

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Director of Environment and Community Services – Geoff Field
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Relevant Executive Member:	Executive Member for Neighbourhoods - Cllr Ian Blades
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Submitted to:	Executive
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Date:	12 November 2025
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Title:	TS1 PSPO Extension - Consultation Results
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Report for:	Decision
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Status:	Public
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Council Plan priority:	Safe and resilient communities
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Key decision:	Yes
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Why:	Decision(s) will have a significant impact in two or more wards
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Subject to call in?	No
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Why:	The decision is not subject to call in as the call in procedures and steps to be taken may result in the Current Extension Order expiring which would prevent any further Extension to the PSPO for the TS1 Area of Middlesbrough being made. Therefore, the decision is to be implemented as soon as practicable and call-in is not possible.
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Proposed decision(s)
That Executive approve the request to extend the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that covers the TS1 area for a further 3 years from the 25 November 2025

Executive summary
The current TS1 PSPO will expire on 25th November 2025. This report provides an overview of the analysis from the formal consultation that was carried out in accordance with the statutory consultation requirements for extending or implementing a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

This report provides an overview of the consultation undertaken and its findings and provides Executive with information it needs to consider in order to make an informed decision on whether to extend the current order for a further 3 years or not.

The consultation proposed that the PSPO continues to cover the following areas in the TS1 locality for a further 3 years:

- Drinking Alcohol in public
- Littering
- Begging
- Skate boarding, using scooters, skates or bikes (including mechanically propelled bikes or vehicles) in such a way as to be a nuisance to others or cause damage to property
- Spitting
- Urinating or defecating
- Gangs of more than three causing harassment alarm or distress
- Verbal abuse and threatening and intimidating behaviour
- Dog control (including dogs to be required on leads, dog fouling and having control of more than four dogs)
- Rummaging in bins
- Appropriating monies for charitable or other purposes without a licence including asking members of the public to sign up to schemes.

The Consultation supports the extension of the PSPO for a further 3 years.

Purpose of this report and its contribution to the achievement of the Council Plan ambitions

1.1 To request that Executive approve the request to extend the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that covers the TS1 area. The current PSPO will expire on 25th November 2025.

1.2 Having a wide range of tools and powers available enables enforcement teams to utilise appropriate measures to tackle the issues within the town centre and wider TS1 area. Whilst there are other tools and powers available, the PSPO is still a valuable tool for officers to have.

Our ambitions	Summary of how this report will support delivery of these ambitions and the underpinning aims
A successful and ambitious town	- attract and grow businesses to increase employment opportunities
Safe and resilient communities	- reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

2. Recommendations

2.1 That Executive

2.2 Approve the request to extend the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that covers the TS1 area for a further 3 years from the 25 November 2025

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

3.1 The current PSPO will expire on 25th November 2025.

3.2 The consultation supported the extension of the PSPO in the TS1 area for a further 3 years

3.3 The content of the report provides enough information to satisfy Executive, on reasonable grounds, that the extension is necessary to prevent the occurrence or recurrence of the activities prohibited or restricted in the Order or to prevent an increase in frequency or seriousness of those activities if the Order was to expire.

4. Background and relevant information

4.1 PSPO's may be determined by a Local Authority where it is satisfied that two conditions are met:

- a. It is likely that activities in a public place within the Authorities area have had, or will have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality.
- b. The effect of those activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature: as such as to make the activities unreasonable and that the effect of likely effect of the activities justify proposed prohibitions.

4.2 A PSPO may not have effect for longer than three years, however it can be extended more than once if required.

4.3. The current PSPO prohibits a list of actions within the designated area. The prohibited actions are listed below and can be subject to a fine.

- Drinking Alcohol in public
- Littering
- Begging
- Skate boarding, using scooters, skates or bikes (including mechanically propelled bikes or vehicles) in such a way as to be a nuisance to others or cause damage to property
- Spitting
- Urinating or defecating
- Gangs of more than three causing harassment alarm or distress
- Verbal abuse and threatening and intimidating behaviour

- Dog control (including dogs to be required on leads, dog fouling and having control of more than four dogs)
- Rummaging in bins
- Appropriating monies for charitable or other purposes without a licence including asking members of the public to sign up to schemes.

4.4 To extend the PSPO the Executive must be satisfied on reasonable grounds that the extension is necessary to prevent the occurrence or recurrence of the detrimental activities or to prevent an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities.

4.5 The current PSPO came into effect on 26 November 2022 for a period of three years. It will therefore expire on 25th November 2025.

4.6 The formal consultation on the extension of the PSPO ran for a 2 week period starting on 03/10/2025 until 17/10/2025. The consultation was publicised via local media links as well as being prevalent on the Councils website, letters were sent to all key stakeholders and posters were displayed in public buildings alongside prominent signage displayed in various locations. To maximise publicity and encourage participation we also:

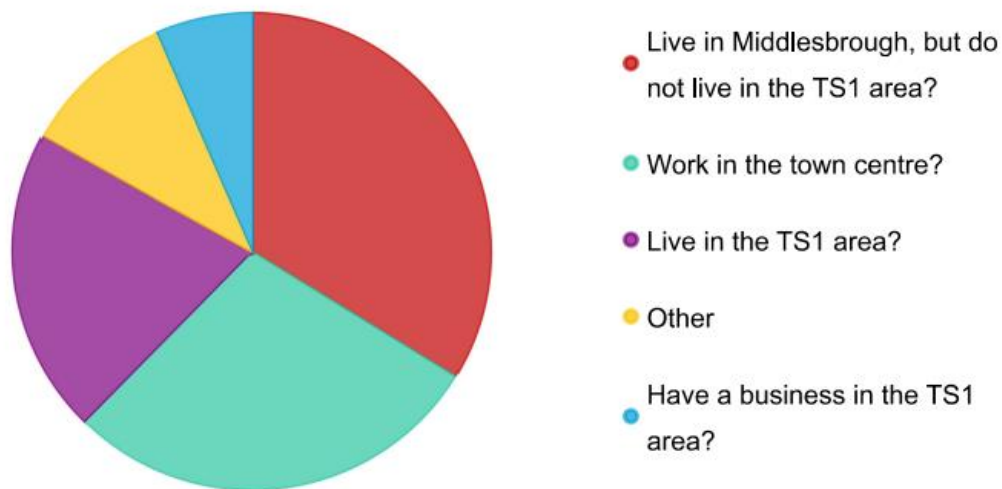
- a. Produced a short online questionnaire
- b. Encouraged feedback via a dedicated email address.
pspo@middlesbrough.gov.uk and
- b. Made questionnaires available within the community hubs across the town

4.7 To make sure we did not raise residents' expectations; we made it clear that the consultation was just that and asked for the public's views on extending the order. The consultation included questions whether the public consider the activities listed as prohibitions to be detrimental, whether they consider that the activities continue to occur and if they consider the extension of the Order would remove or reduce the risk of the detrimental effect of those activities.

4.8 Consultation Results

4.9 The results of the consultation have shown that there is strong support for an extension of the PSPO.

4.10 The total number of respondents was **77**. The makeup of the respondents can be seen below.



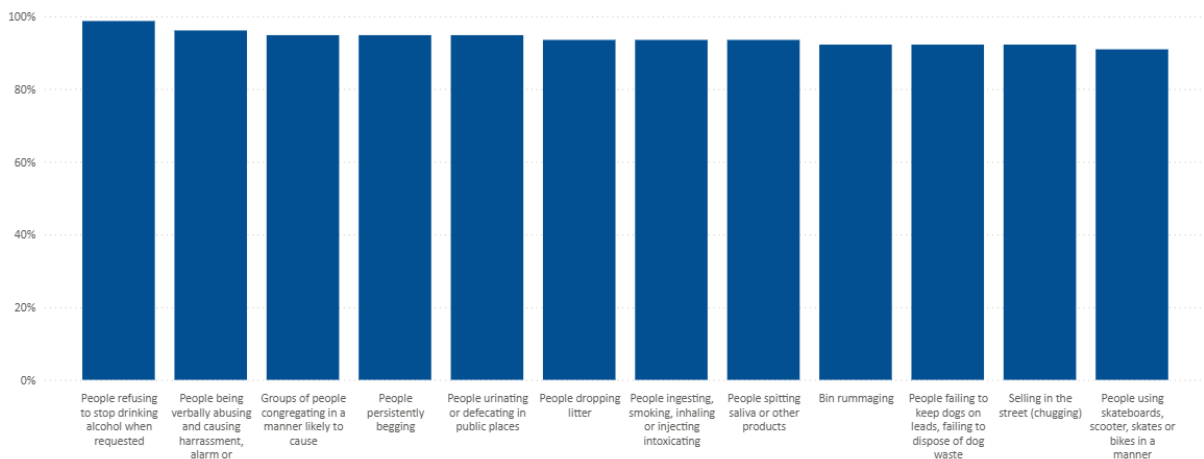
4.11 All respondents were either very concerned, concerned or a little concerned about anti-social behaviour in the TS1 area. This is an increase of **2.45%** from the previous consultation period.

4.12 In response to question 3 – ‘Do you agree that the PSPO should be extended?’, the following results were obtained:

- Overall, **94.81%** agreed that the PSPO should be extended, with **3.9%** disagreeing and **1.29%** choosing not to answer.
- **100%** of respondents who have a business in the TS1 area agreed the PSPO should be extended.
- **100%** of respondents who live in the TS1 area agreed the PSPO should be extended.
- **100%** of respondents who work in the town centre agreed the PSPO should be extended.

4.13 Question 4 outlined the current issues that are included in the PSPO and gave the opportunity for respondents to agree or disagree with the continued inclusion of said issues. The percentage of respondents who agreed per issue can be seen in the graph below.

Percentage of Agreement with the Inclusion of Issues Outlined in Question 4



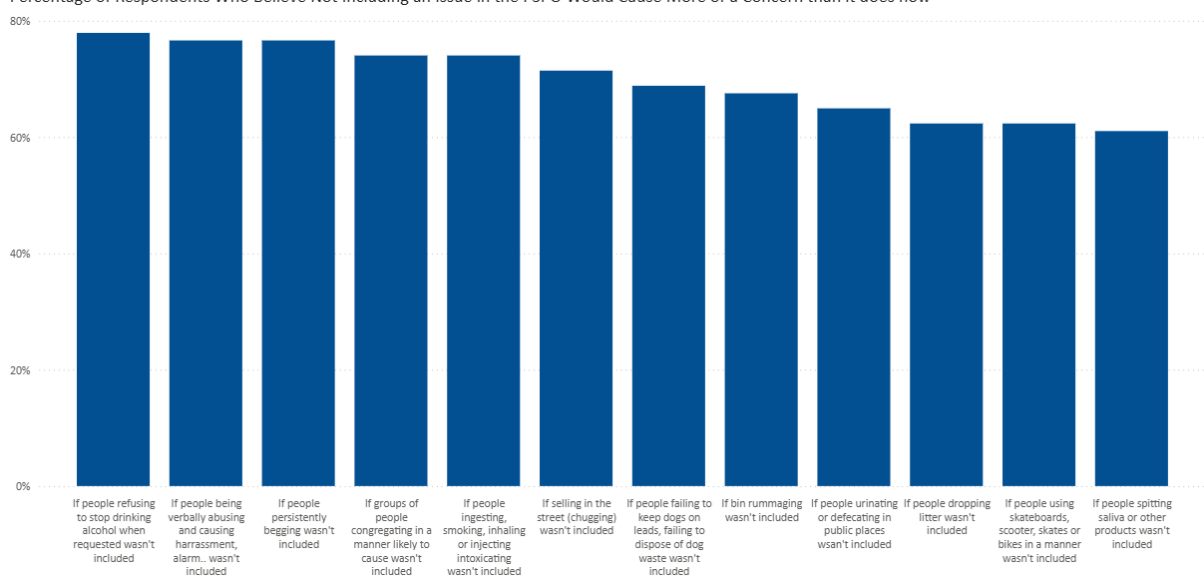
4.14 A total of **12** issues were outlined and over **90%** of respondents agreed that each issue should still be included in the PSPO.

4.15 Respondents were also asked to comment on each issue and say if not included in the PSPO if they felt it would:

- Become more of a concern than it is now
- Cause the same concern as it does now
- Become less of a concern than it is now
- Not an issue in the TS1 area
- Or other.

4.16 The below graph shows each issue and the percentage of all respondents who thought the issue would become more of a concern than it is now if the issue was not included in the PSPO.

Percentage of Respondents Who Believe Not Including an Issue in the PSPO Would Cause More of a Concern than it does now



4.17 For all **12** issues, more than **60% agreed** that for each one that if not included it would become more of a concern than it already is. People spitting saliva or other products

had the least percentage of respondents agreeing at **61.04%**, and People refusing to stop drinking alcohol when requested received the highest percentage of respondents agreeing it would cause more of an issue with **77.92%**. The next two issues that respondents felt if not included would cause more of a concern were: People being verbally abusive and causing harassment, alarm and distress (**76.62%**) and People persistently begging (**76.62%**).

4.18 Respondents were also given the opportunity to leave comments, some of the themes are set out below:

- Comments are further views on the agreement on the main issues i.e. begging, alcohol, drugs, and youth ASB.
- Consideration of the extension to other areas in the future for areas in Middlesbrough that face similar issues with respondents suggesting TS5, North Ormesby, top of Linthorpe Road/residential area.
- Police and Warden presence needs to be increased, with more proactive patrols, possibly some work around communication of enforcement.
- Suggestion of officers taking 'their office with them' by using laptops in their vehicles. Also, an increase in CCTV operatives would enable more proactive and reactive monitoring.
- Respondents would like to see more enforcement of the powers.
- Respondents to this survey also felt that the fear of crime is higher in the TS1 area.

4.19 The points set out in 4.18 above will be considered as part of operational planning and a further report will be brought to Executive with regards to further use of CCTV in support of the PSPO in the town centre and the wider TS1 area.

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

5.1 All ward members in the TS1 area have been engaged prior to the consultation starting in the first instance as they are directly impacted.

5.2 All elected members within Middlesbrough were also contacted as part of the engagement exercise and asked for their valuable feedback as part of the process.

6. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

6.1 That the PSPO is not extended. This is not recommended as there is still a high level of crime and antisocial behaviour in the TS1 area and the current Order gives powers to the Local Authority to act regarding the prohibited behaviour. If the order is not made the activities would reoccur or would increase in frequency or seriousness to the detriment of the community and the public.

7. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including procurement and Social Value)	The cost implementing the PSPO will be minimal and it will be covered through existing budgets.
Legal	Legal have been consulted during the production of this report. Under Section 60(2) of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Disorder Act 2014 a Public Spaces Protection Order can be extended for a period of up to three years and can be extended more than once under S60(4) on the grounds that the activities prohibited in the Order are likely to occur or recur or increase in frequency or seriousness if the extension order was not made. Consultation is a statutory requirement and has been carried in accordance with the Act and Government Guidance. If made the activities listed in the Order will be prohibited and if any person carries out those activities, they will be liable to a fixed penalty notice or prosecution. If the Order is not made those activities which have been found to be detrimental to the public will not be restricted. If approved a formal Order will be sealed and publicised in accordance with the Act and Regulations made under it.
Risk	Risk is low as this is an extension to an existing piece of legislation. The grounds for making the order should be made out for it to be made, otherwise the Order can be challenged by Judicial Review, or a prohibited activity can be challenged during a prosecution however, the report sets out how the grounds are met. If the current extension order expires before the second extension order is made, the PSPO cannot be extended. This will result in those activities which have found to be detrimental being allowed to continue without the protection and deterrent of the Order. A new Order would have to be considered and consulted upon which would result in a significant period of time whereby the public are not protected against the activities set out in the Order. The Order is part of a suite of actions the Council can take to tackle and prevent anti-social behaviour under the Act. Without the Order crime and anti-social behaviour may increase which may lead to poor perceptions of Middlesbrough as a place to live, work and visit resulting in an impact on the economy of the town, negative image on town's image and potential missed investment opportunities.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	The Council is mindful of concerns relating to equality and human rights relating to the policy on PSPO's. Fines have been kept to a minimum and training is focused on protecting people from harassment alarm and distress whilst also signposting people to help where appropriate.

Reducing Poverty	Poverty is significant factor in the planning phase of neighbourhood working and enforcement is always a last resort. The PSPO allows for a warning to be given in most cases prior to issuing a fine and this will assist with changing behaviour without the need to issue a financial penalty in most cases.
Climate Change / Environmental	The PSPO is in place to encourage people to be more responsible and to put rubbish in the bin rather than to drop litter. This will help improve our environment.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	Having a safer town centre will provide a safer place for all visitors to enjoy, including young people.
Data Protection	Data is held, stored and processed in line with strict processes and staff are trained regularly.

Actions to be taken to implement the recommended decision(s)

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Publish Order on Council Website	Marion Walker, Head of Neighbourhoods	25/12/2025
Update PSPO information on Council website	Marion Walker, Head of Neighbourhoods	25/12/2025
To bring a further report to Executive with regards to further use of CCTV in support of the PSPO in the town centre and the wider TS1 area	Marion Walker, Head of Neighbourhoods	31/03/2025

Appendices

1	Draft PSPO Extension Order
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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date
https://intranet-moderngov.middlesbrough.gov.uk/documents/q8153/Public%20reports%20pack%2015th-Nov-2022%2013.00%20Executive%20Member%20for%20Neighbourhood%20Safety.pdf?T=10	Results of consultation and proposal to extend and vary the TS1 Public Space Protection Order	15/11/2022
Original PSPO for the TS1 area (2019)(PDF, 1.03 MB)	PSPO Order 2019	2019
Extension to the PSPO for the TS1 area (2022)(PDF, 1.11 MB)	PSPO Order	2022

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