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To: ts enforcement <ts.enforcement@shropshire.gov.uk>; Prosecure 2000 <prosecure2000@gmail.com>

Subject: Comments: Renewal of Shrewsbury town centre PSPO

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Renewal of Shrewsbury Town Centre PSPO

Prosecure2000 Ltd wishes to make comments in relation to the proposed changes to the Shrewsbury Town Centre PSPO legislation. Prosecure2000 Ltd is the service provider for the Shrewsbury Town Rangers, Quarry Park Security Teams and the Shrewsbury Taxi Marshals. All of the team works closely with Shropshire Council, Shrewsbury Town Council, Shrewsbury Business Improvement District and West Mercia Police.

We believe that the Shrewsbury Town Centre PSPO is a valuable tool in maintaining public order within the Town Centre. We fully support its continuation as well as proposed amendments as we believe that it is a tool that will greatly assist in reducing demands on the police, reducing any public disorder as well as increasing public confidence in Shrewsbury as a safe place to visit both during the day and at night.

In particular we would like to make the following specific comments:

Authorised Officer Amendments

We would like to take this opportunity to suggest that Prosecure2000 is authorised by Shropshire Council to issue PSPO notices, this will be undertaken by our assigned staff members for the above roles. Our staff members have already undertaken extensive training courses to undertake these roles by Shropshire Council, Shrewsbury Town Council, West Mercia Police as well as our own internal training department in such areas as Taxi licensing and licensing legislation, contextual Safeguarding, County lines awareness, ACT & SIA-CT Training, SCan, VAWG, and Joint Emergency services interoperability awareness training. Our staff routinely make detailed notes for inclusion in daily reports that are consolidated into our weekly reports that are processed by Team Shrewsbury Partners. Staff would be willing to undertake any specific training. Additionally, Prosecure2000 is an Approved SafeContractor Company and ICO registered.

All of our staff are certified and licensed by the Security industry authority and have many years of operational experience.

We would not see that our inclusion as an authorised officer would result in a spike in tickets issued. We would like to point out that the use of such powers would only be considered as a last resort having exhausted all other avenues of intervention.

Proposed Additions to the PSPO in relation to Public Conveniences & Sitting on the floor

At this time the teams actively work with a number of agencies such as the Police, the ARK, the RESET team, Youth Services, STC, SC and the BID and they have built up over their current operational period a working relationship with all aspects of persons frequenting the town centre.

Currently the teams encounter ASB, crime matters and homeless issues such as:

- street drinking
- begging
- persons sitting/lying in shop doorways
- Urinating & defecating in the open space
- Frequenting toilets for the purpose of alcohol and drug taking.

The teams can generally reason with these people but at times a more concise method is required such as the issuing of a PSPO notice, which at this time requires the attendance of an officer from West Mercia Police to achieve this conclusion.

Proposed Additions to the PSPO in relation to Amplified Busking

Of late the Town Rangers have undertaken first point of contact triage and report of Buskers to Shropshire Council Public Protection. This means that Public Protection Officers can attend to more crucial activity. We believe that the references to amplified busking will make the town centre more harmonious and a certainly less stressful environment to shop premises who often have to witness this kind of activity for prolonged periods.

Conclusion

It is without question that the resources of West Mercia Police & Shropshire Council as the principal agents of the PSPO are stretched to the maximum and availability of its officers to issue a PSPO notice can be a matter of call for service demand with the operational triage of their services dictated by operational priorities. This leads to their inability to attend to issue a PSPO notice or their arrival on scene being somewhat delayed, thus exacerbating the public disorder in the town.

We believe widening its remit and expanding the authorised officer definition will mean that partners can work more collaboratively and speedily to address matters before they get out of hand. The two-edged approach of the PSPO in first giving authority for officers to ask people to discontinue with the added approach that should they fail the PSPO Notice is issued regularly works as the stick to create order.

We have provided information to the Town Council and BID which backs and enforces the need for the PSPO and its expansion, but we are advised that this is being co-ordinated as part of the collective pool of evidence in support of the Order.

We only reiterate Prosecure2000's wish to become an active partner in its promotion and enforcement and we would be happy to work with partners to maximise its delivery and benefit to the town.

Kind Regards

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