

Appendix 3 Consultee Comments

In the last 12 months have you witnessed anti-social behaviour in any public spaces of Ashby town centre (including Hood Park and Bath Grounds). If yes, what type of anti-social behaviour was this? - Comments

Alcohol induced fighting and antisocial behaviour in the streets. The amount of sick on Market Street floors last night was appalling.

Bath Grounds was a regular hang out throughout the summer for youths drinking alcohol and smoking cannabis. Most evenings this occurred during our evening dog walk. Large amounts of litter was left. Highfields Park also attracted street drinkers and cannabis smoking especially on Friday evenings.

bullying of another teenager

Car meet ups in the Co-Op Car Park.

Crowds gathering in Market Street last June after an England football match

Disorder at night in Market Street throwing fireworks at police

Dog fouling

Drug taking in lamb passage associated with lamb Inn, especially on Thursday night. Youths using nitrous oxide and smoking cannabis at the benches on South street. Children as young as 10 picking cigarette ends off the floor outside pubs and smoking. All the same group!!

Drunk people in Market St

Drivers using excessive speed in residential areas of Ashby. Traffic calming is required on Nottingham Rd!

Fireworks in Bath Grounds

Fly-tipping on Corkscrew Lane and takeaway litter and cans in Bath Grounds.

Found drug glass bottles on floor on Nottingham road  by the school

Gangs of kids smoking weed and damaging property.

Group of teens in bathgrounds using laughing gas in broad daylight, there were even children playing football close by

Hood park area by dug outs on east side and steel roller on northern perimeter.

It's every where you turn in Ashby. Hood park, market street and bath grounds aren't enough. What about the field opposite the bath grounds which leads to back of castle and tennis club. Then there is the jitty way from bath grounds onto Pennines way. It doesn't just stop at those sites, they find anywhere even behind the bungalows on Wilfred Place. I fear more police and extend the proposal to all of Ashby including the estates

Kids drinking and smoking weed , hood park

Late night noisy meetings on the skate park that go on until 3am.

Lots of foul language and sometimes loud music.

House near us seems to be a local drug dealer. Police have been several times but the dealing goes on.

Mainly in Hood Park

Market Street behaviour during football matches in the summer was disgraceful and felt threatening. Bath grounds regularly smell very fruity when walking the dog in the evening.....

My daughter was followed home by an unknown individual recently. Incident reported to police

My experience has all been in relation to kids within the ages of 14-18 hanging around hood park, drinking, smoking and generally misbehaving. If there were deterred from doing so and perhaps given facilities that encouraged ambition this could be prevented.

None

Party in the gardens of the derelict Royal,Hotel/Bath Grounds

People wandering drunk across the high street Friday and Saturday nights.

Shouting and screaming on wood street on weekends at kicking out time. Cars revving and speeding every day up wood street. It's crazy there haven't been more accidents.

Shouting, screaming and singing during the night and numerous examples of rubbish lying around during and afterwards in parks and on pavements. Inconsiderate and dangerous parking and dreadful speeding particularly in Leicester road.

-Summer Football Hooligans in Town Centre from Main Street Pubs

-Youths (mainly Aged 10-18) using Hood Park discard lots of plastic bottles / Litter onto and around the Skate Park. Broken Glass also involved. Local Residents pick up debris on many occasions because of danger to Dogs and children

- Youth aged 11-13 pushing over a Bollard near to the Childrens Playground/Car Park in Hood Park. Reported to Reception at Leisure Centre

- Ash Tree Road Electricity Sub-Station had Graffiti painted on it

- Several Ash Tree Road Residents recently had youths knocking on doors around 7-9pm and running away, for a couple of weeks

We witnessed a drug handover in the Bath Grounds during the day (which we reported immediately) and often see drunken youngsters hanging about both there and in the fields opposite. Litter is an ongoing issue everywhere in Ashby.

To what extent has the anti-social behaviour in Ashby town centre (including Hood Park and Bath Grounds) affected you? – Comments

As above, people being aggressive in the streets in fights between themselves and sick on the pavement

Front window pane broken on house

I am very rarely in Ashby at night and wouldn't go into places like the Bath Grounds at night

I am cautious when I take the children out to parks etc

I do not go into town during the evenings at the weekends in particular

I don't really use the town centre much at night.

I have not been directly impacted, but I have friends who have.

I live next to the Co-Op Car Park.

Made me want to go less

Mainly littering

Makes me feel uncomfortable when I'm alone or with my kids

Mainly noise Nuisance

Not nice to hear. But even the footballers swear a lot

Now the clicks have changed my life is restricted, my elderly neighbors feel the same

Only when visiting friends who live close to the town centre. We experienced noise in their garden from music being played in the adjacent field near Ashby Castle.

refrain from visiting town centre on an evening

The Bath Grounds seem to be a regular evening haunt for smoking drugs and who know what else. Litter left during long summer evenings demonstrated that a messy minority of the youth have little respect for the facility with masses of litter, bottles, cans, takeaway food containers and wrappers left on the grass, even when not far from the various bins - as seen on early morning dog walks.

The speeding and loud exhausts do not appear to be policed.

Thought about moving.

Totally unacceptable and afraid to go into Ashby town centre on a Friday or Saturday night

Very nervous when walking dog because you can't say anything as you don't know what you are going to get in return and I am talking about physical abuse

We live on an arterial road just outside Ashby town centre and litter, drunken shouting and sometimes people falling into the road occurs

Would not go after dark.

Wouldn't walk in the dark the shortest route into town centre from home

On a scale of 1-10, how safe do you feel if you are in Ashby town centre at night? ('10' being very safe and '1' not feeling safe at all.) - Comments

All of my answers to above. Regardless of age there are no manners from male or female

Ashby is dangerous at night time. I wouldn't go on my own. There's so much anti social behaviour. People can't behave themselves.

being gay ashby isnt safe

But it's from Ashby through to my home on Marlborough Way too.

Even those people are sometimes fighting they seem localised between themselves with general the police station disappeared, I wouldn't contemplate it now.

I used to go out socially at night but not anymore

I walk home in the early hours most days but since the end of the first lock down the anti social behaviour has definitely increased making it a concern

I was born in Ashby, unfortunately it is no longer a pleasant place to be on many weekend evenings and I avoid the centre

I wouldn't chose to be in Ashby late at night

I wouldn't plan a night out in Ashby, it has a BAD reputation

I'm rarely there at the weekend, but during the week it's quiet

It does not feel safe for females alone in the dark.

Lighting, the street lights are very dim

Market street has alot of violence when people leave bars

Not nice at night

Reasonably safe but think the lack of police station is an issue as people think nothing will happen if they carry out ASB. Police presence helps make you feel safer.

Safer than most other towns

The attacks respect outside of this.

Friday and Saturday night you can witness appalling behaviour. Worse than inner cities High police presence makes me feel safe.

I feel much less safe walking across bath grounds at night than high street area

I have rarely felt unsafe in Ashby at any time of day, especially compared to other places' nighttime economies.

I used to feel quite safe walking through Ashby in the dark on my own, but as the town has grown and on women recently makes it unlikely I would go out into Ashby town centre at night. Heard a number of anecdotal stories of women being verbally abused by drunk groups of young men.

The jitties always feel a bit creepy at night. In fact as soon as darkness falls.

The police seem somewhere else. Also Ashby on the weekends seems to be taken over by idiots from elsewhere- apart from the Tap at 76 and Zamanis (cocktails) I wouldn't drink anywhere else There should be a greater police presence in Ashby at weekends after 10:30pm

Too many Pubs/Restaurants serving alcohol

Try to stay out of town at night especially weekends which is a shame as I would like to support local pubs and restaurants

Wary of drunken violence and abusive language

We often avoid the town at night as a result.

While I feel safe as a middle aged male my partner said she would not dog walk at night time. Turning street lighting off from midnight is a bad move.

Would you support the council introducing a PSPO to be able to enforce against any (or potential) anti-social behaviour involving drinking alcohol in public spaces in Ashby town centre? – Comments

Absolutely. People should not be worried about it unless they are likely to be the cause of concern.

Any steps to control this behaviour would be welcome. Police need to be able to deal with trouble immediately

But needs to be enforced on the other parks such as Westfields which aren't included in this as alcohol and anti social behaviour happens here

But off putting you need one

But will this move the problem to elsewhere in the town ? Surely a better option is feet on the ground and beat officers.

Definitely

Enlarge the area to include Nottingham road

I 100% support this. I'm amazed that this even needs to be a thing anyway - surely some rights should exist already for the Police?

I feel the current laws available to the police regarding anti social behaviour and other criminality are sufficient. People should be able to enjoy open spaces responsibly and that includes late nights and while drinking.

I live within the proposed area and feel it could be used unfairly against residents. I have no garden so the nearest place to have a drink outside in the sunshine with friends is the bath grounds. I would worry that the rules could be unfair on the local residents inside this area when often the cause is not the local residents

I would also support a Police presence in Ashby.....

If it makes it safe for me to go into Ashby for an evening meal it will be worth while

Keep in place permanently!

Much safer place in lockdown for me personally

Need to re educate the minority

No details of how the order would be enforced or by whom

Plus making parents be more responsible for their young people. I'd be mortified if it were my kids

See previous comments and also suggest that a street clean fine is introduced and enforced for the officers associated with: littering, cigarette stubs, sick etc

Thought we already had rules to stop people taking drinks onto the pavement areas

Very much needed especially as people relax after the lifting of Covid restrictions.

We seem to be an entertainment hub. I think it is necessary to police it better.

Will definitely deter people and hopefully stop those kind of people ruining our town

Would you support the council introducing a PSPO to be able to enforce against any (or potential) anti-social behaviour involving psychoactive substances (an example of this is nitrous oxide) in public spaces in Ashby town centre? – Comments

Absolutely. 100%.

As above

but also other open spaces

Definitely

I feel the law is sufficient without a blunt instrument like this proposal.

Long overdue, skate park is a disgrace and the new work out frames attract wronguns

More powers the better

No details of how the order would be enforced or by whom

Really! Is it that bad

See above number 6

stop the sale of substances and underage supply of alcohol

Do you have any further comments that you would like to make about anti-social behaviour or crime that impacts generally upon Ashby town centre (please note, this is for information only and any specific or personal incidents that require investigation will need to be reported through the appropriate channels). - Comments

A few comments:

1. Pub and nightclub owners need to take greater responsibility for the behaviour and drug/alcohol consumption on their premises. Restricted alcohol consumption is clearly a conflict of interest with their business model.
2. Antisocial behaviour monitoring and enforcement should also include noise cause by shouting and vehicles (with adapted exhausts). The current security cameras do not capture sound - if they did, car registrations could be taken (automatically?) and owners followed up where excessive noise is made.
3. We recently had one of our front windows smashed. The CCTV was not able to pick this incident up. How do we get this improved?
4. Late night licenses seem to be frequently given to extend hours to 3 or 4 am. Is there public consensus on how late the night time economy should continue? These hours seem excessive for a small market town.
5. Litter, vomit and urine in the street is a continuing problem. As a start, can takeaways be mandated to supply only containers containing zero plastic - these are now widely available.

A small entitle minority seem intent on spoiling it for all, if they can be effectively dealt with / educated it will me a much better place for all.

As I live right in town centre itself (Claridge Place) the only time I see any police is approx 3am when they drive by my kitchen window which overlooks North Street. They are nowhere to be seen during the evening or when people are causing noise and disruption after leaving the pubs and later on the clubs. As a single woman that lives alone and surrounded by elderly people I myself have had to go out on several occasions and tell them to go away. I'm sure people do not realise that people actually live here. If it was on a residential street further away from town there would be uproar. Just because I live in town centre doesn't mean that I'm not entitled to some peace at 1,2 +3am. An the amount of smashed bottles and glasses left on pavement is horrendous and that's after the street cleaners have been.

Ashby during the day is a very nice place. During the night, particularly weekends, it has an underlying punchiness. I'd feel safer in a big city. Strange but true.

Ashby has a terrible reputation and that is down to the pubs and clubs, this behaviour has been allowed to develop over a long period of time. The licensing laws need to be changed, early closing to discourage poor behaviour and those that enjoy that type of entertainment. For that reason I don't visit in the evenings.

Ashby is a lovely market town during the day but at night it changes its character and becomes violent and abusive.

Please do anything you can to change this so that decent law abiding citizens can enjoy the facilities without fearing verbal abuse and violence. The police do their best but they need more powers.

Ashby used to be a very pleasant place to live and work. It seems increasingly to be attracting undesirables and their associated behaviour.

Beautiful town that has lovely public areas being ruined by ASB. Gas canisters and discarded marijuana cigarettes are a common sight

Concerned that activity may just move to open spaces outside of the zone, eg housing estate parks.

Double yellow parking on both sides of road at top of Market Street (both on road and sitting on pavement). Extra parking bays were introduced to resolve issue outside takeaways but the situation has simply got worse with only space for single lane traffic to get through. I even had a police car sit an allow me though recently. This is anti-social behaviour as people are having no respect for parking regulations. One day there will be an accident.

I have made comments in each box above. Most importantly is that the officers should be respected and respect comes with enforceable power against all street crimes and littering as set out!

I have plenty to say about the anti social behaviour from children, youths, adults, male and female but I don't think it is appropriate for this forum

I haven't seen any anti social behaviour but I have seen empty canisters around littering the floor. I think that the proposed PSPO is a good idea as I am sure that people are affected by anti social behaviour and it would particularly help anyone who lives nearby to the proposed public areas.

I love living in Ashby but do feel that things have worsened considerably recently and would very much welcome any additional policing measures. As a resident of Prior Park Road we have invested in CCTV cameras and have to keep our gates locked due to concerns about inebriated and opportunistic people looking for trouble late at night.

I think that St.Helens church and a bit more of Market/Wood Street should be included in the prohibition area.

I think there's been a systematic cut to youth services and service generally which mean some people feel they have nothing to do and nowhere to go, which may be contributing.

I thought that the centre of Ashby was already covered by an order that prohibited drinking alcohol on the streets so not sure why this new order is required - or even if the new order would dilute that as it appears to say that people would be able to drink on the street? I'd assumed that substances such as Khat would already be able to be seized as I understood that had become illegal to possess in 2014 so again not sure why this new order would be needed? So I'm a bit confused by the whole

thing - what would probably be more effective is a more consistent presence to deter antisocial behaviour in the first place (not that I'd say Ashby has a big problem with this - it's more that with having lost the police station some years back it'd be nice to feel that if a presence was needed it could be provided locally and in a timely manner. I'd say that generally Ashby does feel a safe town but there seems to be a 'drinking culture' that exists weekend evenings and for me that changes the feel and makes me a bit reluctant to go out in Ashby on a Friday or Saturday night when I see it as more of a 'young peoples' place

I would like the ability for pubs and bars to be able to have an outside space on the pavement to drink during the summer months, roped off from the general public. I realise not all places would be able to do this but I think it's what Ashby is lacking, a continental type vibe

More enforcement required for littering as well

I would like to see the area of the order extended up to and including Marlborough Way, Stowe close, the flats on Marlborough Way. The debris and night, early hours disturbances are frightening.

The alley ways from Ashby-de-la-Zouch to the area stated are a no go zone and used by drug dealers. The use of electric scooters by unsavoury people is on the increase.

In addition to anti social behaviour there is far too much attempted, and actual, theft or property damage particularly during the night.

In general I find Ashby a welcoming place. Even at night i have rarely felt threatened by anti social behaviour. I think that the laws available are sufficient and perhaps the levels of policing in the town are the problem, not the tools available for them to tackle any issues. I also think the boundary drawn up will simply push any perceived problems to another area nearby, Ashby is not short of open spaces like St Helens or parks not inside the boundary.

It is a very peaceful place on the whole. I still very much enjoy living here.

it is not just the town centre, I live on Hastings Park and the drinking and drugs has now moved from the town centre to this estate especially the large walkway from Flora Grove to Leicester Road.

weekend mornings is usually taken up with picking beer bottles up along with the broken glass.

It would be beneficial to be able to report incidences in an easy manner. 101 is very complex and long winded as there are too many stages in the reporting process. I have given up once when reporting an incident.

It would be great to have a youth club or somewhere kids could go. Without having to congregate outdoors in groups. I also strongly feel local schools should encourage bright coats or reflective clothing in winter as it's hard to see the kids in the dark nights yet Ivanhoe enforces black coats as their uniform.

It's one thing to introduce regulations, but regulations require enforcement. I don't ever see any police or council workers in Ashby, watching out for criminal or antisocial behaviour, so unless resources will be put in place, any new regulations will be a waste of time. Is the council relying upon members of the public to report every incident, and who will respond to such a report. Good Intentions but hardly workable.

Just hope that if the proposed restrictions are to become law then they will be vigorously enforced and not subject to WOKE pressures

Kids break into the all weather football pitches and cause damage to the fencing. Noise, language etc are the problems.

Laws already exist to control anti social behaviour and they should be used and enforced with the appropriate level of policing. Building an artificial boundary in the town where rules are different will just force anti-social behaviour elsewhere - further into the suburbs and residential areas and parks further out of the town. What is really needed is infrastructure and resources the youth of today can use in the town.

Let's get the Police back on the streets there. Let's get a Police Station back in Ashby. The town and surrounding villages are very poorly served indeed by the region's police force and the result of this is that we are witnessing more and more anti-social behaviour in the area (including Moira, Donisthorpe etc).

Litter is a real problem. NWLDC creates a lot of litter on recycling collection days and does not pick it up. It then gets blown in hedgerows and is not good for the environment.

Make Ashby 20mph from Willesley Road, Nottingham Rd, Smisby Road.

Too many people driving too fast, too many drivers with illegal exhaust pipes...

Nothing is being done

No

Not sure why such a small town can get so lairy. It's like all the trouble makers in the area congregate together. Odd. I've lived in far more dangerous places in the UK than here but it is a shame that the minority can drag an area down by their misdemeanours.

Other open spaces other than town have similar issues

Please can officers sit at wood street anytime between 7 and 11 at night, there are so many super up cars speeding and backfiring

Supermarkets hide behind the 25 age minimum banner for Alcohol sales as check out staff are not all over 25!!!!

This extends further than the town centre. Housing estates, including new builds, are targeted. My fear is you will push this behaviour out to residential areas. More local police patrols and quick response times are needed for the whole of Ashby.

those arrested who are not from Ashby should be banned from the town for 5 years, by a suspended sentence of some standing.

Turning large numbers of street lights off between 12am and 6.30am is a bad move for personal safety and a sense of personal safety.

What evidence is this ordered based on?

Where are the details of how this would work? What are the costs associated with the initial surveys?

Where's the carrot instead of the stick. Who is engaging with these groups or finding them something to do. We all remember being young & trying to find something to do to pass the time that's half interesting & cool at the same time. Who is in charge of finding a solution to community engagement, whether it be sport, youth clubs, teen disco, transport to other activities on nights. Challenge the or incentivise the kids, not challenge the poor PSPO to deal with it. They need support to take on such a feat.

Why and what reason is the total boundary area of Ivanhoe College been included- I am not aware of issues there currently?

Comments taken from the NWLDC social media page

please....and make it permanently

Confiscate all the idiots that should be a good place to start.

Do it!

Stocks ?

its been highlighted for years and nothing is done. By the time the police arrive, if at all, the issue has moved on.

On another note, as explained previously, when the 'no drinking' order was first implemented the police were confiscating alcohol!!!

I thought that Police came from Loughborough LPU on a weekend now not Coalville anymore is this true? If so the proposal is not practicable - you would only be able to make token interventions - if there are Coppers in Ashby High-street every night i welcome it however i fear this isn't so - a reply to my question would be nice

Even better make it an exclusion zone.

The police were doing this 25 years ago when the ban on drinking alcohol outside was introduced. We had our booze taken off us on the bathgrounds on a couple of occasions.

It does requires there to be a police presence in the first place though!!!

Get police back on the street, that's the only way to cut crime and makes socialising safer

Could reduce ? Where's the figures ? How about find a way to re-introduce a police presence in Ashby ? [Leicestershire Police](#) .

Maybe you could use the money you are planning to take off businesses to introduce the business plan to provide police coverage.

A Wall, build a Wall to keep them out

Does that presuppose the sufficient police numbers and any police presence is a real deterrent?

What about Coalville??

Why just Ashby?

Other

From: Vince Mott <vincelm13@gmail.com>
Sent: 19 December 2021 11:48
To: SIMON BODEN <simon.boden@nwleicestershire.gov.uk>
Subject: EXTERNAL: ASHBY PSPO PROPOSAL

Hi Simon,

My apologies for not getting back within the deadline but the Friends have had some changes recently as a number of committee members have stood down, including the Chairman. We have a meeting on Monday 20 December and hope that we may be able to continue in some form or other.

We would fully support a PSPO and am just sorry that we were not able to respond before the deadline.

Best regards,

Vince Mott
Secretary
Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds

From: Muldoon Richard <Richard.Muldoon@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk>
Sent: 22 December 2021 12:24
To: SIMON BODEN <simon.boden@nwleicestershire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: FW: Ticket: EFBF8C2616116 Re: FAO Simon Cole - PSPO proposal - NWLDC,Ashby De La Zouch

Hi Simon,

That's great, I thought as much, but wanted to double check.

I'll pen something back in reply, we are clearly supportive of it & I'll write something up accordingly.

Cheers

Rich

From: Gurjit Samra-Rai <Gurjit.Samra-Rai@leics.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 February 2022 22:53
To: SIMON BODEN <simon.boden@nwleicestershire.gov.uk>
Cc: Charlotte Keedwell <Charlotte.Keedwell@leics.gov.uk>; PAUL COLLETT <PAUL.COLLETT@nwleicestershire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: PSPO proposal - NWLDC, Ashby De La Zouch

Thanks Simon,

Apologies - I have absolutely no idea why I called you Richard!

With that, or similar inclusion regarding young people, I'm happy to support the PSPO.

Thanks and best wishes

Gurjit

Gurjit Samra-Rai
Community Safety Manager
Children and Family Services
Leicestershire County Council
Tel: 0116 305 6056
Mobile: 07775 783985

From: SIMON BODEN <simon.boden@nwleicestershire.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 February 2022 16:22
To: Gurjit Samra-Rai <Gurjit.Samra-Rai@leics.gov.uk>
Cc: PAUL COLLETT <PAUL.COLLETT@nwleicestershire.gov.uk>; CHARLOTTE KEEDWELL <CHARLOTTE.KEEDWELL@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: PSPO proposal - NWLDC, Ashby De La Zouch

Thank you Gurjit,

It would be separate, particularly around alcohol. If young people were drinking in a public area then there is already legislation in the Young Persons Act 97 (Confiscation of Alcohol) that would be more relevant.

We would expect enforcing officers to make appropriate referrals if they found under 18's in possession of alcohol or psychoactive substances rather than going through enforcement. Although confiscation under the PSPO may still be used as an on-the-spot tool – for example nitrous oxide against young people.

It is absolutely a fair point though, perhaps we should include having as practice that anyone under 18 who has items taken off them should be automatically referred to youth JAG. I will speak with Paul about this.

Simon (not Richard)

From: Gurjit Samra-Rai <Gurjit.Samra-Rai@leics.gov.uk>

Sent: 10 February 2022 15:31

To: SIMON BODEN <simon.boden@nwleicestershire.gov.uk>

Cc: CHARLOTTE KEEDWELL <CHARLOTTE.KEEDWELL@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk>

Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: PSPO proposal - NWLDC, Ashby De La Zouch

Hi Richard,

Thanks for the information.

I have one query: I noted in the consultation that “youth related ASB” was identified as an issue; does the public place drinking relate to young people or is it separate? I’m just mindful that we will need to look at how we support vulnerable young people who often present as “causing trouble”.

Thanks and best wishes

Gurjit

Gurjit Samra-Rai

Community Safety Manager

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