

Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)

Progress

Scrutiny –
June 2025



Introduction to the PSPO

- City Wardens & Community Safety Staff were tasked with implementation of new LCC Public Space Protection Order commencing from 2nd April 2025.
- A PSPO is a legal tool that can be local authorities to address antisocial behaviour in public areas.
- For Leicester, the PSPO covers the following offences
 - Loitering and Begging.
 - Charity or commercial subscription collectors.
 - Microphones, loudspeakers, megaphones, loudhailers or any other equipment used to amplify the volume of speech or music.
 - Temporary structures
 - Ebikes, Bikes and Scooters

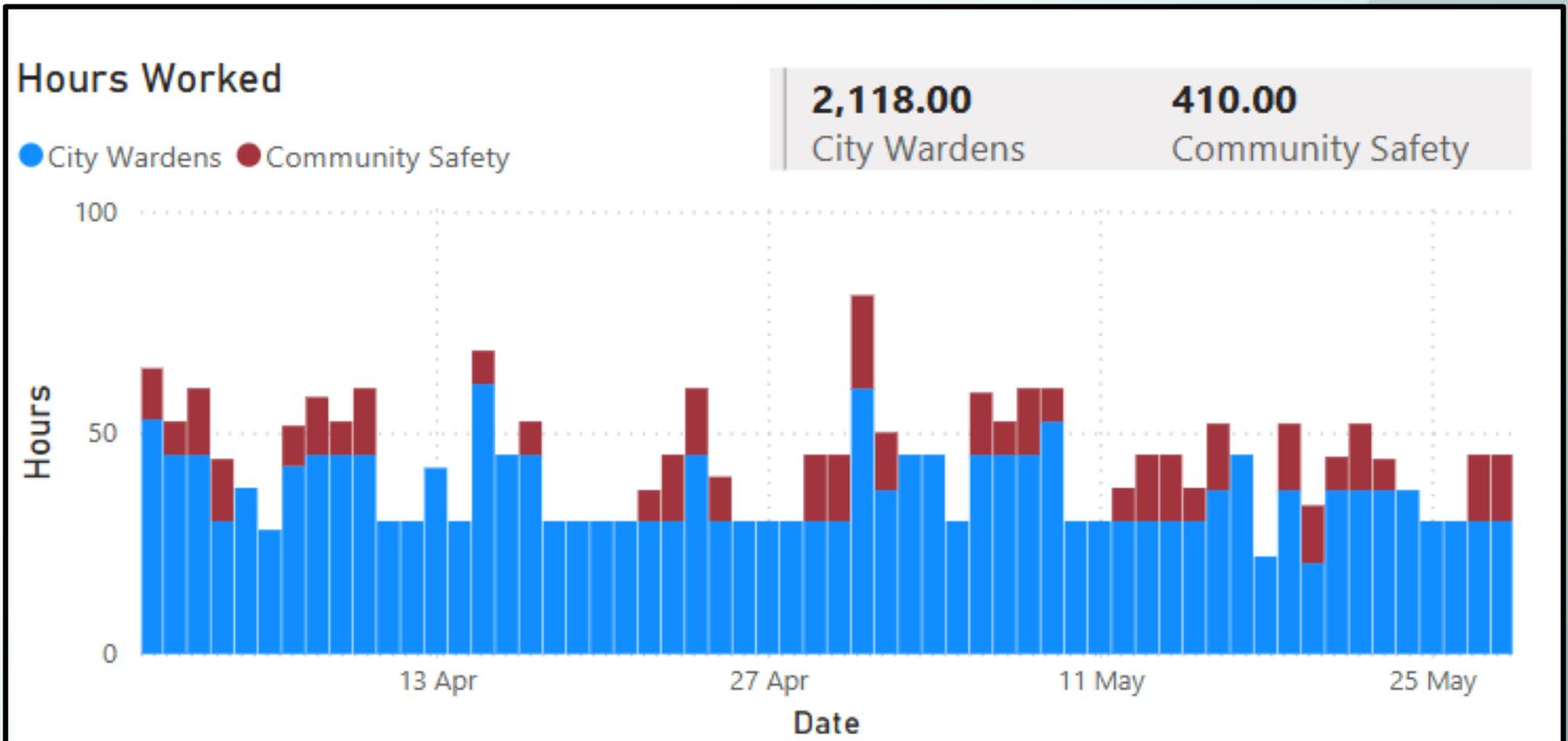
Introduction to the PSPO

- PSPO based in City Centre Zone 1 and around train station providing high visibility.
- Education campaign took place in April – to advise people of new PSPO and enforcement to commence – alongside issuing of fines from 1st May to members of public not conforming to instructions.
- LCC have worked alongside Leics. Police in implementing the PSPO alongside their own operations (Op Pedal Fast for scooters and illegal e-bikes).

Hours worked

- Target hours for PSPO work was 8 staff per day (56hrs) from City Wardens / Community Safety team.
- Total of 2528hrs worked to date – average of 43hrs per day over April / May (6 staff)
- There was a minimum of 5 staff patrolling every day over the initial period (April)

Hours worked



Engagement

- April saw a month of engagement work continuing into May with the public.
- To date there have been 1077 separate engagements with the public for PSPO work
- Average of 23 engagements per day.
- Most engagement work has been with street lifestyle individuals and cyclists & scooter riders

Engagement & Referrals

104

Amplification

60

Chuggers

348

Cyclists/Scooters/...

4

No fixed abode

375

Street Beggars

117

Street drinkers

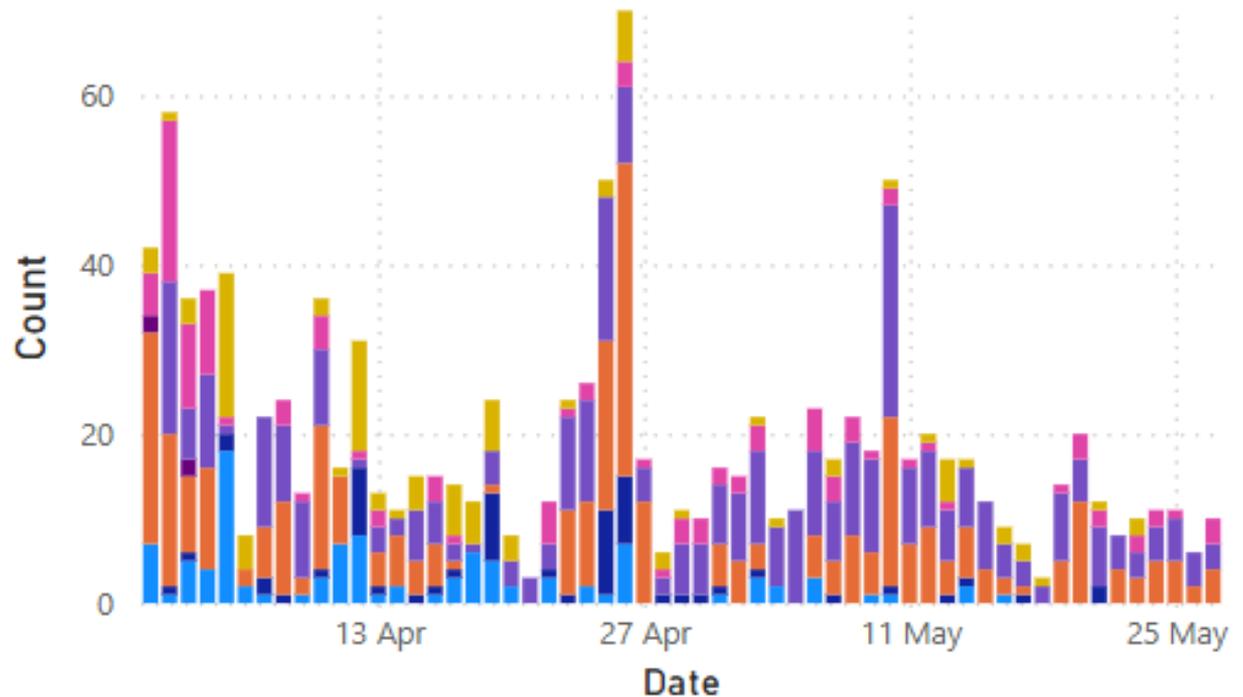
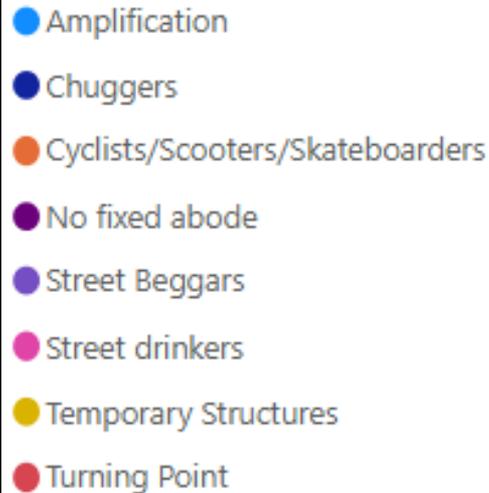
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Temporary Structu...

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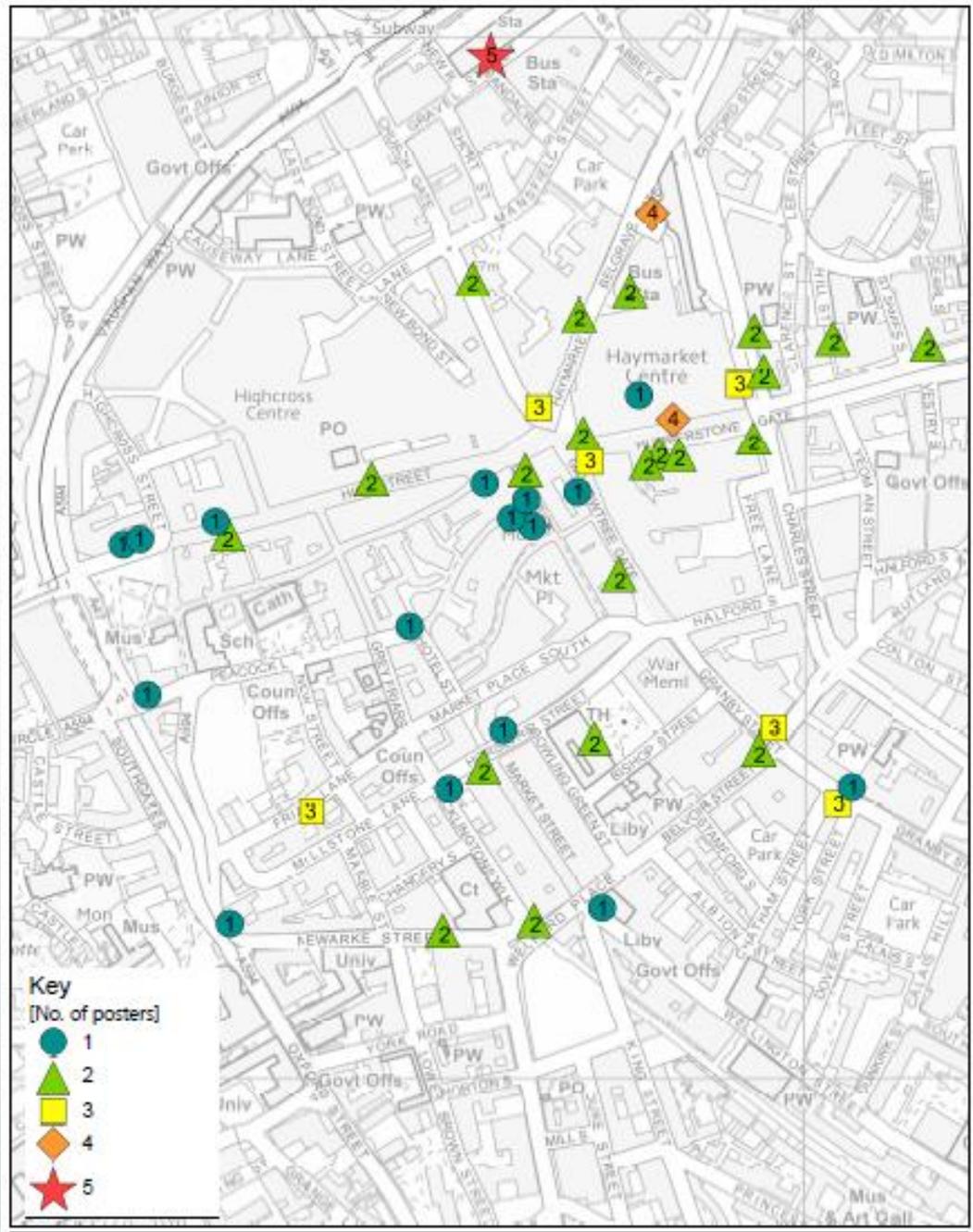
Turning Point

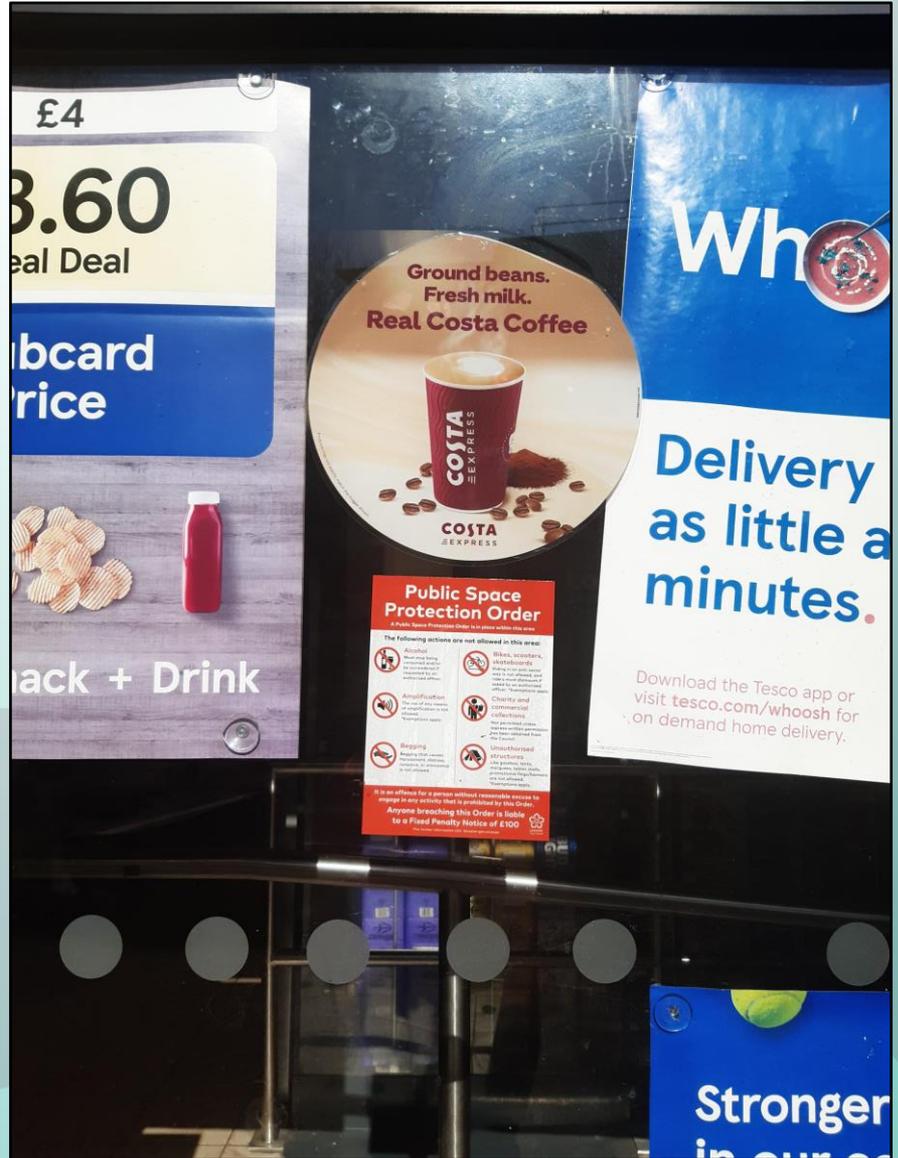
Educational Leaflets Handed Out



Posters

- In addition, posters were provided to businesses to display as part of engagement work and to give notice to them and customers about the upcoming PSPO.





Signage

- 38 new signs have been installed across the city centre detailing the PSPO. City Centre Digital displays have also been used to display the posters

Public Space Protection Order

A Public Space Protection Order is in place within this area

The following actions are not allowed in this area:



Alcohol

Must stop being consumed and/or be surrendered if requested by an authorised officer.



Bikes, scooters, skateboards

Riding in an anti-social way is not allowed, and riders must dismount if asked by an authorised officer. *Exemptions apply.



Amplification

The use of any means of amplification is not allowed. *Exemptions apply.



Charity and commercial collections

Not permitted unless express written permission has been obtained from the Council.



Begging

Begging that causes harassment, distress, nuisance, or annoyance is not allowed.



Unauthorised structures

Like gazebos, tents, marquees, tables stalls, promotional flags/banners are not allowed. *Exemptions apply.

It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse to engage in any activity that is prohibited by this Order.

Anyone breaching this Order is liable to a Fixed Penalty Notice of £100

*For further information visit leicester.gov.uk/pspo



Issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices

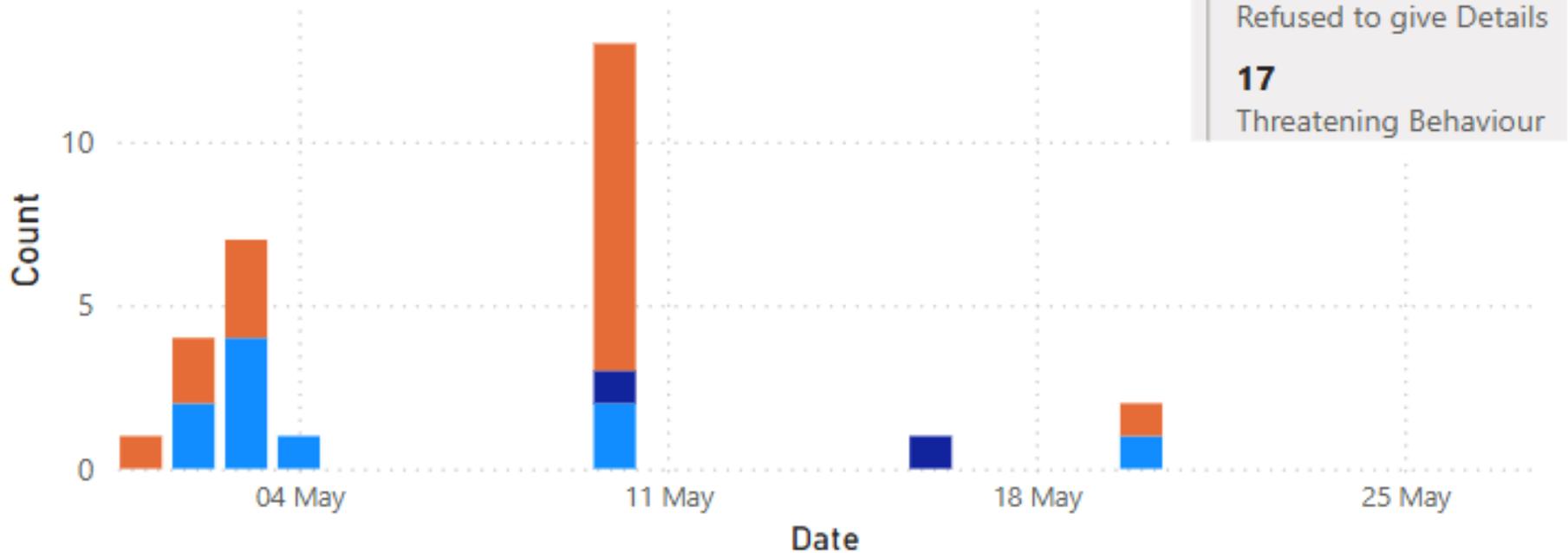
- To date, 3 FPN's have been issued. This demonstrates that the engagement work in April was successful.
- There have been challenging situations where FPN's have not been issued – individuals not providing details, being threatening to staff or no available Police support to help issue FPN
- In addition, there have been instances where FPN's have not been given due to other issues – e.g people with No Fixed Abode, refusing to provide details.



FPN's not issued

Reason for FPN not being issued

● No Police Support ● Refused to give Details ● Threatening Behaviour



Support for PSPO

- There has been support from the public for the new PSPO.

It was so nice to walk past the clock tower a couple of times last week with no one shrieking at me about religion.

5w Like Reply

11   

We were in the city centre this morning it was brilliant to see shoppers enjoying sitting on the seats outside the Highcross and not a single delivery rider in sight, long may it last

7w Like Reply

3 

LeicestershireLive

Bookmark 



Comments 4



LeicestershireLive

Bookmark 



Comments 40

I went in to town this afternoon and was pleasantly surprised. Seemed vibrant lots of people out in st martins square and a good positive experience.

REPLY  3

 The city centre felt much quieter and calmer than before (Image: LeicestershireLive)

Conclusion

- Large scale engagement has resulted in a reduction in city centre ASB and there is a better “feel” to the city centre.
- Recent press coverage has been positive and there has anecdotal evidence to suggest the roll-out has been a success.
- The project has highlighted further work needed with street lifestyle individuals – police support has been agreed to enable further engagement with these individuals.

Questions?