



Notice of Consultation:

Proposal to make a Public Spaces Protection Order in respect of the consumption of alcohol in public places

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Part 4

TAKE NOTICE that **Northumberland County Council** (*"the Council"*) proposes to make a new **Public Space Protection Order** (*"PSPO"*) under section 59 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (*"the 2014 Act"*) in respect of the consumption of alcohol in public places.

The Proposed PSPO:

- 1 The proposed PSPO will be entitled **Northumberland County Council (Consumption of Alcohol) Public Spaces Protection Order**, and it is intended that it will come into force on **Wednesday 21st October 2026**.
- 2 This new PSPO will replace the existing PSPO which shall cease to have effect as from 20th October 2026 in accordance with the provisions of section 60 of the 2014 Act.
- 3 The proposed PSPO will be to prohibit the consumption of alcohol in any manner which amounts to, or which is reasonably likely to lead to, the occurrence of anti-social behaviour, nuisance or annoyance affecting those in the locality.
- 4 The areas to be made subject to the proposed PSPO will be any public place within the administrative County of Northumberland.
- 5 The effect of the PSPO will also impose the following requirements:
 - (a) Where a constable or an authorised person reasonably believes that a person is or has been consuming alcohol, or intends to consume alcohol, in breach of the PSPO, they may require that person –
 - (i) not to consume alcohol or anything which the constable or authorised person reasonably believes to be alcohol;
 - (ii) to surrender anything in that person's possession which is, or which the constable or authorised person reasonably believes to be, alcohol or a container for alcohol.

- (b) Any person who appears to a constable or an authorised person to be in breach of the PSPO shall confirm their full name, address and date of birth upon request by such officers.
- 6 The prohibition on consuming alcohol will not apply to certain places and premises as set out in paragraph 6 of the PSPO, a draft of which may be inspected (please see paragraph 12 below).
- 7 It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse—
- (a) to do anything that a person is prohibited from doing by a PSPO, or
- (b) to fail to comply with a requirement to which a person is subject under a PSPO.
- 8 With regard to the requirements specified in paragraph 5(a) above, a person guilty of an offence under section 63 of the 2014 Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding **level 2** on the standard scale.
- 9 With regard to the prohibition specified in paragraph 3 above and to the requirements specified in paragraph 5(b), a person guilty of an offence under section 67 of the 2014 Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding **level 3** on the standard scale.
- 10 Alternatively, an opportunity to discharge liability to conviction may be offered by an authorised officer by allowing payment of a fixed penalty.

Consultation

- 11 Before making the PSPO, the Council must carry out the necessary consultation in accordance with the provisions of section 72(3) of the 2014 Act and this Notice is given as part of that consultation procedure.
- 12 The full text of the proposed PSPO will be available for public inspection until **Friday 9th October 2026** online by visiting [Consumption of alcohol: countywide proposal | Northumberland County Council](#)
- 13 Any representations or comments on the terms of the proposed PSPO should be sent to:
- Martin Brooks
Strategic Community Safety Officer
Northumberland County Council
West Hartford Business Park
Cramlington
NE23 3JP
- or by email to:
- SaferN.Partnership@northumberland365.onmicrosoft.com

so that they are received by no later than **Friday 9th October 2026**.

- 12 The Council will consider all representations and comments received before deciding whether or not to make the PSPO.

Dated this 9th day of September 2026

Northumberland County Council
Public Health, Inequalities and Stronger Communities Directorate
West Hartford Business Park
Cramlington
NE23 3JP