



Information Governance

Coventry City Council
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27th March, 2018

Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7683 3323
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Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ03961

Thank you for your request for information relating to Public Space Protection Orders.

Your request:

1. Does the council have a Public Space Protection Order, created under the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act, which includes a ban on rough sleeping and/or "persistent" and/or "aggressive begging (or similar terms) in its territory?

Please see attached copy of 'City Centre PSPO'. Please note that this does not cover rough sleepers.

If yes, please provide details of:

- When it was created and its exact wording.

Please see attached copy of 'City Centre PSPO'.

- The details of Public Space Protection Order and where it applies:

The area the PSPO covers is within the ring road, but also covers the Friargate and the Train Station areas.

- How many people have been prosecuted by the council for failing to comply with a PSPO? Provide details for each prosecution - date, conviction etc.

To date, we have issued 29 Fixed Penalty notices, 28 for begging, 1 for busking

7 people have been taken to court (so far); 1 fined a total of £90, 5 fined a total of £534

1 person has been fined a total of £60 and given a Criminal Behaviour Order banning them from the inner ring road area due to their prolific nature.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance

Appendix 1

Coventry City Council

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Section 59

Public Spaces Protection Order (City Centre) 2016

This Order is made by Coventry City Council ("the Council") under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Section 59 ("the Act").

1. This Order relates to the public space within the area edged in red on the plan of Coventry City Centre which appears at Appendix One, being public space in the Council's area to which the Act applies ("the Restricted Area").
2. The Council is satisfied that the two conditions below have been met, in that:-
 - a. activities carried on in the restricted area as described below have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that these activities will be carried on in the public place and they will have such an effect;
 - b. the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by the Order.

By this Order

3. The effect of the Order is to impose the following prohibitions and/or requirements in the Restricted Area at all times, unless specifically stated:-

a. Begging

Any person is prohibited from begging. The act of begging is deemed as either approaching people for money, or being stationary and directly asking for money, or positioned on the floor to invite the offer of money or goods.

b. Peddling / Street Trading

Any person is prohibited from, at any time, peddling/trading goods within the restricted area without an appropriate street trading consent issued by the Council.

c. Distribution of publicity materials

Any person is prohibited from distributing any materials for commercial gain unless they have the appropriate prior permission of the Council. Registered charities and religious organisations are exempt.

d. Charity or Commercial Subscription Collectors

Any person is prohibited from, soliciting for the completion of subscription charity collections. Exemptions are granted on land within the area marked in blue detailed on the plan of Coventry City Centre. Appropriate permission to carry out cash collections in the City Centre should be obtained from the Council in advance.

e. Buskers and Street Performers

Any person is prohibited from performing contrary to the 'Coventry City Centre Code of Conduct for Buskers.

f. Skateboarding/Cycling

Any person skateboarding or cycling must do so in a careful and considerate manner and must dismount if requested to do so by an enforcing officer when continuing to ride would cause a danger to the public or public offence. Failure to comply will leave them liable to enforcement.

Offences under this Public Space Protection Order:

- a. A person who is guilty of an offence shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
- b. A Fixed Penalty Notice of £100.00 will be issued to offenders (reduced to £60.00 if paid within 14 days) which would discharge any liability to conviction for an offence under Section 67(1) of the Act.
- c. This order may be cited as 'The Public Space Protection Order (City Centre)' and shall come into force on (date of commencement) and remain in force for a period of three years.