

## Appendix A

# Equality Impact Assessment

For support in completing this EQIA, please consult the EQIA Guidance Document or contact [equality@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rbwm.gov.uk)

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## 1. Background Information

Title of policy/strategy/plan:	<u>Public Space Protection Orders 2024</u>
Service area:	<u>Neighbourhood services</u>
Directorate:	<u>Place</u>

### **Provide a brief explanation of the proposal:**

- What are its intended outcomes?
- Who will deliver it?
- Is it a new proposal or a change to an existing one?

The overall aim of the Public Space Protection Orders are to reduce incidents and improve community cohesion through taking action to tackle dog fouling, ineffective dog control and cycling in pedestrianised zones of Windsor and Maidenhead high streets.

The key objectives are to prohibit certain behaviors that are causing harassment, alarm and distress in spaces where the public have access and to give powers to Authorised persons to help tackle anti social behaviour caused by dog fouling, inadequate control of dogs and cycling in pedestrianised areas.

Authorised persons such as Community Wardens and Police Officers and PCSOs can use the powers under the PSPO.

Both PSPOs have been in place since April 2021 but need to be renewed for a further 3 years.

Data isn't collected on the demographics of the people who receive PSPO fines but that the small numbers involved would make any analysis of that data very limited.

## 2. Relevance Check

**Is this proposal likely to directly impact people, communities or RBWM employees?**

- If Yes, state 'Yes' and proceed to Section 3.
- If No, please explain why not, including how you've considered equality issues.
- Will this proposal need a EQIA at a later stage? (for example, for a forthcoming action plan)

Yes, addressing these behaviours. The use of PSPO's is not linked to an individuals race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability or age. However, addressing these behaviours would have a positive impact on all people and particularly young people, elderly people and people with disabilities. People who are pregnant may also be positively affected in terms of feeling safer.

The PSPOs are aimed at either people causing alarm and distress by cycling in crowded areas or by not keeping control of their dogs or picking up their mess in public places.

If 'No', proceed to 'Sign off'. If unsure, please contact [equality@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rbwm.gov.uk)

## 3. Evidence Gathering and Stakeholder Engagement

**Who will be affected by this proposal?**

For example, users of a particular service, residents of a geographical area, staff

Community Wardens will be affected as this will continue to allow them to challenge people.

Residents and tourists who use the parks and open spaces for picnics, walking, sports would be benefit as the open spaces will continue to remain clean.

Pedestrians of the High Street, Maidenhead and Peascod Street, Windsor will benefit from not being hit/startled by cyclists.

**Among those affected by the proposal, are protected characteristics (age, sex, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, marriage/civil partnership) disproportionately represented?**

For example, compared to the general population do a higher proportion have disabilities?

**No.**

**What engagement/consultation has been undertaken or planned?**

- How has/will equality considerations be taken into account?
- Where known, what were the outcomes of this engagement?

We will do a public consultation for 4 weeks asking residents for their views on the proposal and giving them an opportunity to share any concerns or ask any questions. We will provide this consultation electronically but also hard copies at our libraries for people who do not have access to the internet. Staff at the libraries will also be able to assist people in completing the online form. Our wardens will hand hard copies out during their engagement work and can assist people in completing the form should they have issues.

**What sources of data and evidence have been used in this assessment?**

Examples of possible sources of information are in the Guidance document (Section 2.3). You may also wish to consult the [EQIA Evidence Matrix](#) for relevant data.

**97% of residents surveyed in the residents survey felt safe in the local area during the day. 82% of local residents feel safe in the local area after dark.**

Perceptions of female safety after dark are comparably lower amongst all age and home ownership groups.

Green and open spaces are a key priority to residents and dominant factors that make their local area a good place to live

- 45% referenced the quality of parks and open spaces
- 34% referenced access to nature / the countryside

Quality of parks & open spaces (38%), peace and quiet (31%) and community support / getting on / helping each other (26%) are the primary contributors for residents aged 75 & over.

Perceptions of safety are high across demographics but comparably lower amongst residents living in Windsor, female residents, residents aged 75 & over, residents whose activities are limited due to a health condition and residents who own their property outright or rent from the council, housing association or trust.

Just over a quarter (27%) indicated they are concerned about antisocial behaviour in their local area; 40% are not concerned.

- A higher proportion of residents aged 35-74 indicated they were concerned compared to other age groups.

Residents who indicated they were concerned about anti-social behaviour in their local area were asked to detail their main concerns. Reasons were given in residents' own words and these have been categorised into themes for analysis purposes.

- A variety of concerns were raised but the most common are groups of young people / teenagers / children and drug dealing / taking.

## 4. Equality Analysis

Please detail, **using supporting evidence**:

- How the protected characteristics below might influence the needs and experiences of individuals, in relation to this proposal.
- How these characteristics might affect the impact of this proposal.

Tick positive/negative impact as appropriate. If there is no impact, or a neutral impact, state 'Not Applicable'.

More information on each protected characteristic is provided in the EQIA Guidance document (available on the intranet).

	Details and supporting evidence	Potential positive impact	Potential negative impact
Age	Older people may feel less distressed if less likely to be cycled into and able to use public parks freely without fear of walking into dog mess and out of control dogs.  There are positive benefits to children and young people in terms of the improvements to parks and less risk of being knocked into by a bike.	✓	NA
Disability	People with disabilities may feel less distressed if less likely to be cycled into and able to use public parks freely without fear of walking into dog mess and out of control dogs.	✓	NA
Sex		NA	NA
Race, ethnicity and religion		NA	NA
Sexual orientation and gender reassignment		NA	NA
Pregnancy and maternity	Pregnant women may feel safer if less likely to be cycled into and able to use public parks freely without fear of walking into dog mess and out of control dogs.	✓	
Marriage and civil partnership		NA	NA
Armed forces community		NA	NA
Socio-economic considerations e.g. low income, poverty		NA	NA
Children in care/Care leavers		NA	NA

## 5. Impact Assessment and Monitoring

If you have not identified any disproportionate impacts and the questions below are not applicable, leave them blank and proceed to Sign Off.

<p><b>What measures have been taken to ensure that groups with protected characteristics are able to benefit from this change, or are not disadvantaged by it?</b> For example, adjustments needed to accommodate the needs of a particular group</p>
<p>The public consultation will be available in digital and hard copy format to ensure it is accessible and inclusive.</p>
<p><b>Where a potential negative impact cannot be avoided, what measures have been put in place to mitigate or minimise this?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For planned future actions, provide the name of the responsible individual and the target date for implementation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How will the equality impacts identified here be monitored and reviewed in the future?</b></p>
<p>Community safety data will be reviewed through future residents surveys and community safety surveys. The public consultation includes demographic questions so will help in identifying any other equality impacts.</p>

## 6. Sign Off

<p><b>Completed by:</b> Mandy Mann</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> 17/01/2024</p>
<p><b>Approved by:</b> Amanda Gregory</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> 02/02/2024</p>

If this version of the EQIA has been reviewed and/or updated:

<p><b>Reviewed by:</b></p>	<p><b>Date:</b></p>
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