

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE	9 JANUARY 2020	7
REVIEW OF SCOPE OF PSPO CONTROLLING BARBECUES AND OUTDOOR COOKING			

PUBLIC ITEM

SUMMARY

The report is a response to a resolution from the last meeting of the Committee that a further report be presented to a subsequent meeting of the Committee detailing the option/feasibility (including the associated risks and potential security issues) of reviewing the scope of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to consider allowing barbecues and outdoor cooking on the beach.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the observations contained within this report as to the implications of allowing barbecues and other forms of outdoor cooking on the beach at this time and to leave the existing PSPOs in place; and
2. Request that a further review of the effectiveness of the PSPOs is undertaken at the end of the 2020 season and reported to this Committee.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Tourism and Leisure Committee – 4 November 2019

That a further report be brought back to a forthcoming meeting of the Committee detailing the option/feasibility (including the associated risks and potential security issues) of reviewing the scope of the PSPO to look at allowing barbecues and outdoor cooking on the beach.

Council - 25 March 2019

to approve an additional unfunded annual revenue budget increase of £38,000 from 2019/20 onwards to cover the cost of enforcement in regards to the Public Space Protection Order in regards controls for the use of barbecues and other outdoor cooking on council owned land.

Tourism and Leisure Committee - 14 March 2019

1. To introduce a full prohibition of barbecues and other outdoor temporary cooking facilities on council owned land through the application of a Public Spaces Protection Order; to set the level of the Fixed Penalty Notice at £50; and
2. To recommend to Council an additional unfunded annual revenue budget increase of £38,000 to cover the cost of enforcement.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	✓
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	✓
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	✓

REPORT

- At its last meeting this Committee considered a report reviewing the initial part season of operation from mid July to late September 2019 of the enforcement of the PSPOs controlling barbecues and outdoor cooking on council land.
- The Committee noted and discussed its contents and resolved that a further report be brought back to a forthcoming meeting of the Committee detailing the option/feasibility (including the associated risks and potential security issues) of reviewing the scope of the PSPO to look at allowing barbecues and outdoor cooking on the beach.
- This resolution has been considered by officers and an internal consultation undertaken with relevant staff, which included; Parks & Coastal Services, Operational Services and CSP Ltd (the current security service provider).
- Some of the comments and observations from these staff included:
 - BBQs happening on the beach can result in people burying BBQs in the sand leaving potential hazards for dogs and pedestrians,
 - Allowing BBQs on the beach will encourage further visitation of large groups which may result in greater concern by Members and greater risks/ higher volume of litter.
 - Allowing BBQs on the beach may possibly result in the secondary/ consequential effect of more people using BBQs in the dunes/ car park areas.
 - A lift of the ban may cause complaints from volunteer litter picking groups.
 - Staff report issues of disposable BBQs being put into the plastic beach bins causing fire damage and the need to replace the bins.
 - It would be more proactive to go back to the original idea of having designated areas for BBQ usage with appropriate infrastructure.
 - A lift of the ban will lessen the perceived strength/ position of the Council in the public domain and make enforcement more difficult.
- Whilst it remains possible to review the scope of the current PSPOs to allow barbecues and outdoor cooking on the beach, the Committee needs to consider all of the associated issues and risks in doing so. These would include addressing the issues highlighted above and would require:
 - Additional signage to differentiate between the promenade and dunes where the ban continued and the beach where barbecues would be allowed.
 - Additional resources to replace the existing litter bins on the beach with a larger and more robust specification to cater for the potential of lit disposable barbecues and coals being deposited in them. It must be noted that the current beach bins which were provided in 2018 are of plastic construction and are post mounted and only 50 litres in size.
 - Potentially increased patrols and vigilance along the beach to ensure no disposable barbecues are being buried/hidden in the sand.
- It is the view of officers that the current PSPOs have only been in place for a part season and that it would be preferable to operate the existing full ban throughout the 2020 season to evaluate more thoroughly the impact

and effectiveness of the ban. It would then be possible to evaluate and assess whether to continue with the total ban or consider the provision of designated areas.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There are no implications arising directly from this report.
Legal	No implications arising from this report.
Community Safety	No implications arising from this report.
Human Rights and Equalities	No implications arising from this report.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	No implications arising from this report.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	No implications arising from this report.

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection