

Public Space Protection Order Consultation

City of Lincoln Council is reviewing the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO), made under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, which came into effect in October 2020 and was reviewed in October 2023. The PSPO permits enforcement conditions within the city's multi-storey car parks.

Before the PSPO was introduced, the Council received a number of complaints about individuals and groups using multi-storey car parks to engage in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour.

The PSPO currently applies to the following multi-storey car parks:

- Broadgate Multi-storey Car Park;
- Lincoln Central Multi-storey Car Park; and
- Lucy Tower Street Multi-storey Car Park.

Current prohibitions

1. No person in the restricted area shall engage in any of the following activities, each of which is a prohibited activity:

- a. ingesting, inhaling, injecting, smoking or otherwise using an intoxicating substance, unless for an exempted use;
- b. any activity likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to another person;
- c. congregating in a group of two or more people so as to cause an obstruction or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to any person;
- d. loitering without a permitted purpose; or
- e. anti-social behaviour, including but not limited to public urination or defecation, or any other unacceptable or offensive behaviour.

2. Any person reasonably suspected of engaging in a prohibited activity who is directed to leave the restricted area by a relevant occupier must do so as soon as reasonably possible.

3. Any person within the restricted area who breaches the prohibition at paragraph 1(a) must surrender any intoxicating substances in their possession to an authorised person.

Review requirement

There is a legal requirement for a full review of the PSPO, including public and partner consultation, to take place every three years.

Proposed additional prohibition

Since the last renewal, City of Lincoln Council has received reports of individuals tampering with parking equipment. The Council therefore proposes to include the following additional prohibition as part of this renewal:

No person shall, unless they have a parked vehicle at the location, and without reasonable excuse or authorisation, loiter near, touch, or interfere with any parking equipment in the city centre.