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Woking Borough Council

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19th October 2021

PSPO for Heathside Crescent Car Park

Dear Oli Walker

I would like to express my full support for the extending of the PSPO for Woking Town centre to include Heathside Crescent Car Park.

As the Parking Services Manager for Woking Borough Council, I am responsible for this car park, which has been subject to numerous incidents of anti-social behaviour throughout the time I have been working for the council in the past 5 years.

This is an area frequently used by groups of youths, who meet up to take drugs and drink alcohol and intimidate members of the public both using the car park as well as passers by in White Rose Lane. I have had cleaning staff assaulted on this site in the past. We have had to use a private security firm on a number of occasions to assist our council staff trying to deter these groups from using the site due to their aggressive nature.

I regularly receive complaints from the public and the majority of these complaints come from women who feel especially vulnerable of attack from these groups.

The mess these groups leave behind also create a hazard for my staff and the general public. This includes discarded needles, broken glass as well as human waste.

We are aware of criminal activities with drug dealing taking place and seizures of drugs and weapons having been recorded.

My staff feel particularly at risk and are afraid to enter the car park in the evenings to be able to complete their duties. The night time security staff will only attend the site from within a vehicle and in twos.

This order will allow the police to disperse these groups as soon as appear. Currently, unless the police are able to suspect any criminality is taking place they are unable to take any action. This order will ensure that legitimate users of the car park as well as my officers are able to access the car park in safety, or be able to report any anti-social activity with the knowledge that the activity will be abruptly stopped as soon as a police officer is in attendance.

I am hopeful, that this will ensure that Heathside Crescent will no longer offer the safety and security for these groups of youths to congregate and leave the area for good.

Yours sincerely

Ian Reynolds
Parking Services Manager
Woking Borough Council



York Road Project
Defeating Homelessness Together

1 York Road
Woking, Surrey
GU22 7XH
Tel 01483 728739

28.10.2021

Dear Oli,

York Road Project are happy to support the PSPO in principal and we at this time do not feel that there is any benefit in extending the boundary to cover the project.

We are working in new ways to reduce the impact that our clients have had on the community and many of those who have been hard to engage are now housed since the pandemic. This has had an impact on ASB for us and in the past 18 months we have had very few incidents within our services that would mean we need to be part of the PSPO.

Kindest

Cherisse Dealtry
Chief Executive



Woking

PSPO for Woking Town Centre

9th November 2021

Dear Oli Walker

I would like to express my full support for the PSPO for Woking Town centre.

As the Surrey Police Borough Commander for Woking, I am responsible for the neighbourhood policing of the borough, working in partnership with the Council and other partner agencies to tackle anything from general anti-social behaviour (ASB) to acquisitive crimes and serious assaults. Often these crimes are intrinsically linked to drugs and alcohol, and even persistent low level ASB can have a profound impact on the quality of life of local residents and those who frequent Woking town centre. ASB drives the fear of crime and impact on public confidence of the police and local authorities if they are not dealt with effectively. As the COVID lockdown has been lifted, police are seeing a steady increase in alcohol and drug related incidents.

This order will allow the Police to intervene at the earliest opportunity before the incident escalates to become more serious and problematic to resolve. This will be in keeping with the principles of policing by consent and using no more force than necessary.

The use of the PSPO will also allow for evidence to be collated that could then be used to support other policing options such as a Section 35 dispersal order.

Enforcement will be carried out by Police in conjunction with Woking Borough Council in line with the agreed enforcement policy.

The PSPO will be a vital tool to help Police and Council officials to effectively reduce incidents in Woking town centre, enabling residents and visitors of Woking town centre to go about their business without fear and intimidation from those committing ASB.

Yours Faithfully,

Inspector 4993 Moc
Woking Borough Commander

Email from the OPCC:-

Hi Oli,

We have reviewed the proposal for the Woking Town Centre PSPO and consultations results and are satisfied that the PSPO is justified and welcomed by the town centre users and residents. The documentation is clear and robust around enforcement.

Many thanks,

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey

Sarah Haywood

Community Safety Policy and Commissioning Lead
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

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