

Tackling alcohol related anti-social behaviour in public places

Wiltshire Council can help the police tackle anti-social drinking by making a Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) to restrict public drinking in certain places.

What is a DPPO?

A DPPO gives the police the power to ask people, who are behaving in an alcohol induced anti-social manner within a defined area, to stop drinking and hand over any alcohol in their possession. If people refuse, it is an offence, which may result in arrest and a fine.

When would you use a DPPO?

A DPPO can be used in areas that have experienced alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour over a period of time, where no other measures have worked. This approach is used successfully across the country in streets, parks, town centres or even city-wide areas.

How do you create a DPPO?

- An initial report needs to be presented to the local area board that explains why a DPPO is being considered, gives evidence of the behaviour, shows where the area is and what else has been tried to tackle the problem.
- If the area board agrees, then a project manager will be appointed to oversee the process and it will be referred to the council's legal department for consideration.
- The consultation period will last three months and will include plans detailing the proposed area, showing all roads, parks, car parks, schools, public spaces and other premises. These plans are sent to the chief constable, the parish council, other Wiltshire Council committees and any licensed premises or landowners in or near the area
- An advertisement that fully explains the proposal will be published in the local press to allow people to have their say.
- Wide-ranging consultation is vital so that when the DPPO comes into effect it will be monitored and the police will have the resources to enforce it.
- Once the proposal is finalised then it must be approved by full council. If it is agreed then another advertisement must appear in the local press to explain when it will come into effect.
- The council will send full details of the agreed DPPO to the Secretary of State.

This process is expensive, time-consuming and depends on a consistent level of policing and other factors. Wiltshire Council can offer advice about alternative ways to tackle anti-social drinking.

How do you know where the defined area is?

There will be information signs put up in prominent locations that are agreed by the council, the police and the local area board.

How do I find out more?

For more information, contact the council's safer communities team on 0300 456 0100 or visit www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk or www.wiltshire.gov.uk/safercommunities