Okunromade, Noah

From: Craig.J.Hands@met.police.uk

Sent: 15 April 2025 11:44 **To:** Okunromade, Noah

Subject: RE: Extension of the Public Space Protection Order for Nuisance Vehicles

Good Morning Noah,

Thank you for providing the information below and for including the Metropolitan Police Service in your consultation process.

PSPO's are an excellent tool to address nuisance or problems within public spaces and to support the work being done to ensure that public spaces can be enjoyed free from anti-social behaviour and to protect the quality of life for Brent's residents.

I note this consultation is in relation to an application to renew/extend the previous 2 year PSPO which had previously been consulted on and agreed by the authorising authority. It is also noted that your application is to continue with the previous conditions which you clearly feel are both manageable and appropriate for this new PSPO moving forwards.

Having reviewed local (Brent) figures relating to Vehicle Nuisance over the past 2 years, it is clear that there has been some increases in vehicle nuisance across various wards and clusters within the Borough of Brent, these included Wembley Park, Wembley Central and Willesden Green, that are heavily populated by local communities, visitors and members of public visiting the Brent to attend events and functions at the many venues located in Brent. It is also highly significant that there have been some significant reductions in vehicle nuisance across wards including Harlesden, Alperton and Northwick Park, these are all areas heavily frequented by pedestrians and communities who will no doubt benefit from these reductions in terms of making the streets and roads safer for our residents and visitors.

Anti-Social use of vehicles can be directly linked to collisions and serious injury being caused to people as well as unwanted noise and behaviours across our communities. Brent Council have been really supportive in the enforcement of their PSPO's to date by utilising their own Enforcement Officers as well as working closely with officers from the Mets Local Community Policing Teams across Brent. I fully support this collaborative approach to fighting crime and ASB across our communities and working with our partners to reduce crime and ASB, increase trust and confidence in our communities and make Brent a safer place for all those that live in, work and visit Brent.

Based on the information provided we support this local PSPO application and look forward to continuing to work with our partners at Brent Council to enhance the great work already carried out and to work towards further borough wide reductions in crime and ASB associated with vehicle use.

Yours sincerely,



Craig Hands – A/Chief Inspector Brent Neighbourhoods & Partnership

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From: Okunromade, Noah < Noah. Okunromade@brent.gov.uk>

Sent: 02 April 2025 09:58

To: Hands Craig J - NW-CU < Craig.J. Hands@met.police.uk >

Cc: Egbor, Simon <Simon.Egbor@brent.gov.uk>

Subject: Extension of the Public Space Protection Order for Nuisance Vehicles

Dear Craig,

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 Brent Council is committed to maintaining a clean and safe environment and it is the Council's responsibility to address a range of environmental quality issues, including anti-social behaviour (ASB).

- 1.2 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 sets out the tools and powers available for tackling ASB. Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPOs) are one of the tools available under the 2014 Act. These are wide-ranging and flexible powers for local authorities, which recognise that councils are often best placed to identify the broad and cumulative impact that ASB can have on communities. The Act gives councils the authority to implement PSPOs in response to the particular issues affecting their communities, provided certain criteria and legal tests are met. A breach of a PSPO without a reasonable excuse is an offence. This gives councils the ability to enforce with Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) or court action any behaviour causing nuisance, alarm, harassment or distress to those who live, work or visit an area.
- 1.3 The council has effectively utilised PSPO powers in order to control street drinking since 2017, including powers implemented to support enforcement work around Wembley Stadium primarily on event days. The powers are a critical complementary tool to those provided to the police and other agencies to tackle ASB in Brent.
- 1.4 On 1st April 2023 the Council made a decision to introduce a Public Space Protection Order for Nuisance Vehicles. The Public Space Protection Order was in effect from the 20th April 2023 for a period of 2 years.

The existing PSPO prohibits the following activities:

- A) Revving of Engine(s) as to cause a public nuisance
- (B) Repeated Sudden and rapid acceleration (as a public nuisance),
- (C) Racing
- (D) Performing stunts (as to cause a public nuisance)
- (E) Without lawful authority or reasonable excuse wilfully causing obstruction on a public highway, whether moving or stationary, including driving in a convoy
- (F) Any vehicle driving over Footways, Footpaths and Verges without reasonable or lawful excuse (Illegal Crossovers)
- 1.5 From March 2024 February 2025 there were 562 recorded ASB incidents categorised as Nuisance Vehicles /Inappropriate Use. This was a 2.2% increase on the previous 12 months (March 2023 February 2024) where there were 550 incidents. The council has seen an increase in complaints related to nuisance vehicles especially around Revving of Engine(s) and Performing stunts to cause a public nuisance. This has precipitated consideration of the powers currently available to police and the council to address the issues that these vehicles cause. Reports range from racing, driving in a convoy, performing wheel spins and anti-social driving across the borough. The most frequent day of the week for Nuisance vehicle incidents occurs on Saturday in 2024/25, with 24% of all Nuisance Vehicle incidents occurring on that day.
- 1.6 The Police are increasingly using their powers conferred in Section 59 of the Police and Reform Act 2002 to address the issue in the form of careless or inconsiderate driving. These powers allow an officer to seize and remove a vehicle that he or she believes is being driven inconsiderately or carelessly and is causing, or is likely to cause, alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public. However, the police cannot seize a vehicle under this provision without first warning the

driver that the vehicle will be seized if the driving persists. There are also practical challenges to seizure of vehicles, as Police will have to plan additional resources to do this which isn't always available, so the PSPO will support with early intervention by the police where Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) could be issued out on the spot without warnings, when individuals' have been noticed to cause nuisance with their vehicles.

- 1.7 Within the year, approximately 400 vehicles have attended the car meets over this period to either drift or to spectate. 2 ANPR CCTV cameras have been deployed in 2 locations to capturing this nuisance behaviour. The drivers causing a nuisance were issued FPN's as well as CPW's and Section 59's from the police, while spectators that turn up and got captured on CCTV were also issued CPW's and Sec 59's for attending the organised events. Total of 28 FPNs, 1 for obstruction and 27 for footways, footpaths and verges.
- 1.8 In addition, due to the request Car meets on Central Way and McNichol Drive, the ASB team and Metropolitan police have organised days of action, met with relevant stakeholders within the council to advocate for traffic calming measures within these hotspots. High Friction Anti-Skid Road Surfacing were implemented at these two roundabouts to deter and reduce the anti-behaviour in these locations. There are some hotspots in other parts of the borough.
- 1.9 To ensure our enforcement is robust enough during the next 3 years of PSPO nuisance vehicle implementation, we are exploring and biding for funding for 2 ANPR CCTV and 2 Acoustic Cameras which will eventually be part of the council's CCTV network, dedicated to use by team and deployed to hotspots areas when needed.
- 2.0 In accordance with legislative requirements, a six-week consultation process relating to the potential extension of the PSPO Nuisance Vehicle took place between 27th January 2025 16th March 2025. The details of the consultation were published on the council's website in accordance with the legal guidance under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The consultation was shared through Brent's Have your say webpage.
- 2.1 About 85 % of all responses strongly agreed or agreed with all prohibitions consulted on while 9 % of all responses strongly disagreed or disagreed with the proposals for nuisance vehicles, with 6% neither agree nor disagree with the PSPO

We would want to extend the PSPO for another 3 years with the existing prohibitions which are:

- A) Revving of Engine(s) as to cause a public nuisance
- (B) Repeated Sudden and rapid acceleration (as a public nuisance),
- (C) Racing
- (D) Performing stunts (as to cause a public nuisance)
- (E) Without lawful authority or reasonable excuse wilfully causing obstruction on a public highway, whether moving or stationary, including driving in a convoy
- (F) Any vehicle driving over Footways, Footpaths and Verges without reasonable or lawful excuse (Illegal Crossovers)

We would like to know if the Metropolitan Police are in support of the extension of the PSPO attached is data from the police database.

Kind regards

Noah Okunromade Principal ASB Lead Community Safety and Prevention Partnerships, Housing and Resident Services Brent Council 0208 937 2138

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