

# Agenda Item 7

<b>Report to:</b>	Licensing and Regulatory Committee	<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
	Council		14 <sup>th</sup> July 2022
<b>Subject:</b>	Proposed Coast and Visitor Areas Public Spaces Protection Order		
<b>Report of:</b>	Head of Operational In House Services  Head of Communities	<b>Wards Affected:</b>	(All Wards);
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
<b>Is this a Key Decision:</b>	No	<b>Included in Forward Plan:</b>	No
<b>Exempt / Confidential Report:</b>	No		

## Summary:

To present for consideration the draft Public Spaces Protection Order – Coast and Visitor Areas (PSPO) under the Anti–Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

To provide information concerning Coast and Visitor Area behaviours and an overview of the public consultation on proposed additional measures through a proposed new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

## Recommendations:

**Licensing and Regulatory Committee** is requested to recommend that Council gives its approval for the Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order as detailed below:

**Council** is requested to approve the Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order as detailed below:

- 1.0 It is proposed that the following requirements/ restrictions summarised below are included within the proposed PSPO - Coast and Visitor Areas, where clear support has been demonstrated through the consultation (over 60% in support):

1.1` Authorised Officers able to confiscate alcohol.

*(where they feel it is contributing to ASB only – this is not a complete ban)*

1.2 Fires and Barbeques not allowed.

*(Not allowed to light or fuel any open fire nor to use, light or discard any barbecue. This refers to all types of barbeques - disposable, gas powered, standard charcoal)*

# Agenda Item 7

- 1.3 Fireworks, balloons and lantern releases not allowed.
- 1.4 Certain events only with written permission.  
*(Events such as lectures, speeches, sermons, busking, live music, bootcamps, sport events, use of generators and other types of entertainment performances/shows are not allowed without prior permission granted by the Council as per our events policy.)*
- 1.5 No overnight stays in tents, motorhomes or caravans without written permission.  
*(including, but not limited to, pitching or occupying tents, motorhomes, caravans; sunshades and windbreaks excepted if there for a maximum of 12 hours)*  
NB the consultation material originally suggested this relate to 'groups' overnight stays, but following discussion, is proposed to be amended to propose no unauthorized camping etc at all, without written permission
- 1.6 No collecting money or selling (for any reason) without written permission.  
*(This includes;*  
*-Begging or soliciting for money\**  
*-Advertising any article verbally or by the distribution of leaflets and flyers, circulars or advertisements of any kind*  
*-Flyposting and other fixed notices on railings, posts or other street furniture without prior permission, and a fee may be chargeable for this. Notices must be taken down within an agreed period.*  
*-Selling goods, products or services without prior permission of the Council.*  
*\*Begging or soliciting for money. The act of begging is deemed as either approaching people for money, or being stationary and asking for money, or positioned on the floor to invite the offer of money or goods.)*
- 1.7 Cycling only on cycle paths and routes, following road rules and not cycling dangerously.  
*(No riding any cycle within the restricted area unless on a designated cycle route or the beach.*  
*No Riding any cycle where localised signage requires you to dismount.*  
*No Riding any cycle without due care and attention or without due care and consideration for other users of that area.*  
*A cycle means a bicycle, a tricycle or a cycle having four or more wheels, including one power-assisted by electrical (or other means not being in any case a motorcycle or motor vehicle.)*
- 1.8 No climbing on structures such as Southport Pier and outfall pipes on the beach.
- 1.9 No swimming in lakes ponds or pools unless rules say it is allowed.  
*(For example, swimming is not generally allowed in Crosby Marine Lake except for specific times/ events which are advertised locally.*  
*This does not apply to swimming/ bathing in the sea. (It should be noted though that Sefton's coast can be hazardous; visitors are advised to take full note of the safety signage at the coast and keep to designated lifeguarded bathing areas at Formby, Ainsdale and Southport.)*
- 1.10 Dogs not allowed in dog free zones on the beach or in fenced off areas or in

# Agenda Item 7

pools or ponds.

*(NB This is in addition to the separate boroughwide PSPO for dog control.)*

- 1.11 Vehicles - No unauthorised motorized vehicles in the area. Not including mobility scooters, wheelchairs or electric bikes on the cycle paths.
- 1.12 On-Beach parking to be used for parking only and within the 10 mph speed limit.  
*(No driving outside of the delineated parking area onto the foreshore or into the dunes. Speeding, racing, handbrake turns, and other dangerous maneuvers, unlicensed drivers etc are prohibited.  
(This does not apply to emergency vehicles and other authorised access)*
- 1.13 No glass bottles or containers allowed in the restricted areas
- 1.14 No throwing of objects  
*(such as stones, pebbles or anything else in a manner likely to cause alarm, injury or damage to property)*
- 1.15 No Golf Allowed
- 1.16 Actions such as weeing, spitting, pooing not allowed outdoors in these areas  
*(Urinate, spit or defecate).*

Through discussion during the consultation period, and in response to some comments received, this 'other hazards' item is proposed to be extended to include:

- ingest, inhale, inject, smoke or otherwise use drugs or substances reasonably believed to be psychoactive substances.
- Possess or release any canister containing compressed gas
- Act in a disorderly manner so as to cause harassment, alarm, nuisance or distress to others in the locality).

- 1.17 No activities that cause pollution allowed  
*(Bring in or permit to happen anything which pollutes or is likely to pollute the environment or cause harm to flora and fauna or people.  
This can include eg chemicals getting into water bodies (detergent, fuel, chemicals) plastic waste anywhere but particularly the foreshore where it can be washed out to sea, biosecurity, littering, noise pollution, dog fouling or human waste).*
- 1.18 No weapons of any kind to be brought into the area  
*(Bring or be in possession of any catapult, firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, knife or other article likely to cause harm to persons or wildlife.)*
- 1.19 Deliberate disturbance to wildlife or habitats. For example, disturbing birds and their nest areas.  
*(Harm or attempt to harm any wildlife (sea angling or lawful bait digging for personal use excepted). Includes but not restricted to hunting and poaching, knowingly causing disturbance to roosting or ground nesting birds, use of lures or pheromones, bringing in of non native species.)*

# Agenda Item 7

In addition to the items listed, some of the public comments included suggesting this should include no fishing, nor allowing hunting with dogs

Although significant public support for this item has been shown (85.76% in support), it is felt that inclusion in the PSPO is not appropriate at this point. Further research and work will be undertaken, and further reports will be presented in due course to explore ways in which to protect wildlife and habitats from harm.

- 2.0 The following items, although receiving general support, were not as strongly supported (with approval being in the 40-60% margin, but still a higher percentage than those that didn't support the item). These are items Members may wish to discuss further, noting officers would recommend their inclusion overall:
- 2.1 No large gatherings of 40 or more without permission  
*(Examples include music and dance events, fun runs, guided walks, sporting activities, exercise classes etc)*
- 2.2 Boat launching only from certain parts of the coast and lakes with permission  
*(including Paddleboards, canoes not allowed other than at designated launching locations and with the necessary permissions.)*
- 2.3 Watercrafts and power kiting only in set areas and with written permission.  
*(Being in charge of any pleasure boat, windsurfer, kite board, paddleboard, jet ski or any other vessel and causing or permitting same to be used in a dangerous manner, without due care or attention or without reasonable consideration for other persons OR failing to comply with instructions from an Authorised Person in respect of said vessel. Bring, ride, beach or launch any jet ski other than at the marine lakes and in compliance with the operators at these locations Undertake kite surfing, parakiting or other powered kite activity anywhere on the coast other than the designated Kitebeach. Take part in these activities without the necessary permit and insurance.)*
- 2.4 Horses not allowed to be ridden in bathing areas on the beach in summer. Horses must not be ridden dangerously or within 2 hours of high tide.  
*(Horsed not allowed to be ridden or brought into the designated bathing areas between 1st May and 30th September each year. Horses must not be ridden on the beach 2 hours either side of high tide. Horses not allowed to be ridden on the coast other than on designated bridleways Horses not allowed to be ridden on the coast other than on designated bridleways and those beaches with access via an authorised route. For the avoidance of doubt, horses are not allowed to enter vegetated areas on or adjacent to the beach or to ride through flocks of roosting / feeding birds at any time. Galloping is not permitted.)*
- 2.5 Powered flight is not allowed in any area of the order. This includes taking off and landing.  
*(paraglider, parascender, hang glider or other similar craft)*

- 2.6 Remote-controlled vehicles not allowed without written permission  
*(Bring or permit to be used any remote-controlled vehicle including model aircraft without permission.)*
- 2.7 Drones can only be flown with written permission
- 3.0 None of the items were 'unsupported' in the consultation (a disagreement with the proposal being more than 50%), and so none are proposed for immediate removal in the PSPO.
- 4.0 Finally, it is recommended that the geographic locations of the proposed PSPO be agreed, and no omissions be made to these areas based on the consultation results, but Members may wish to consider additional locations as noted in the report, including Freshfield Dune Heath and Lunt Meadows at the request of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust.

## **Reasons for the Recommendation(s):**

The proposals are intended to provide enforcement powers to protect the public from anti-social behavior that is having, or likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality.

## **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** (including any Risk Implications)

Members could take no action, following the PSPO consultation, resulting in only very limited powers to tackle anti-social behaviour on the coast and visitor areas. Existing By-Laws are dated in extent and coverage across the Borough. Crucially they fail to allow a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) to be issued and for the offender to discharge their liability for prosecution by making payment. All offences otherwise would result in prosecution which is both costly in time and resources and would leave the offender with a criminal record.

Options considered as part of the public consultation included support for only some of the items proposed, and/ or the geographic areas to be considered for the Order, as summarised in the report.

## **What will it cost and how will it be financed?**

### **1. Revenue Costs**

The costs of basic/ temporary signage can be accommodated within existing revenue budgets.

Should permanent signage be required, this is estimated to cost in the region of £20,000. Other funding sources will need to be identified for this in due course. A further report will be provided and appropriate approval will be sought in line with the requirements of the Financial Procedure Rules.

It is not expected that there will be any material change in the amount of monies

# Agenda Item 7

received from fixed penalty notices, and an additional contribution towards income is not anticipated.

## 2. Capital Costs

There are no direct capital cost implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

### Implications of the Proposals:

<b>Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):</b> There is an increased cost associated with improving signage of the requirements of the PSPO, see relevant sections in the report	
<b>Legal Implications:</b> The consultation process adhered to statutory requirements and guidance. The decision-making process, if Members determine to proceed with the PSPO, will follow the necessary and appropriate decision making route.	
<b>Equality Implications:</b>  No Equality Implications have been identified and therefore mitigated, however the enactment of any resulting PSPO will be monitored to ensure appropriate diversity is delivered.	
<b>Climate Emergency Implications:</b>  The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	Y
Have a neutral impact	N
Have a negative impact	N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y
Subject to approval of the PSPO, this proposal will lead to better visitor management on the internationally protected Sefton coast and our other parks and greenspaces.	

## Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

<p>Protect the most vulnerable:</p> <p>It is hoped that this PSPO will improve confidence amongst those who are more vulnerable through a greater feeling of safety &amp; security</p>
<p>Facilitate confident and resilient communities:</p> <p>This PSPO will continue to encourage responsible behaviour on the coast and in visitor areas, which will be of benefit to local communities.</p>
<p>Commission, broker and provide core services:</p> <p>The PSPO will ensure enforcement powers are available to require visitors to act in a responsible manner when on the coast and in designated visitor areas. This will impact upon behaviour and the prohibition of certain anti social activities, and thereby contribute to the delivery of a cleaner, greener borough and meeting the statutory requirements of managing the internationally protected and designated Coast.</p>
<p>Place – leadership and influencer:</p> <p>The PSPO will ensure enforcement powers are available to require visitors to act in a responsible manner when on the coast and in designated visitor areas, this will impact upon behaviour and the prohibition of certain anti social activities, and thereby contribute to the delivery of a cleaner, greener borough and meeting the statutory requirements of managing the internationally protected and designated Coast.</p>
<p>Drivers of change and reform:</p> <p>This PSPO will continue to encourage responsible behaviour on the coast and in visitor areas to the benefit of the community and will seek to reduce the levels of anti social behaviour within the Borough</p>
<p>Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity:</p> <p>The PSPO will ensure enforcement powers are available to require visitors to act in a responsible manner when on the coast and in designated visitor areas, this will impact upon behaviour and the prohibition of certain anti social activities, positively impacting on the appeal of those areas to businesses.</p>
<p>Greater income for social investment:</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
<p>Cleaner Greener.</p> <p>The PSPO will ensure enforcement powers are available to require visitors to act in a responsible manner when on the coast and in designated visitor areas, this will impact upon behaviour and the prohibition of certain anti social activities, and thereby contribute to the delivery of a cleaner, greener borough and meeting the</p>

# Agenda Item 7

statutory requirements of managing the internationally protected and designated Coast.



## What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

### 1. Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD 6853/22) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD 5053/22) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

### 2. External Consultations

Following approval by the Public Engagement & Consultation Panel a public consultation took place from 20<sup>th</sup> May to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (5 weeks)

Details of the consultation engagement are outlined further in this report.

### Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee / Council meeting.

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### Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

Appendix A – Consultation results

Appendix B – proposed draft PSPO

### Background Papers:

None

# Agenda Item 7

## 1. Introduction/Background

1.1. A public spaces protection order (PSPO) can be introduced by a Council under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Part 4 (section 59) where:

- activities that have taken place have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that activities will take place and that they will have a detrimental effect
- the effect or likely effect of these activities:
- is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature
- is, or is likely to be, unreasonable

1.2. A Public Spaces Protection Order may not have effect for a period of more than 3 years, unless extended.

1.3. In establishing which restrictions or requirements should be included, the Council should be satisfied that the measures are necessary to prevent or reduce the likelihood of the detrimental effect continuing, occurring or recurring.

1.4. Before introducing, extending, varying or discharging a PSPO, there are requirements under the Act regarding consultation, publicity and notification.

1.5. Local authorities are obliged to consult with the local chief officer of police; the police and crime commissioner; owners or occupiers of land within the affected area where reasonably practicable, and appropriate community representatives.

1.6. The Act also requires that there is a consultation process before an Order can be made (and held again when an Order is extended, varied or discharged).

1.7. During 2021 the coastal teams within Green Sefton at Sefton Council reported almost 950 coastal incidents. The overwhelming majority of these (over 850) involved antisocial behaviour of one sort or another. The most frequent examples of ASB were related to the behaviour of vehicles/ drivers on the beach car parks, off road motor bikes & quad bikes, camp fires and barbeques and dog and dog owner behaviour. Just under 7% of incidents involved abusive or threatening behaviour towards staff. By far the worst affected location was Ainsdale Beach, where nearly 60% of incidents were recorded with Crosby Coastal Park and beach area approaching 10% of incidents. The rest were spread across the other sand dune and beach areas managed by Sefton. There were incidents recorded every month of the year, but most incidents occurred in June and July, and April was also busy with just over 15% of all 2021 incidents recorded.

1.8. By way of some very short examples from the Coast Teams reports (which is a far from exhaustive list), the following are from incident reports during 2021:

- Camp fire in dunes
- Quad bikes in no vehicle zone

- Fly tipping discovered
- Dogs in exclusion zone
- Vehicle speeding on beach
- Threat to report staff for challenging inappropriate behaviour in a vehicle
- Deliberate fires set in sand dunes
- Suspicious drunken behaviour
- Glass bottles smashed
- Vehicle parking outside of defined beach car park
- Motorcross bike in sand dunes
- Numerous barbeques
- 11 year old driver in beach car park
- Motorbike speeding along beach no vehicle zone
- Nude male in dunes
- Parascenders causing disturbance
- Driver spinning car causing danger to family

1.9. The proposed PSPO for Coast and Visitor Areas takes account of reported incidents, and is proposed to provide sanctions on issues that are already contained within the existing byelaws which can be found here; [Green Sefton Byelaws](#)

1.10. The affected inland areas have been identified by the Sefton Council ASB Unit, and Merseyside Police, as areas being used by people to drink Alcohol and use the area to congregate and cause Anti-Social Behaviour and low-level crime. This order will enable authorised officers to request the confiscation of Alcohol from those who are causing Anti-Social Behaviour. If they refuse to hand over Alcohol, they can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. This order does not ban Alcohol for those consuming it in a responsible manner.

## **2. Consultation and Engagement**

2.1. The Consultation and Engagement Panel gave support for a public and stakeholder consultation exercise on the proposed PSPO which took place from 20<sup>th</sup> May to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

2.2. A questionnaire was designed to seek views on respondent's experiences of anti social behaviour on the coast and in visitor areas currently, and their support or otherwise for the range of sanctions proposed. It also asked for comments on the geographic areas to be covered by the Order. Full details of the questions can be found in the results section of this report.

2.3. An easy read version of the questionnaire was developed, and the wording of this was used for all versions of the consultation.

2.4. The consultation ran online through 'Your Sefton Your Say'. Hard copies and audio versions were made available. Alternative language forms were available on request.

2.5. The Consultation was promoted through the Council website, My Sefton, social

# Agenda Item 7

media, local press, Green Sefton rangers and notice boards in parks, on the coast and other recreational areas.

2.6. Over 300 groups and individuals were all contacted via email to inform of the consultation taking place and to identify any particular requests or requirements that group members may have. The list of direct contacts is summarised below (in alphabetical order), and all were encouraged to share wider with their own networks:

- Ainsdale Beach Forum
- British Transport Police (BTP)
- British Destinations Organisation
- Business partners and concessionaires
- Campaign for Protection of Rural England (CPRE)
- Crosby Coastal Park Community Forum
- Environment Agency
- Formby (coast) Stakeholder Group
- Formby Parish Council
- Hightown Parish Council
- Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority (IFCA)
- Lancashire Wildlife Trust (LWT)
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Mersey Forest
- Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service
- Merseyside Police
- National Trust
- Natural England
- North West Coastal Forum
- Other organisations that the services liaise with such as community centres, youth clubs etc
- Parks, coastal, in bloom, sports and other volunteer groups
- Royal National Lifeguard Institution (RNLI)
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
- Royal Society of Protection of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)
- Southport Offshore Rescue Trust
- United Utilities
- Ward Councillors
- Woodland Trust
- Young Advisors

2.7. Officers also attended a number of meetings and forums to discuss the public consultation and to answer any questions from group members. These included, in alphabetical order:

- Ainsdale Beach Forum, 18<sup>th</sup> June
- Formby Stakeholder Group, 26<sup>th</sup> May
- Multi Agency Group (incl other land owners, and emergency services), 19<sup>th</sup> May and 16<sup>th</sup> June

- Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board (incl other land owners, statutory agencies and other partners), 16<sup>th</sup> June

### 3. Stakeholder statements:

In addition to completing the online questionnaire, a number of stakeholder organisations offered further statements for consideration which are presented here:

- 3.1. Emily Spurrell, Merseyside's Police and Crime Commissioner offered the following statement:

*'Last year I visited the Formby area and beaches following local concerns about ASB. I spoke to local councillors and the borough's Countryside Officer and heard about the impact of this behaviour by a small minority of visitors to Sefton's coastal areas, residents and its thriving coastal wildlife. I support this PSPO to help Sefton Council and its partners to make the experiences of visitors to Sefton's coastal and visitor areas safer for all.'*

- 3.2. Police Inspector Graham Fisher offered the following statement:

*"Each summer period when we experience favourable weather there is a large increase in visitors and local residents attending beaches from Crosby to Southport. This increase is accompanied by a rise in Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Community Disruption. A number of those issues, as with any other area, are heightened by a consumption of alcohol and we have experienced some significant disorder and crime over this time. In response we work closely with partners and stakeholders to create a Police and Community Plan to address the issues. One of the tools we have used to reduce the impact of these situations is the prevention of alcohol from the beach areas. This was initially by enforcing the No Alcohol Areas as assigned by Sefton Council. This has migrated to become a Public Spaces Protection Order in 2017.*

*Knowledge of this Order was in itself a deterrent as signage and media outputs informed visitors that breaching the Order made them liable to be fined. It also allowed Officers to be proactive and prevent large groups, often already intoxicated, attending the beaches in possession of alcohol and later causing significant disorder.*

*Unfortunately the Order expired in 2021 and we did experience some difficulty in that we became responsive rather than proactive and were only able to deal with situations after alcohol had been consumed and disorder had commenced. Due to the nature of the Order and its enforcement it is difficult to provide supporting evidence of prosecutions or reductions in incidents, but we did experience higher crime and disorder levels last year when the Order was not in place. We also seized and destroyed large quantities of alcohol that were surrendered prior to entering the beach, by visitors not wanting to breach the Order.*

*Over the recent couple of years whilst dealing with Covid-19 we have seen a change in behaviour. Young people started to arrange unauthorized parties and raves with increased numbers attending Sefton and in particular Formby. Also, the rising cost of living has led to more visitors to the English Coastal areas instead of foreign travel.*

*It is the strong belief of local Officers and myself that the re-introduction of the order can have significant impact in reducing the levels of anti social behaviour and disruption to the local community.*

# Agenda Item 7

3.3. Tony Baker, Ribble Sites Manager for the RSPB offered the following statement:

*“RSPB welcomes responsible visitors to the coast and believes that it is important that people are able to visit the coast so as to be able to witness and appreciate the wealth of wildlife that we have. We need to ensure that the coast and its wildlife is respected and protected so that future generations will also have that same wealth of wildlife to enjoy. To that end we support the introduction of the PSPO and look forward to the improvements it will provide to the protection of the wildlife of the coast.*

*We would particularly highlight the importance of keeping dogs under strict control when close to the shoreline (at all times of the year) to avoid disturbing the migrant birds that depend upon our coast for their survival. “*

3.4. Tim Mitcham, Director of Conservation at the Lancashire Wildlife Trust offered the following statement:

*‘The Wildlife Trusts welcomes the PSPO consultation and would support the approval of the Order. Although the vast majority of people using our Nature Reserve sites do so with respect, there have been a number of times where behaviour and actions have caused damage and distress for staff, other visitors and wildlife. I know this is a common experience in Sefton. We have had a number of persistent issues of misuse that the order could help us, working with the Council, to manage. Often it is the minority of people acting in an anti-social way that creates considerable time consuming issues to sort out. When resources are at a premium, that time could be better spent on habitat management, site infrastructure and enhancing visitor experience. A Borough wide PSPO supported by all the conservation and open space organisations in Sefton sends a clear message that all areas are covered by a no tolerance standpoint and would be a powerful message.’*

3.5. David Mercer, Senior Reserve Manager with Natural England offered the following statement:

*“I am writing in support of the PSPO. The measures outlined in it coincide with, and will reinforce, the visitor management measures we have in place on the National Nature Reserves.*

*We are very happy for the police to access our land to enforce the PSPO as this will improve public safety and the protection of the environment”.*

3.6. Vicky Blane, General Manager for the National Trust offered the following statement:

*“National Trust Formby welcome the proposed Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) by Sefton Council. We are committed to continuing our work with the local community and Sefton Landscape Partners to ensure that Formby’s nature haven is a safe, beautiful and natural space for everyone to enjoy. By working together we can protect rare habitats so that all the special wildlife that lives along the Sefton Coast can thrive”.*

3.7. Mike Buratti, Senior Coastal Operations Manager for HM Coastguard offered the following statement:

*“HM Coastguard would be happy to support the PSPO if it enables Sefton Council to help tackle anti-social behaviour and make the Sefton Coastline a safer place to visit.*

*Anti-social behaviour on the coast can sometimes lead to more serious incident/injury which in turn may warrant the attendance of HM Coastguard and*

*other agencies.*

*Incidents like this are avoidable and this avoidance could be assisted by a PSPO”.*

#### **4. Public Consultation Results**

4.1. A combined total of 323 responses to the consultation were received online, and by hard copy.

4.2. The majority of respondents were women (52%), and the main age range of responses were from people between 30 and 70 (77%). 5% considered themselves to have a disability. By far most were Sefton residents.

4.3. 76% have seen or experienced anti social behaviour in the past. However, only around 30% of people had then reported such issues and of those that did, more were unhappy, rather than happy, with the response from the Police, from Sefton Council/ Councillors and Enforcement Officers. Only responses from the Fire Service and Lifeguards/ Rangers were people happy with. Of those that didn't report what they say, people generally commented that they either didn't know how, and/ or felt it is too difficult and time consuming (and frequent) to report. Many didn't feel anything would/ could be done about it – with comments that there aren't enough resources to address issues, that they aren't prioritised further, that often the perpetrators have already moved on very quickly anyway. Several also commented that they are afraid to report such issues, fearing reprisals.

4.4. The consultation asked respondents for their thoughts on the several areas for consideration as part of the proposed PSPO. These were grouped into categories for ease, which the following table will summarise in turn, with the outcome and summary of the consultation exercise contained in Appendix A:

# Agenda Item 7

ITEM	ACTIVITY <i>(bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)</i>	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
<b>Alcohol - related ASB</b>	<b>Authorised Officers able to confiscate alcohol</b> <i>(where they feel it is contributing to ASB only – this is not a complete ban)</i>	88.24%	8.36%	3.41%	0%	Support is shown for this item
<b>Fires and Barbeques and other hazards</b>	<b>Fires and Barbeques not allowed.</b> <i>(Not allowed to light or fuel any open fire nor to use, light or discard any barbecue. this refers to all types of barbeques - disposable, gas powered, standard charcoal)</i>	72.14%	17.96%	9.6%	0.31%	Support is shown for this item
	<b>Fireworks, balloons and lantern releases not allowed.</b>	77.09%	14.55%	7.74%	0.62%	Support is shown for this item
<b>Large groups or gatherings</b>	<b>No large gatherings of 40 or more without permission</b> <i>(Examples include music and dance events, fun runs, guided walks, sporting activities, exercise classes etc)</i>	56.35%	32.82%	10.22%	0.62%	A small majority of people support this proposal overall, and Members may wish to discuss this item further  It should be noted that this would require people to seek written permission for such gatherings (in line with the events policy), a total ban is not proposed  As such, officers would recommend its inclusion in the PSPO



		CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				
ITEM	ACTIVITY (bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)	AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	Comments
	<p><b>Certain events only with written permission.</b></p> <p><i>(Events such as lectures, speeches, sermons, busking, live music, bootcamps, sport events, use of generators and other types of entertainment performances/shows are not allowed without prior permission granted by the Council as per our events policy.)</i></p>	66.56%	25.7%	7.43%	0.31%	Support is shown for this item
	<p><b>No groups having overnight stays in tents, motorhomes or caravans without written permission.</b></p> <p><i>(including, but not limited to, pitching or occupying tents, motorhomes, caravans sunshades and windbreaks excepted if there for a maximum of 12 hours)</i></p>	68.42%	22.91%	8.05%	0.62%	<p>Support is shown for this item</p> <p>NB the consultation material originally suggested this relate to 'groups' overnight stays, but following discussion, is proposed to be amended to propose no unauthorized camping etc at all, without written permission</p>

# Agenda Item 7

ITEM	ACTIVITY (bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<p><b>No collecting money or selling (for any reason) without written permission</b></p> <p><i>(This includes;</i>  <i>-Begging or soliciting for money*</i>  <i>-Advertising any article verbally or by the distribution of leaflets and flyers, circulars or advertisements of any kind</i>  <i>-Flyposting and other fixed notices on railings, posts or other street furniture without prior permission, and a fee may be chargeable for this. Notices must be taken down within an agreed period.</i>  <i>-Selling goods, products or services without prior permission of the Council.</i></p> <p><i>*Begging or soliciting for money. The act of begging is deemed as either approaching people for money, or being stationary and asking for money, or positioned on the floor to invite the offer of money or goods.)</i></p>	69.97%	19.81%	9.29%	0.93%	Support is shown for this item

		CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				
ITEM	ACTIVITY (bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)	AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	Comments
Leisure Activities	<p><b>Boat launching only from certain parts of the coast and lakes with permission</b></p> <p><i>(including Paddleboards, canoes not allowed other than at designated launching locations and with the necessary permissions.)</i></p>	41.49%	36.53%	20.74%	1.24%	<p>The results on this proposal are more evenly split, and Members guidance is sought</p> <p>It should be noted that the byelaws allow boats etc in appropriate areas of the coast, and restricts access in others. This item is not a total ban, but guidance of boats etc to be launched in appropriate locations of the coast only (for the sake of personal and public safety, and to protect internationally sensitive environments)</p> <p>As such, officers would recommend its inclusion in the PSPO</p>

# Agenda Item 7

ITEM	ACTIVITY <small>(bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)</small>	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<p><b>Cycling only on cycle paths and routes, following road rules and not cycling dangerously.</b></p> <p><i>(No riding any cycle within the restricted area unless on a designated cycle route or the beach.</i></p> <p><i>No Riding any cycle where localised signage requires you to dismount.</i></p> <p><i>No Riding any cycle without due care and attention or without due care and consideration for other users of that area.</i></p> <p><i>A cycle means a bicycle, a tricycle or a cycle having four or more wheels, including one power-assisted by electrical (or other means not being in any case a motorcycle or motor vehicle.)</i></p>	68.42%	24.15%	7.12%	0.31%	Support is shown for this item

ITEM	ACTIVITY  (bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<p><b>Watercrafts and power kiting only in set areas and with written permission.</b></p> <p><i>(Being in charge of any pleasure boat, windsurfer, kite board, paddleboard, jet ski or any other vessel and causing or permitting same to be used in a dangerous manner, without due care or attention or without reasonable consideration for other persons OR failing to comply with instructions from an Authorised Person in respect of said vessel.</i></p> <p><i>Bring, ride, beach or launch any jet ski other than at the marine lakes and in compliance with the operators at these locations</i></p> <p><i>Undertake kite surfing, parakarting or other powered kite activity anywhere on the coast other than the designated Kitebeach.</i></p> <p><i>Take part in these activities without the necessary permit and insurance.)</i></p>	51.39%	28.79%	18.27%	1.55%	<p>A small majority of people support this proposal overall, and Members may wish to discuss this item further</p> <p>It should be noted that the byelaws allow watercraft etc in appropriate areas of the coast and restricts access in others. This item is not a total ban, but guidance of watercraft etc to be launched in appropriate locations of the coast only (for the sake of personal and public safety, and to protect internationally sensitive environments). Appropriate licenses/ insurance is also required, given the nature of these leisure activities</p> <p>As such, officers would recommend its inclusion in the PSPO</p>
	<p><b>No climbing on structures such as Southport Pier and outfall pipes on the beach.</b></p>	76.78%	14.86%	6.5%	1.86%	<p>Support is shown for this item</p>

# Agenda Item 7

ITEM	ACTIVITY <small>(bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)</small>	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<p><b>No swimming in lakes ponds or pools unless rules say it is allowed.</b></p> <p><i>(For example, swimming is not generally allowed in Crosby Marine Lake except for specific times / events which are advertised locally.</i></p> <p><i>This does not apply to swimming/ bathing in the sea. (It should be noted though that Sefton's coast can be hazardous; visitors are advised to take full note of the safety signage at the coast and keep to designated lifeguarded bathing areas at Formby, Ainsdale and Southport.)</i></p>	60.37%	28.48%	9.91%	1.24%	Support is shown for this item
Horses and Dogs	<p><b>Dogs not allowed in dog free zones on the beach, in fenced off areas or in pools or ponds.</b></p> <p><i>(NB This is in addition to the separate boroughwide PSPO for dog control.)</i></p>	63.16%	28.79%	7.74%	0.31%	Support is shown for this item

		CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				
ITEM	ACTIVITY <i>(bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)</i>	AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	Comments
	<p><b>Horses not allowed to be ridden in bathing areas on the beach in summer. Horses must not be ridden dangerously or within 2 hours of high tide.</b></p> <p><i>(Horses not allowed to be ridden or brought into the designated bathing areas between 1st May and 30th September each year.</i></p> <p><i>Horses must not be ridden on the beach 2 hours either side of high tide.</i></p> <p><i>Horses not allowed to be ridden on the coast other than on designated bridleways and those beaches with access via an authorised route.</i></p> <p><i>For the avoidance of doubt, horses are not allowed to enter vegetated areas on or adjacent to the beach or to ride through flocks of roosting / feeding birds at any time. Galloping is not permitted.)</i></p>	56.04%	29.72%	13.93%	0.31%	<p>A small majority of people support this proposal overall, and Members may wish to discuss this item further</p> <p>The byelaws require these rules for the benefit of public safety, and as per the Wildlife and Countryside Act to minimise disturbance to roosting birds on the internationally protected beach areas.</p> <p>As such, officers would recommend its inclusion in the PSPO</p>
Vehicles	<p><b>Vehicles - No unauthorised motorized vehicles in the area. (Not including mobility scooters, wheelchairs or electric bikes on the cycle paths).</b></p>	82.35%	12.69%	4.64%	0.31%	Support is shown for this item
	<p><b>On-Beach parking to be used for parking only and within the 10 mph speed limit.</b></p> <p><i>(No driving outside of the delineated parking area onto the foreshore or into the dunes. Speeding, racing, handbrake turns, and other dangerous maneuvers, unlicensed drivers etc are prohibited.</i></p> <p><i>(This does not apply to emergency vehicles and other authorised access)</i></p>	84.21%	9.91%	4.95%	0.93%	Support is shown for this item

# Agenda Item 7

ITEM	ACTIVITY (bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<p><b>Powered flight is not allowed in any area of the order. This includes taking off and landing.</b></p> <p><i>(paraglider, parascender, hang glider or other similar craft)</i></p>	47.37%	29.72%	21.98%	0.93%	<p>The results on this proposal are more evenly split, and Members guidance is sought</p> <p>These rules are for the benefit of public safety and reduce nuisance, and as per the Wildlife and Countryside Act to minimise disturbance to birds/ wildlife on the internationally protected coastline</p> <p>As such, officers would recommend its inclusion in the PSPO</p>
	<p><b>Remote-controlled vehicles not allowed without written permission</b></p> <p><i>(Bring or permit to be used any remote-controlled vehicle including model aircraft without permission.)</i></p>	45.51%	34.06%	19.2%	1.24%	<p>The results on this proposal are more evenly split, and Members guidance is sought</p> <p>These rules are for the benefit of public safety and reduce nuisance, and as per the Wildlife and Countryside Act to minimise disturbance to birds/ wildlife on the internationally protected coastline</p> <p>As such, officers would recommend its inclusion in the PSPO</p>



ITEM	ACTIVITY (bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<b>Drones can only be flown with written permission</b>	55.73%	29.72%	12.38%	2.17%	<p>A small majority of people support this proposal overall, and Members may wish to discuss this item further</p> <p>These rules are for the benefit of public safety and reduce nuisance, and as per the Wildlife and Countryside Act to minimise disturbance to birds/ wildlife on the internationally protected coastline</p> <p>As such, officers would recommend its inclusion in the PSPO</p>
Other Hazards	<b>No glass bottles or containers allowed (unless being carried to another place).</b>	63.47%	23.22%	13%	0.31%	Support is shown for this item
	<b>No throwing of objects</b> <i>(such as stones, pebbles or anything else in a manner likely to cause alarm, injury or damage to property)</i>	69.66%	19.81%	9.91%	0.62%	Support is shown for this item
	<b>No golf allowed</b>	63.78%	21.98%	13.62%	0.62%	Support is shown for this item

# Agenda Item 7

ITEM	ACTIVITY (bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<p><b>Actions such as weeing, spitting, pooing not allowed outdoors in these areas</b></p> <p><i>(Urinate, spit or defecate).</i></p>	83.59%	9.91%	5.88%	0.62%	<p>Support is shown for this item</p> <p>Through discussion during the consultation period, and in response to some comments received, this 'other hazards' item is proposed to be extended to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ingest, inhale, inject, smoke or otherwise use drugs or substances reasonably believed to be psychoactive substances.</li> <li>- Possess or release any canister containing compressed gas</li> <li>- Act in a disorderly manner so as to cause harassment, alarm, nuisance or distress to others in the locality,).</li> </ul>
	<p><b>No activities that cause pollution allowed</b></p> <p><i>(Bring in or permit to happen anything which pollutes or is likely to pollute the environment or cause harm to flora and fauna or people.</i></p> <p><i>This can include eg chemicals getting into water bodies (detergent, fuel, chemicals) plastic waste anywhere but particularly the foreshore where it can be washed out to sea, biosecurity, littering, noise pollution, dog fouling or human waste).</i></p>	78.64%	9.6%	11.46%	0.31%	<p>Support is shown for this item</p>

ITEM	ACTIVITY <small>(bold text as per the consultation, italics gives a further explanation for this report)</small>	CONSULTATION RESULTS (%)				Comments
		AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE	NOT ANSWERED	
	<p><b>No weapons of any kind to be brought into the area</b></p> <p><i>(Bring or be in possession of any catapult, firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, knife or other article likely to cause harm to persons or wildlife.)</i></p>	94.12%	4.33%	1.55%	0%	Support is shown for this item
<b>Additional issues to be considered</b>						
<b>Harm to wildlife or livestock</b>	<p><b>Some local authorities have included fines for deliberate disturbance to wildlife or habitats. For example, disturbing birds and their nest areas. Do you think we should include this rule in Sefton's order?</b></p> <p><i>(Harm or attempt to harm any wildlife (sea angling or lawful bait digging for personal use excepted). Includes but not restricted to hunting and poaching, knowingly causing disturbance to roosting or ground nesting birds, use of lures or pheromones, bringing in of non native species.)</i></p>	85.76%	9.29%	4.64%	0.31%	<p>Support is shown for this item</p> <p>In addition to the items listed, some of the public comments included suggesting this should include no fishing, nor allowing hunting with dogs</p>

# Agenda Item 7

- 4.5 Many people offered comments on the overall approach. Although the statistics demonstrate support or otherwise within the table above, some of the verbatim comments have been summarised here for Members consideration:
- Some were fully supportive of the PSPO concept, indeed suggesting it should go further to include more items, and larger geographic areas.
  - Some were supportive of the concept of the PSPO, but were concerned there would not be enough resources to implement/ enforce it.
  - Some were fundamentally opposed to the introduction of the Order, feeling the current issues do not warrant such action.
- 4.6 The survey also asked for any other issues the respondents would like to see included, and relevant comments made are summarised here:
- 4.7 The need for more policing/ officer support to engage, educate and enact on the Order was a common comment
- 4.8 Better community facilities in parks, on the coast etc, to encourage visitors to engage in positive behaviour and discourage anti social behaviour. The provision of toilet facilities to discourage people toileting themselves outside was mentioned by some too. One acknowledged the benefits of trials already being undertaken – such as the high quality food and drink concessions at the coastal gateways, which encourage responsible drinking/ behaviour, and provide improved on site natural surveillance.
- 4.9 Several questioned why the Order doesn't address littering, fly tipping and dog fouling/ asked that this be addressed in a stronger manner (NB these are covered by separate Orders)
- 4.10 One questioned whether cycling or playing football on a bowling green could be included
- 4.11 One suggested a complete alcohol ban, as opposed to the lesser approach proposed in the Order
- 4.12 One requested a ban on feeding pigeons in parks and town centres
- 4.13 One commented on sexual harassment, with 'cat calling' specifically mentioned
- 4.14 No fishing was requested by one respondent, as was a ban on hunting with dogs
- 4.15 One raised concerns about the way mobility scooters are driven
- 4.16 One raised concerns about vandalism and damage to life saving equipment (life belts/ rings etc), and also defibrillator equipment too

- 4.17 Some raised concerns about drugs and ‘other hazards’ which were discussed further during the consultation period and are now proposed for inclusion in the PSPO

## **5.0 Locations where the order will apply**

- 5.1 As per the maps outlined in the consultation, and those included in the draft PSPO (see Appendix B), the geographic areas of the proposed PSPO include not only areas managed by the Council (coast, certain parks, town centres and highways etc), they also include areas managed by others – such as the National Trust owned areas of the Formby Coast, Natural England’s National Nature Reserve in Freshfield/ Ainsdale, Lancashire Wildlife Trust areas, and the RSPB reserve at Marshside. Although the Order is proposed to include these other areas, it should be noted that the council does not have resource to provide signage, nor enforce on other land owners land – that will be for them to fund/ resource. Regular discussion among the various partners, land owners and emergency services will ensure a coordinated approach is taken.
- 5.2 The Appendix also explains that the bulk of the proposed PSPO sanctions will apply to the coast only, with only the (anti social behaviour related) alcohol confiscation to be included for the inland locations.
- 5.3 The consultation also asked if respondents had any comments on the proposed areas the PSPO would cover. Although there was no overwhelming trend for a certain area that may have been missed, some comments for Members consideration included that the alcohol restrictions should include any public place, including all parks/ roads etc. Also, other areas requested for inclusion included Formby pool and play area, Rimrose Valley Country Park and Canal towpaths.
- 5.4 Other inland parks and greenspaces, such as North Park and Derby Park in Bootle were also mentioned along with Hesketh Park and others in Southport, and Moorside, Alexandra and Coronation Parks in Crosby. Several respondents suggested the Order should cover ‘all’ parks and greenspaces in the borough, and some feared not doing so may flush issues from one area to another.
- 5.5 Additional village centres were also mentioned including Ainsdale, Bootle, Birkdale, and Hillside, Seaforth. Several commented on areas surrounding train stations being of concern throughout the borough.
- 5.6 The Lancashire Wildlife Trust asked that it be extended to include the Freshfield Dune Heath, and Lunt Meadows also
- 5.7 Some respondents suggested the Order should cover literally the entire borough.
- 5.8 A few of the respondents fundamentally questioned the need for the Order at all and were not supportive in their comments for it being enacted in any areas of the borough. One suggested removal of South Road and the Crosby Marine Lake area.

## **6.0 Signage**

- 6.1 New site signage will be needed to educate visitors on the expectations of their behaviour when visiting these areas. Upon formal approval of the PSPO, officers will engage a signage manufacturer to fabricate signs to be placed at key entrances and

# Agenda Item 7

other locations to inform people of the prohibitions in place, and alert them to the risk of a Fixed Penalty Notice should they be found to be acting inappropriately.

- 6.2 These signs are in development, and temporary versions/ banners will be sited as soon as possible on approval of the Order and used for the remainder of Summer 2022. The costs of this temporary/ semi permanent signage can be met within existing budgets.
- 6.3 More permanent/ robust signs would cost circa £20,000 and will not be installed in Summer 2022 – a review of the appropriateness of the ‘semi permanent’ signs will be undertaken in Autumn 2022, and should more permanent signage be deemed necessary, then it is anticipated they will be on site in time for Summer 2023, subject to external funding (as existing budgets cannot meet this cost).

## 7.0 Timescale

- 7.1 The proposed PSPO will run for three years after implementation, so from July 2022 to July 2025. Upon agreement at Full Council, officers will seek to promote its adoption both on site (with new signage outlined above, in noticeboards, in the press and on social media, and with face to face discussions with visitors). Assuming approval at the 14th July 2022 Full Council meeting, the Order will be live and enforceable for the remainder of the summer tourist season in July/ August 2022 and onwards.

## 8.0 Enforcement

- 8.1 Enforcement should be a last resort. Ideally, the simple fact that a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) ‘could’ be imposed will, it is hoped, encourage responsible behaviour from visitors. However, the PSPO will allow FPN’s to be issued by authorised officers – whether they be trained/ approved council officers, staff from other land owners and agencies, the emergency services, or by approved contractors of the authority.
- 8.2 It should be noted that formal training is required to enable anyone to issue an FPN. Although some agencies already have appropriately trained staff (such as the Police), this will take some time before others are ready (including Council staff).

## 9.0 Draft Public Space Protection Order – Coast and Visitor Areas

- 9.1 Subject to discussion and approval of this report, the draft PSPO is attached in Appendix B. It is written as though all items have been approved, but will be amended accordingly upon the decisions of Members. (The wording of the actual PSPO may vary from the descriptions in this report – these were used for the public facing consultation exercise, while the formal legal document needs to be worded accordingly)

## 10.0 Conclusion and recommendations:

- 10.1 The proposed PSPO seeks to maintain a balance between necessary controls to address unreasonable anti-social behaviour that is or is likely to have a continuing, recurring detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and takes into consideration the outcome of the consultation and views expressed by respondents.
- 10.2 Not proceeding would see a reliance on very limited byelaws, an inability to tackle anti social behaviour in all areas or to issue any Fixed Penalty Notices.

- 10.3 It is proposed that the following requirements/ restrictions summarised below are included within the proposed PSPO - Coast and Visitor Areas, where clear support has been demonstrated through the consultation (over 60% in support):
- 10.3.1` Authorised Officers able to confiscate alcohol.  
*(where they feel it is contributing to ASB only – this is not a complete ban)*
- 10.3.2 Fires and Barbeques not allowed.  
*(Not allowed to light or fuel any open fire nor to use, light or discard any barbecue. This refers to all types of barbeques - disposable, gas powered, standard charcoal)*
- 10.3.3 Fireworks, balloons and lantern releases not allowed.
- 10.3.4 Certain events only with written permission.  
*(Events such as lectures, speeches, sermons, busking, live music, bootcamps, sport events, use of generators and other types of entertainment performances/shows are not allowed without prior permission granted by the Council as per our events policy.)*
- 10.3.5 No overnight stays in tents, motorhomes or caravans without written permission.  
*(including, but not limited to, pitching or occupying tents, motorhomes, caravans sunshades and windbreaks excepted if there for a maximum of 12 hours)*  
NB the consultation material originally suggested this relate to ‘groups’ overnight stays, but following discussion, is proposed to be amended to propose no unauthorized camping etc at all, without written permission
- 10.3.6 No collecting money or selling (for any reason) without written permission.  
*(This includes;*  
*-Begging or soliciting for money\**  
*-Advertising any article verbally or by the distribution of leaflets and flyers, circulars or advertisements of any kind*  
*-Flyposting and other fixed notices on railings, posts or other street furniture without prior permission, and a fee may be chargeable for this. Notices must be taken down within an agreed period.*  
*-Selling goods, products or services without prior permission of the Council.*  
*\*Begging or soliciting for money. The act of begging is deemed as either approaching people for money, or being stationary and asking for money, or positioned on the floor to invite the offer of money or goods.)*
- 10.3.7 Cycling only on cycle paths and routes, following road rules and not cycling dangerously.  
*(No riding any cycle within the restricted area unless on a designated cycle route or the beach.*  
*No Riding any cycle where localised signage requires you to dismount.*  
*No Riding any cycle without due care and attention or without due care and consideration for other users of that area.*  
*A cycle means a bicycle, a tricycle or a cycle having four or more wheels, including one power-assisted by electrical (or other means not being in*

# Agenda Item 7

*any case a motorcycle or motor vehicle.)*

10.3.8 No climbing on structures such as Southport Pier and outfall pipes on the beach.

10.3.9 No swimming in lakes ponds or pools unless rules say it is allowed.  
*(For example, swimming is not generally allowed in Crosby Marine Lake except for specific times/ events which are advertised locally. This does not apply to swimming/ bathing in the sea. (It should be noted though that Sefton's coast can be hazardous; visitors are advised to take full note of the safety signage at the coast and keep to designated lifeguarded bathing areas at Formby, Ainsdale and Southport.)*

10.3.10 Dogs not allowed in dog free zones on the beach or in fenced off areas or in pools or ponds.  
*(NB This is in addition to the separate boroughwide PSPO for dog control.)*

10.3.11 Vehicles - No unauthorised motorized vehicles in the area. Not including mobility scooters, wheelchairs or electric bikes on the cycle paths.

10.3.12 On-Beach parking to be used for parking only and within the 10 mph speed limit.  
*(No driving outside of the delineated parking area onto the foreshore or into the dunes. Speeding, racing, handbrake turns, and other dangerous maneuvers, unlicensed drivers etc are prohibited. (This does not apply to emergency vehicles and other authorised access)*

10.3.13 No glass bottles or containers allowed in the restricted area

10.3.14 No throwing of objects  
*(such as stones, pebbles or anything else in a manner likely to cause alarm, injury or damage to property)*

10.3.15 No Golf Allowed

10.3.16 Actions such as weeing, spitting, pooing not allowed outdoors in these areas  
*(Urinate, spit or defecate).*

Through discussion during the consultation period, and in response to some comments received, this 'other hazards' item has is proposed to be extended to include:

ingest, inhale, inject, smoke or otherwise use drugs or substances reasonably believed to be psychoactive substances.

- Possess or release any canister containing compressed gas

Act in a disorderly manner so as to cause harassment, alarm, nuisance or distress to others in the locality).

10.3.17 No activities that cause pollution allowed  
*(Bring in or permit to happen anything which pollutes or is likely to pollute the environment or cause harm to flora and fauna or people. This can include eg chemicals getting into water bodies (detergent, fuel,*



*chemicals) plastic waste anywhere but particularly the foreshore where it can be washed out to sea, biosecurity, littering, noise pollution, dog fouling or human waste).*

- 10.3.18 No weapons of any kind to be brought into the area  
*(Bring or be in possession of any catapult, firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, knife or other article likely to cause harm to persons or wildlife.)*
- 10.3.19 Deliberate disturbance to wildlife or habitats. For example, disturbing birds and their nest areas.  
*(Harm or attempt to harm any wildlife (sea angling or lawful bait digging for personal use excepted). Includes but not restricted to hunting and poaching, knowingly causing disturbance to roosting or ground nesting birds, use of lures or pheromones, bringing in of non native species.)*

In addition to the items listed, some of the public comments included suggesting this should include no fishing, nor allowing hunting with dogs

Although significant public support for this item has been shown (85.76% in support), it is felt that inclusion in the PSPO is not appropriate at this point. Further research and work will be undertaken, and further reports will be presented in due course to explore ways in which to protect wildlife and habitats from harm.

- 10.4 The following items, although receiving general support, were not as strongly supported (with approval being in the 40-60% margin, but still a higher percentage than those that didn't support the item). These are items Members may wish to discuss further, noting officers would recommend their inclusion overall:

- 10.4.1 No large gatherings of 40 or more without permission  
*(Examples include music and dance events, fun runs, guided walks, sporting activities, exercise classes etc)*
- 10.4.2 Boat launching only from certain parts of the coast and lakes with permission  
*(including Paddleboards, canoes not allowed other than at designated launching locations and with the necessary permissions.)*
- 10.4.3 Watercrafts and power kiting only in set areas and with written permission.  
*(Being in charge of any pleasure boat, windsurfer, kite board, paddleboard, jet ski or any other vessel and causing or permitting same to be used in a dangerous manner, without due care or attention or without reasonable consideration for other persons OR failing to comply with instructions from an Authorised Person in respect of said vessel. Bring, ride, beach or launch any jet ski other than at the marine lakes and in compliance with the operators at these locations Undertake kite surfing, parakiting or other powered kite activity anywhere on the coast other than the designated Kitebeach. Take part in these activities without the necessary permit and insurance.)*
- 10.4.4 Horses not allowed to be ridden in bathing areas on the beach in summer.

# Agenda Item 7

Horses must not be ridden dangerously or within 2 hours of high tide.

*(Horses not allowed to be ridden or brought into the designated bathing areas between 1st May and 30th September each year.*

*Horses must not be ridden on the beach 2 hours either side of high tide.*

*Horses not allowed to be ridden on the coast other than on designated bridleways*

*Horses not allowed to be ridden on the coast other than on designated bridleways and those beaches with access via an authorised route.*

*For the avoidance of doubt, horses are not allowed to enter vegetated areas on or adjacent to the beach or to ride through flocks of roosting / feeding birds at any time. Galloping is not permitted.)*

10.4.5 Powered flight is not allowed in any area of the order. This includes taking off and landing.

*(paraglider, parascender, hang glider or other similar craft)*

10.4.6 Remote-controlled vehicles not allowed without written permission

*(Bring or permit to be used any remote-controlled vehicle including model aircraft without permission.)*

10.4.7 Drones can only be flown with written permission

10.5 None of the items were 'unsupported' in the consultation (a disagreement with the proposal being more than 50%), and so none are proposed for immediate removal in the PSPO.

10.6 Finally, it is recommended that the geographic locations of the proposed PSPO be agreed, and no omissions be made to these areas based on the consultation results, but Members may wish to consider additional locations as noted in the report, including Freshfield Dune Heath and Lunt Meadows at the request of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust.

## Appendix A – Consultation results

### Public Spaces Protection Order for Coastal & Visitor Areas of Sefton

<https://yourseftonyoursay.sefton.gov.uk/green-sefton/public-spaces-protection-order-for-coastal-visitor>

This report was created on Saturday 25 June 2022 at 07:59

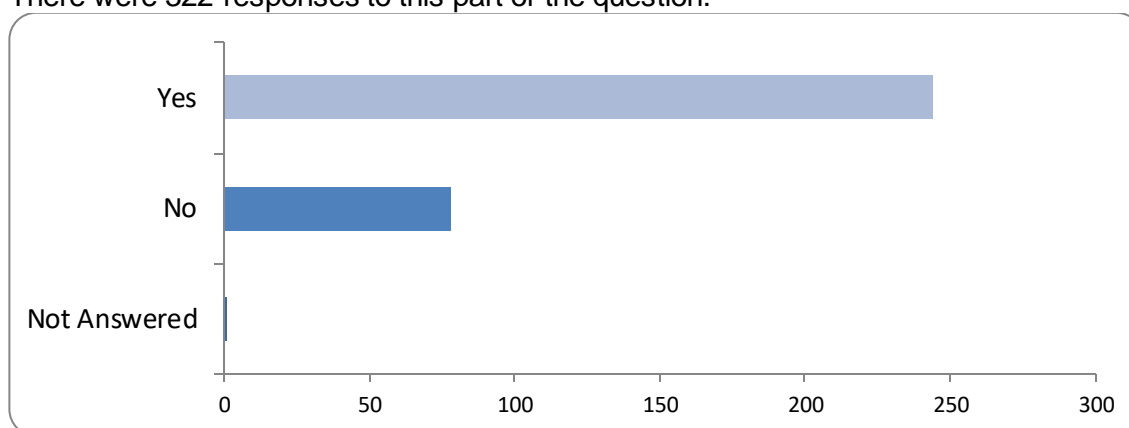
The activity ran from 20/05/2022 to 24/06/2022

Responses to this survey: **323**

#### 1: Have you ever seen anti-social behaviour when visiting Sefton's coast or town centres?

##### Experienced ASB?

There were 322 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	244	75.54%
No	78	24.15%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

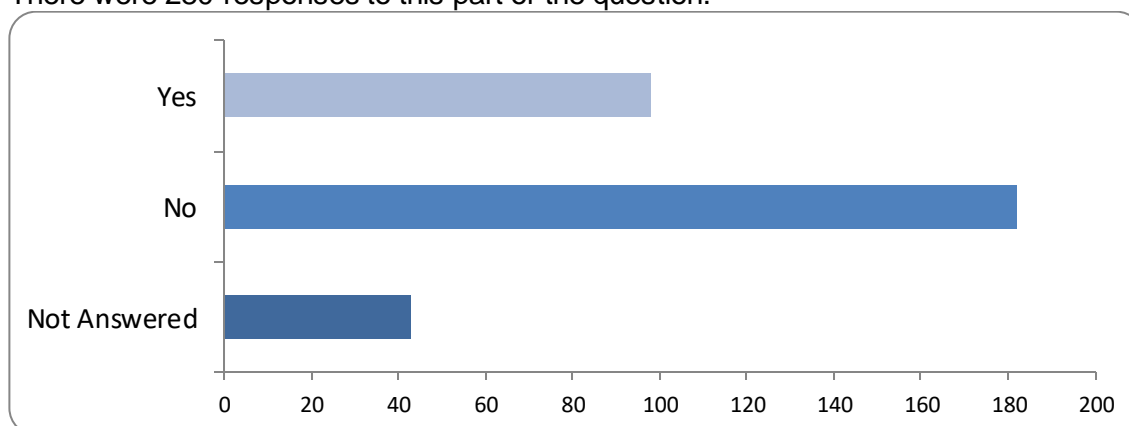
##### Comments about ASB

There were 227 responses to this part of the question.

#### 2: Did you report what you saw?

##### Reported ASB?

There were 280 responses to this part of the question.



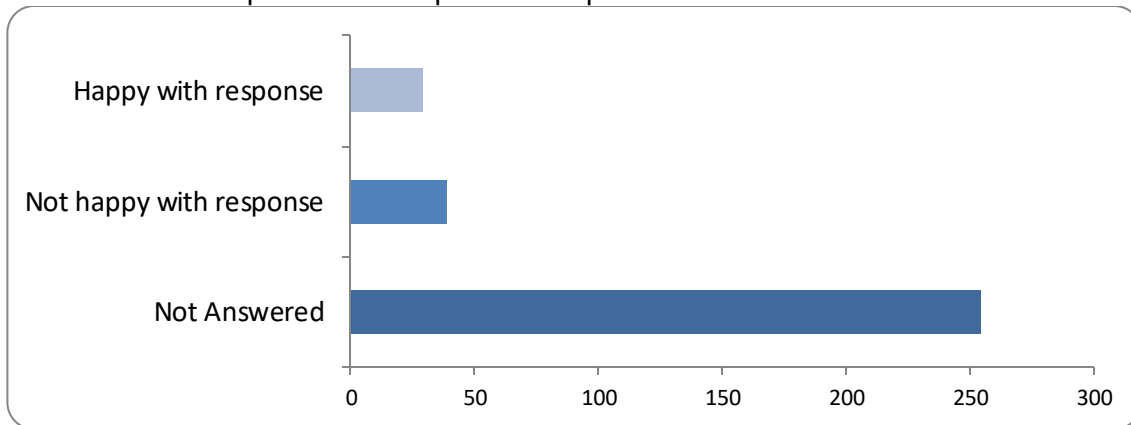
# Agenda Item 7

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	98	30.34%
No	182	56.35%
Not Answered	43	13.31%

3: If you reported it, who did you report it to and were you happy with the response? (Please tick the ones that apply to you)

## Who reported to - Police

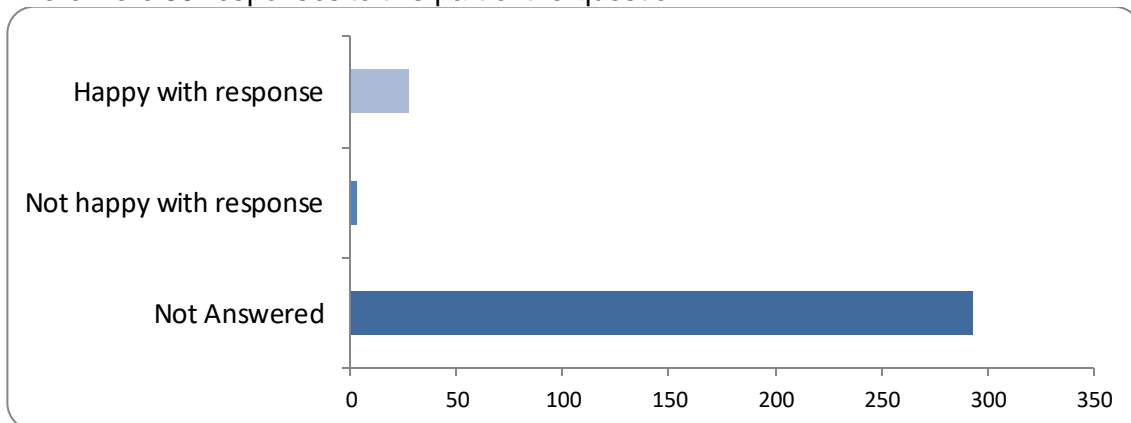
There were 68 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Happy with response	29	8.98%
Not happy with response	39	12.07%
Not Answered	255	78.95%

## Who reported to - Fire and rescue Services

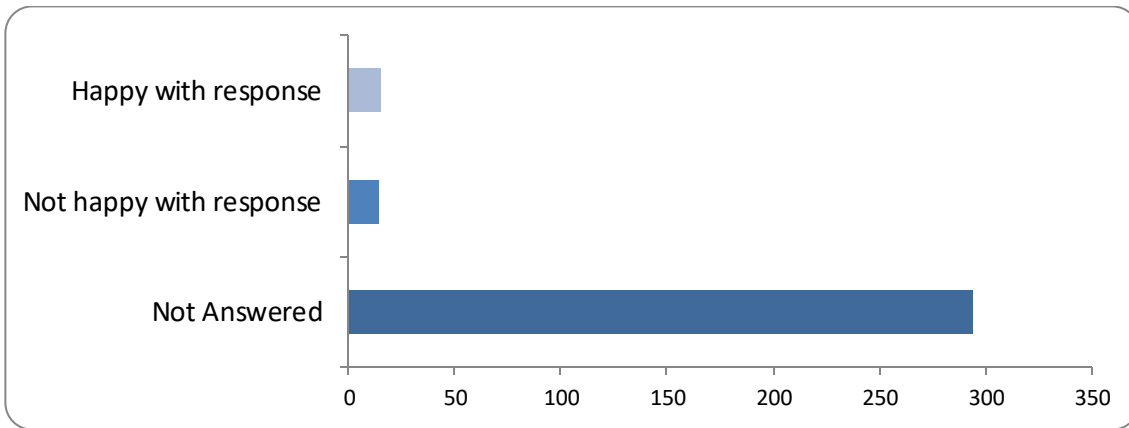
There were 30 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Happy with response	27	8.36%
Not happy with response	3	0.93%
Not Answered	293	90.71%

## Who reported to - Lifeguards or rangers

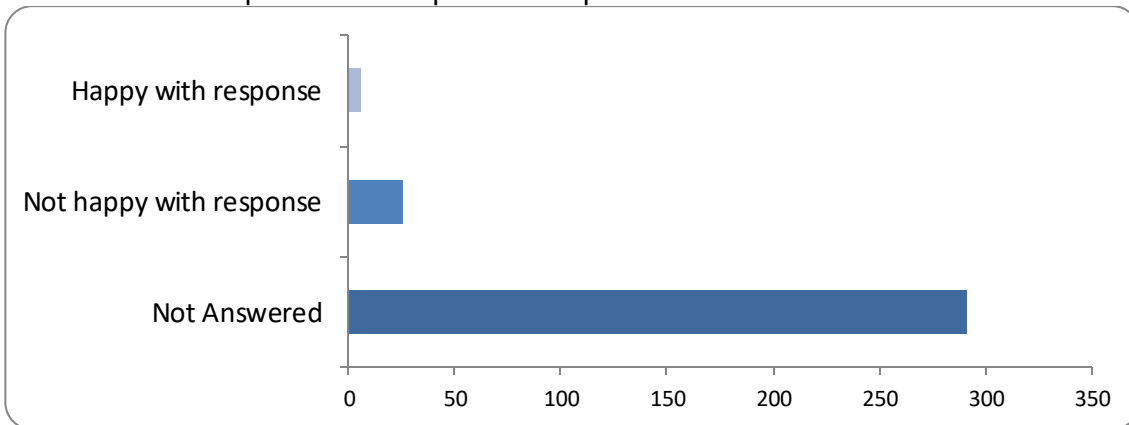
There were 29 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Happy with response	15	4.64%
Not happy with response	14	4.33%
Not Answered	294	91.02%

### Who reported to - Sefton Council (contact centre)

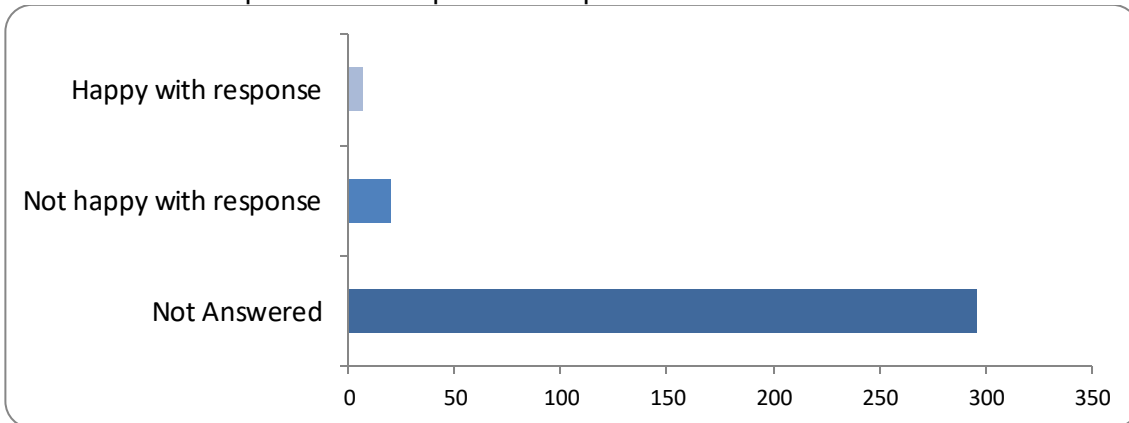
There were 32 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Happy with response	6	1.86%
Not happy with response	26	8.05%
Not Answered	291	90.09%

### Who reported to - Councillor

There were 27 responses to this part of the question.



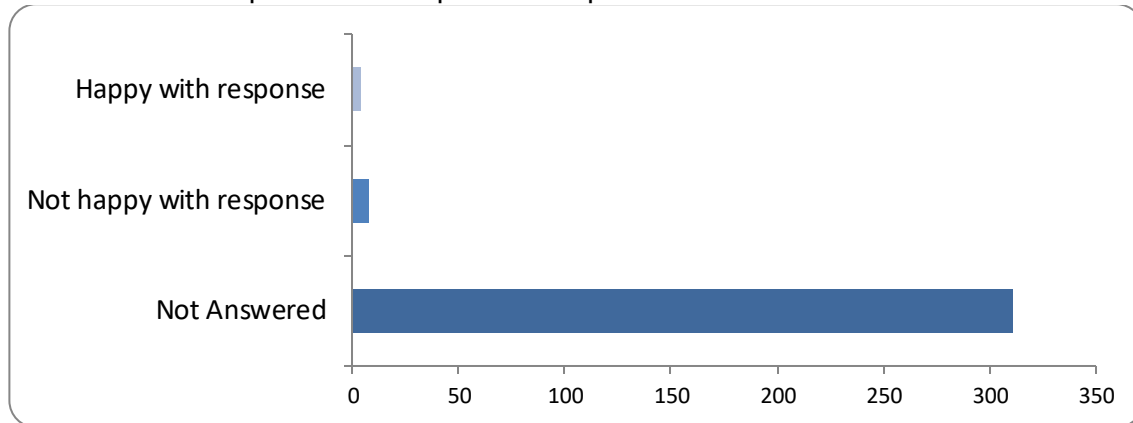
Option	Total	Percent
Happy with response	6	1.86%
Not happy with response	26	8.05%
Not Answered	291	90.09%

# Agenda Item 7

<b>Happy with response</b>	7	2.17%
<b>Not happy with response</b>	20	6.19%
<b>Not Answered</b>	296	91.64%

## Who reported to - Enforcement Officer

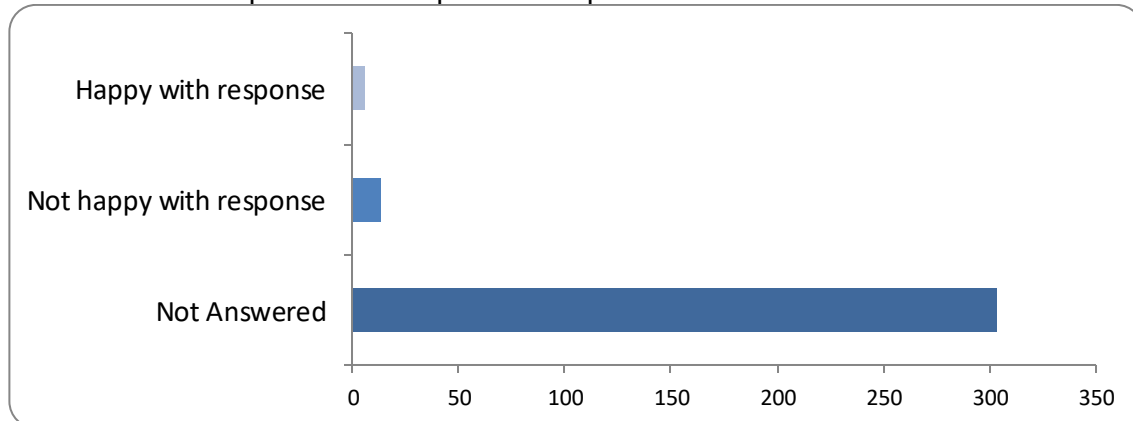
There were 12 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
<b>Happy with response</b>	4	1.24%
<b>Not happy with response</b>	8	2.48%
<b>Not Answered</b>	311	96.28%

## Who reported to - Other

There were 19 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
<b>Happy with response</b>	6	1.86%
<b>Not happy with response</b>	13	4.02%
<b>Not Answered</b>	304	94.12%

## Other

There were 37 responses to this part of the question.

4: If you didn't report it, why did you not report the anti-social behaviour you saw?

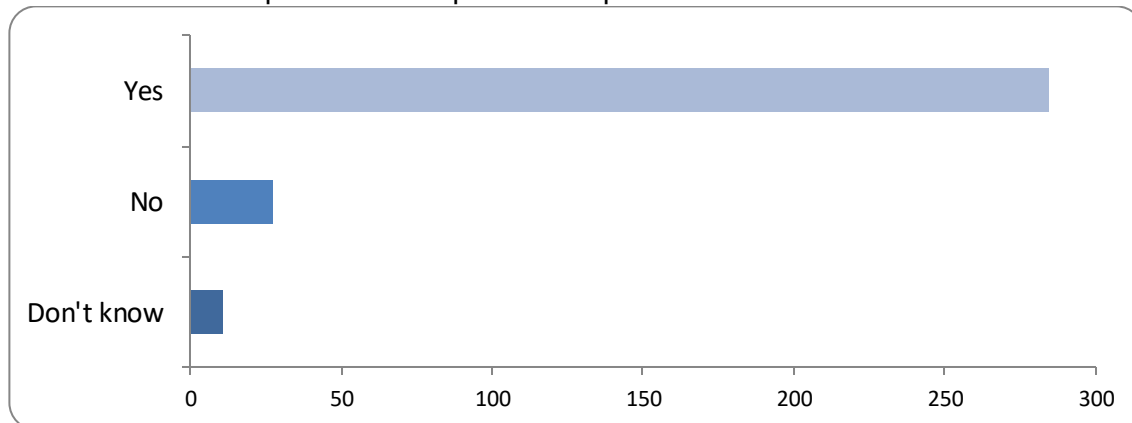
### comments about why it wasn't reported

There were 168 responses to this part of the question.

## 5: Should officers be able to take away the alcohol from anyone causing anti-social behaviour?

### Alcohol

There were 323 responses to this part of the question.



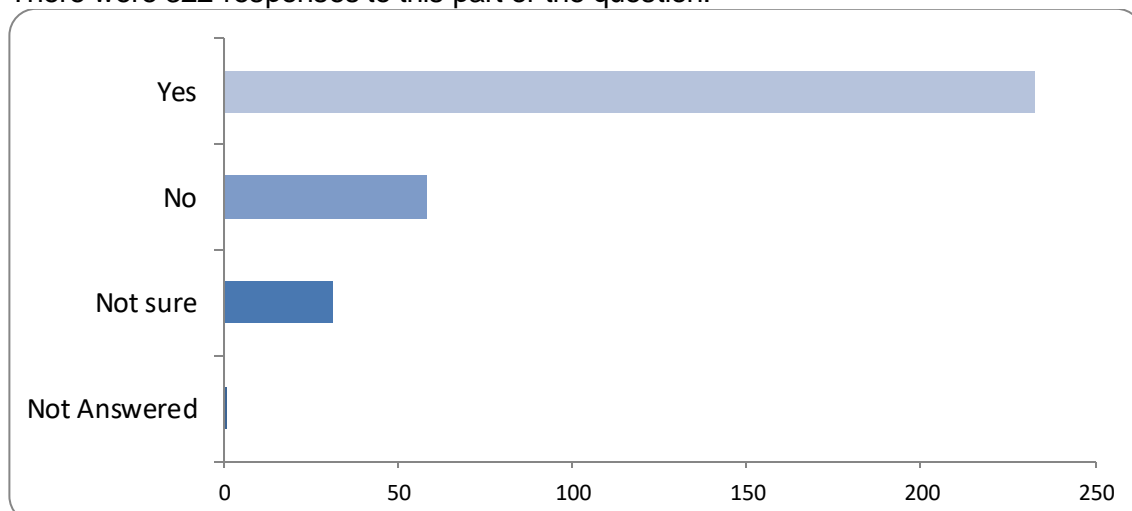
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	285	88.24%
No	27	8.36%
Don't know	11	3.41%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

## 6: Would any of these rules about fires, barbeques and other hazards help reduce

### anti-social behaviour?

### Fires and Barbeques - Fires and Barbeques not allowed.

There were 322 responses to this part of the question.

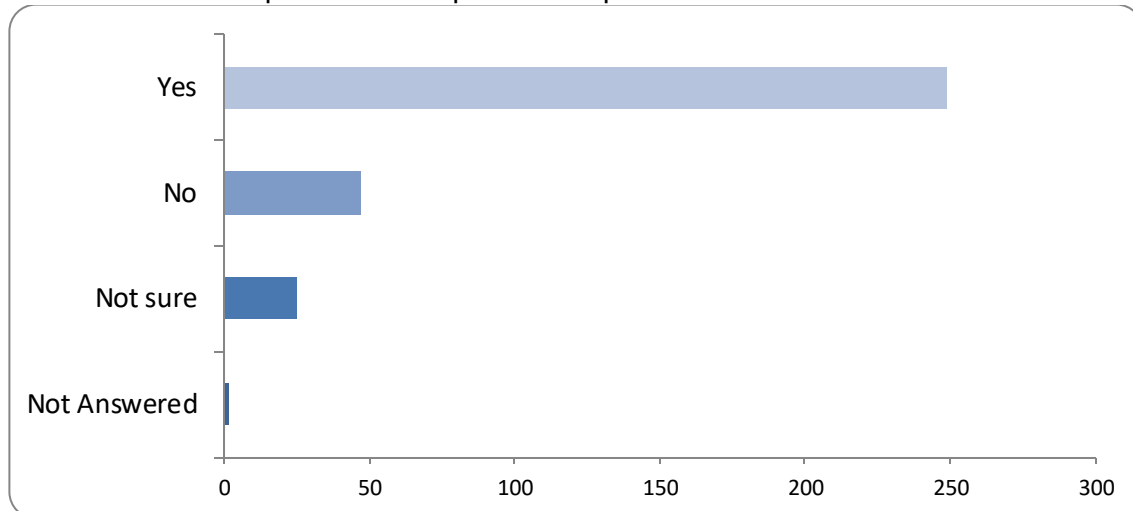


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	230	71.74%
No	60	18.94%
Not sure	35	10.87%
Not Answered	2	0.62%

# Agenda Item 7

<b>Yes</b>	233	72.14%
<b>No</b>	58	17.96%
<b>Not sure</b>	31	9.60%
<b>Not Answered</b>	1	0.31%

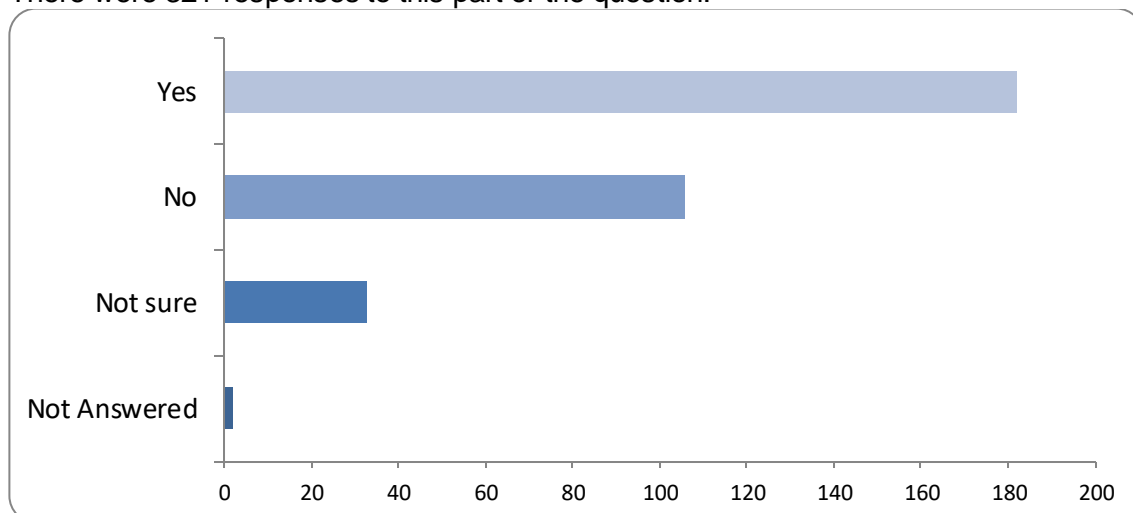
**Fires and Barbeques - Fireworks, balloons, and lantern releases not allowed in the areas.**  
 There were 321 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	249	77.09%
<b>No</b>	47	14.55%
<b>Not sure</b>	25	7.74%
<b>Not Answered</b>	2	0.62%

**7: Do you think the following rules about large groups of people gathering will reduce anti-social behaviour?**

**Events - No large gatherings of more than 40 people without written permission.**  
 There were 321 responses to this part of the question.



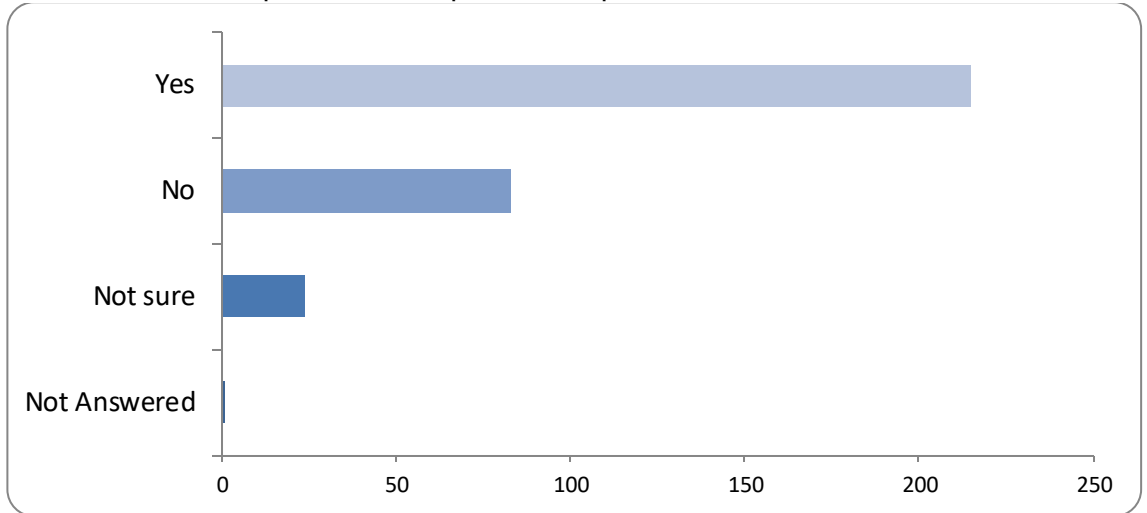
Option	Total	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	182	56.35%



<b>No</b>	106	32.82%
<b>Not sure</b>	33	10.22%
<b>Not Answered</b>	2	0.62%

**Events - certain events only allowed with written permission.**

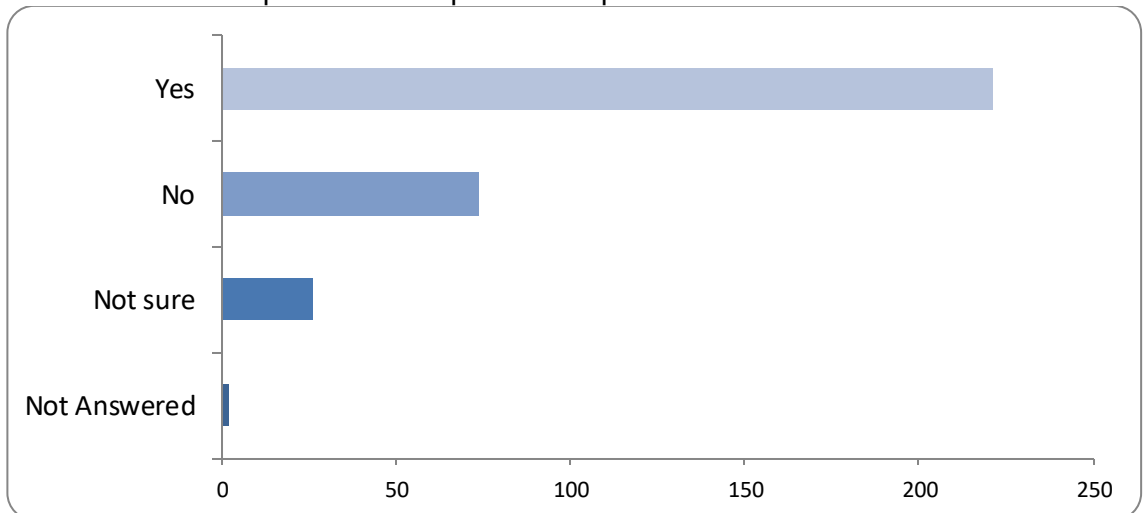
There were 322 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	215	66.56%
<b>No</b>	83	25.70%
<b>Not sure</b>	24	7.43%
<b>Not Answered</b>	1	0.31%

**Events - No groups having overnight stays in tents, motorhomes, or caravans without written permission.**

There were 321 responses to this part of the question.

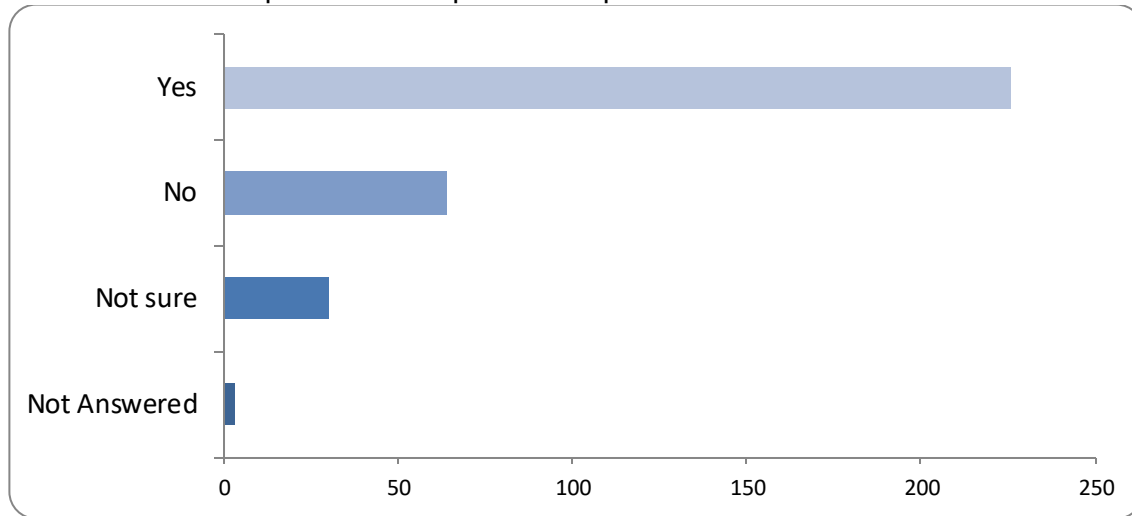


Option	Total	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	221	68.42%
<b>No</b>	74	22.91%
<b>Not sure</b>	26	8.05%
<b>Not Answered</b>	2	0.62%

# Agenda Item 7

## Events - No collecting money or selling (for any reason) without written permission.

There were 320 responses to this part of the question.

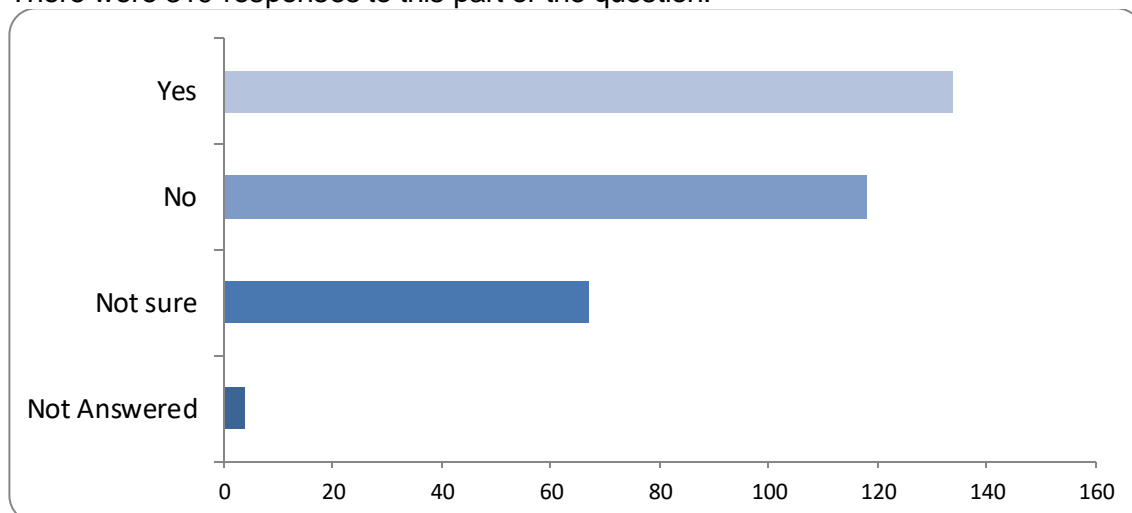


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	226	69.97%
No	64	19.81%
Not sure	30	9.29%
Not Answered	3	0.93%

## 8: Would any of these rules around leisure activities help reduce anti-social behaviour?

Leisure activities - Boats put in the water only from certain parts of the coast and lakes and with permission.

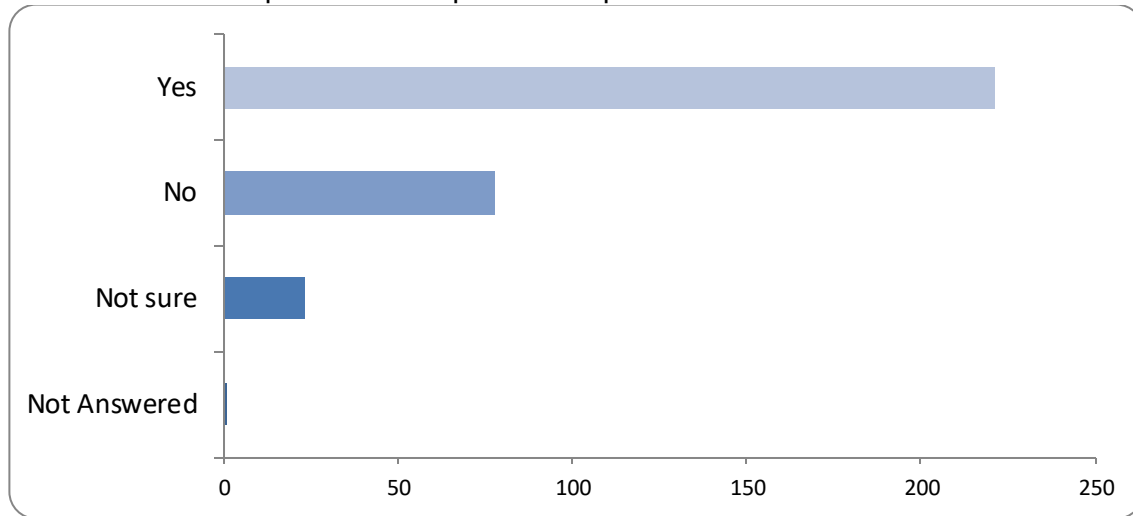
There were 319 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	134	41.49%
No	118	36.53%
Not sure	67	20.74%
Not Answered	4	1.24%

**Leisure activities - Cycling only on cycle paths and routes. Cyclists must follow the road rules and not cycle dangerously.**

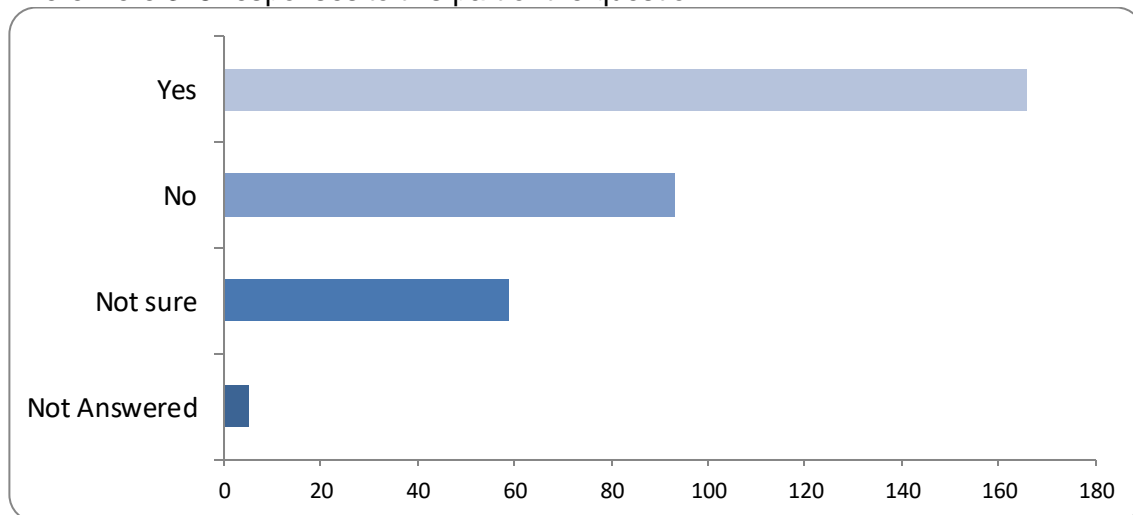
There were 322 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	221	68.42%
No	78	24.15%
Not sure	23	7.12%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

**Leisure activities - Watercrafts and power kiting only in set areas and with written permission.**

There were 318 responses to this part of the question.

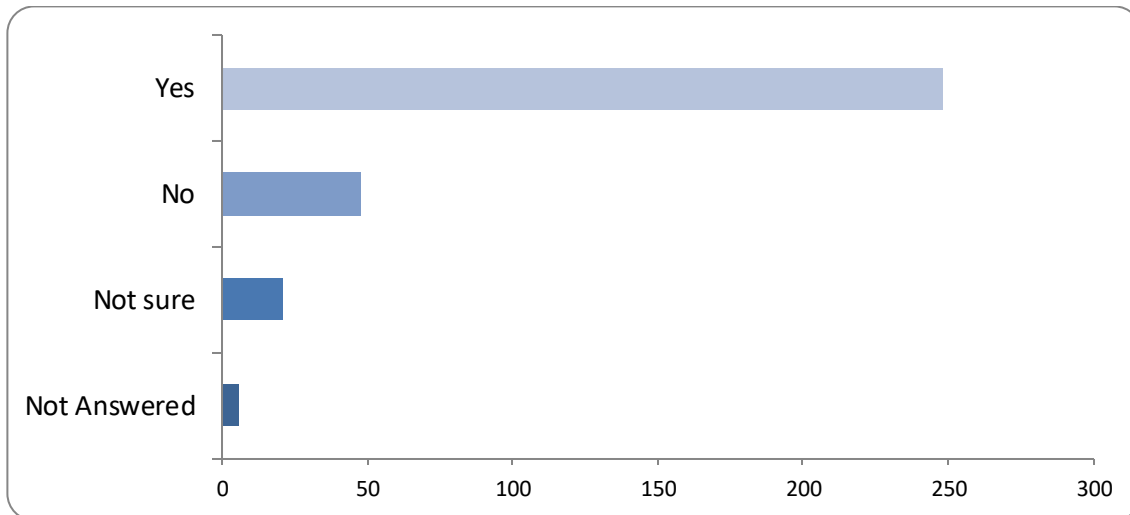


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	166	51.39%
No	93	28.79%
Not sure	59	18.27%
Not Answered	5	1.55%

**Leisure activities - No climbing on structures such as Southport pier or pipes on the beach.**

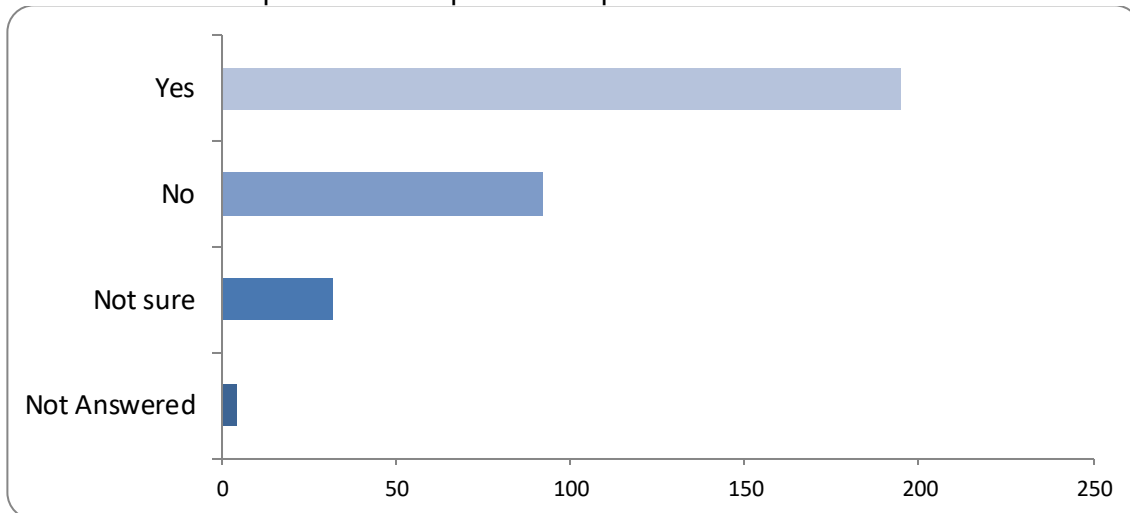
There were 317 responses to this part of the question.

# Agenda Item 7



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	248	76.78%
No	48	14.86%
Not sure	21	6.50%
Not Answered	6	1.86%

**Leisure activities - No swimming in lakes, ponds, or pools unless rules say it is allowed.**  
 There were 319 responses to this part of the question.

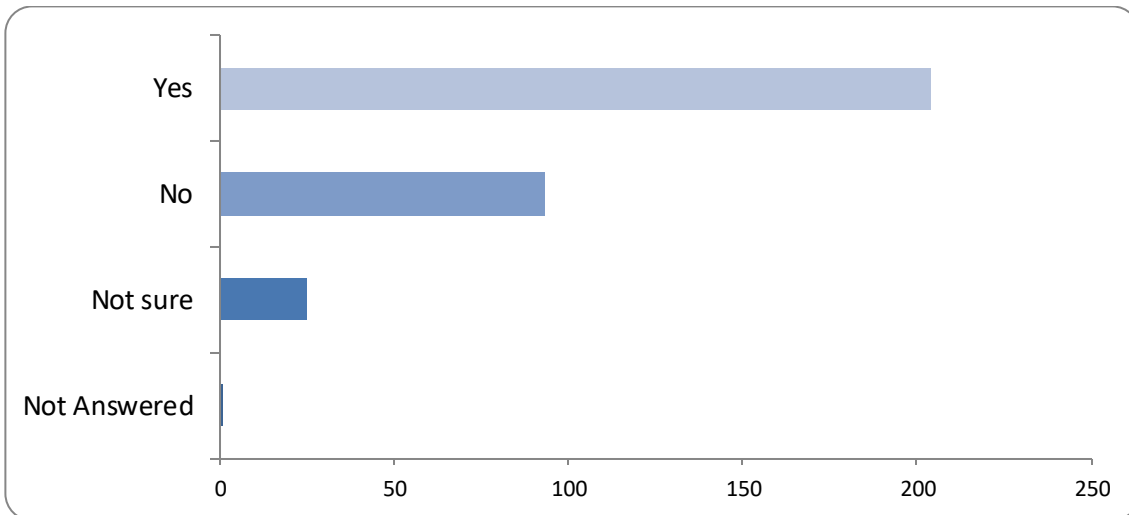


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	195	60.37%
No	92	28.48%
Not sure	32	9.91%
Not Answered	4	1.24%

9: Would any of these rules about dogs and horses help reduce anti-social behaviour?

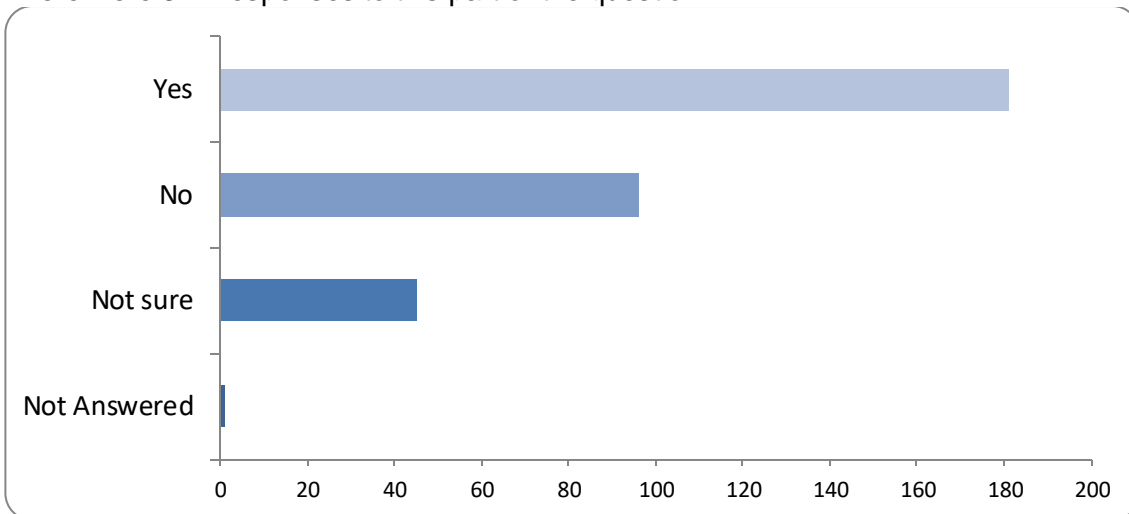
**Horses and Dogs - Dogs not allowed in dog free zones on the beach, in fenced off areas or in pools or ponds.**

There were 322 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	204	63.16%
No	93	28.79%
Not sure	25	7.74%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

**Horses and Dogs - Horses not allowed to be ridden in bathing areas on the beach in the summer. Horses must not be ridden dangerously or within 2 hours of high tide.**  
 There were 322 responses to this part of the question.



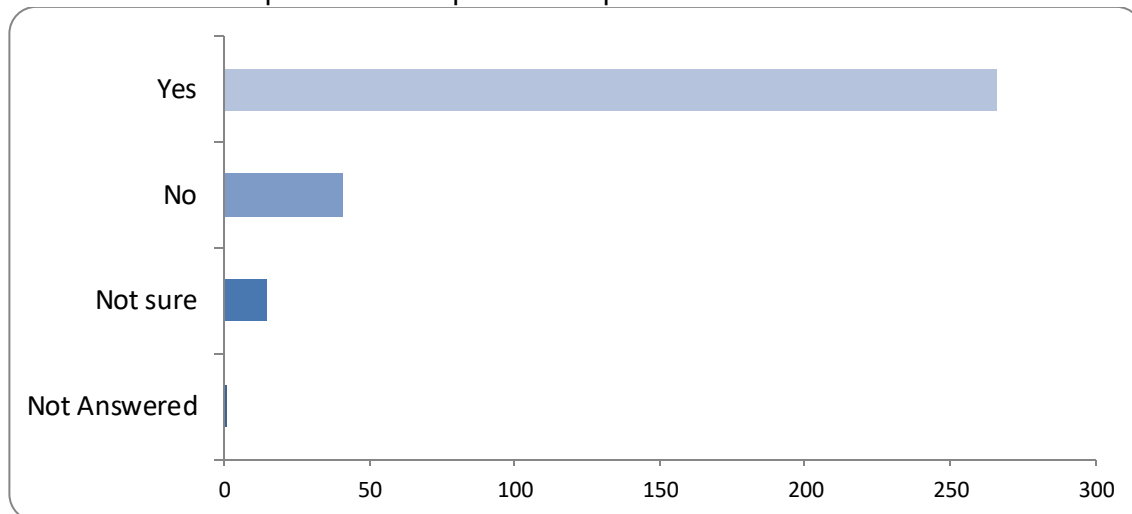
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	181	56.04%
No	96	29.72%
Not sure	45	13.93%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

10: Could any of these rules about driving or flying motorised vehicles help reduce anti-social behaviour? (please note that emergency vehicles are authorised vehicles)  
**Vehicles - No unauthorised motorized vehicles in the area. Not including mobility scooters,**

# Agenda Item 7

## wheelchairs or electric bikes on the cycle paths.

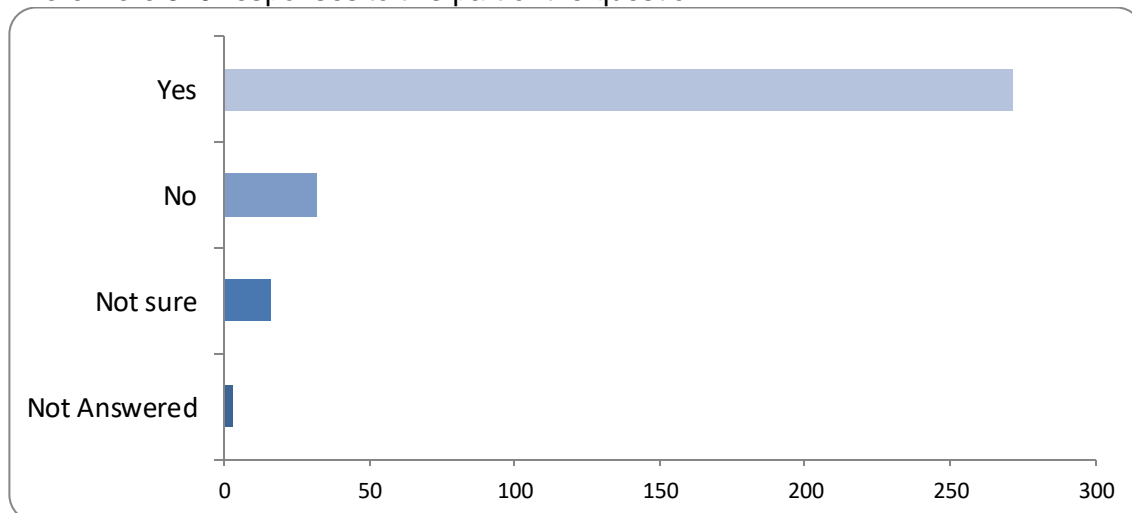
There were 322 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	266	82.35%
No	41	12.69%
Not sure	15	4.64%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

## Vehicles - On beach car parking to be used for parking only and within the 10 miles per hour speed limit.

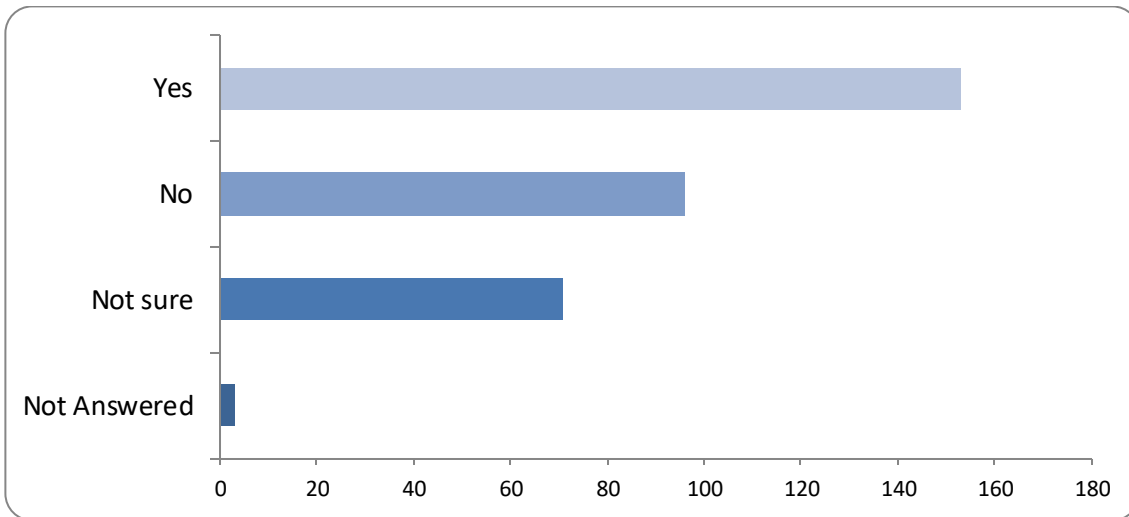
There were 320 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	272	84.21%
No	32	9.91%
Not sure	16	4.95%
Not Answered	3	0.93%

## Vehicles - Powered flight (e.g. paragliding) is not allowed in any area of the order. This includes taking off and landing.

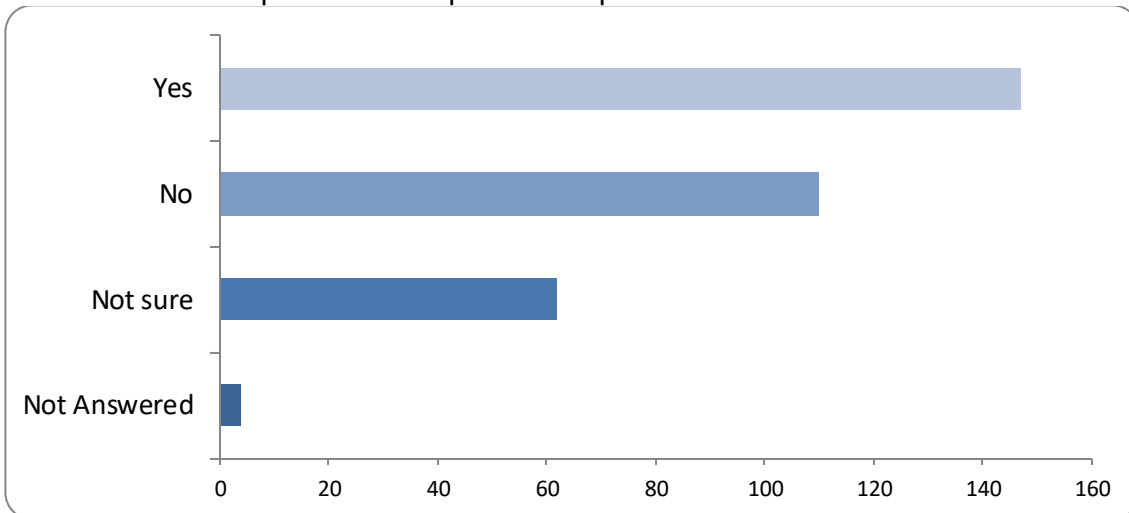
There were 320 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	153	47.37%
No	96	29.72%
Not sure	71	21.98%
Not Answered	3	0.93%

**Vehicles - Remote controlled vehicles not allowed without written permission.**

There were 319 responses to this part of the question.

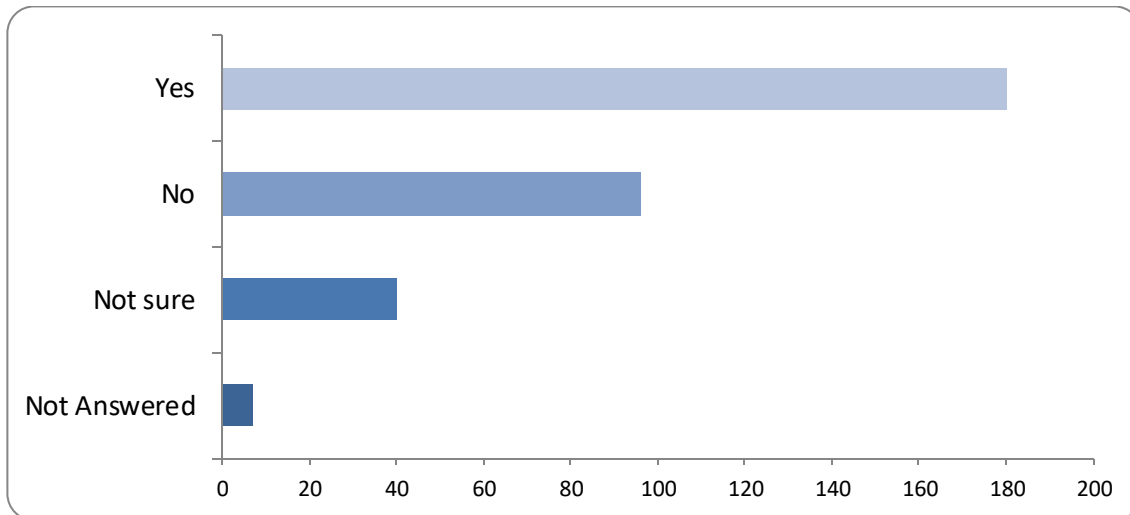


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	147	45.51%
No	110	34.06%
Not sure	62	19.20%
Not Answered	4	1.24%

**Vehicles - Drones can only be flown with written permission.**

There were 316 responses to this part of the question.

# Agenda Item 7

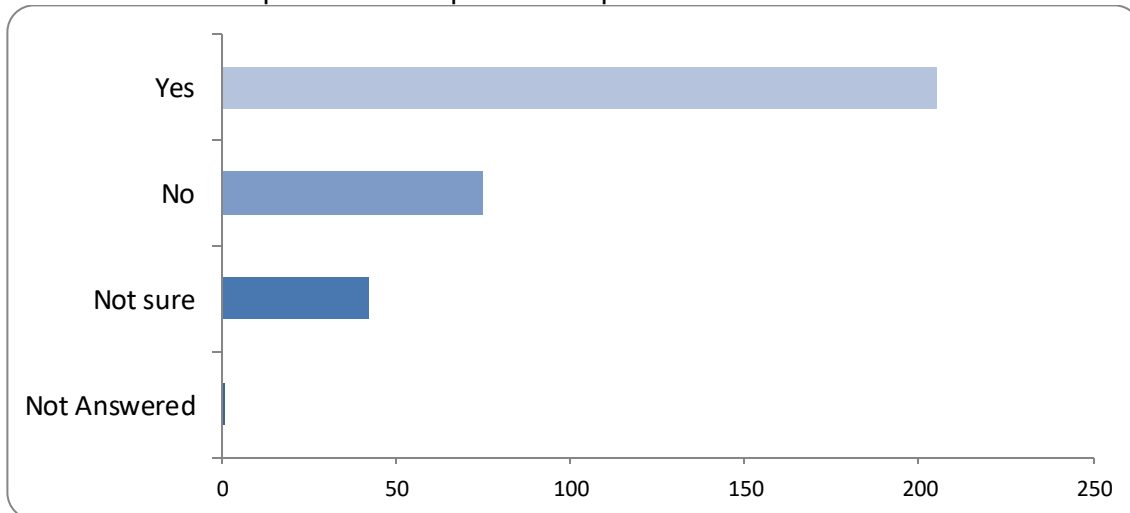


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	180	55.73%
No	96	29.72%
Not sure	40	12.38%
Not Answered	7	2.17%

11: Would any of these rules about other hazards help reduce anti-social behaviour?

**Other Hazards - No glass bottles or containers allowed (unless being carried to another place).**

There were 322 responses to this part of the question.

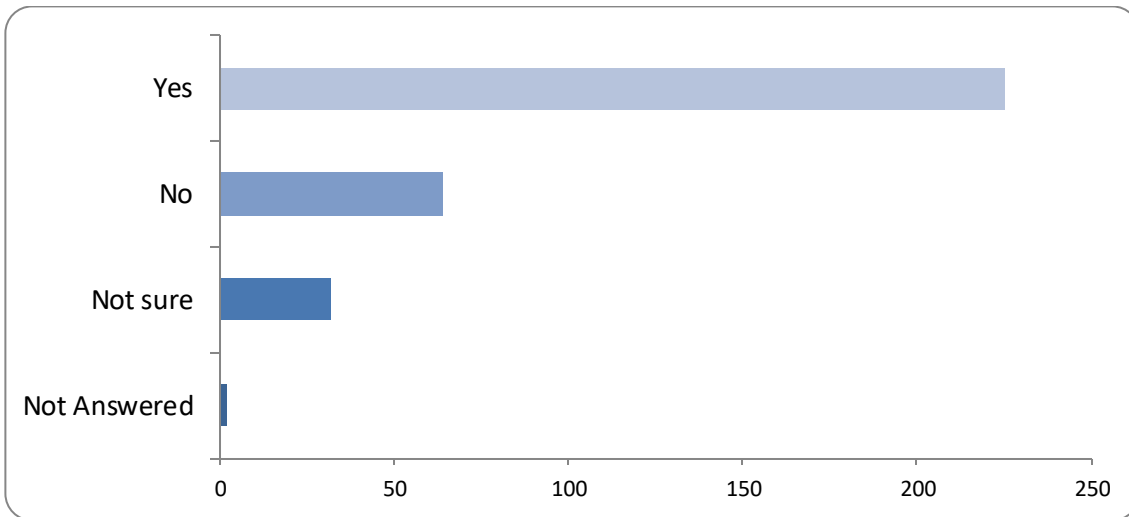


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	205	63.47%
No	75	23.22%
Not sure	42	13.00%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

**Other Hazards - No throwing of objects.**

There were 321 responses to this part of the question.

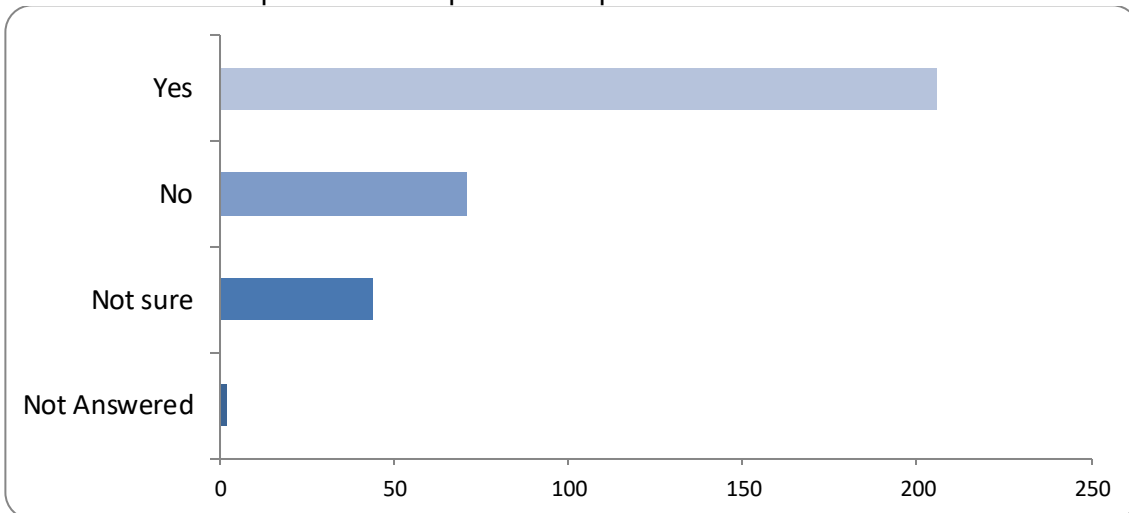




Option	Total	Percent
Yes	225	69.66%
No	64	19.81%
Not sure	32	9.91%
Not Answered	2	0.62%

**Other Hazards - No golf allowed.**

There were 321 responses to this part of the question.

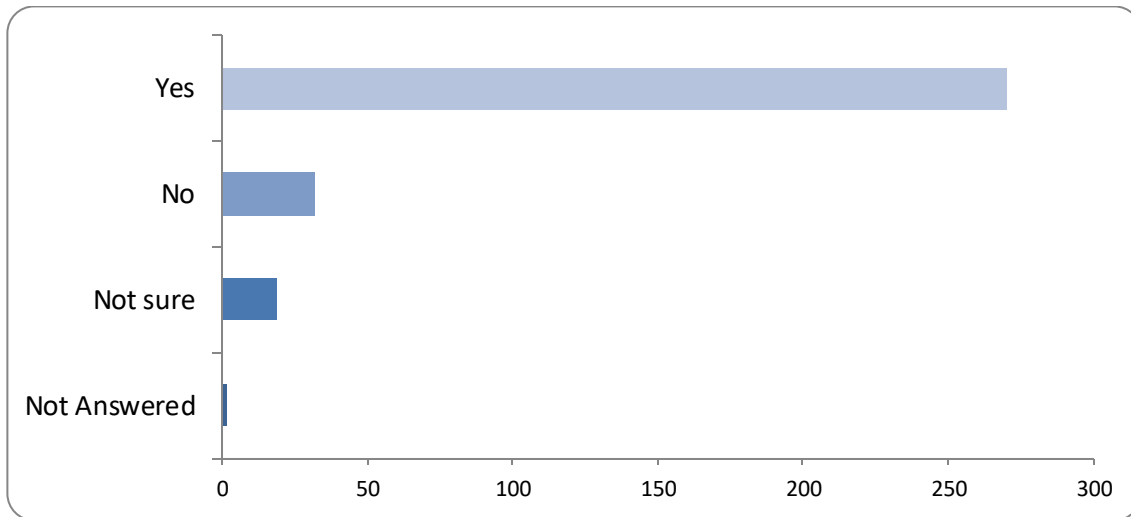


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	206	63.78%
No	71	21.98%
Not sure	44	13.62%
Not Answered	2	0.62%

**Other Hazards - Actions such as spitting, weeing, or pooing not allowed outdoors in these areas.**

There were 321 responses to this part of the question.

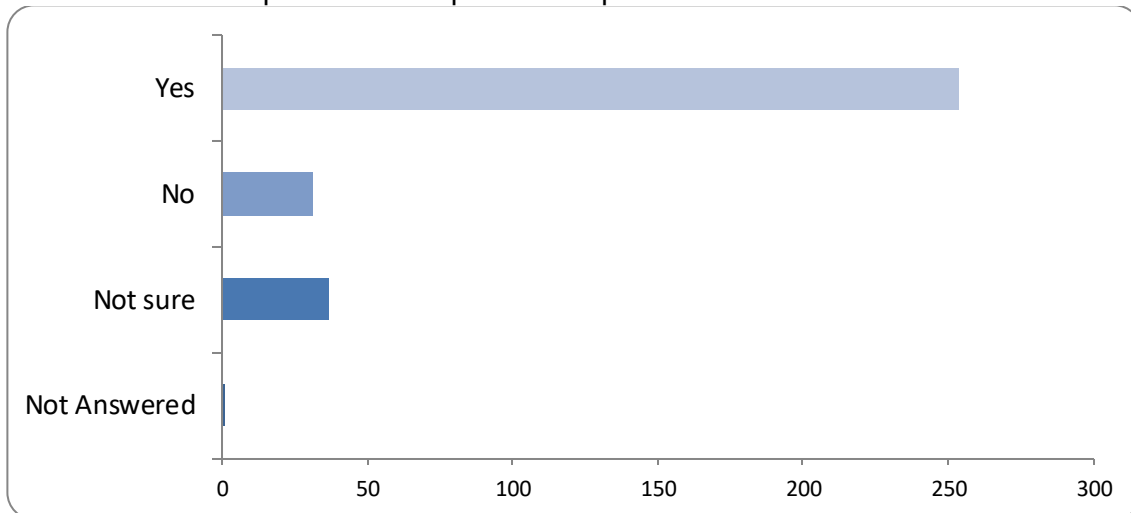
# Agenda Item 7



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	270	83.59%
No	32	9.91%
Not sure	19	5.88%
Not Answered	2	0.62%

## Other Hazards - No activities that cause pollution allowed.

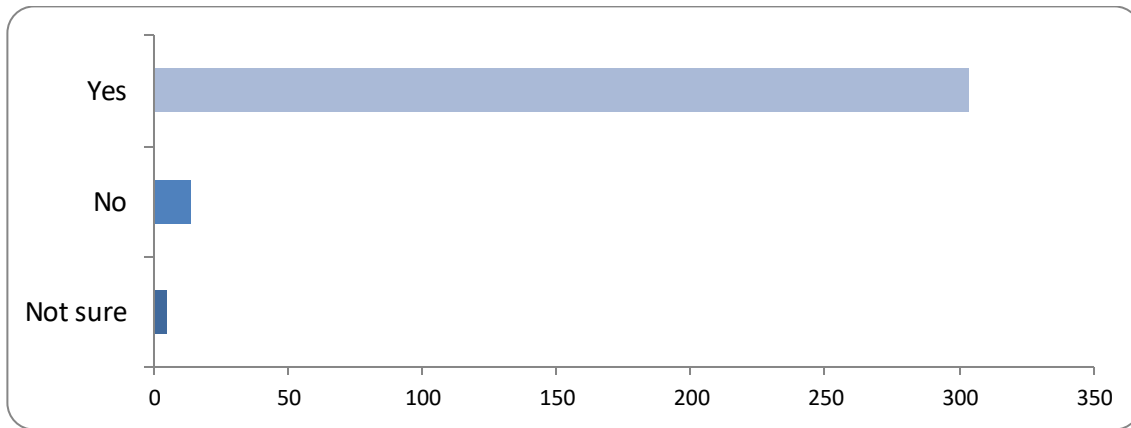
There were 322 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	254	78.64%
No	31	9.60%
Not sure	37	11.46%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

## Other Hazards - No weapons of any kind to be brought in the area.

There were 323 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	304	94.12%
No	14	4.33%
Not sure	5	1.55%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

12: Are there other places in Sefton that should be added to where this order covers?

**Other places**

There were 130 responses to this part of the question.

13: Do you think any places in Sefton should be removed from this order?

**Places removed**

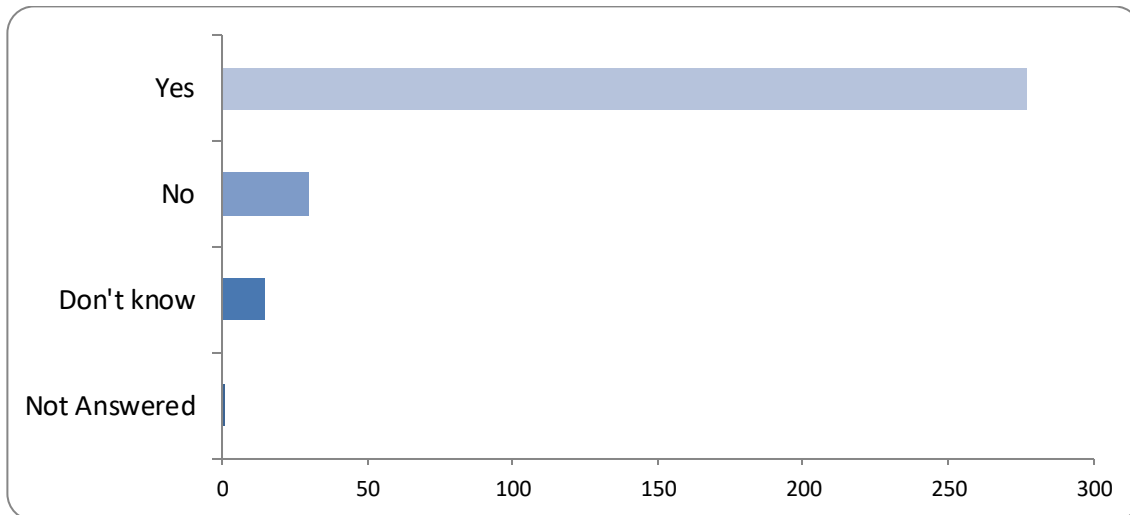
There were 69 responses to this part of the question.

14: Some local authorities have included fines for deliberate disturbance to wildlife or habitats. For example disturbing birds and their nest areas.

**Wildlife rules**

There were 322 responses to this part of the question.

# Agenda Item 7



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	277	85.76%
No	30	9.29%
Don't know	15	4.64%
Not Answered	1	0.31%

15: Are there any issues you would like to see covered by these rules? Do you have any other ideas about anti-social behaviour in our parks, green spaces, or coast?

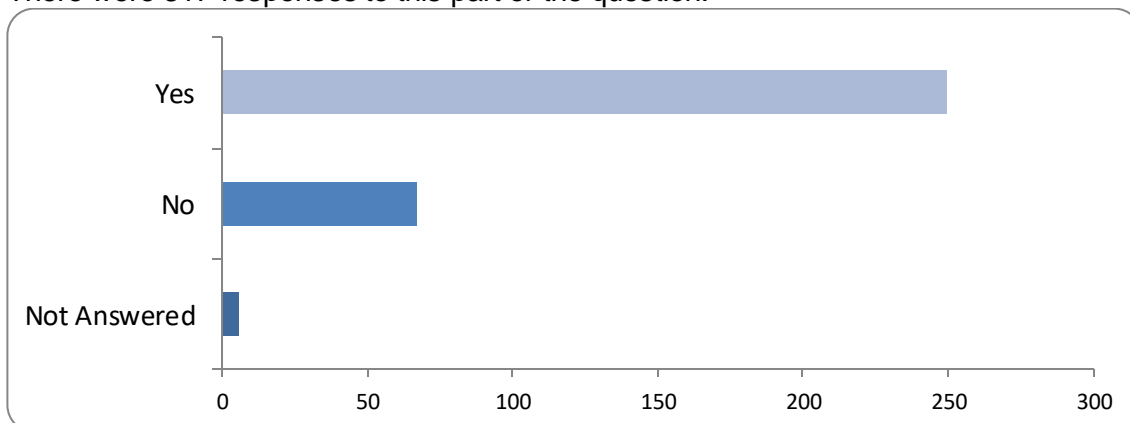
### Other ideas and comments

There were 148 responses to this part of the question.

16: Do you agree for us to use your personal data in this way?

### personal data agreement

There were 317 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	250	77.40%
No	67	20.74%
Not Answered	6	1.86%

## 17: Please tell us the first part of your postcode (i.e. PR9)

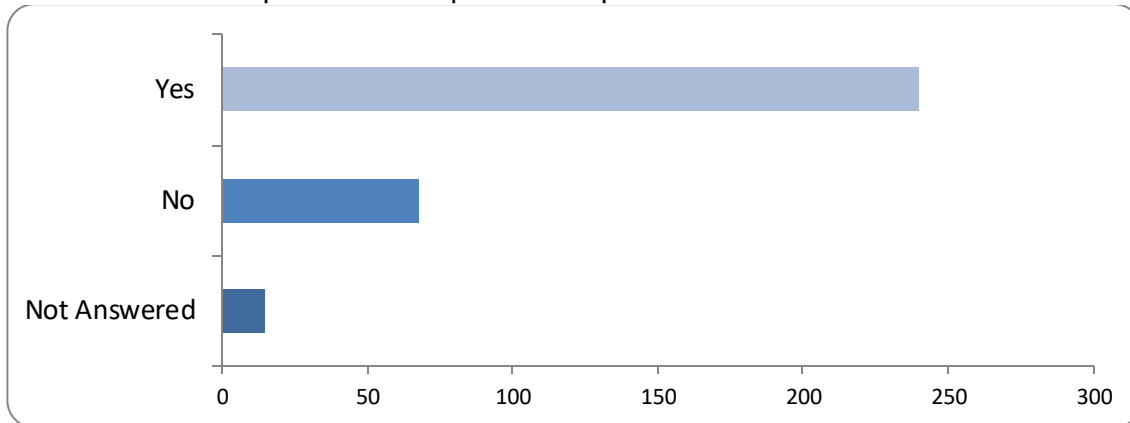
### Postcode

There were 217 responses to this part of the question.

## 18: Do you agree or disagree to provide your details, in accordance with the Privacy Notice?

### Consent

There were 308 responses to this part of the question.



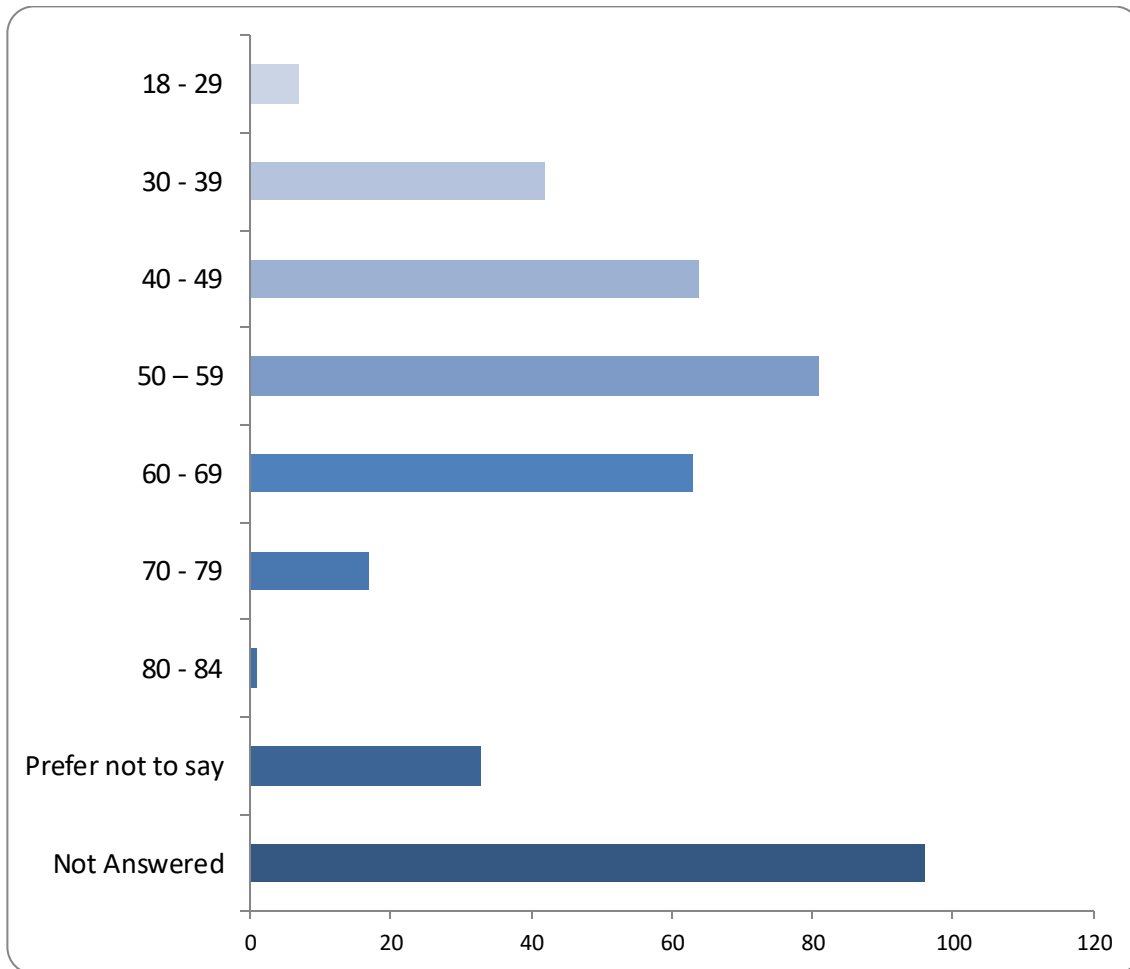
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	240	74.30%
No	68	21.05%
Not Answered	15	4.64%

## 19: How old are you?

### Age

There were 227 responses to this part of the question.

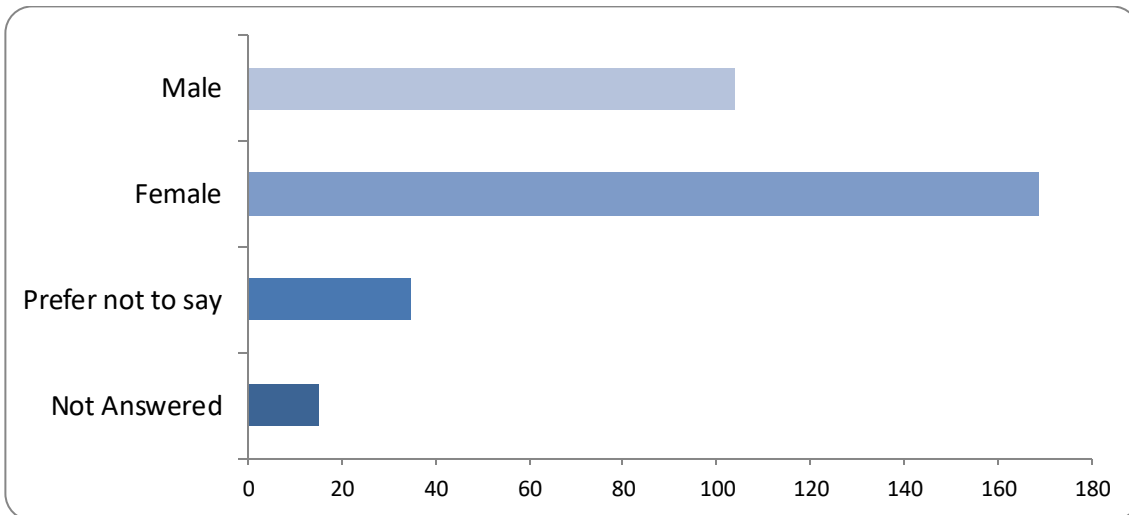
# Agenda Item 7



Option	Total	Percent
Under 18	0	0.00%
18 - 29	7	2.17%
30 - 39	42	13.00%
40 - 49	64	19.81%
50 - 59	81	25.08%
60 - 69	63	19.50%
70 - 79	17	5.26%
80 - 84	1	0.31%
85+	0	0.00%
Prefer not to say	33	10.22%
Not Answered	96	29.72%

## 20: Are you Sex

There were 308 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Male	104	32.20%
Female	169	52.32%
Prefer not to say	35	10.84%
Not Answered	15	4.64%

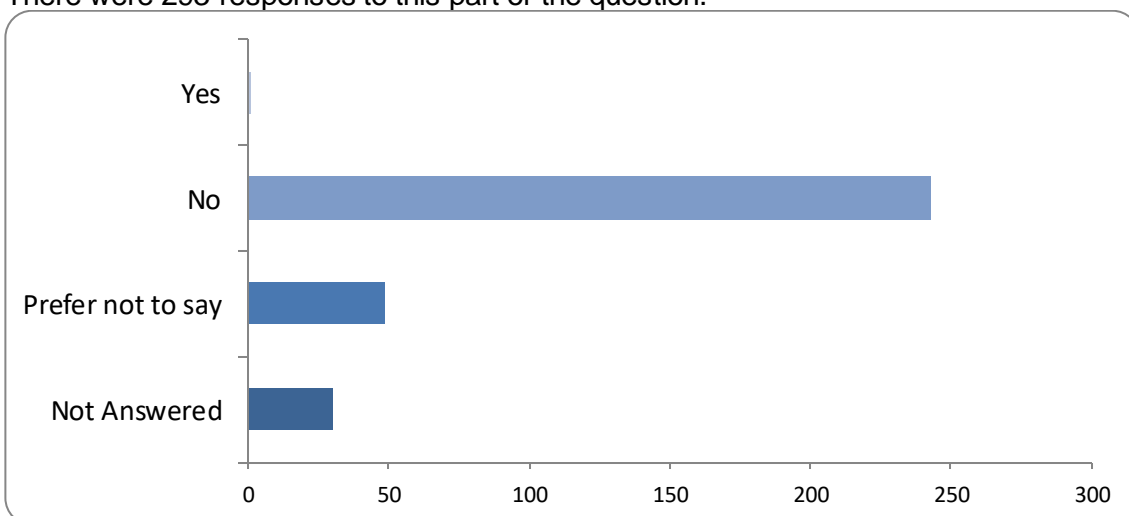
21: People who are planning to, started to or have changed their sex are protected by the Equalities Law Act.

Are you planning to, started to or have changed your

sex? This is called gender reassignment.

**Gender**

There were 293 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	1	0.31%
No	243	75.23%

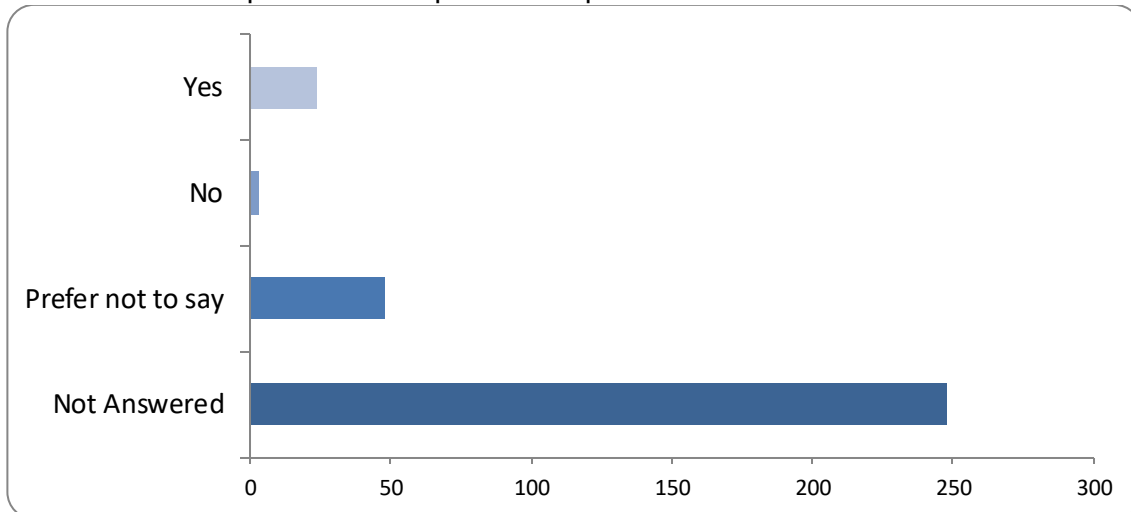
# Agenda Item 7

<b>Prefer not to say</b>	49	15.17%
<b>Not Answered</b>	30	9.29%

22: If you answered 'yes' to the above, do you currently live as the sex you were given when you were born?

## Gender identity

There were 75 responses to this part of the question.

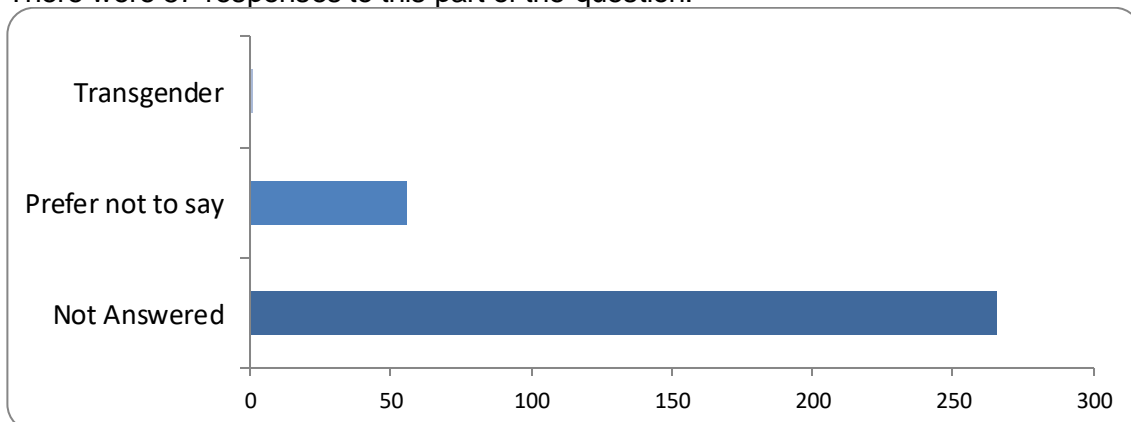


Option	Total	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	24	7.43%
<b>No</b>	3	0.93%
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	48	14.86%
<b>Not Answered</b>	248	76.78%

23: If you do not live as the sex you were given at birth, are you?

## Gender identity

There were 57 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
<b>Transgender</b>	1	0.31%
<b>Non-binary</b>	0	0.00%
<b>I identify differently</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	56	17.34%

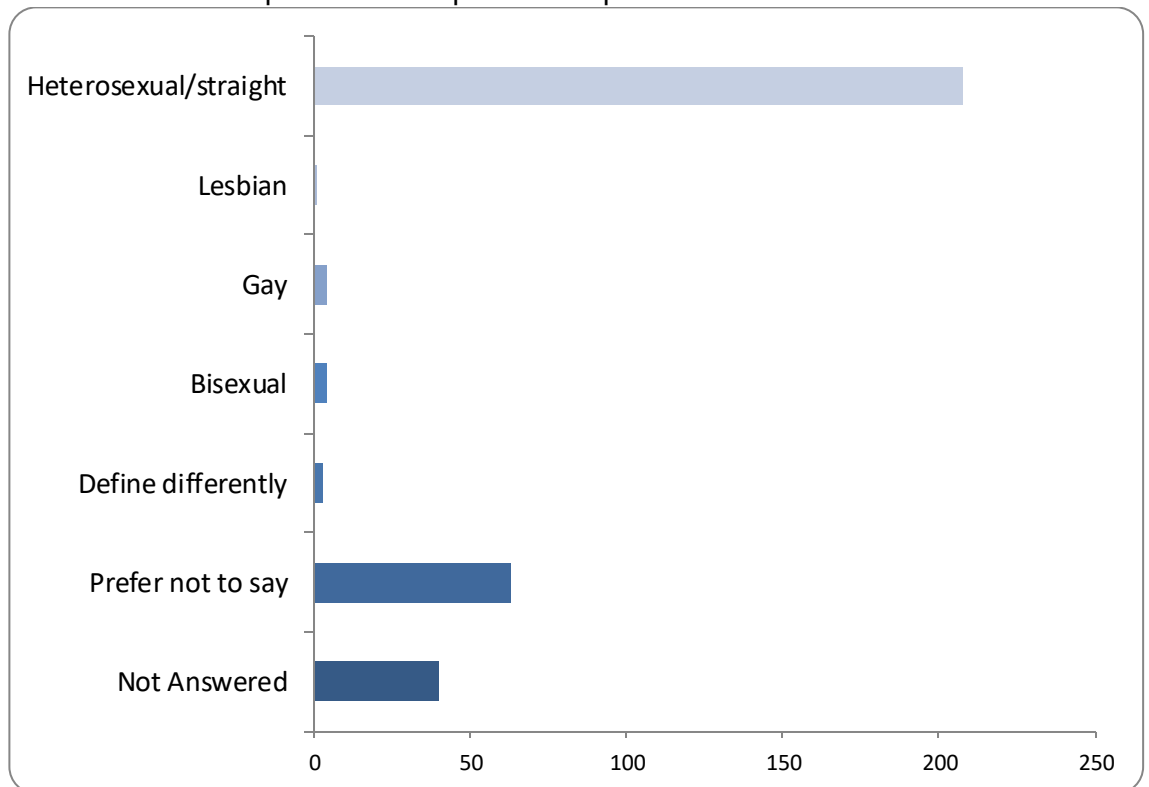


<b>Not Answered</b>	266	82.35%
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## 24: How would you describe your sexual orientation?

### Sexual orientation

There were 283 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
<b>Heterosexual/straight</b>	208	64.40%
<b>Lesbian</b>	1	0.31%
<b>Gay</b>	4	1.24%
<b>Bisexual</b>	4	1.24%
<b>Define differently</b>	3	0.93%
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	63	19.50%
<b>Not Answered</b>	40	12.38%

### Other sexual orientation

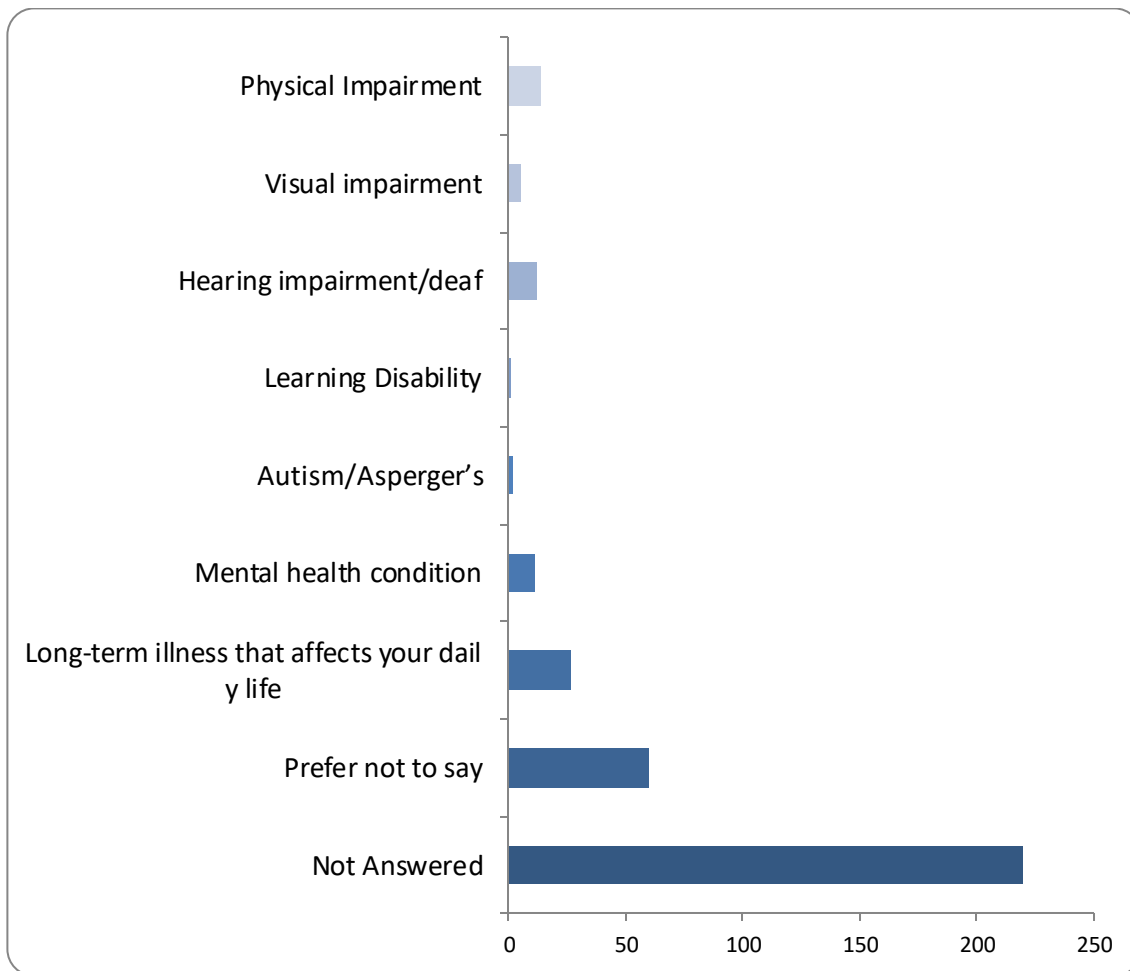
There was 1 response to this part of the question.

## 25: Disability: Do you have any of the following (please tick all that apply):

### Disability?

There were 103 responses to this part of the question.

# Agenda Item 7



Option	Total	Percent
Physical Impairment	14	4.33%
Visual impairment	5	1.55%
Hearing impairment/deaf	12	3.72%
Learning Difficulty	0	0.00%
Learning Disability	1	0.31%
Autism/Asperger's	2	0.62%
Mental health condition	11	3.41%
Dementia	0	0.00%
Long-term illness that affects your daily life	27	8.36%
Prefer not to say	60	18.58%
Not Answered	220	68.11%

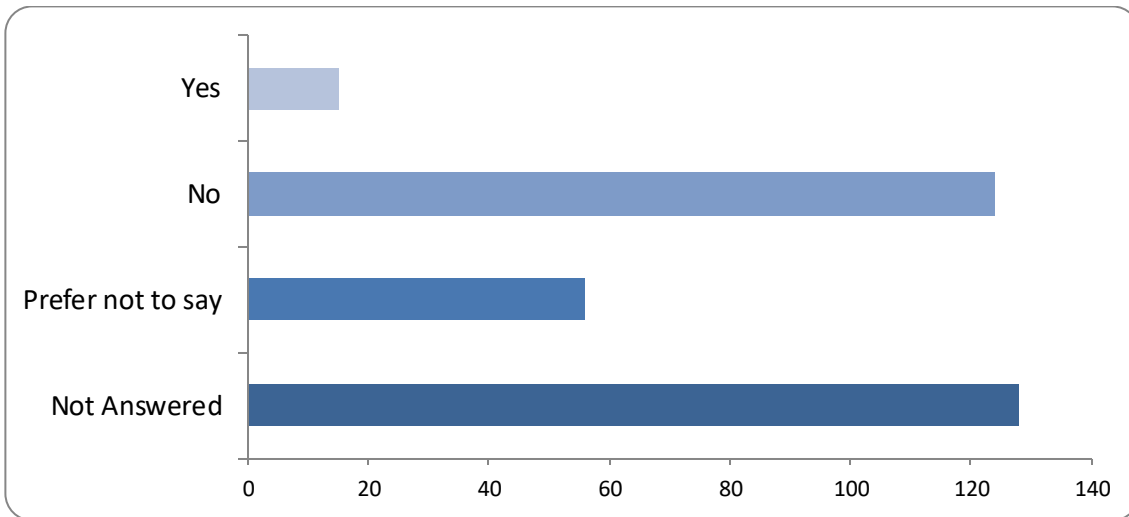
26: If you have Cancer, diabetes or HIV this is seen as a disability under the Equalities Law.

Or if you have selected any of the boxes in the question above.

Do you think of yourself as disabled?

Consider disabled?

There were 195 responses to this part of the question.

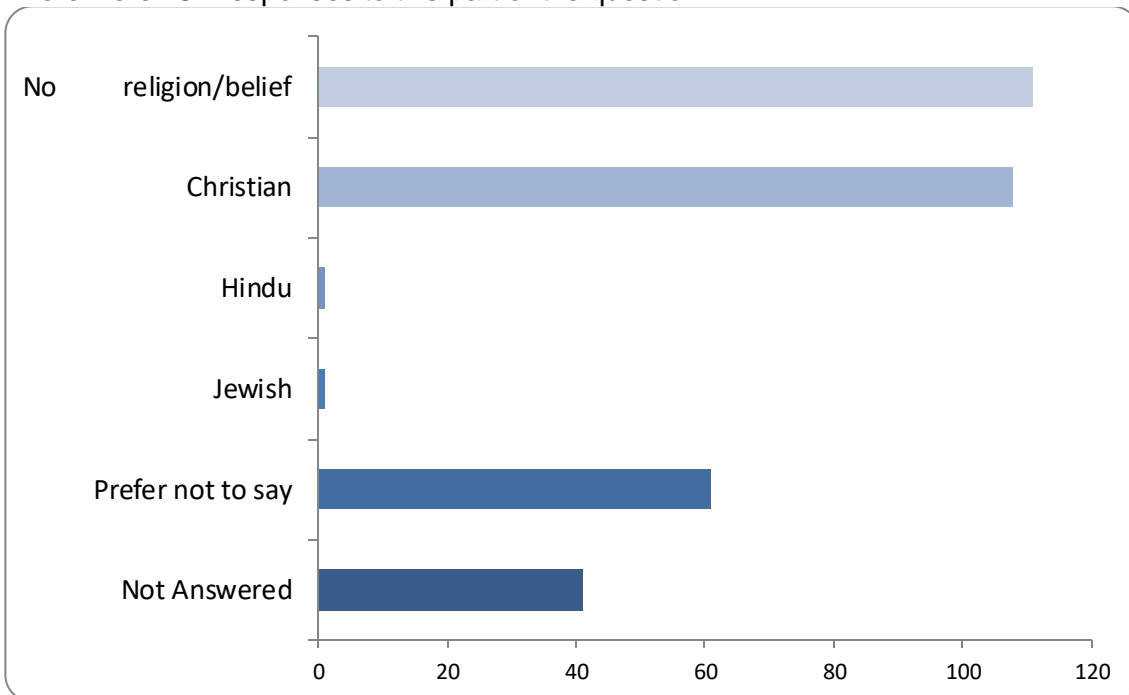


Option	Total	Percent
Yes	15	4.64%
No	124	38.39%
Prefer not to say	56	17.34%
Not Answered	128	39.63%

## 27: What is your religion/belief?

### Religion or belief

There were 282 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
No religion/belief	111	34.37%
Christian	108	33.44%
Hindu	1	0.31%
Muslim	0	0.00%
Jewish	1	0.31%
Sikh	0	0.00%

# Agenda Item 7

<b>Prefer not to say</b>	61	18.89%
<b>Not Answered</b>	41	12.69%

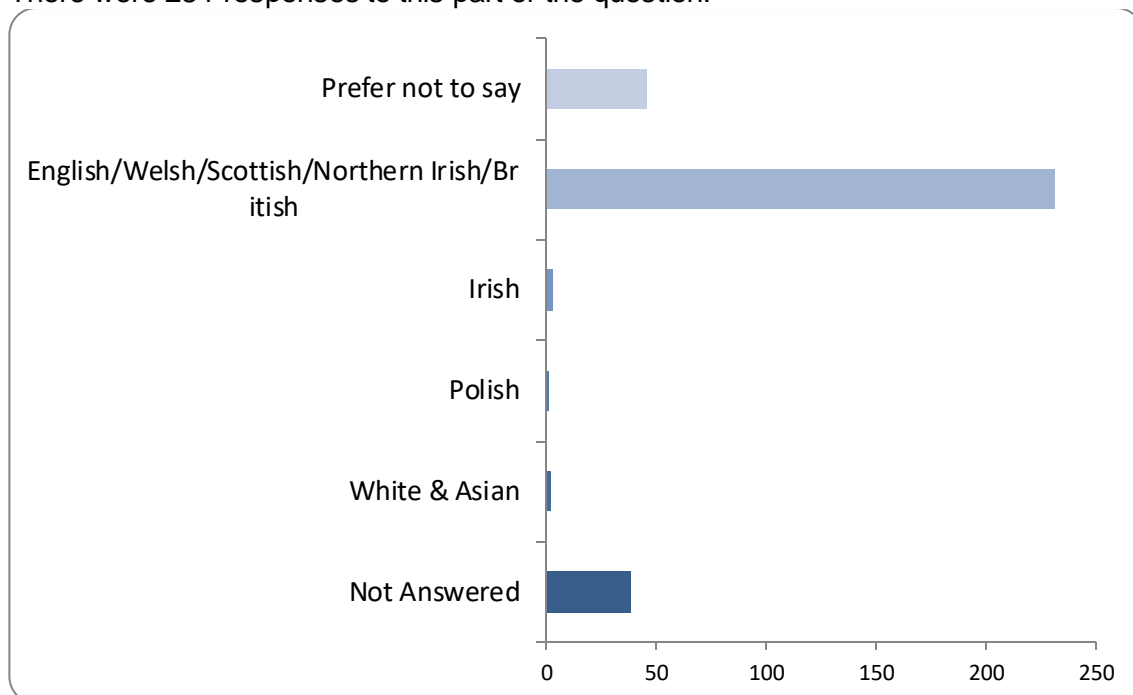
## Other religion or belief?

There were 6 responses to this part of the question.

28: Race/Ethnicity (please note that Sikh and Jewish are collected in the Religion/Belief Section above) – do you identify as:

## Ethnicity

There were 284 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	46	14.24%
<b>English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British</b>	232	71.83%
<b>Irish</b>	3	0.93%
<b>Gypsy or Irish Traveller</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Roma</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Polish</b>	1	0.31%
<b>Portuguese</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Latvian</b>	0	0.00%
<b>White and Black Caribbean</b>	0	0.00%
<b>White &amp; Black African</b>	0	0.00%
<b>White &amp; Asian</b>	2	0.62%
<b>Indian</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Pakistani</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Bangladeshi</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Chinese</b>	0	0.00%
<b>African</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Caribbean</b>	0	0.00%
<b>Arab</b>	0	0.00%

<b>Not Answered</b>	39	12.07%
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**Other ethnic background (please describe)**

There were 2 responses to this part of the question.

# Agenda Item 7

Appendix B – proposed draft PSPO

attached