

EXECUTIVE

Date: Tuesday 9 February 2021

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: Legislation has been passed that allows Council's to conduct Committee meetings remotely.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business.

If you have an enquiry regarding any items on this agenda, please contact John Street, Corporate Manager Democratic & Civic Support on 01392 265106.

During the Corona Virus outbreak, Executive Committee meetings will be held by virtual means. The live stream can be [viewed here](#) at the meeting start time.

Membership -

Councillors Bialyk (Chair), Sutton (Deputy Chair), Foale, Ghusain, Harvey, Morse, Pearson, Williams, Wood and Wright

Agenda

Part I: Items suggested for discussion with the press and public present

18 Public Spaces Protection Order Renewal

To consider the report of the Director Net Zero Exeter & City Management.

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Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Executive will be held on **Tuesday 9 March 2021** at 5.30 pm in the Civic Centre.

A statement of the executive decisions taken at this meeting will be produced and published on the Council website as soon as reasonably practicable.

Find out more about Exeter City Council services by looking at our web site <http://www.exeter.gov.uk>. This will give you the dates of all future Committee meetings and tell you how you can ask a question at a Scrutiny Committee meeting. Alternatively, contact the Democratic Services Officer (Committees) on (01392) 265115 for further information.

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Individual reports on this agenda can be produced in large print on request to Democratic Services (Committees) on 01392 265275.

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Simon Lane
Service Lead - Environmental Health and Community Safety
Exeter City Council

Via email: simon.lane@exeter.gov.uk

Monday 1st February 2021

Re: Renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order in Exeter City Centre

Dear Simon,

I am writing to confirm my support for the renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Exeter City Centre and the surrounding area.

I am assured by both the report that you enclose, and through contact that I have had with Devon and Cornwall Police, that there is good reason to warrant the renewal of the order. In 2020, 1867 anti-social behaviour logs were recorded by the Police in the PSPO areas. Whilst this is a slight decrease (10%) on 2017 levels, I am conscious of the negative impact this behaviour has on the community and it is important that steps are taken to send a clear message that it will not be tolerated.

Last summer Exeter City Centre was one of 20 areas chosen by the Police to receive street marshals, as funded by my office, in a bid to address anti-social behaviour as lockdown restrictions eased. Marshals responded to a number of incidents over the course of their duty including aggressive begging, graffiti and drug related issues.

I had also visited the City Centre in July of last year and spoke with councillors and police officers about some of the behaviour that occurs and the impact that this can have on the local business community.

I further recognise that anti-social conduct can affect the public's enjoyment of the area and I therefore welcome the renewal of the PSPO so that problems can be addressed swiftly.

I also welcome the proposal that Exeter City Council Officers are able to enforce the conditions of the PSPO, should it benefit the experience of local residents and visitors. Similar approaches have been adopted in Plymouth, as under the marshalling scheme that is already in place which uses CSAS powers and to which was further enhanced last summer. The police have found they prove extremely useful in the City's response to anti-social behaviour.

I entrust that a similar approach in Exeter may be helpful and could strengthen the partnership response to crime and disorder that is already well established.

Yours sincerely,



Alison Hernandez
Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isle of Scilly

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Devon & Cornwall Police

Building safer communities together

Simon Lane
Exeter City Council
Civic Centre
EXETER
EX1 1JN

Supt Antony Hart
Exeter Police Station
Sidmouth Road
Exeter
EX2 7RY

Telephone: 101

5th February 2021

Dear Simon

Renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order

I am writing in response to your letter to Exeter Community Safety Partnership members, dated 26 January 2021, and I am responding on behalf of Devon and Cornwall Police. I have outlined below my support for the proposed extension to the time period for which the current Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) will apply.

The issues of anti-social behaviour, street drinking, drug-taking, littering and begging have a significantly detrimental effect on those who live in, work in and visit the city of Exeter.

The PSPO has been in place since 2017 and sends a clear signal that anti-social behaviour is not acceptable to the people of Exeter, and enables the City Council and Police to tackle such issues in a timely and proportionate manner.

The PSPO dispersal power is regularly used, and serves to dissipate the impact of groups acting in a loud and disruptive manner, and significantly reduces aggressive begging.

From the inception of the PSPO in 2017 until the end of 2020, 366 people were dispersed using powers within the PSPO. Forty-eight fixed penalties for street urination have been issued, and there has been twenty prosecutions for breaches of the PSPO prohibitions.

The PSPO has proven to be a vital tool in preventing and deterring anti-social behaviour and identifying those who require additional help and support.

The PSPO's use has helped to promote a more positive environment for our communities at all times of the day and night.

The City Council and Police continue to work with partner agencies to engage, support and, where necessary, use enforcement to tackle perpetrators of anti-social behaviour. The PSPO is the key tool in taking enforcement action.

Devon and Cornwall Police are therefore supportive of the proposed 12-month extension to the current PSPO.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Hart', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Superintendent Antony Hart
Commander
Exeter, East & Mid Devon LPA