#### Appendix 3

# Cherwell District Council Equality and Climate Impact Assessment

Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order for Banbury Town Centre

March 2023

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# **Section 1: Summary details**

Directorate and Service	Communities
Area	Regulatory Services and Community Safety
What is being assessed (e.g. name of policy, procedure, project, service or proposed service change).	The impact of introducing a Public Spaces Protection Order for Banbury Town Centre
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	New policy
Briefly summarise the policy or proposed service change. Summarise possible impacts. Does the proposal bias, discriminate or unfairly disadvantage individuals or groups within the community?  (following completion of the assessment).	The assessment relates to a proposal to introduce a new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Banbury. This new PSPO replaces a similar one that lapsed in 2022. There were no adverse equality or climate impacts identified as a result of the former PSPO. The assessment does not identify any new impacts that need to be considered and mitigated.
Completed By	Richard Webb
Authorised By	
Date of Assessment	21st February 2023

#### **Section 2: Detail of proposal**

#### **Context / Background**

Briefly summarise the background to the policy or proposed service change, including reasons for any changes from previous versions.

A Public Spaces Protection Order was introduced in Banbury town centre in 2016. This PSPO was subsequently renewed in 2019. A PSPO lapses after 3 years unless renewed and therefore the Banbury town centre PSPO ceased to have effect in 2022.

The Council's Community Safety Team have discussed with Thames Valley Police the need for a new PSPO for Banbury town centre. It is believed that a new PSPO will be useful in preventing and tackling anti-social behaviour in the area. Therefore proposals for a new PSPO have been developed. This proposed PSPO differs from the lapsed PSPO in geographic scope. In addition, the wording of the PSPO is proposed to be amended to focus on the harmful impact of behaviours.

A public consultation will be required on any proposed new PSPO for the area. This impact assessment will be revised when the public consultation has concluded.

#### **Proposals**

Explain the detail of the proposals, including why this has been decided as the best course of action.

The Executive of the Council will be asked to decide whether to introduce a PSPO in Banbury Town Centre.

It is likely that any PSPO that is introduced will reflect the issues that were included in the public consultation as the potential scope of the Order. The potential PSPO therefore includes prohibitions against –

- behaving in a way that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress or concern for safety to another person in a public place;
- acting in a manner that is perceived to be that of begging;
- continuing to consume alcohol when required to stop doing so by any Authorised Officer.

The proposal to introduce a PSPO for Banbury Town Centre was developed following the lapse of the former PSPO for the area and reflects the experience of using the Bicester PSPO that was introduced in 2022.

The Council's community wardens and the Police believe that the introduction of a PSPO would provide better options to tackle and deter ASB in the area. It would support engagement with the public in the area where anti-

social behaviour is a concern. It would ensure that the Council and Police have the ability to issue fixed penalty notices for behaviour impacting on the town centre where necessary and appropriate.

The Order, if introduced, will affect only those that breach the prohibitions contained within the Order in the defined geographic area. This order is relevant to the community as a whole.

#### **Evidence / Intelligence**

List and explain any data, consultation outcomes, research findings, feedback from service users and stakeholders etc, that supports your proposals and can help to inform the judgements you make about potential impact on different individuals, communities or groups and our ability to deliver our climate commitments.

Evidence supporting the proposed PSPO comes from Police incident data. Neither Police nor Council data is recorded in a way that enables a direct analysis of incidents that would fall within the scope of the proposed PSPO to support conclusions on how many incidents would be actionable under that PSPO. Police data for the 5-year period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 to 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 identified 2940 incidents recorded in the proposed PSPO area. The highest recorded incident types are:

- Assault Without Injury (555 / 19%);
- Assault With Injury (473 / 16%);
- Public Order (460 / 16%);
- Drug Offences (437 / 15%)
- Criminal Damage (304 / 10%).

A PSPO as proposed is likely to have an impact on behaviours that may lead to incidents of assault, public order or criminal damage.

In addition, there were 257 incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded in the area during this time. The wording of the proposed PSPO has been developed to assist in resolving those anti-social behaviour issues.

A public consultation will be undertaken before any decision on whether to introduce a PSPO is reached. The results of that consultation will inform the final proposals.

# Alternatives considered / rejected

Summarise any other approaches that have been considered in developing the policy or proposed service change, and the reasons why these were not adopted. This could include reasons why doing nothing is not an option.

The previous PSPO for Banbury town centre has lapsed. This proposal seeks to replace that Order in a way that recognises learning from the introduction of a similar Order in Bicester and which reflects the current nature of the problems the Order could assist with in the area. Therefore no alternatives have been rejected at this stage.

# **Section 3: Impact Assessment - Protected Characteristics**

Protected Characteristic	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of Impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner* (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Age	$\boxtimes$						
Disability	$\boxtimes$						
Gender Reassignment	$\boxtimes$						
Marriage & Civil Partnership	$\boxtimes$						
Pregnancy & Maternity	$\boxtimes$						
Race	$\boxtimes$						
Sex	$\boxtimes$						
Sexual Orientation	$\boxtimes$						
Religion or Belief							

# **Section 3: Impact Assessment - Additional Community Impacts**

Additional community impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner  (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Rural communities	$\boxtimes$						
Armed Forces	$\boxtimes$						
Carers	$\boxtimes$						
Areas of deprivation							

### **Section 3: Impact Assessment - Additional Wider Impacts**

Additional Wider Impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of Impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner* (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Other Council Services							
Providers	$\boxtimes$						
Social Value <sup>1</sup>	$\boxtimes$						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 applies to this proposal, please summarise here how you have considered how the contract might improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of the relevant area

# **Section 3: Impact Assessment - Climate Change Impacts**

OCC and CDC aim to be carbon neutral by 2030. How will your proposal affect our ability to reduce carbon emissions related to

Climate change impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner  (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Energy use in our buildings or highways	$\boxtimes$						
Our fleet	$\boxtimes$						
Staff travel	$\boxtimes$						
Purchased services and products (including construction)	×						
Maintained schools	$\boxtimes$						

We are also committed to enable Cherwell to become carbon neutral by 2030 and Oxfordshire by 2050. How will your proposal affect our ability to:

Climate change impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Enable carbon emissions reduction at district/county level?							

#### **Section 4: Review**

Where bias, negative impact or disadvantage is identified, the proposal and/or implementation can be adapted or changed; meaning there is a need for regular review. This review may also be needed to reflect additional data and evidence for a fuller assessment (proportionate to the decision in question). Please state the agreed review timescale for the identified impacts of the policy implementation or service change.

Review Date	21st February 2024
Person Responsible for Review	Richard Webb
Authorised By	