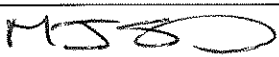


The **public sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people's needs. The Council's Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the council to better understand the potential impact of the budget proposals and consider mitigating action.

<p><b>Name or Brief Description of Proposal</b></p>	<p>The introduction of Public Spaces Protection Orders to control street drinking and begging in Southampton.</p>
<p><b>Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)</b></p>	<p>The Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2013 allows a local authority to make a Public Spaces Protection Order to restrict activities which are carried on in a public place and which are detrimental to the quality of life of those in the locality.</p> <p>The community safety team have received complaints about street drinking and begging, which is becoming increasingly prevalent within the city, particularly in the commercial centres and parks.</p> <p>The police have produced evidence to identify the extent of the localities in which street drinking and begging are detrimental to the quality of life of people living, working or visiting a locality.</p> <p>Five localities have been identified: City Centre, Portswood, Bitterne, Woolston and Shirley.</p>
<p><b>Summary of Impact and Issues</b></p>	<p>The public spaces protection orders will provide the police with additional powers to tackle street drinking and begging.</p> <p>The activities are currently unlawful. Street drinking is</p>

	<p>restricted by a Designated Public Places Order which is due to expire in 2017. The Public Places Protection Orders will continue the restriction on drinking alcohol in public places, where it is associated with anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Begging is prohibited by the Vagrancy Act 1861 and the public spaces protection orders will provide police with additional powers to tackle begging.</p> <p>Early consultation with stakeholders, including homelessness outreach workers, accommodation providers and drug and alcohol services has identified a network of support in the city for people who may be homeless or who have drug or alcohol dependency.</p>
<b>Potential Positive Impacts</b>	The public spaces protection orders will provide police with additional powers to tackle street drinking and begging and will improve the quality of life in localities where the orders take effect.
<b>Responsible Service Manager</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

<b>Approved by Senior Manager</b>	MITCH SANDERS
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	20/10/15

### Potential Impact

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
<b>Age</b>	None identified	Not applicable
<b>Disability</b>	None identified	Not applicable

<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	None identified	Not applicable
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Not identified	Not applicable
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	Not identified	Not applicable
<b>Race</b>	Not identified	Not applicable
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	Not identified	Not applicable
<b>Sex</b>	Not identified	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not identified	Not applicable
<b>Community Safety</b>	Reducing begging and street drinking with improve community safety by reducing the anti-social behaviour associated with these activities and improving the quality of life of those living in, working in or visiting the areas covered by the orders.	Not applicable
<b>Poverty</b>	Begging (and street drinking) can have links to poverty, with individuals engaging in begging due to insufficient access to financial resources.	<p>Engagement with stakeholders has shown that persons known to beg in the city have access to a range of support services, including homelessness advice and access to accommodation within the city.</p> <p>Enforcement of the provisions of the PSPO will include action to direct individuals to engage with the support services that are available within the city.</p>

<b>Other Significant Impacts</b>	None identified	Not applicable
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