

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. What are the concerns and issues with using NPS and other drugs?**

These can be associated with anti-social behaviour, causing high levels of nuisance behaviour such as noise, rowdiness, harassment and intimidation for passers-by, as well as the littering of syringes, cans, bottles, vomiting and urination in public spaces. Also users can suffer from a number of health-related issues.

### **2. What is a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)?**

PSPOs is an order created in relation to specific areas within the local authority's jurisdiction, where activities are taking place that are, or are likely to be, detrimental to the local community's quality of life. PSPOs impose conditions or restrictions on people within that area, such as the use of NPS. A Breach of a PSPO is an offence punishable by prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

### **3. Do Police already have these powers?**

Police have powers of arrest for criminal offences that can be linked to drugs or substances abuse. However, where a PSPO is in operation it is an offence to refuse to comply with an officer's request to stop the activity or to surrender any substances when asked. Where there is no PSPO in operation, it is not an offence alone to refuse to surrender the substance, although any related anti-social behaviour is.

### **4. What additional Powers will the Police have?**

The Police Officers will be able to make arrests if an offence is committed and if offenders breach PSPO, by failing to abide i.e. give their name and address or hand over NPS.

### **5. Will there be signs all around the city alerting people to the new citywide PSPO?**

Yes; the intention is that signs will be located in areas that suffer from the highest impact as well as on main roads into the city.

### **6. Will there be any extra policing to enforce the PSPO?**

No; Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams will continue to patrol and respond to incidents as part of their community response. Council officers such as city wardens will not be able to share the powers that the police have.

### **7. Are there time restrictions on a PSPO?**

The PSPO will be in force all hours of the day, every day.

### **8. What are the benefits of citywide a PSPO?**

The main benefits of a PSPO are to reduce the use of NPS, additional benefits may include a safer city and a healthy environment.

### **9. Any other information?**

If you or someone you know has a drug related problem, there is help available. You can contact:

Turning Point

Telephone: 0330 303 6000

Referrals: [LLreferrals@turning-point.co.uk](mailto:LLreferrals@turning-point.co.uk)

Website: <http://wellbeing.turning-point.co.uk/>