Consultation on Extension of the Westminster Bridge Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)

Oct 2019

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Our existing Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) was authorised by Cabinet in 2016 and targets anti-social behaviour (ASB) associated with street gaming and street gambling on the South Bank, specifically around Westminster Bridge. That order was made for three years and was due to lapse on 10th October 2019.

At any point before the expiry of <u>the order</u>, the council can extend it by up to three years (s.60 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014), if it is considered necessary to prevent the occurrence or recurrence of the activities identified in the order, or an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities.

1.2 Our proposals

The existing order is in place to prohibit people from engaging in street gambling or street gaming, and applies to an area that extends along the Lambeth side of Westminster Bridge and an area surrounding the approach to the Bridge on the Lambeth side. Please see the **existing signage** which shows the area the order covers and the prohibition explanations.

If the current PSPO is not extended, the capability and efficiency of council and police officers to enforce against individual street gaming and gambling is reduced. In this circumstance, it is likely that there will be an increase in the severity and frequency of the above described detriment caused to people in the locality.

2.0 The consultation

2.1 Consultation objectives

Lambeth proposes to extend the existing order for a further three years to protect people who live, work and visit Westminster Bridge and the surrounding areas. Please see our recommendation to consult report for further details.

This consultation invited you to have your say on Lambeth's proposal to extend the existing order by a further three years.

2.2 Who we consulted

Residents, visitors/tourists and businesses in the borough.

2.3 When we consulted

The consultation ran from 22 July – 1 September 2019

2.4 How we consulted

2.4.1 Digital activity

Lambeth consultation web page, Love Lambeth blog post, email to all relevant stakeholders, Facebook posts and Twitter posts.

2.4.2 Event activity

End of consultation event held on 4 September at Parliament Panorama Marquee.

3.0 Responses from members of the public

3.1 Summary of results

The six week consultation for the Lambeth 2019 –2022 Street Gaming and Street Gambling PSPO extension ran from Monday 22 July 2019 to 1 September 2019, and identified overwhelming overall support for the PSPO to be extended. There were 116 responses to the online consultation and the headline results show that 98% of respondents support the extension, and that the issue is a significant problem. The full analysis can be viewed at Street Gaming and Gambling PSPO extension consultation results.

4 Next steps

4.1 Report

Officer delegated decision report to recommend extension of existing PSPO.

4.2 Decision

To extend taken by Lambeth Strategic Director for Resident Services.

4.3 Order

Officially sealed by Lambeth legal services.

4.4 Extension

PSPO in effect from 10th October 2019.

Appendices

Appendix A – PSPO Illegal Gaming Order – October 2016

Appendix B – <u>Street Gaming PSPO Signage</u>