**The Public Spaces Protection Order**

**– Ashfield District Council 2024 (the “Order”)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Ashfield District Council in exercise of its power under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the “Act”) proposes to extend The Public Spaces Protection Order – Ashfield District Council 2021 for a period of 3 years and to vary that Order to include a new district wide prohibition namely Street Harassment, to vary the prohibition for Vehicle Nuisance (previously called “Car Cruising”) by increasing the Restricted Area to the entire District of Ashfield and to vary the prohibition for Dog Exclusion by amending the Restricted Area namely by updating the Dog Exclusion Areas.

We hereby invite representations on our proposals to make The Public Spaces Protection Order

– Ashfield District Council 2024 which seeks to:

1. Extend The Public Spaces Protection Order – Ashfield District Council 2021 for a period of 3 years – to end on 30 September 2027.
2. Include a new prohibition, namely “Street Harassment” (Article 12) as follows:

12.1 This article applies to land specified in Schedule 2 of this Order *(the district of Ashfield).*

12.2 A person commits an offence if at any time without reasonable excuse he is verbally abusive to another person or behaves in a way that causes or is likely to cause harassment alarm or distress to another person. This will include but not be limited to making sexually inappropriate comments or displaying inappropriate behaviours towards women and girls.

12.3 In accordance with section 67 of the Act a person who is guilty of an offence under article 12 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

3. Vary the prohibition for Vehicle Nuisance (previously called “Car Cruising” – Article 11) by increasing the Restricted Area to the entire District of Ashfield

4. Vary the prohibition for Dog Exclusion (Article 6) by amending the Restricted Area, namely by updating the Dog Exclusion Areas as follows:

* To add in the children’s play areas at Meden Bank, Sutton-in-Ashfield;
* To add in the children’s play areas at David Street, Larwood Park, Hornbeam Park and the public open space at Portland Park, Kirkby-in-Ashfield;
* To add in the synthetic pitch area at Titchfield Park, the BMX pump track and multi-use games area at Nabbs Lane Recreation Ground, the children’s play areas at Rolls Royce and Lime Tree Road, Hucknall; and
* To add in the children’s play area and green space areas at Selston Country Park, Selston.

 **Offences and Fixed Penalty Notices**

A person who is guilty of an offence under Articles 2-12 of the proposed Order may be prosecuted and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale. A person who is guilty of an offence under Article 1 of the Proposed Order and section 63(2) of the Act (continuing to consume alcohol and failing to surrender alcohol) may be prosecuted and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale. Ashfield District Council intends to issue fixed penalty notices to enforce the proposed Order, the amount of the fixed penalty notice will be £100. Failure to pay may lead to prosecution.

**Consultation**

Copies of the proposed order and plan are available for inspection free of charge throughout the consultation period during normal opening hours at the following locations:

* Council Offices, Urban Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham, NG17 8DA

**This information can also be viewed on the Council website by going to www.ashfield.gov.uk**

Community Safety (PSPO)

Ashfield District Council,

Council Offices

Urban Road

Kirkby in Ashfield,

Nottinghamshire, East Midlands

NG17 8DA

or by e-mail addressed to pspo@ashfield.gov.uk.

Please be aware any comments or representations received after **12 midnight on 27th May 2024** will not be taken into account.