**FAQ’s**

1. **What are the concerns and issues with street drinking?**

**Street drinking is sometimes associated with anti-social behaviour, causing high levels of noise, rowdy and nuisance behaviour, harassment and intimidation of passers-by, as well as the littering of cans and bottles and urination in public spaces. There are further concerns with underage drinking, sexual activity, criminal damage and substance misuse.**

1. **What are DPPOs?**

These are areas that are designated by us where public drinking has been causing a nuisance or annoyance.

In these areas, police have certain powers to help tackle such behavior.

Police officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) can request people to stop drinking alcohol in the designated public places and ask to surrender their drink.  If people refuse they can be fined up to £500.

This is not an outright ban; however, the police may use their powers when alcohol related anti-social behavior is linked within the DPPO.  The police would have the discretion whether or not to use their powers.

1. **Can I be stopped or arrested for carrying alcohol in public spaces?**

A DPPO does not make it illegal to carry alcohol or to drink alcohol in a public place.  So long as drinking is done responsibly a DPPO will only be used to tackle alcohol related anti-social behaviour or disorder.  Under these circumstances police will have the power to stop people drinking alcohol and seize or confiscate alcohol within the controlled area.  If you fail to comply with an officer’s request to stop drinking and/or dispose of alcohol, you could face a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN).

1. **Do police already have these powers?**

**Police have powers of arrest for criminal offences that can be linked to alcohol However, it is only an offence to refuse to comply with an officer’s request to stop drinking alcohol or to surrender alcohol when asked, where a DPPO is in operation. Where there is no DPPO in operation, it is not an offence alone to refuse to surrender alcohol, although any related anti-social behaviour is.**

1. **Will there be signs all around the city alerting people to the new city wide DPPO?**

Yes.

The intention is that signs will be located in areas that suffer from the highest impact of alcohol related disorder, as well as the main roads into the city.

1. **Would people still be able to drink or hold alcohol bottles outside pubs?**

Yes.

The DPPO does not make it illegal to drink alcohol in a public place.  However, if a person was to drink beyond the legal boundary of a licensed premise and they do not stop drinking if asked to do so by a police officer or police community support officer, then they could be at risk of regulation.

1. **What about street parties and events in parks?**

Events within a public place authorized by a premises license or a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) will be excluded from the Police DPPO powers.

1. **Will there be any extra policing to enforce the DPPO?**

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.

1. **Are there time restrictions on a DPPO?**

**DPPOs will be in force all hours of the day, every day.**

1. **What are the benefits of citywide a DPPO?**

**The main benefits of a DPPO are to reduce street drinking. Additional benefits include a safer city and a healthy environment, whilst reducing harmful consumption of alcohol and protecting vulnerable people.**

1. **Any other information?**

**If you or someone you know has an alcohol related problem, there is help available. You can contact:**

**Renaissance, Princess Road West Street, Leicester, LE1 6TP**

Telephone: **0116 225 6400**

**Website:** [**www.leicesterrecoverypartnership.co.uk**](http://www.leicesterrecoverypartnership.co.uk)

**Opening times:**

Monday: 9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday: 8 am to 7 pm

Wednesday: 9 am to 8 pm

Thursday: 9 am to 5 pm

Friday: 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday: 9 am to 1 pm