

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Equality Impact Assessment

Assessment completed by Zoe Flaherty

Name of policy/project/ service to be assessed	Highview Public Space Protection Order (PSPOs)		
Method of analysis undertaken and dates	Managers – desktop screening 🛛 Date: 30.05.2024 □ Date: TBC Stakeholder review □ Date: TBC		
Who does the policy or service affect?	Customers (public)Image: Customers (public)Internal (staff/Members)Image: Customers (public)External (partners/contractors/agencies)Image: Customers (public)OtherImage: Customers (public)		
What are the aims/ objectives/purpose or outcome or intended effects of the policy, project or service?	To consider approval of a PSPO following public consultation with those who are currently and would/could be affected by the control zone of the Hatfield Highview area. To understand the issues and concerns of those within the proposed control zone and potential impact on protected characteristics.		
What equality data is available relating to the use or implementation of the policy, project or service?	There is an understanding that the proposed control zones have a varied social demographic, in terms of residents and businesses, as such it is important that all those who could be affected are appropriately and adequately consulted prior to consideration being given to the implementation of those PSPOs.		
What consultation has taken place in the development or review of the policy, project or service?	The consultation took place between February and March 2024. There is a legal duty for the council to consult to ensure that the proposed PSPOs are proportionate and necessary within their geographical area. As part of the consultation, we liaised with residents, organisations, visitors and businesses in Hatfield.		

Does the policy have a positive or negative impact on any of the following Protected Characteristic groups covered by the Equality Act 2010?

	Positive Yes/No	Negative Yes/No	Neutral Yes/No	Evidence & Comments
Age	NO	NO	YES	The PSPO will not discriminate in terms of age.
Disability	NO	YES	NO	Disability can include mental health conditions. Research has shown that begging is commonly used to feed drug and alcohol misuse habits (and mental health issues may be associated with these addictions). Research has also found that often the persons begging are not homeless. There is no intention to target homeless persons under the begging provision. If enforcement officers find persons begging, or street drinking, that are vulnerable or in need of support appropriate action will be taken.
Ethnicity	NO	YES	NO	It is understood that there are a number of street drinkers are from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. In particular, intelligence suggests that some individuals are of Eastern European community. We will engage with individuals in Highview to discourage ASB associated with the prohibition but if not complied with will need to move to enforcement.
Gender re- assignment	NO	NO	YES	The implementation of this proposal will have no effect on this characteristic
Marriage/Civil partnership	NO	NO	YES	The implementation of this proposal will have no effect on this characteristic
Pregnancy & Maternity	NO	NO	YES	The implementation of this proposal will have no effect on this characteristic

		5		Evidence & Comments
	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	
Religion or belief	NO	NO	YES	The implementation of this proposal will have no effect on this characteristic
Sex	NO	NO	YES	The implementation of this proposal will have no effect on this characteristic
Sexual orientation	NO	NO	YES	The implementation of this proposal will have no effect on this characteristic

Equality Impact Assessment Outcome:

Low risk

Medium risk $\ \square$

High risk \Box

Any other comments:

For Steering Group use only:

Comments: