

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND
POLICING ACT 2014
SECTIONS 59 TO 75
PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2026
HUNTINGDON TOWN CENTRE

Citation and Commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the **Huntingdon Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order 2026** ("the Order").
2. This Order is made by Huntingdonshire District Council ("the Council") under sections 59 to 75 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the 2014 Act").
3. This Order shall come into force on 21st September 2026 and shall remain in force for a period of three years unless varied, extended or discharged in accordance with the provisions of the 2014 Act.

The COMMON SEAL of HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Was hereunto affixed

In the presence of:



MASACKS



Dated: 02/09/26

103/26

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Part One: Public Spaces Protection Order – Huntingdon

1. Executive Summary

In response to an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour in the area of Huntingdon Town Centre, namely within the Huntingdon ring road (this is defined within the road names of Riverside Road, Castle Moat Road, Walden Road, Saint John's Street, Cromwell Walk, Brookside and Nursery Road), Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC), in partnership with Cambridgeshire Constabulary, is imposing a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

The behaviours concerning citizens living, working and travelling in the area include but are not limited to public intoxication, public urination and defecation, and behaviour which causes harassment, alarm or distress. Such behaviours are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life for both residents and businesses in the area.

2. HDC Corporate Plan 2023-2028

HDC's Corporate Plan 2023-2028 aims to improve the quality of life for local people by preserving the District of Huntingdonshire as a place which attracts employers and visitors, and that residents are proud to call home. To support the HDC Corporate Plan, HDC's PSPO for Huntingdon Town Centre will provide an additional tool to reduce the issues being experienced in the locality.

3. Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-Social Behaviour is defined within the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 as follows:

Conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person,

Conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, or

Conduct capable of causing housing related nuisance or annoyance to any person.

Huntingdonshire District Council aims for the PSPO to tackle anti-social behaviour in relation to:

- A. Possession and consumption of open vessels containing alcohols.
- B. Public defecation and urination
- C. Behaviour which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment alarm or distress.

4. Areas in which the PSPO applies

This is defined by road name as Riverside Road, Castle Moat Road, Walden Road, Saint John's Street, Cromwell Walk, Brookside and Nursery Road. This encompasses all public highways, footpaths, bridleways, churchyards/cemeteries, and any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

5. Person's the PSPO applies to

All persons are responsible for their own compliance with regards to the PSPO whether visiting, residing or working within the areas specified in Schedule 1 of this document.

The PSPO will only apply to a person whose behaviour is likely to be

- A. Persistent or continuous in nature,
- B. Unreasonable,

C. Detrimental to the quality of life of those in the locality,

6. Authorised Officer

An authorised officer means:

- a) A Police Constable;
- b) A Police Community Support Officer;
- c) A person authorised in writing by Huntingdonshire District Council for the purposes of enforcing this Order.

7. Penalty upon Breach

It is an offence for a person, without reasonable excuse to:

- A. Do anything that the person is prohibited from doing by Huntingdonshire District Council's Public Space Protection Order for Huntingdon.
- B. Fail to comply with the requirement(s) to which the person is subject to under HDC's PSPO for Huntingdon

A breach is a criminal offence. Enforcement officers can issue a fixed penalty notice of up to £100 if appropriate. Offenders may receive a fine of up to £1000 on prosecution.

Part Two: Conditions of the Public Space Protection Order – Huntingdon

1. No Alcohol Consumption

Persons within the Huntingdon Public Space Protection Order area as defined by the map below (hereafter referred to as 'the map') are prohibited from consuming alcohol in a public place.

2. No Open Vessels of Alcohol

Persons within the Huntingdon Public Spaces Protection Order area as defined in the map are prohibited from being in possession of an open vessel containing alcohol, other than on licensed premises, where a Temporary Event Notice is in operation in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003, or where there is any other lawful authorisation, for example: Pavement Licence. This prohibition does not apply to those premises and places specified in section 62 Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Where an authorised officer reasonably believes that a person is consuming alcohol or possesses an open container containing alcohol in breach of this Order, that person shall immediately cease consumption and surrender the alcohol and any container containing alcohol when requested to do so.

3. No public defecation or public urination

Persons within the area as defined in the map must not urinate and/or defecate in any public place other than within a designated public toilet.

4. No intimidating or aggressive behaviour

Persons within the area as defined in the map are prohibited from acting in a manner which is harassing, alarming or distressing to any other person, or acting in a manner which is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any other person. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour towards any other person

- Shouting, screaming or behaving in an aggressive, intimidating or disorderly manner towards any other person.

5. Direction to disperse

Any persons within the area defined in the map must disperse from the immediate location and not return within a period of 12 hours, unless for one or more of the agreed purposes specified below, if requested to do so by a Police Constable, Police Community Support Officer or other authorised officer, if the Police Constable, Police Community Support Officer or other authorised officer is of the opinion that the individual is causing harassment, alarm or distress to any person, or is acting in a manner that is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any person.

Any person dispersed from the immediate location may return to the area defined in the map for one or more of the purposes outlined below, as agreed by a police officer, police community support officer or other authorised officer. The purposes referred to above include:

- Attending a pre-arranged appointment, including medical, legal, or other professional appointments where evidence can be provided if requested by a Police Officer, Police Community Support Officer, or other authorised officer
- Travelling directly to or from your home address, place of work or education establishment
- Attending a religious event/place of worship
- Responding to an emergency or seeking emergency assistance.

Part Three: Lawful Threshold of the Public Spaces Protection Order – Huntingdon

1. Conditions and Justification Statement

Huntingdonshire District Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Section 59 and 72 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, have been met and justify the restrictions imposed by this Public Spaces Protection Order. HDC believe that it is reasonable to impose the above prohibitions and requirements in order to prevent the detrimental effecting from continuing, occurring or recurring. HDC considers the prohibitions necessary and proportionate in order to reduce the detrimental effect the behaviours are having upon the community and to ensure the quality of life of is preserved and enhanced.

2. Appeals against the PSPO

Any interested person who desires to question the validity of this Public Spaces Protection Order on the grounds that Huntingdonshire District Council has no legal power to make it or that any requirements of the act have not been complied with may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date upon which this PSPO is made:

- A. An interested person will be an individual who lives, regularly works or visits the area of which the PSPO applies.

- B. An interested person may not challenge the validity of the PSPO or of a variation in any legal proceedings expect under S66 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 or under subsection (3) where the interested person is charged with an offence under that section.
- C. Other persons who fall outside the definition of an interested person will have the right to bring a judicial review to challenge the lawfulness of the use of power to make the PSPO.

Part Four: Public Spaces Protection Order Schedules – Huntingdon

Schedule One – Areas subject to the PSPO for Huntingdon

The conditions of the Public Spaces Protection Order apply to the land within Huntingdon Ring Road.

This is defined by road name as Riverside Road, Castle Moat Road, Walden Road, Saint John's Street, Cromwell Walk, Brookside and Nursery Road. This encompasses all public highways, footpaths, bridleways, churchyards/cemeteries, and any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

