

OFFICIAL



Ms Lisa Jones
Assistant Director- Enforcement & Safety
London Borough of Waltham Forest

Superintendent Alex Kay
Neighbourhoods & Partnerships
North East Command

Stratford Police Station
18 West Ham Lane
Stratford
E15 4SG

1st June 2022

Dear Ms Jones

Extension of the public spaces protection order (South)

I write to you as the Police Superintendent responsible for the Neighbourhoods and Partnerships portfolio within the London Borough of Waltham Forest, which forms part of the North East Command Unit.

I am aware of the local authorities' application to extend the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which is in force in the North and South of the Borough. I understand that the PSPO was implemented in order to combat the persistent low level crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) that were having a detrimental effect on the local community and placing significant daily demands on the police and the local authority.

Since its implementation, the PSPO has been instrumental in reducing the number of offences and incidences of ASB, suffered by local residents. In addition, it has helped restore public confidence in the police and the local authority, by providing a stepped approach to address issues in a timely way.

The use of Community Protection Warnings, Community Protection Notices and Injunctions, provide a fair and proportionate approach that balances the freedoms and rights of individuals engaged in prohibited behaviours against those of local residents, to peacefully live and enjoy their local neighbourhoods. It caters for situations in which other powers to address the issues are not readily available or would be less responsive. Therefore, I believe the PSPO is both a proportionate and necessary approach.

I am mindful of our Public Sector Equality Duty to identify, monitor and mitigate and adverse impact against particular protected characteristics, whenever possible. It is important to keep in mind that young people, males and those of low-income households could be more affected than other protected groups. On the basis that an evaluation will be undertaken by the local authority and shared with the MPS as appropriate, I fully support the London Borough of Waltham Forest's application to extend the PSPO for a further period of time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alex Kay".

Alex Kay BA(Hons) MSc PGCE
Superintendent