

Cabinet 31st May 2017

Public

**Proposed Consultation on a Public Spaces Protection Order for
Shrewsbury Town Centre**

Responsible Officer: **Rod Thomson**

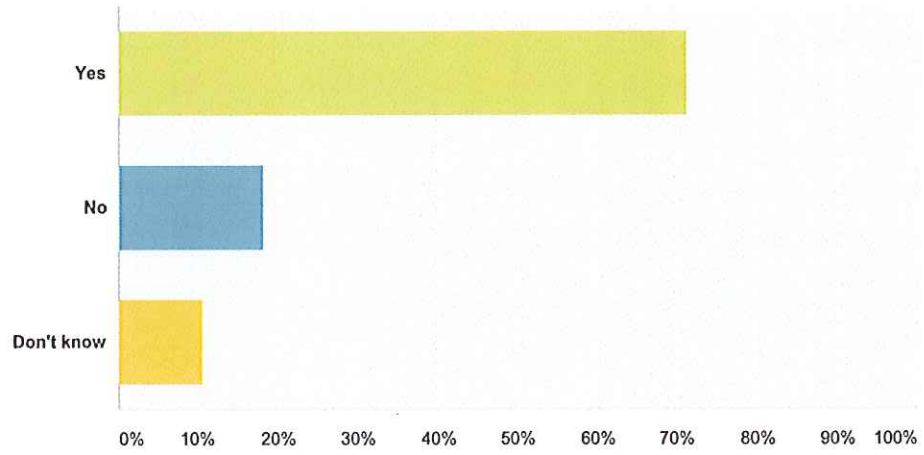
Rod.thomson@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 251739

**Appendix E – Online consultation results for questions 17-21
concerning the leaving of personal effects prohibition including the
effects this behaviour has had on respondents.**

Public spaces protection order for Shrewsbury town centre

Q17 Do you consider this to be a problem within the public areas defined by the map?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 14

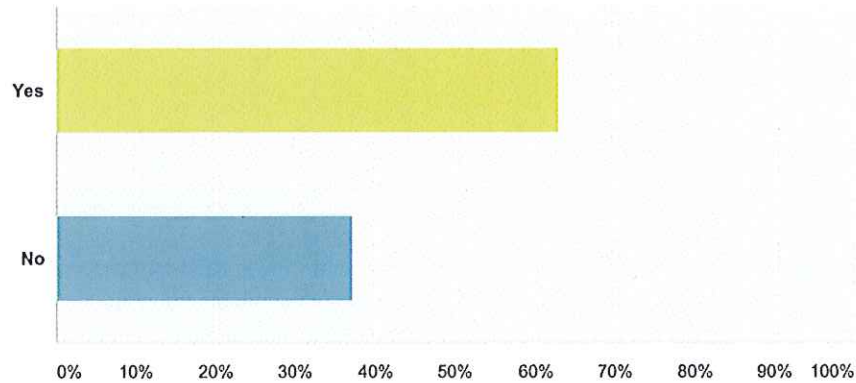


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	71.28%	67
No	18.09%	17
Don't know	10.64%	10
Total		94

Public spaces protection order for Shrewsbury town centre

Q18 Has this type of behaviour had an impact on your enjoyment of the public areas defined by the map?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 14



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	62.77%	59
No	37.23%	35
Total		94

#	If you answered yes, please use this space to provide details of the impact and effect it had on you:	Date
1	It makes the Town look as if we have a major problem with rough sleeping and from a visitors perspective you wouldn't want to visit again and recommend Shrewsbury	3/8/2017 4:54 PM
2	Street beggars leave their cardboard, rucksacks and associated junk in various doorways and it doesn't look good.	3/6/2017 8:11 PM
3	I notice that often a chap leaves cardboard and other materials as well as other possessions outside Boots and sometimes other stores. This is unacceptable and necessary and if the individual has declined offers of accommodation we would support the use of the Order.	3/3/2017 4:56 PM
4	Regularly observe large pieces of cardboard, rucksack and other property under Boots overhang. It looks scruffy and unhygienic and we applaud multi-disciplinary work to engage rough sleepers to resolve housing issues. this gent appears to be a regular and assume it is a lifestyle choice which then attracts a small assembly of associates and dogs which has the potential to be intimidating.	3/3/2017 3:56 PM
5	Gentleman observed to frequently leave range of cardboard, rucksack and associated items under cover of Boots, Pride Hill store, this looks unsightly and assume due to efforts of the local team to work with people to resolve accommodation issues this person has made a lifestyle choice.	3/3/2017 3:39 PM
6	I find the mess they leave behind off putting	3/3/2017 9:05 AM
7	At a time when members of the public are subjected to constant threat warnings and enjoined not to leave baggage unattended it is not acceptable for the police and the Council to tolerate the abandonment of rucksacks and other detritus in a busy shopping area. Whilst Shrewsbury is not a terrorism hot spot, or so one hopes, it is a soft target and the current level of tolerance on the public streets is inexplicable.	3/2/2017 9:36 AM
8	Having staff based in the town, the leaving of bags is a constant security risk	2/27/2017 4:31 PM
9	This can be a terrorist threat help but not sure why this is imposed, sounds like trying to prevent beggars to be on the street	2/20/2017 11:24 AM
10	As I answered before the same questions	2/1/2017 7:15 PM

Public spaces protection order for Shrewsbury town centre

11	Rubbish from 'Take-away' outlets etc is significant, as well as youths throwing down rubbish - particularly from the 6th Form College across English Bridge and smokers.	1/28/2017 9:30 AM
12	sometimes the homeless people are trying to see drawings and things on pride hill, often doorways are littered with their blankets and bags	1/25/2017 4:47 PM
13	Always wary of bags left in the open	1/24/2017 7:24 PM
14	See previous comments	1/20/2017 7:05 PM
15	Needles and rubbish / drink bottles etc - felt sick as young children with me	1/19/2017 5:03 PM
16	I have seen vagrants leave their items spread all over the pavements to the point where people are almost tripping up on the items. This is dangerous and needs addressing via the PSPO.	1/19/2017 1:28 PM
17	Unsightly for residents and visitors alike	1/19/2017 11:11 AM
18	Frequent discarding of drug needles on old St chads green.	1/17/2017 8:35 PM
19	it makes the town looked un loved and uncaring as where are they meant to sleep? many feel safer sleeping in the day time and of course their dogs are need for their safety and companionship. where are they meant to leave their belongings?	1/17/2017 8:33 PM
20	There are more people claiming to be homeless in the town and locating themselves in shop doorways.	1/17/2017 12:20 PM
21	beggars leaving items unattended in front of vacant shops	1/17/2017 10:18 AM
22	I have been surprised by the drug paraphernalia lying around in church yards & memorial gardens within the Town Centre.	1/16/2017 9:21 PM
23	Same shop frontages, same people, setting themselves up for a day on the street with their sleeping bags, rucksacks, dog blankets and associated bits and pieces. It occupies space that is meant to be for everyone to be able to use and could genuinely be a trip hazard. I think possessions like these are used to mark out favoured spots and to enable people to be able to stay out about in the town centre for as long as possible and if they don't want to go home at the end of the day they have everything there to stay overnight.	1/16/2017 6:02 PM
24	Detritus, sleeping bags, cardboard etc left in doorways. Tempted to bin it myself, but I daren't. "Material" needs to extend to posters and advertising stuff that is left on lampposts etc for months after an event or is illegal in the first place.	1/16/2017 3:39 PM
25	Until recently there was a great deal of bedding and belongings left all over Pride hill. This seems to have improved . From a sanitation point of view it just helps portray Shrewsbury as a clean and orderly town to stay or visit.	1/15/2017 1:34 AM
26	Makes the county town look run down, unkempt & uninviting to visitors	1/14/2017 7:38 PM
27	Seeing piles of clothes and bedding left by rough sleepers is not a good impression to create.	1/14/2017 11:30 AM
28	Makes the town look untidy	1/14/2017 10:51 AM
29	I am partially sighted and find the cardboard, bedding and rucksacks left about in certain areas to be a hazard	1/14/2017 9:17 AM
30	It is unpleasant to walk through the town and see the discarded belongings of purportedly homeless people left in the street or shop doorways. These items are unsightly, unhygienic and could contain goodness knows what. The police and street wardens should have the power to remove them.	1/13/2017 1:47 PM
31	Worry about potential hazard to children (particularly) playing in library gardens and passing along Sch.Gdns. viz: Wednesday's children's library event.	1/13/2017 11:09 AM
32	I am quite well aware that the bags that are left in the shop doorways are littered with needles, how can that be allowed to happen, how would you feel if it was a member of your family that had a needlestick injury from one of these bags.	1/13/2017 8:38 AM
33	Quite often see large rucksacks, sleeping bags, cardboard etc unattended for long periods of time in the town. Apart from a possible security risk, I have seen half eaten food amongst these belongings. this must present a health risk?	1/12/2017 8:32 PM
34	I have seen a number of bags and packages left around the town centre. In this age of terrorism we should not ignore such items. It makes you question whether you should even walk past such items. Further, it makes the town look untidy. Businesses should not have to be directly responsible for moving and disposing of such items.	1/12/2017 4:26 PM
35	looks a mess, concerned about where the person is that owns the belongings and what the effects may contain.	1/12/2017 12:20 PM

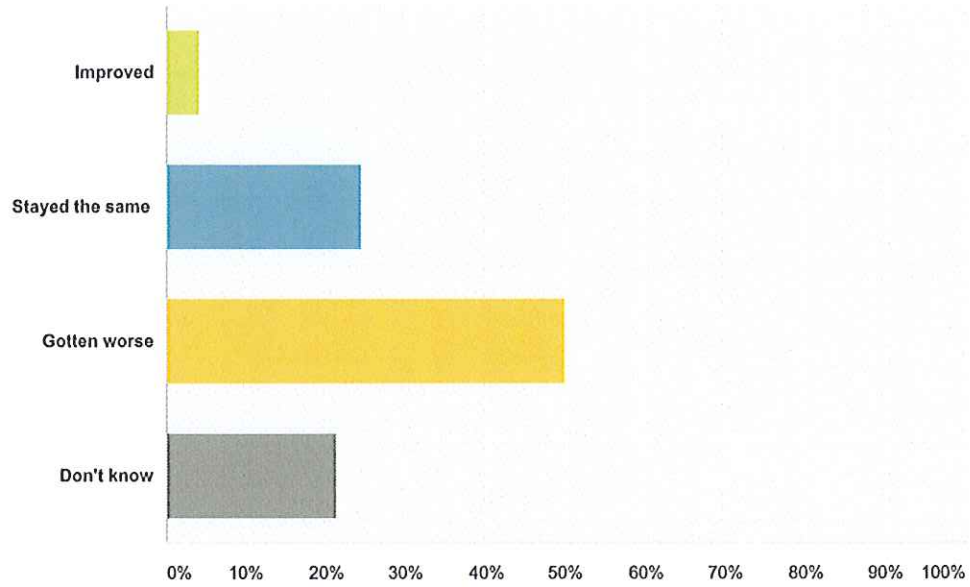
Public spaces protection order for Shrewsbury town centre

36	I am concerned about the prevalence of unattended baggage in parts of the town centre, particularly, but not exclusively, on Pride Hill. I always give such items a wide berth and do not enter shops that have bags parked outside. Any items left unattended should be removed immediately by police or council officials. Places that have been deemed unlikely targets for terrorist attack have proved to be nothing of the sort. Shrewsbury is currently an open house given the acceptance by the police and council of unattended baggage being left on Pride Hill. The kind of luggage and rubbish that accompanies the beggars and street sleepers is not only a potential security hazard but also a potential health hazard. If the same thing happened on Shrewsbury railway station the authorities would quite rightly treat it as a security risk; why should rucksacks and baggage on the town's streets be seen as any less of a risk?	1/12/2017 9:25 AM
37	Unslightly belongings where beggars are dossing in doorways and on the street. Smell from same people unacceptable.	1/11/2017 12:44 PM
38	Constant rubbish left by rough sleepers impacts badly on Shrewsbury for residents and visitors	1/11/2017 9:26 AM
39	A great deal of litter is being carelessly discarded throughout the city-centre and in the areas around the entrances to the loop, i.e. on Abbey Foregate, and on the Frankwell side of the Welsh Bridge. I have seen many youngsters just throwing wrappers, cartons, bottles, and food on the pavement beside them as they walk, or over adjacent fences. Shrewsbury needs wardens with the power to demand the payment of instant fines for such behaviour. Furthermore, the owners of fast-food shops should also be fined if after they close in the early hours of the morning they have not cleaned up the pavements 50 metres in both directions from their entrances.	1/10/2017 2:44 PM
40	Doorways littered with sleeping equipment by the homeless, to the extent that I could not get into a shop a few weeks ago	1/10/2017 12:55 PM
41	Unsafe with current bomb threats no baggage should be left unattended for public security.	1/10/2017 11:01 AM
42	As a national retailer on pride hill, we experience large groups of rough sleepers using our doorway overnight. In the mornings female staff opening up the store are forced to move on groups of men, leaving behind them drug paraphernalia and urine along with other litters. not only is it an inconvenience its intimidating and extremely unsanitary, its unacceptable that staff should have to deal with this. We have also been witness to personal effects being left on pride hill for extended periods of time and used for the concealment and collection of drugs.	1/10/2017 10:52 AM
43	Littering	1/10/2017 7:15 AM
44	always litter around, thought this was a thing already - common sense tells you to not leave litter, it's a shame that this has to be spelt out to some people :(1/9/2017 11:06 PM
45	Shrewsbury town centre is becoming a area of doorways with rubbish or sleeping bags deposited in them.	1/9/2017 9:49 PM
46	Again litter and sleeping bags and dog mess left behind by our local layabouts	1/9/2017 5:17 PM
47	Makes the area look untidy	1/9/2017 12:34 PM
48	As the official destination marketing body for Shropshire we have received complaints from visitors about such behavior and this has put them off visiting Shrewsbury again.	1/9/2017 11:09 AM

Public spaces protection order for Shrewsbury town centre

Q19 Do you think this type of behaviour has improved or worsened over the last 12 months?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 14

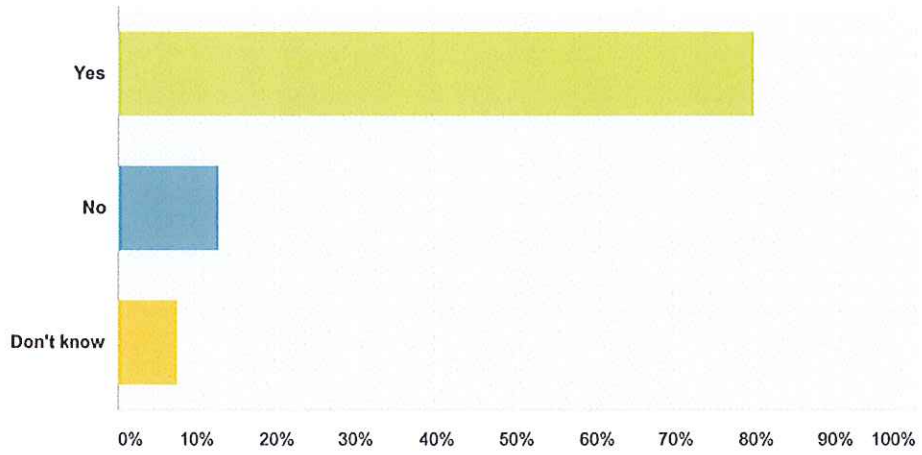


Answer Choices	Responses	
Improved	4.26%	4
Stayed the same	24.47%	23
Gotten worse	50.00%	47
Don't know	21.28%	20
Total		94

Public spaces protection order for Shrewsbury town centre

Q20 Do you think this proposal should remain within the PSPO?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 14



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	79.79% 75
No	12.77% 12
Don't know	7.45% 7
Total	94

Public spaces protection order for Shrewsbury town centre

Q21 Please use this space to make any additional comments about the proposal to prohibit this behaviour through the proposed PSPO.

Answered: 21 Skipped: 87

#	Responses	Date
1	We are sympathetic to the needs of some of those taking up position in Pride Hill but feel this may be intimidating to visitors and also lead to a group gathering.	3/3/2017 3:39 PM
2	A PSPO should not be necessary in order to encourage the police to secure the safety of the public. It is regrettable that a PSPO is deemed to be necessary in order to encourage the police to remove items which in other circumstances would trigger a security alert.	3/2/2017 9:36 AM
3	Focus on ending homelessness not criminalising homeless behaviour	2/23/2017 5:19 PM
4	Again, address the causes of homelessness, not the symptoms.	2/23/2017 1:33 PM
5	Prohibition 4 is at best - vague. Does it include a cycle left chained to a railing overnight? Will it include genuinely lost property? I could list many examples here, none of which should be deemed a prosecutable offense.	1/19/2017 6:07 PM
6	Needs a sympathetic approach with certain vulnerable members of our society	1/19/2017 5:03 PM
7	This is a serious problem not least of all due to the amount of children that pass through the green, to and from school.	1/17/2017 8:35 PM
8	the same applies to all the boxes I have filled. it has improved but where have they gone on to?	1/17/2017 8:33 PM
9	I would not want this proposal to negatively affect people who are genuinely homeless, but to tackle the people who are not, but who think that they can stake out their area of the town centre with their possessions and then don't stay with them. It does degrade the appearance of the town centre.	1/16/2017 6:02 PM
10	As stated if it is defined as waste material the items should be removed by the council contractor employed for waste management.	1/16/2017 4:27 PM
11	Security...(unattended belongings are worrying) hygiene...(often the belongings left in doorways looked grimy) and image...(I would like Shrewsbury town council to benefit from the revenue earned from visitors/tourists staying and hopefully returning to use our shops,restaurants, theatre and museums. We need to portray a safe,clean and well policed environment in order for families and couples to relax and enjoy their time here.	1/15/2017 1:34 AM
12	Visit any other county town - I was in Chester 2 days ago & saw NONE of this. Effect on tourism??	1/14/2017 7:38 PM
13	Homeless people stuff should be left alone as this is all they possess and removing it would lead to them maybe shoplifting or burglary to get more stuff or another option, create a place where they can store their stuff securely.	1/13/2017 8:30 PM
14	Again CCTV coverage	1/13/2017 11:09 AM
15	Rough sleepers are the cause of this. Be tougher on them and much of this particular problem will be resolved.	1/12/2017 4:26 PM
16	Dangerous to young children who touch everything	1/12/2017 12:38 PM
17	what is meant by 'any duration of time' Surely homeless people need to leave their few belongings where they are temporarily situated in order to go to the toilet or buy a sandwich etc.	1/10/2017 8:57 PM
18	Graffiti should also be included in this proposition, as it is a another method of leaving a visible defacement within the city-centre and the immediately surrounding areas. Writing or drawing any kind of graffiti should also be strictly dealt with as it defilement of other people's property.	1/10/2017 2:44 PM
19	Maybe community orders be given for said layouts to do community service and help clean all there messes up or face a total town centre ban	1/9/2017 5:17 PM
20	always useful to have this limitation. i don't think its a huge problem and litter is very well dealt with by the council but any further deterrent is to be encouraged.	1/9/2017 2:02 PM
21	Again this could be used to target more vulnerable people. Will the council provide safe storage space for homeless people to leave their possessions? I don't want homeless people to die of hypothermia because there sleeping bags have been confiscated. if this is about protection from terrorist attacks, just say that and thereby put peoples mind at rest that you aren't targeting homeless people or young people.	1/9/2017 10:46 AM