

Blackpool Council

28 September 2018

To: Councillors Benson, Blackburn, Cain, Campbell, Cross, Jackson, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

The above members are requested to attend the:

EXECUTIVE

Monday, 8 October 2018 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

(1) the type of interest concerned either a

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

and

(2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

2 PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER FOR THE TOWN CENTRE (Pages 1 - 42)

3 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2018/19 (Pages 43 - 48)

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, Tel: (01253) 477157, e-mail lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk.

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
Date of Meeting :	8 October 2018

TOWN CENTRE AND PROMENADE PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To determine whether the current Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) should be:

- a) Extended in duration for 3 more years.
- b) Extended to cover a larger area (see map at Appendix 2a).
- c) Amended by way of word changes to existing prohibitions particularly to strengthen powers and ensure suitable enforcement around begging.
- d) Amended to introduce other offences involving:

- Pedlars using and displaying goods on inappropriate sized trollies
- Glass products being used and discarded on the beach
- Street Performers causing nuisance and/or obstruction
- Unauthorised charity collections and awareness campaigns.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the amended Public Space Protection Order for the Town Centre attached at Appendix 2b for a period of three years starting from the 10 November 2018.

2.2 Subject to approval of 2.1, to delegate to the Head of Legal to seal and advertise the Order.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The current Public Space Protection Order; implemented in 2015 has been a useful addition to the powers available to the Council in its endeavours to reduce the effects of anti-social behaviour that has a direct impact on the tourist economy and the businesses of the town's traders.

A key issue identified in the operation of the existing Public Space Protection Order, both informally by responsible authorities and Councillors and within the formal consultation has been the issue of problematic and anti-social behaviour begging in the town centre and amendments are proposed to ensure this developing issue can be effectively addressed.

The proposed amendments have been supported by Council officers involved in enforcement and prosecutions. The amendments have also been supported by the consultation.

Acceptance of the extended Public Space Protection Order would ensure that Blackpool continues to be protected by the Public Space Protection Order as originally adopted, however this would have further weight as it incorporates the additional prohibitions. It is considered reasonable and proportionate and meets the requirements for such orders set out in 5.3.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not to renew the Public Space Protection Order, which would limit the Council's powers to take enforcement action against anti-social behaviours in the town centre.

To renew the Public Space Protection Order without the extension of area which would continue to result in a displacement of anti-social behaviour.

To renew the Public Protection Order without the additional activities which would not allow enforcement action to be taken against some types of anti-social behaviour.

4.0 Council priority:

4.1 The relevant Council priorities are:

“The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”.
“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”.

5.0 Background information

5.1 In October 2014, the Government implemented the Anti-Social Behaviour and Policing Act 2014 (the Act). The purpose of the Act is to give local authorities and the Police more effective powers to tackle anti-social behaviour providing better protection for victims and communities.

5.2 Amongst these new tools and powers were Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's), which were designed to stop individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour in a public space. It is for each individual Council to determine what behaviour(s) they want to make the subject of a Public Space Protection Order.

5.3 Local authorities can make an order as long as two conditions are met:

First condition:

- Activities carried out in a public space within the local authority's area have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or
- It is likely that activities will be carried out in a public place within the area that will have such an effect.

Second condition:

The effect or likely effect of the activities:

- Is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature
- Is, or is likely to be, such as to make activities unreasonable
- Justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

5.4 Any prohibitions or requirements must be reasonable in order to prevent the detrimental effect from occurring or reoccurring, or must reduce the detrimental effect or reduce the risk of its occurrence, reoccurrence or continuance.

5.5 A prohibition or requirement may be framed so that it applies to all persons, persons fitting specified criteria, or to all persons except those in specified categories. It can be applicable at all times, or only at specified times, or at all times except those specified.

5.6 Following an extensive period of consultation early in 2015, the Executive agreed on the 5 October 2015 to adopt a Public Space Protection Order for the town centre (decision EX38/2015 refers). The order was then sealed and came into force on the 10 November 2015 and will expire on the 10 November 2018.

- 5.7 A Public Space Protection Order can be made for a maximum of three years. The legislation provides they can be extended at the end of the period, but at that point only for a further period of up to three years. However, orders can be extended more than once. Local authorities can increase or reduce the restricted area of an existing order, amend or remove a prohibition or requirement, or add a new prohibition or requirement. They can also discharge an order but further consultation must take place for varying or discharging orders.
- 5.8 The Public Space Protection Order has provided clarity in terms of behaviours that are not acceptable and in the majority of cases once a warning has been issued the behaviours have ceased. Although, in some cases they have been displaced to either south or north areas of the Promenade or near to it for those who do not adhere to the instruction. Once implemented, the Public Space Protection Order has been used successfully on many occasions to address the issues it was designed to address. There have been successful prosecutions in the Magistrates' Court dealing with offenders that without the Public Space Protection Order would go unpunished for want of appropriate legislation to deal with them.
- 5.9 As a result of the prohibition and particularly in relation to "Gag Mag" sellers, a number of problematic individuals transferred to selling wristbands in support of a potentially misleading or unauthorised awareness campaigns or charity collections which is why this has been included in the proposed new order.
- 5.10 In relation to the prohibitions regarding glass on the beach. There was huge and overwhelming support for prohibiting glass products to be taken onto the beach which now forms part of the Order.
- 5.11 Throughout the life of the current Public Space Protection Order, officers have received and monitored feedback on the effectiveness of the order to ensure it fulfils its original purpose and remains appropriate. Feedback from Legal officers indicated that its wording prevented effective implementation through the Courts, particularly in respect of beggars. Furthermore, it was recognised by Public Protection officers that other problematic issues could benefit from being included within any amendments to the Public Space Protection Order. Again, Public Protection officers have also highlighted that the effectiveness of the order in the target area had resulted in a significant element of displacement of prohibited activities into the nearby areas not covered by the Public Space Protection Order.
- 5.12 In light of this feedback officers developed in conjunction with the Council's Legal team, a range of potential options for consultation for the renewal and potential extension of the order. Consultation took place between 7 June to 30 July 2018. The results of the consultation are presented at Appendix 2c and are broadly supportive of the amended approach.

5.13 The draft Public Space Protection Order has been amended after comments made during public consultation and notification of relevant bodies. Most noticeable is the input from some pedlars. Consequently, the Public Space Protection Order has been written in the terms that it is now presented to the Executive.

5.14 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.15 List of Appendices:

Appendix 2a: Map of Area

Appendix 2b: Proposed Public Space Protection Order

Appendix 2c: Consultation Responses

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 The process of renewing the Public Space Protection Orders is being conducted through an appropriate and due process.

6.2 Section 72 of the Anti-Social behaviour and Policing Act 2014 requires the Executive as decision maker to pay particular regard to rights of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly set out in articles 10 (the right to freedom of expression) and 11 (freedom of assembly and association) of the European Convention on Human Rights in considering the making any such order.

7.0 Human resources considerations:

7.1 The implementation will be by staff within Public Protection, Police and Community Support Officers and the Police.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 The aim is to ensure that the town centre is accessible to all.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The cost of implementing the order will be contained within existing budget.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Authorised officers will need to have completed appropriate training in order to be able to issue fixed penalties.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 The management of Public Space Protection Orders will be subject to the current performance management arrangements within the division, with performance benchmarking as part of the process.

12.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation has taken place both with responsible authorities and with the public as outlined in paragraph 5.10 above.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 20/2018

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: 28 September 2018 Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

19.0 Date of Decision:

19.1

20.0 Reason(s) for decision:

20.1

21.0 Date Decision published:

21.1

22.0 Executive Members in attendance:

22.1

23.0 Call-in:

23.1

24.0 Notes:

24.1

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Appendix 2a: Public Space Protection Order Map

Key

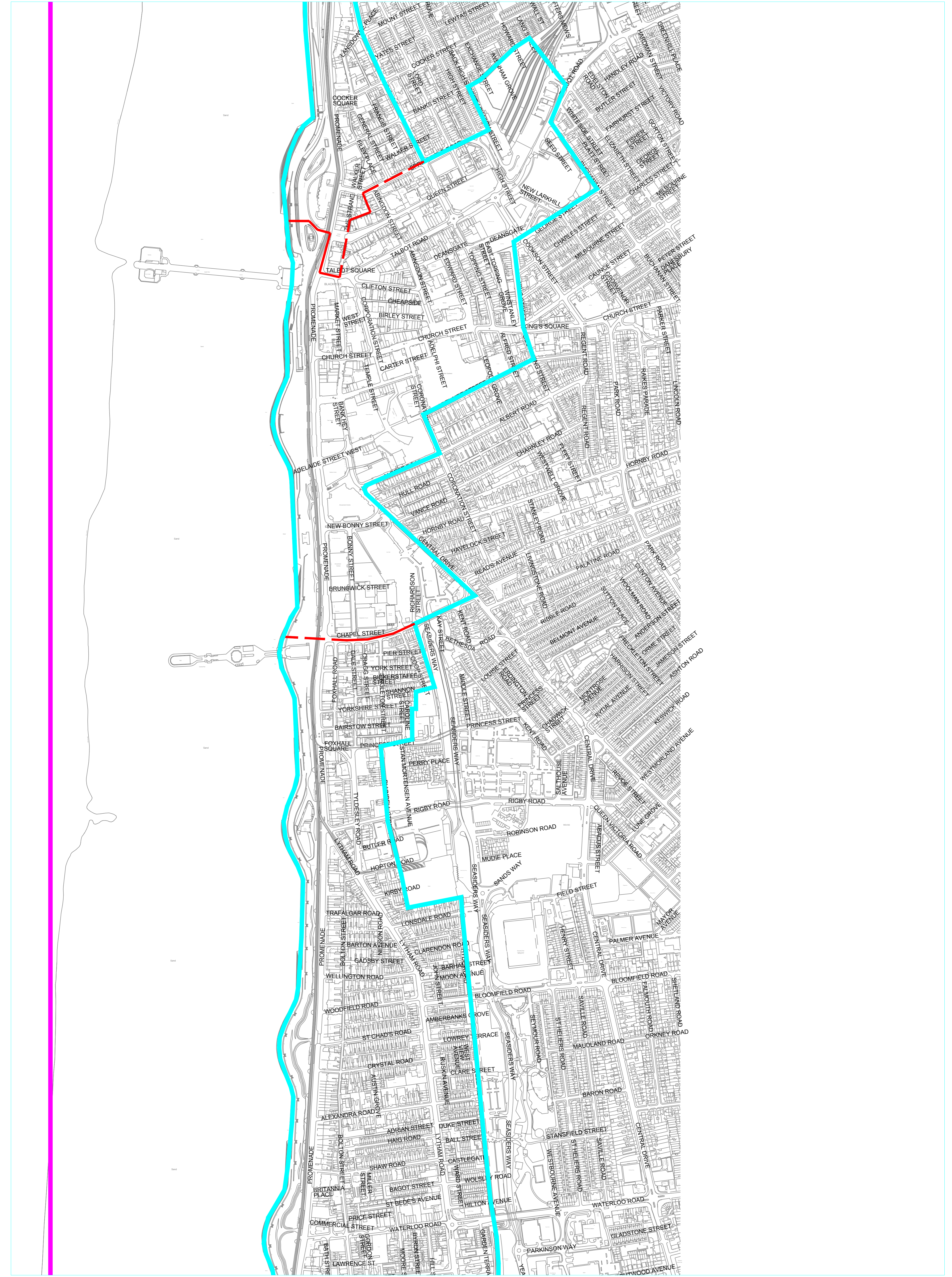
Purple = Proposed Beach boundary

Blue = Proposed Promenade boundary

Broken Red = Existing North/South PSPO boundaries

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THE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014
PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (BLACKPOOL BOROUGH
COUNCIL)

TOWN CENTRE AND PROMENADE 2018

Blackpool Borough Council in exercise of its powers under section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act) and all other powers enabling it in this regard, being satisfied that the conditions set out therein having been met hereby makes the following Public Space Protection Order (PSPO):

Definitions

1. For the purposes of this Order, the following definitions will apply:

'Alcohol' has the meaning given by section 191 of the Licensing Act 2003;

'Authorised person' means a constable, a police community support officer or a person authorised in writing by Blackpool Borough Council; and

'Public place' means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

2. The original PSPO being sealed on 10 November 2015, Blackpool Borough Council is now satisfied that this PSPO shall be extended in terms as set out below. This decision having been made following further consultation, between 7 June 2018 and 30 July 2018; publication of the consultation and notification as is required and is satisfied that the activities listed below are taking place within the restricted area (the Land outlined in red on the attached map in Schedule 1) include:
 - Consumption of alcohol in a public place (So-called 'Street Drinking')
 - So-called 'Gag Mag' sales -
 - The sale of Lucky Charms & Heather
 - The Use of any Psychoactive Substances
 - The act of begging as a means of appropriating monies, food or other goods in places where the public have access on payment or otherwise
 - Participating in or engaging others in Card Tricks
 - Pedlars Using and Displaying Goods on Inappropriate Sized Trolleys
 - Glass Products being Used and Discarded on the Beach
 - Street Performers causing Nuisance and or Obstruction
 - Unauthorised Charity Collections and or so called Awareness Campaigns

3. Blackpool Borough Council is further satisfied that the activities referred to in paragraph 2 above are having or are likely to have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and it therefore makes this Public Spaces Protection Order, the terms of which are explained below.

Prohibited and Required Activities

4. Unless otherwise stated, the prohibitions and requirements detailed in parts A to J below shall apply at all times of the day and all days of the week throughout any calendar year throughout the entirety of the restricted area.

A — Drinking in a public place

5. All persons are prohibited from drinking alcohol in any public place located within the restricted area. This provision does not apply to alcohol consumed within premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 or s.115E of the Highways Act 1980.
6. Where an authorised person reasonably believes that a person is consuming alcohol or has been consuming alcohol in contravention of this Order; or where an authorised person reasonably believes that a person intends to consume alcohol in circumstances which would be a contravention of this Order, then the authorised person can take steps to:
 - a) Prohibit the person from consuming alcohol or anything which the authorised person reasonably believes is an alcoholic beverage in breach of this Order; and
 - b) Require that person to surrender any alcohol, or anything which the authorised person reasonably believes to be alcohol, that is in the person's possession, including any container for alcohol.

B — So-called 'Gag Mag' sales

7. All persons are prohibited from selling, offering to sell, exposing for sale any publication or asking for any donation for any such publication, unless:

Appendix 2b

- a) They are a registered newspaper seller;
- b) They are an authorised seller of the 'The Big Issue'; or
- c) They have prior written authorisation from Blackpool Borough Council

C — Sale of Lucky Charms and Heather

8. All persons are prohibited from selling, offering to sell, exposing for sale any 'lucky charm', 'lucky heather' or any other article purporting to bring 'good luck', or asking for a donation for any 'lucky charm', 'lucky heather' or any other article purporting to bring 'good luck'.

D — Psychoactive substances

9. All persons are prohibited from ingesting, inhaling, injecting, smoking or being under the influence of any substance which has the capacity to stimulate or depress the central nervous system, in a manner that causes or is likely to cause nuisance, harassment alarm or distress to any member of the public.

This prohibition does not apply where the substance is prescribed to the affected person by a medical practitioner.

E - Begging

10. All persons are prohibited from loitering in any public place, or any place to which the public have access on payment or otherwise for the purposes of begging. For the purposes of this prohibition, loitering means 'standing, sitting, approaching people they do not know or waiting around without apparent purpose'. Begging is not limited to approaching people and/or asking for money, food or other things, or placing a receptacle for donations.

F — Participating in or engaging others in Card Tricks

11. All persons either alone or in concert with others are prohibited from delivering, engaging or offering to deliver or engage in, any card tricks or similar activities for the purposes of gaining monies or other consideration from members of the public.

Appendix 2b

G – Pedlar Trolley sizes

12. Any person acting as a pedlar, is prohibited from using or utilising any trolley barrow, receptacle or other any other item used for the transportation and or display of goods with a carrying capacity in excess of 1 cubic metre. The overall unit not to exceed 2.1m along its longest side. The displaying of goods over a height of 1.5m from floor level is prohibited.

H – Glass products on the Beach.

13. All persons are prohibited from possessing, using or taking any glass receptacle or container onto the Beach or Sea Defence Wall.

I – Street Performers

14. All persons are prohibited from performing or partaking in any street performance of any description without having written consent from Public Protection Department of Blackpool Borough Council

J- Charity and or Awareness campaigns

15. All persons are prohibited from taking pledges and or selling, offering to sell, exposing
for sale any item whatsoever which purports to support any charitable cause or any cause intended to raise awareness of any charity, issue or any matter without having the written consent from the Licensing Department of Blackpool Borough Council.

This prohibition does not apply to:

- Members of the Public Fundraising Regulatory Association acting in accordance with the management agreement in respect to Church Street and Victoria Street.
- Anyone operating under the authority of a valid street collection permit issued under section 5 of the Police, Factories, & c. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916

Penalties for Non-Compliance

Offences

16. If, without reasonable excuse, a person is found to be in breach any of the prohibitions or requirements in respect of activities B-J above, they will commit a criminal offence for which the maximum penalty upon summary conviction in the Magistrates' Court is a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

17. In respect of activity in relation to A above, namely the consumption of alcohol in a public place, whilst it is not an offence in the same way as activities B-J, it is an offence if a person fails, without any reasonable excuse, to comply with an authorised person's request as per paragraph 6 (a) & (b) above. An authorised person who imposes a requirement under paragraph 6 (a) or (b) must tell the person that failing without reasonable excuse to comply with the requirement is an offence.

18. In the event of such a failure, a person will commit a criminal offence for which the maximum penalty upon summary conviction is a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

This Order shall come into effect at midnight on the 10th November 2018.

This Order shall have effect for a period of 3 years until midnight on 9th November 2021

GIVEN under the Common Seal of The Borough of Blackpool on the 9th day of November 2018

The Common Seal of Blackpool Borough
Council was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

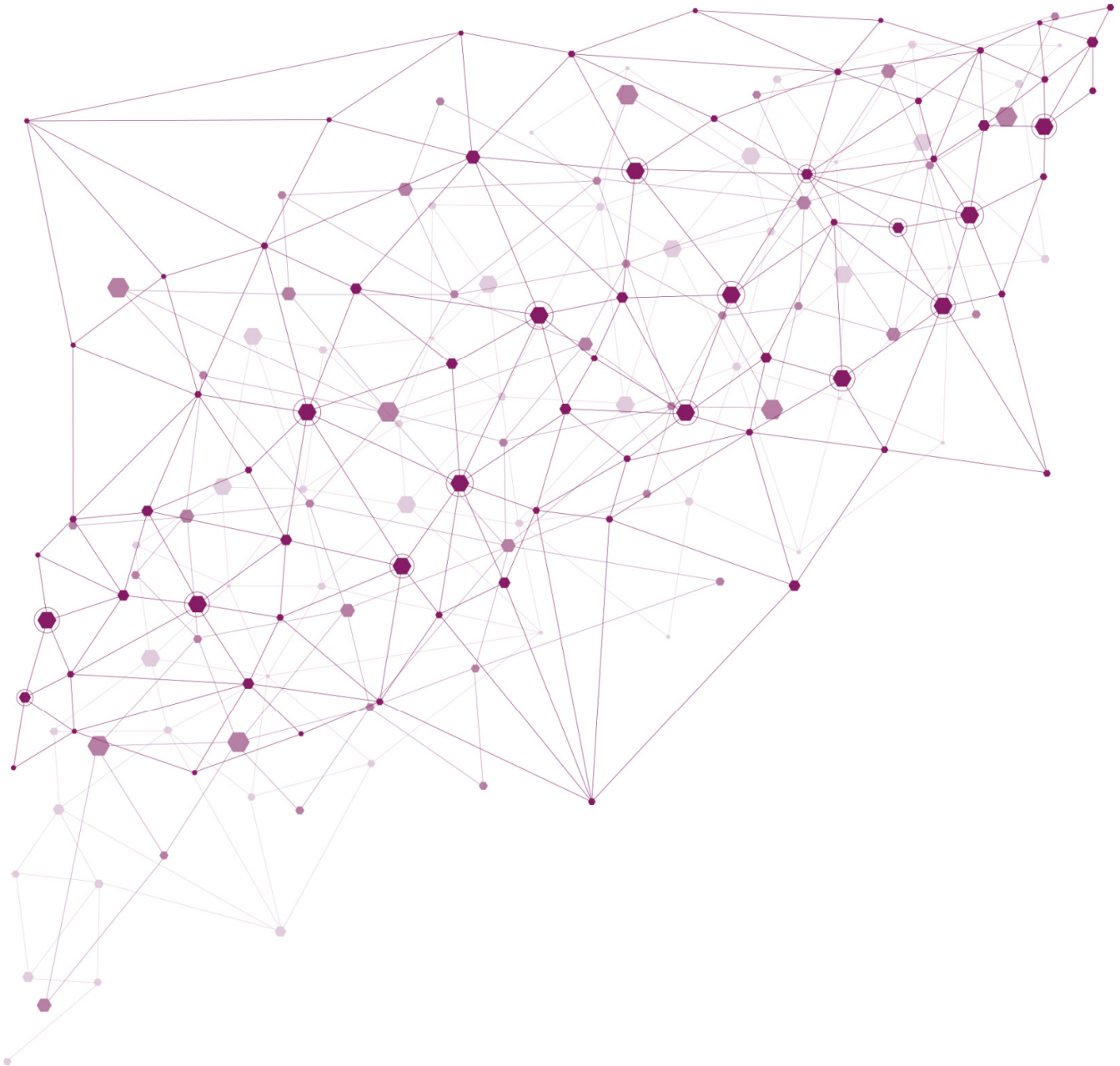
Authorised Signatory

Schedule 1

1. Map of restricted area

Blackpool Council

Public Space Protection Order Consultation Report - August 2018



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1. Executive summary

Blackpool Council currently operates a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) within the town centre area. This aims to prevent a variety of anti-social behaviour activities and unauthorised soliciting of money from taking place, enforced via staff with the authority to issue fixed penalty notices.

Blackpool Council seeks to renew the current PSPO's, extend the area in which these PSPO's are enforced and implement additional PSPOs. The consultation sought out the views of businesses and the public in regards to other issues in Blackpool and the level of agreement with renewing and extending the PSPOs.

- A total of **571** responses were received to this consultation of which **409** were collected via street surveys, **154** through an online consultation and **8** paper responses were received in the post from hardcopies distributed in Blackpool Council's public facing buildings.
- The proportion of respondents who visit the following on a weekly basis was as follows:
 - Town Centre: 59.7%
 - Promenade: 55.3%
 - Beach: 30.0%
- The biggest problem in Blackpool town centre was reported as people loitering around cash machines/shop doorways for the purposes of begging
- Respondents said the biggest problem on Blackpool promenade was people drinking on the street
- The biggest problem reported on Blackpool beach was broken glass on the beach

The consultation found the following proportions of respondents in agreement with each of the proposals:

Proposals to renew and extend PSPOs in town centre and promenade	% of agreement
Prohibiting people loitering around cash machines/shop doorways for the purposes of begging	95.5%
Prohibiting the use of psychoactive substances (ie. spice. Formerly known as legal highs)	95.3%
Prohibiting people drinking alcohol on the street	92.5%
Prohibiting people (including youths) engaging people in card tricks and scams	85.3%
Prohibiting the sale of publications (rag/ gag mags etc) without consent of the authority	78.1%
Prohibiting the sale of lucky charms/heather	73.3%
New promenade PSPO proposals	
Prohibiting people engaging in an unregulated charity campaign	90.2%
Prohibiting the use of trolleys over 1m ³ by pedlars	66.0%
Prohibiting people engaging in street performance without the consent of the authority	52.4%
New beach PSPO proposals	
Prohibiting people taking glass products onto the beach	90.9%
Prohibiting pedlars entering the beach	71.6%

2. Background and Methodology

2.1. Background

The Public Protection Division commissioned Infusion to undertake a consultation on the renewal and extension of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). The aim of the consultation was to gather perceptions of how much of a problem different issues were to residents and visitors in Blackpool, specifically focusing on the town centre, promenade and beach. Respondents to the consultation were also asked for their views on the proposal to introduce PSPOs in specific areas of Blackpool as a means of tackling specific issues.

2.2. Methodology

The methodology involved a dual approach. The first sought a random sample of 400 residents and visitors, reached via street surveys where fieldworkers approached people in a number of designated areas, including the town centre and promenade, and asked them to take part in the consultation. Respondents were shown a map to view which areas of Blackpool would be impacted by the proposed PSPO.

To ensure as many residents as possible could have their say, an online survey was created to run alongside the street survey, publicised via Blackpool Council's consultation page. Respondents to the online consultation were first required to read through the supporting information and maps. The link for the online consultation was shared on Blackpool Council's social media sites to increase awareness and encourage participation. Businesses and organisations were also given the chance to respond to the consultation.

Paper copies of the questionnaire were distributed to public facing council buildings across Blackpool, including all libraries and the Town Hall.

The survey went live on 7 June and closed on 30 July. A total of 571 responses were received to this consultation of which 409 were collected via the street surveys, 154 through the online consultation. 8 paper responses were received in the post, returned from public facing council buildings.

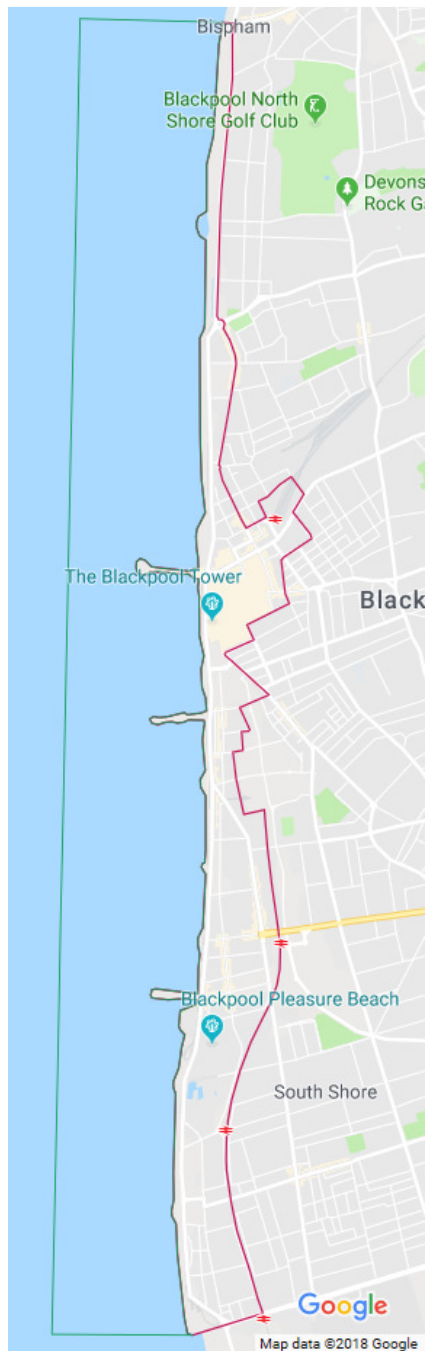
Some of the figures in this report may not total 100% due to rounding.

2.3. Defined areas

The map below outlines the areas for the proposed PSPO proposals. Respondents to the online consultation were asked to read an information page before completing the consultation which included an interactive version of the map below. Respondents to the face-to-face street survey were given a physical copy of the map to review before completing the consultation. Paper copies of the survey were distributed with an information sheet which described the areas covered by the proposals and a link to a website where they could view the proposed areas.

Areas outlined in purple: Town centre and promenade
Areas outlined in green: Beach

Figure 2.1: PSPO map



2.4. Respondent Profile

Given the survey attracted responses from both residents and tourists, it is not possible to state whether the survey is broadly reflective of the demographic make up of each. However, the survey did gather responses from across groups with protected characteristics:

Gender

Overall just over half of respondents were female while just under half were male.

Figure 2.2: What is your gender?

	Total	Online	Face to face	Paper
Base	568	151	409	8
Male	47.0%	42.4%	48.9%	37.5%
Female	52.1%	55.0%	50.9%	62.5%
Prefer not to say	0.9%	2.6%	0.2%	-

Age

45-54 year olds were more likely to respond to the online consultation while those aged 65 and over were more likely to respond to the face-to-face survey.

Figure 2.3: Of the following age groups, which do you fall into?

	Total	Online	Face to face	Paper
Base	568	152	408	8
16-24	6.9%	3.3%	8.3%	-
25-34	6.7%	9.2%	5.9%	-
35-44	13.0%	21.1%	10.3%	-
45-54	22.5%	30.3%	19.6%	25.0%
55-64	20.8%	23.7%	20.1%	-
65 or over	28.5%	7.2%	35.5%	75.0%
Prefer not to say	1.6%	5.3%	0.2%	-

Disability

81.4% of respondents to the consultation reported having no disability while 15.5% were limited in some capacity.

Figure 2.4: Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

	Total	Online	Face to face	Paper
Base	569	152	409	8
Yes, limited a lot	6.2%	3.9%	6.4%	37.5%
Yes, limited a little	9.3%	7.9%	10.0%	-
No	81.4%	80.9%	81.9%	62.5%
Prefer not to say	3.2%	7.2%	1.7%	-

Ethnicity

A majority of respondents to the consultation identified themselves as white British (91.2%).

Figure 2.5: What do you consider to be your ethnic origin?

	Total	Online	Face to face	Paper
Base	568	151	409	8
White British	91.2%	84.1%	93.6%	100.0%
White European	2.6%	2.0%	2.9%	-
Asian or Asian British	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	-
Black or Black British	0.9%	-	1.2%	-
Multiple ethnicity	0.2%	-	0.2%	-
Other	1.4%	3.3%	0.7%	-
Prefer not to say	3.0%	9.9%	0.5%	-

Children

65.0% of respondents to the consultation mentioned they had children.

Figure 2.6: Do you have any children in the following age groups?

	Total	Online	Face to face	Paper
Base	563	149	407	7
Under 5	4.8%	6.0%	4.4%	-
5 to 10	8.2%	15.4%	5.7%	-
11 to 16	8.3%	14.8%	5.9%	14.3%
Over 16	53.5%	41.6%	57.7%	57.1%
Don't have children	35.0%	40.9%	32.7%	42.9%

3. Results

3.1. Response type

Response

Overall 94.0% of responses to the consultation were from individuals, with business responses making up 6.0% of respondents. 19.5% of online responses were received from businesses. Many of those business responses were from hotels, B&Bs, guesthouses, cafes and pedlars.

Figure 3.1: Are you responding to this consultation as an individual or a business?

	Total	Online	Face to face	Paper
Base	571	154	409	8
Individual	94.0%	80.5%	99.0%	100.0%
Business/ organisation	6.0%	19.5%	1.0%	-

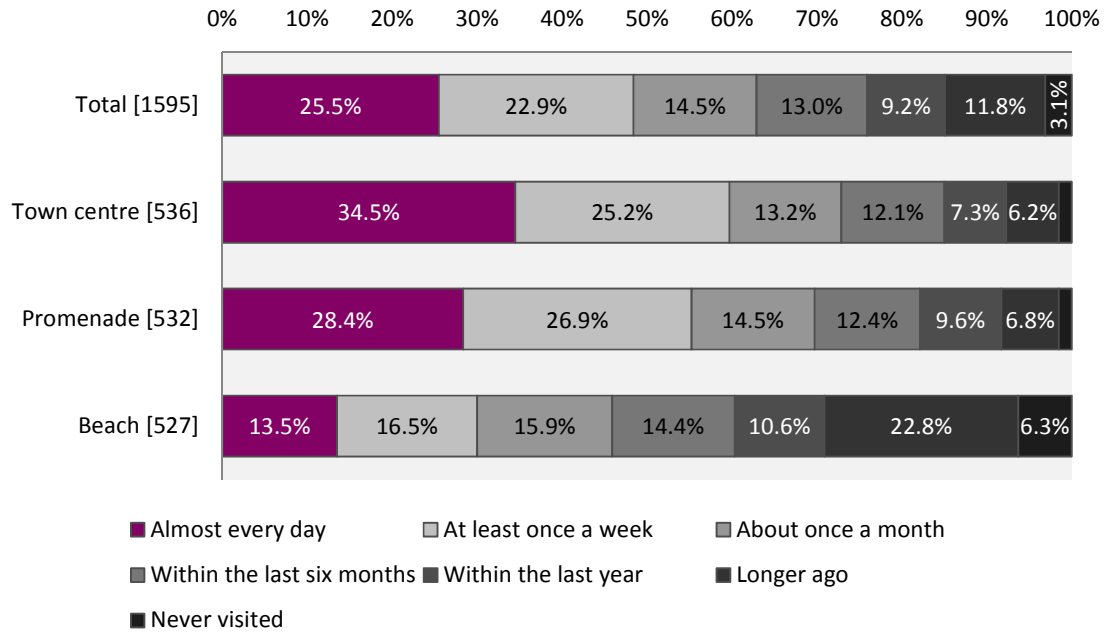
Frequency of visit

Overall 59.7% of respondents said they visited the Town Centre at least every week or more frequently. This number rises to 79.0% with respondents only from Blackpool. Residents of Blackpool were most likely to visit the Town Centre every day (46.2%) while respondents from elsewhere were most likely to have visited Blackpool town centre once in the last six months (23.2%).

Overall 55.3% of respondents said they visited the Promenade at least every week or more frequently. This number rises to 71.5% with respondents only from Blackpool. Residents of Blackpool were most likely to visit the Promenade every day (36.9%) while respondents from elsewhere were most likely to have visited Blackpool promenade once in the last six months (22.5%).

Overall 30.0% of respondents said they visited the Beach at least every week or more frequently. This number rises to 39.3% with respondents only from Blackpool. Residents of Blackpool were most likely to visit the Beach at least once a week (21.8%) while respondents from elsewhere were most likely to have visited Blackpool beach longer ago (29.7%).

Figure 3.2: How often do you visit the following areas in Blackpool?



3.2. Problems in Blackpool Town Centre, Promenade and Beach

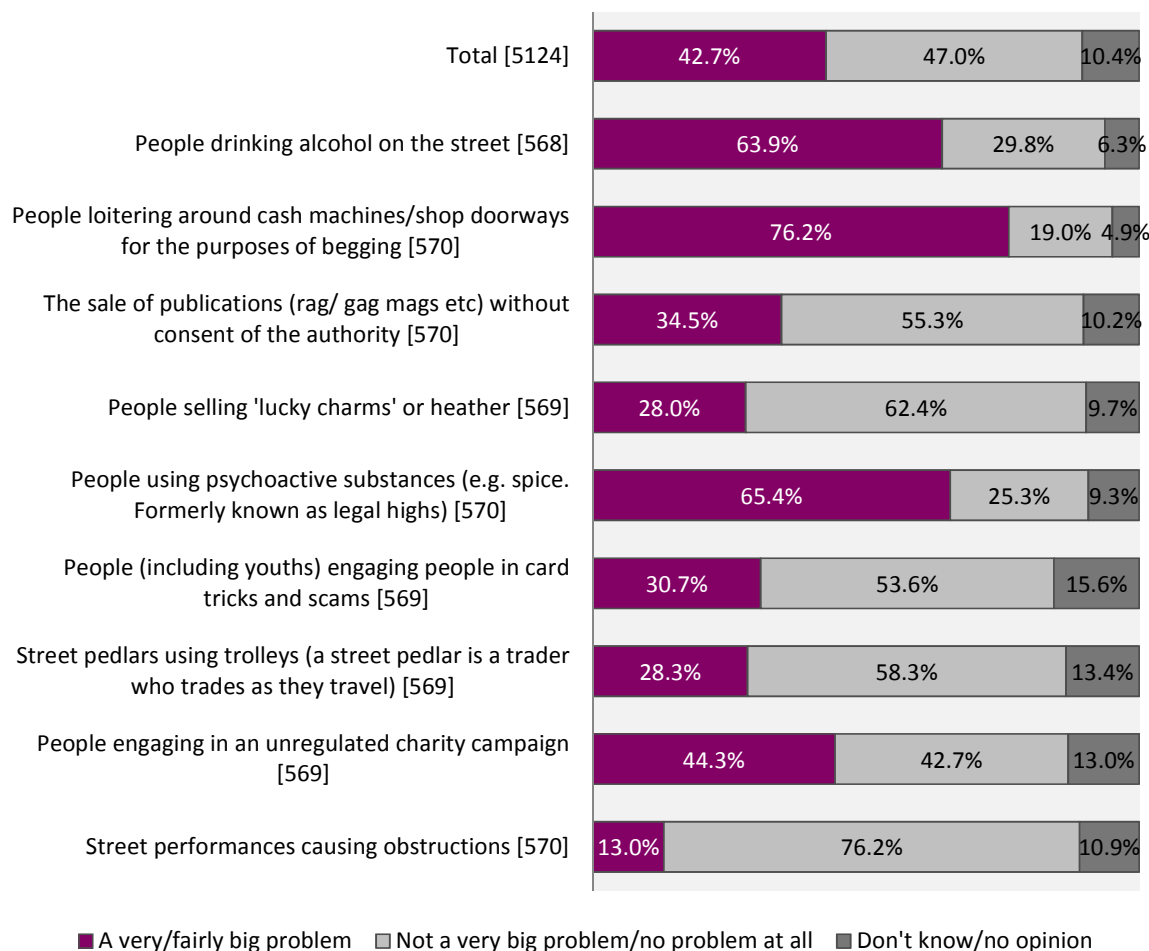
Town Centre problems

Respondents to the consultation regarded 'people loitering around cash machines/shop doorways for the purposes of begging' as the biggest problem in Blackpool town centre with 76.2% of respondents regarding it as a very or fairly big issue. The least regarded issue was 'street performances causing obstructions' with 13.0% selecting this as being a very or fairly big issue.

Residents of Blackpool were more likely to consider 'people loitering around cash machines/shop doorways for the purposes of begging' as a very or fairly big problem in the town centre than visitors to Blackpool (87.0% to 61.2%).

Those who completed the consultation online regarded 'people using psychoactive substances' as the biggest issue in the town centre (95.5% very or fairly big problem) compared to those who completed a face-to-face interview who considered 'people loitering around cash machines/shop doorways for the purposes of begging' as the biggest issue (69.2% very or fairly big problem).

Figure 3.3: How much of a problem, if at all, do you think each of the following are in Blackpool's town centre?



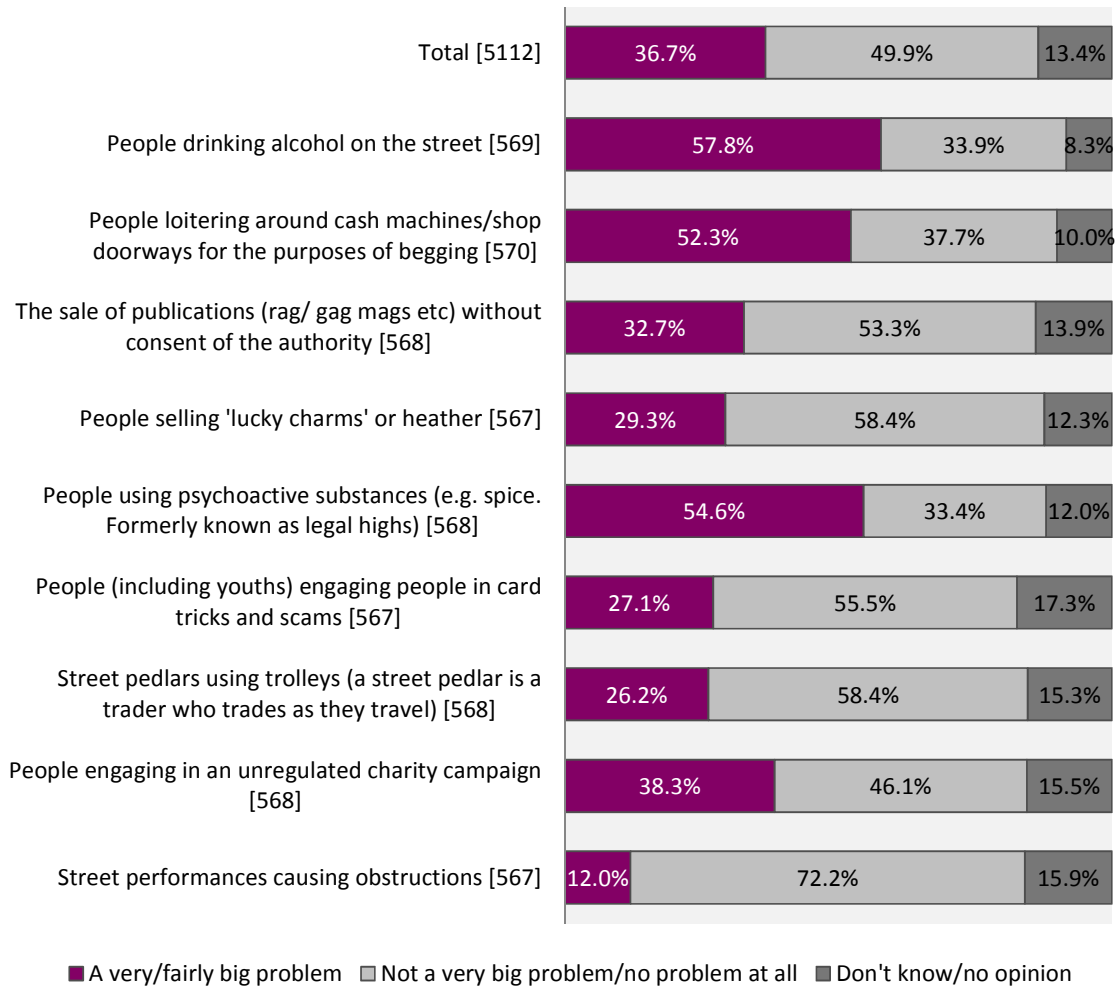
Promenade problems

Respondents to the consultation regarded 'people drinking on the street' as the biggest problem on Blackpool promenade with 57.8% of respondents regarding it as a very or fairly big issue. The least regarded issue was 'street performances causing obstructions' with 12.0% selecting this as being a very or fairly big issue.

Residents of Blackpool considered 'people using psychoactive substances' as a biggest issue on Blackpool promenade (73.2% very or fairly big problem) compared to visitors who considered 'people drinking alcohol on the street' as being the biggest issue (41.3% very or fairly big problem).

Those who completed the consultation online regarded 'people using psychoactive substances' as the biggest issue on the promenade (90.1% very or fairly big problem) compared to those who completed a face-to-face interview who considered 'people drinking alcohol on the street' as the biggest issue (47.7% very or fairly big problem).

Figure 3.4: How much of a problem, if at all, do you think each of the following are on Blackpool's promenade?



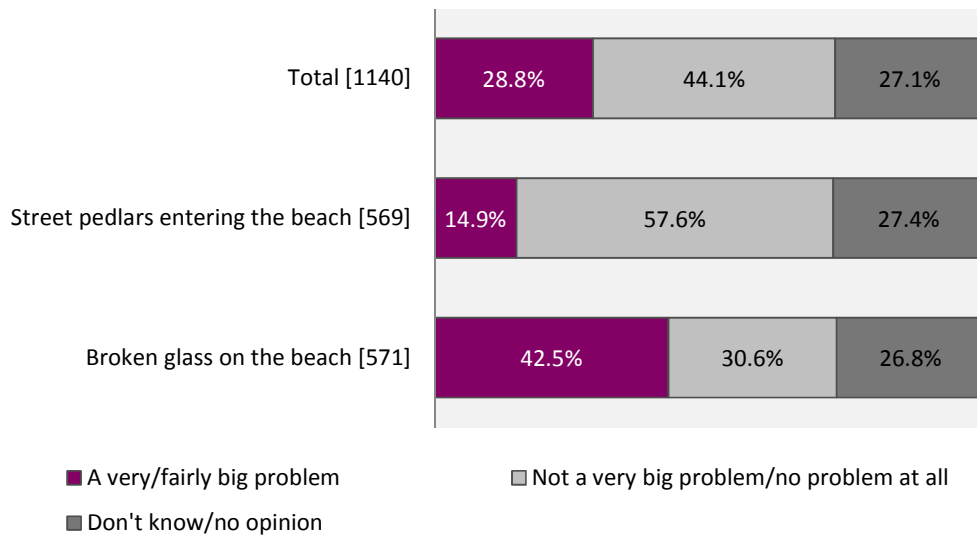
Beach problems

Respondents to the consultation regarded 'broken glass on the beach' as the biggest problem on Blackpool beach with 42.5% of respondents regarding it as a very or fairly big issue. The least regarded issue was 'street pedlars entering the beach' with 14.9% selecting this as being a very or fairly big issue.

Residents of Blackpool were more likely to consider 'broken glass on the beach' as a very or fairly big problem in the town centre than visitors to Blackpool (54.4% to 26.2%).

70.1% of those who completed the consultation online regarded 'broken glass on the beach' as a very or fairly big problem compared to 32.8% those who completed a face-to-face interview.

Figure 3.5: How much of a problem, if at all, do you think each of the following on Blackpool's beach?



Comments on problems

Respondents to the consultation were given the chance to leave comments in regards to the previously listed issues in Blackpool town centre, promenade and beach, and the impact they may have had on themselves or their family. The most common type of comment was left in regards to the issue of homelessness and begging in Blackpool, which was mentioned by 29.3% of respondents. This was followed by comments mentioning problems of people being under the influence of drugs or alcohol (19.5%) and comments suggesting that the outlined problems in Blackpool may not be much of a problem to the respondent (10.7%).

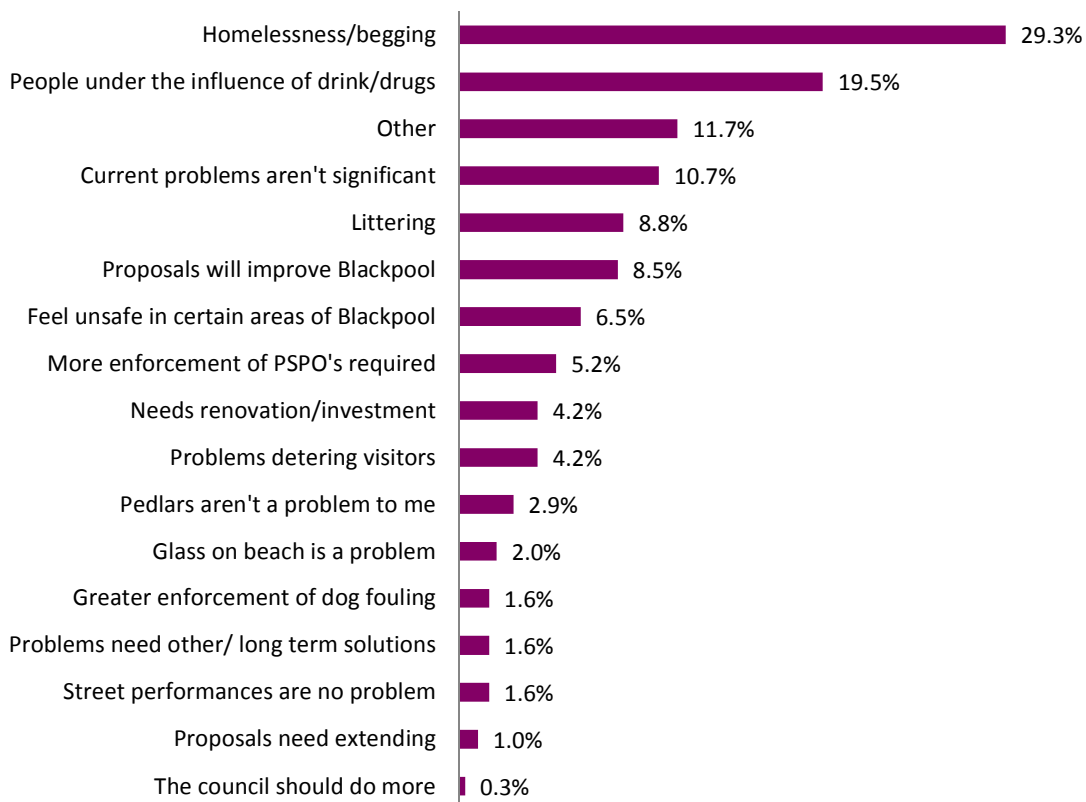
Examples of comments to this question included:

"I come into town every day during the week to work, it is very intimidating to pass a significant number of beggars"

"The drunks and spice addicts along with the beggars are prolific in Blackpool, apart from being a nuisance they can be very frightening and aggressive"

"Blackpool has problems like anywhere else"

Figure 3.6: Do you have any comments to make on these issues and any impact on you? (base – 307)



Other town centre problems

Respondents to the consultation were given the chance to leave comments in regards to anything else they consider to be a problem in Blackpool town centre. The most common type of comment was left in regards to the issue of homelessness and begging in Blackpool, which was mentioned by 27.7% of respondents. This was followed by comments mentioning problems of littering and dog fouling (18.8%) and people under the influence of alcohol or drugs (17.0%).

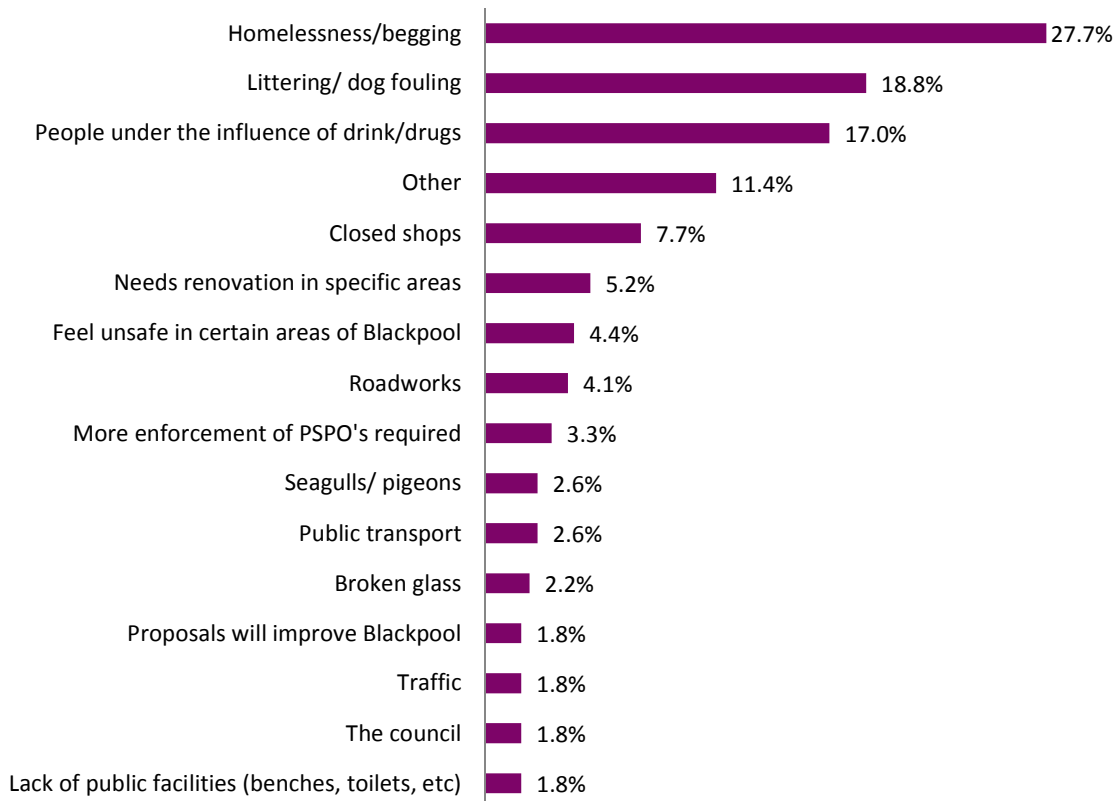
Examples of comments to this question included:

“Beggars & homeless people sleeping in shop doorways”

“Continuous excessive noise from bars and clubs onto the street”

“Litter and overflowing bins”

Figure 3.7: Is there anything else which you consider to be a problem in the following areas in Blackpool? (Town Centre)(base – 271)



Other promenade problems

Respondents to the consultation were given the chance to leave comments in regards to anything else they consider to be a problem on Blackpool promenade. The most common type of comment was left in regards to the issue of littering and dog fouling in Blackpool, which was mentioned by 33.9% of respondents. This was followed by comments mentioning problems of people under the influence of alcohol or drugs (14.9%) and homelessness and begging (10.7%).

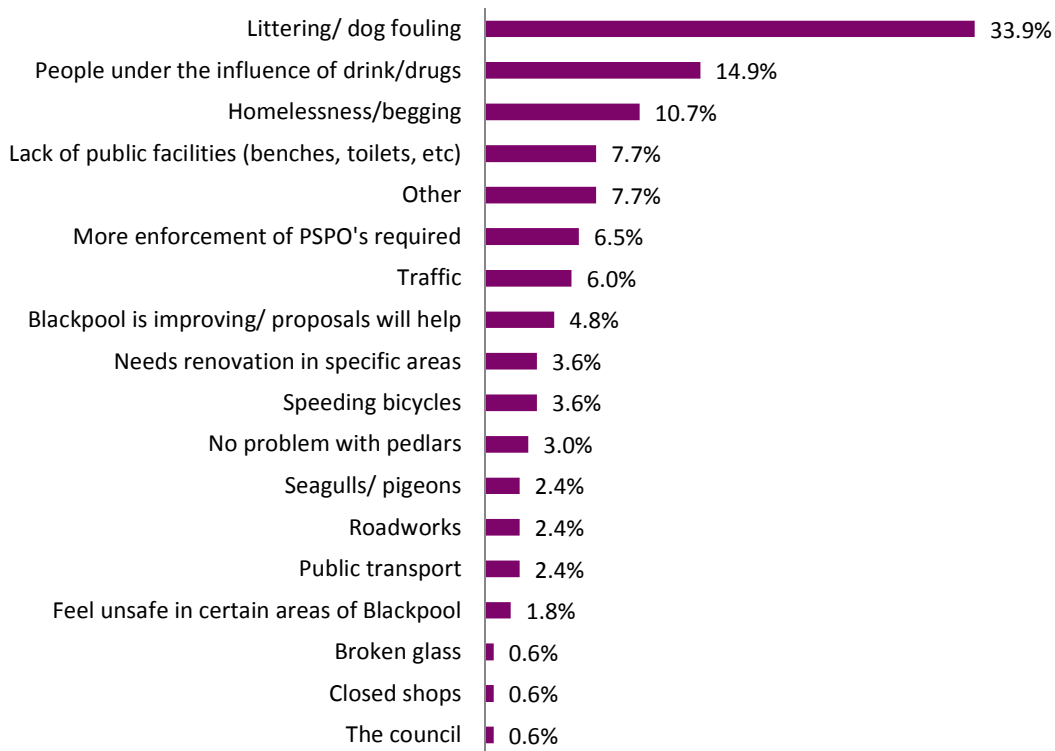
Examples of comments to this question included:

“People throwing or leaving litter on the beach”

“There is also a fairly big problem with people smoking cannabis on the promenade”

“Shelters on the prom taken over by homeless and drunk people”

Figure 3.8: Is there anything else which you consider to be a problem in the following areas in Blackpool? (Promenade)(base – 168)



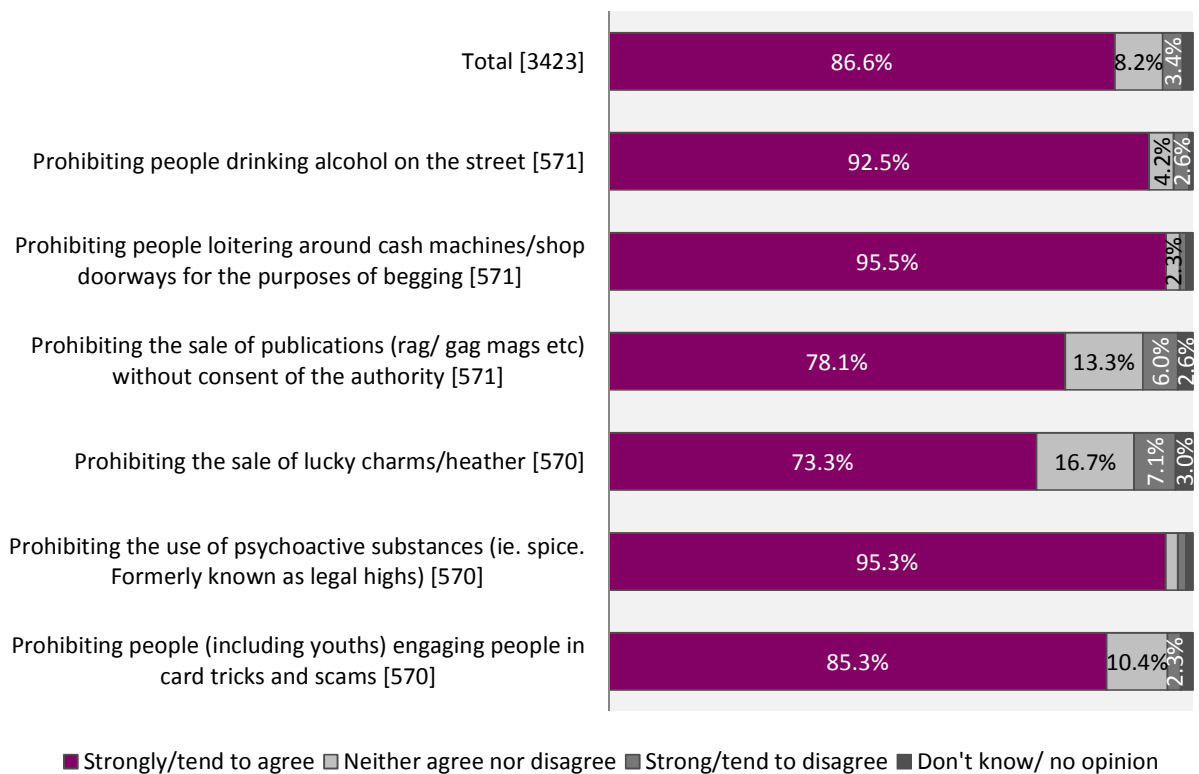
3.3. Agreement with proposals

Level of agreement with proposals

Respondents to the consultation were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed that the PSPOs which were already being enforced should be renewed in Blackpool’s town centre and promenade. The highest level of agreement was to continue ‘prohibiting people loitering around cash machines/shop doorways for the purposes of begging’, with 95.5% of respondents strongly or tending to agree. The lowest level of agreement was to continue ‘prohibiting the sale of lucky charms/heather’, with 73.3% of respondents strongly or tending to agree.

Residents of Blackpool were more likely to agree to ‘prohibiting people loitering around cash machines/shop doorways for the purposes of begging’ (97.6), while visitors to Blackpool were more likely to agree to ‘prohibiting the use of psychoactive substances’ (96.1%).

Figure 3.9: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following protection orders should be renewed in Blackpool's town centre and promenade?

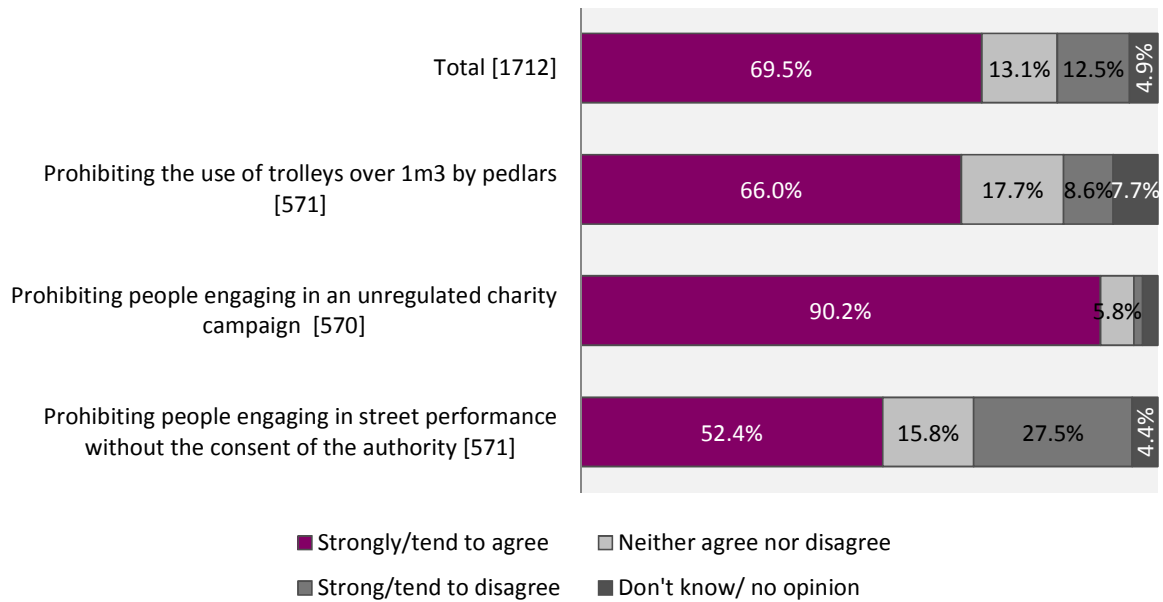


Promenade proposals

Respondents to the consultation were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed that new PSPO’s should be enforced on Blackpool’ promenade. The highest level of agreement was to enforce ‘prohibiting people engaging in an unregulated charity campaign’, with 90.2% of respondents strongly or tending to agree. The lowest level of agreement was to enforce ‘prohibiting people engaging in street performance without consent of the authority’, with 52.4% of respondents strongly or tending to agree.

Residents of Blackpool were more likely to agree to ‘prohibiting people engaging in an unregulated charity campaign’ (93.5%) than visitors to Blackpool were (86.4%).

Figure 3.10: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following proposals relating to protection orders on the promenade?

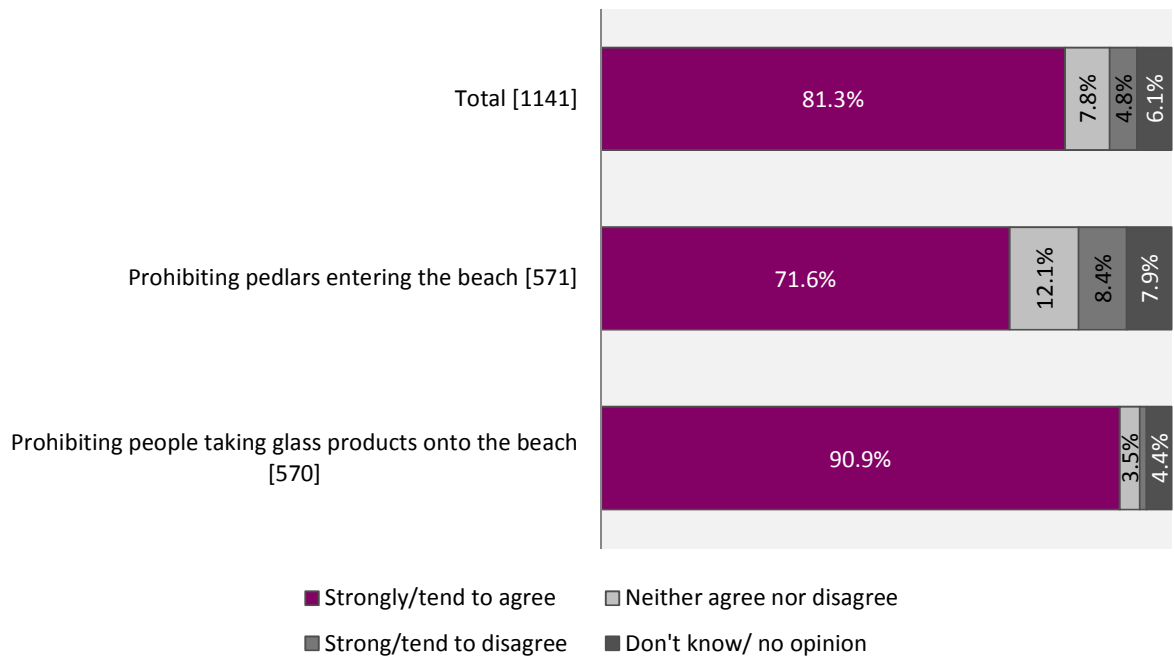


Beach proposals

Respondents to the consultation were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed that new PSPO's should be enforced on Blackpool's beach. The highest level of agreement was to enforce 'prohibiting people taking glass products onto the beach', with 90.9% of respondents strongly or tending to agree. The lowest level of agreement was to enforce 'prohibiting pedlars entering the beach', with 71.6% of respondents strongly or tending to agree.

Residents of Blackpool were almost as likely to agree to 'prohibiting people taking glass products onto the beach' as visitors to Blackpool were (90.8% to 90.2%).

Figure 3.11: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following proposals relating to protection orders on the beach?



Comments regarding new proposals

Respondents to the consultation were given the chance to leave comments in regards to why they agree or disagree to the proposals to add new protection orders to Blackpool's town centre, promenade and beach. The most common type of comment mentioned how the proposals are likely to make Blackpool a cleaner and safer place to be, which was mentioned by 49.5% of respondents. This was followed by comments mentioning how the proposals would improve the image of Blackpool and encourage visitors (22.3%). Another common theme of the comments mentioned how dangerous broken glass can be and how important it is that it is dealt with (7.3%).

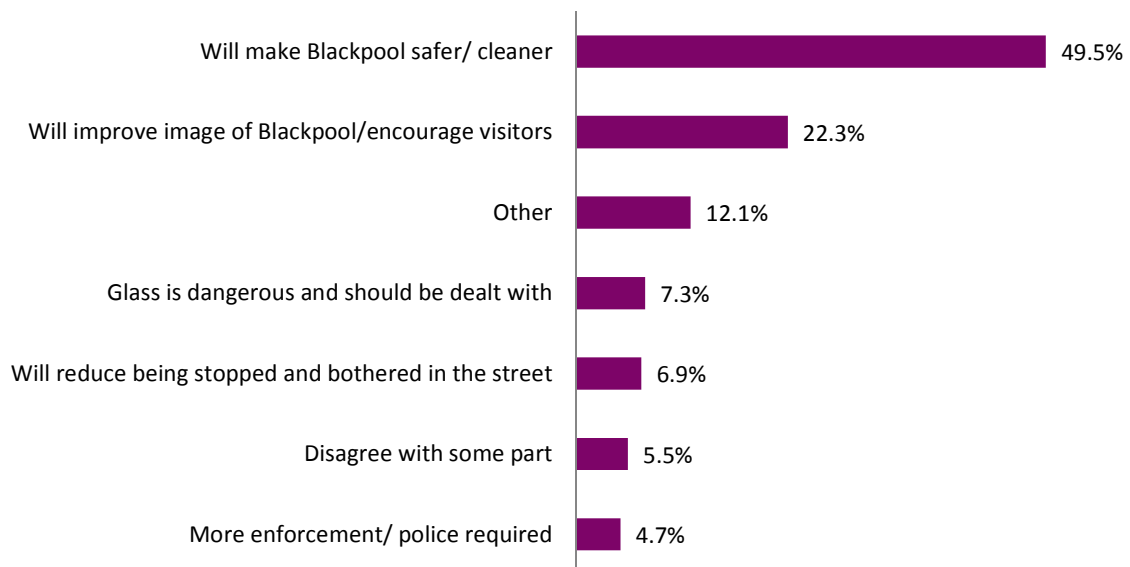
Examples of comments to this question included:

"The proposals which I feel will make Blackpool more safer to more pleasing to both residents and holidaymakers."

"I completely agree with all these proposals. To get people to invest in Blackpool, it needs to be where people want to come and feel relaxed while being here."

"Glass can cut people's feet when they go into and out of the sea. It has happened to me."

Figure 3.12: Please tell us why you agree or disagree with the proposals to add new Protection Orders to Blackpool's town centre, promenade and beach? (base – 422)



Other comments

Respondents to the consultation were given the chance to give any other comments they may have about the proposals. The most common type of comment mentioned how the proposals will be difficult to enforce and more authorised enforcers will be required for the additional PSPOs (34.9%). This was followed by comments mentioning how the proposals are a good idea in general and should be implemented (21.4%). Another common theme of the comments mentioned how littering is a problem in Blackpool (10.3%).

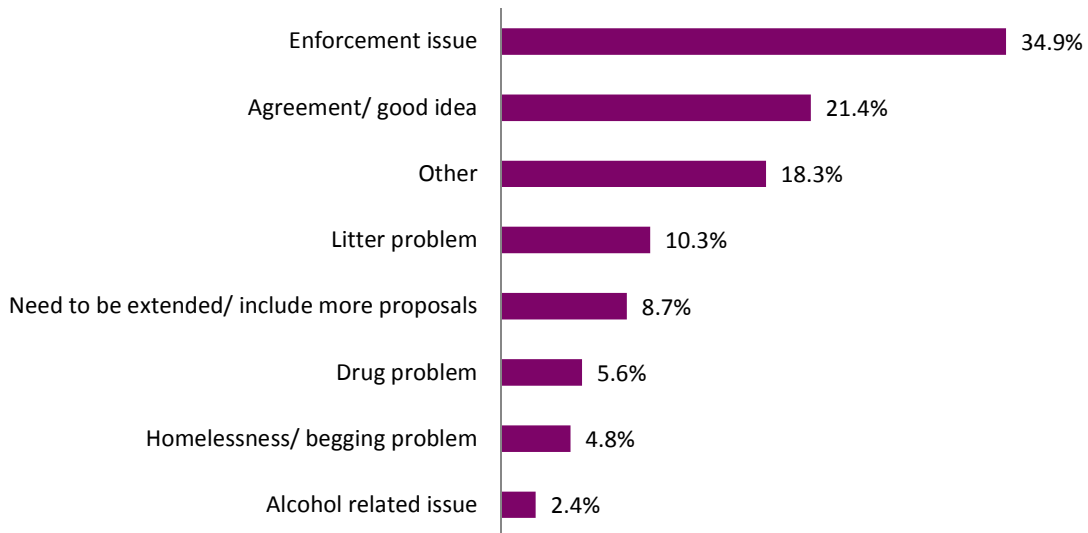
Examples of comments to this question included:

"I welcome them all. The police work really hard but they're stretched due to cuts at a national level. It will take a great deal of resources but I do think it will help both locals and the tourist side of things."

"I am glad to see that the council are aware of some of the problems of the town. I hope that they act swiftly and firmly in these matters"

"The litter enforcement contractor should be re-engaged. They did an excellent job. The amount of litter and cigarette litter in the town centre and Promenade is disgraceful."

Figure 3.13: Do you have any other comments to make about any of these proposals? (base – 126)



Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	8 th October 2018

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2018/19

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first 4 months to 31 July 2018.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the report.

2.2 To continue to lobby Government (HM Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Education in particular) along with local authority peers, the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Children's Services for more funding to cope with the mounting demand and new burdens presenting in Children's Services.

2.3 To require the respective directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage service financial and operational performances, specifically Children's Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Parking Services.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure financial performance against the Council's Revenue and Capital Budget is kept under review by members.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 See reports and appendices circulated to members under separate cover.

5.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.3 Is the Corporate Delivery Unit aware of this report? Yes

The Corporate Delivery Unit has been working with Resources to ensure any service Transformation required by budget savings are addressed in the Delivery Unit workplan.

5.4 List of Appendices:

Report

Appendix 1 - Revenue Summary

Appendix 2 - Schedule of Service forecast overspendings

Appendix 3a - Chief Executive

Appendix 3b - Governance and Partnership Services

Appendices 3b/c - Ward Budgets

Appendix 3d - Resources

Appendix 3e – Communications and Regeneration

Appendix 3f - Strategic Leisure Assets

Appendix 3g - Community and Environmental Services

Appendix 3h - Adult Services

Appendix 3i - Children’s Services

Appendix 3j - Public Health

Appendix 3k - Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

Appendix 4 - Capital Monitoring

Appendix 5 - Cash Flow Summary

Appendix 6 - General Fund Balance Sheet Summary

All circulated to members under separate cover

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 See reports and appendices circulated to members under separate cover.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment was produced as a part of the budget setting process and remains relevant.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 See reports and appendices circulated to members under separate cover.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Impact of financial performance on Council balances. Financial performance against approved Revenue and Capital budgets.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? N/A

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process?

No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: N/A

Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members present:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

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