necessary additional support measures would be put in place through prevention, education and sign posting to relevant services. Enforcement action will be a second option.</p>
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	<p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b> An understanding of the perception of safety within this area is required. It is likely that the implementation of the PSPO will have a positive impact as feeling of safety in the area increases.</p> <p><b><u>Individuals undertaking offending behaviour</u></b> Where necessary additional support measures would be put in place through prevention, education and sign posting to relevant services. Enforcement action will be a second option.</p>
<b>Carers</b>	N/A
<b>Socio-economic</b>	<p><b><u>Residents in, and visitors to, restricted area</u></b> Consideration needs to be given to how incidents which may occur in the restricted area can be reported. The use of MySouthend will ensure that all residents and visitors can access an online portal to report issues.</p> <p><b><u>Language and Digital Access</u></b> Although the majority of Southend-on-Sea households speak English as a main language, there are still areas where language and literacy are a barrier to understanding council services and what is available. The MySouthend portal improves accessibility for residents where English is not their main language as the online Google</p>

translate service will be available. Although this is a rudimentary translation tool, it will provide residents with instant translations.

If residents require assistance on accessing MySouthend or further assistance with how to use, they will be able to contact the Council directly to request this.

The MySouthend portal collects equalities data when reports are made (if the individual completes the questions) so these can be reviewed as part of the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the PSPO impact.

### **Individuals undertaking offending behaviour**

The restriction of the consumption of alcohol in the restricted area could affect those that are alcohol dependent. However, in some instances, the PSPO may help to ensure that people engage with the support that is available to them, having a positive impact on their health and wellbeing.

The PSPO fixed notice penalty may also put some individuals at risk of further deprivation (if they do not have the means to pay them as we have explored above, potentially affecting the younger demographic the most) – which may in itself lead to criminal behaviour in order to obtain the funds to pay off the penalty. However, because enforcement officers will be adopting a consistent and fair approach by sign posting individuals to appropriate services based on their needs as the first resort, with enforcement action as a second option, the impact overall on this group will be positive as help and support is made available.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that there is a high likelihood that those carrying out, and involved in, the offending behaviours will be socio-economically disadvantaged in some way. This demographic may therefore be disproportionately impacted by the PSPO. However, because enforcement officers will be adopting a consistent and fair approach by sign posting individuals to appropriate services based on their needs as the first resort, with

	<p>enforcement action as a second option, the impact overall on this group will be positive as help and support is made available.</p> <p><b>Language</b> Accompanying information signs in the restricted area will contain the legal wording of the Order – a legal requirement. However, this means that it is unlikely that they will be written in plain English. Consideration will therefore need to be given to how this information is made accessible to all individuals in the restricted area, with legal responsibilities clearly and consistently communicated.</p>
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#### 4. Community Impact

- 4.1 You may also need to undertake an analysis of the potential direct or indirect impact on the wider community when introducing a new/revised policy, service function or restructure.
- 4.2 You can use the [Community Cohesion Impact Assessment](#) as a guide, outlining a summary of your findings below:

#### 5. Equality Analysis Action Plan

5.1 Use the below table to set out what action will be taken to:

- Ensure a full analysis of the impact of the policy, service function or restructure is undertaken.
- Mitigate/address identified negative impacts or unlawful prohibited conduct.
- To promoted improved equality of opportunity and to foster good relations.
- How the action plan will be monitored and at what intervals.

Planned action	Objective	Who	When	How will this be monitored (e.g. via team/service plans)
Consultation	To obtain wider views and comments on the proposed PSPO		May 2021	
Research Demographics and Crime & Disorder types within the restricted area	To understand more about the victims/perpetrators of certain types of behaviour in Southend	Community Safety Partnership	Start July 2021	Community Safety Data & Insights Analyst
Research Safety perception within the restricted area	To understand the perception of the area from residents and visitors. Data can be captured through	Community Safety Partnership	To start when PSPO comes into force	Community Safety Manager/Data & Insights Analyst

	<p>partnership day surveys.</p> <p>To identify whether there are any groups that are disproportionately affected and implement strategies to mitigate this</p>			
<p>Equality Monitoring of individuals found in breach of PSPO</p>	<p>To monitor and evaluate the impact of the PSPO on protected characteristics.</p> <p>To identify whether there are any groups that are disproportionately affected and implement strategies to mitigate this</p>	<p>Community Safety Partnership</p>	<p>To start when PSPO comes into force</p>	<p>Community Safety Manager/Community Safety Data &amp; Insights Analyst</p>
<p>Demographic information of those who breach PSPO</p>	<p>Including reason for this and the outcome for each person (i.e. fine/criminal justice response)</p>	<p>Community Safety Partnership</p>	<p>To start when PSPO comes into force</p>	<p>Community Safety Manager/Community Safety Data &amp; Insights Analyst</p>

Signed (lead officer): .....

Signed (Director): .....

Once signed, please send a copy of the completed EA (and, if applicable, CCIA) to Tim MacGregor [TimMacGregor@southend.gov.uk](mailto:TimMacGregor@southend.gov.uk).