

# Decision Referral

**To:**

The Head of Finance and Resources

**Decision making body**

Communities, Housing and Environment Committee

**Decision made**

That, in principle, the Committee agrees to proceed with public consultation on the implementation of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). See Appendix 1 for proposed PSPO location map and boundaries, which incorporates the town centre (High Street ward), Whatman Park, (Bridge) and Riverside (Fant, South and Tovil) areas.

**Reason for referring the decision**

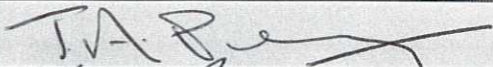
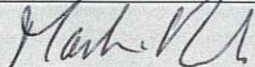
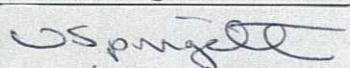
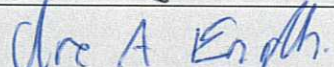
The decision supports a Borough-wide consultation to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). However, the decision made by the Communities, Housing and Environment Committee only covers the town centre and certain urban wards.

We welcome the proposals that have been put forward with respect to the town centre to address anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder there. However the report and decision of the Committee were silent with respect to these issues in other parts of the borough. This is unfortunate and we feel that the Committee should have received a borough-wide analysis of anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder including the rural area of the borough and brought forward strategies for addressing these issues for example in Headcorn and Staplehurst.

**Desired outcome (please give full details)**

That the Communities, Housing and Environment Committee receive a report setting out a strategic assessment of anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder for the rural areas of the borough and recommended action for reduction of these issues.

**Members calling in decision****Signed:**

<b>John Perry</b>	
<b>Martin Round</b>	
<b>Valerie Springett</b>	
<b>Clive English</b>	

(3 signatories are required to refer a decision of a Service Committee to the Policy and Resources Committee. A decision of the Policy and Resources Committee for referral to Council requires 5 signatories in accordance with the Constitution's rules of procedure).

Please note that should new and relevant information come to light, or a more acceptable course of action be proposed which may resolve the matter to the satisfaction of the Committee, then a Committee Chairman, at the request of any three Councillors in writing, may choose whether to call another meeting of the original Committee to re-consider the decision within five working days of receipt of a referral. The referral to Policy and Resources or the Council would then fall away and the matter would be treated as having been dealt with by the original Service Committee. No further referral of the matter would be permitted.

**Committee (or Council) responsible for examining this decision**

Policy and Resources Committee