

Rhyl Town Centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) 2024

Summary of consultation feedback

The consultation ran from 13 November 2023 to 21 January 2024.

In total, 100 Respondents accessed the online survey, although not all respondents answered all questions. The responses were received from the following:

Respondent type	Number of respondents	Percentage of overall respondents
I live in (or near) the proposed PSPO area	37	38.14%
I work in (or near) the proposed PSPO area	18	18.56%
I live or work elsewhere in Rhyl	23	23.71%
I am an elected Member (such as a Town Councillor, County Councillor, Aelod o'r Senedd, or Member of Parliament) serving Rhyl, or the wider local community	5	5.15%
I work or volunteer for an organisation that helps people who may require support to control their anti-social behaviour	0	0%
I am a member of staff at Denbighshire County Council	3	3.09%
I work for North Wales Police	2	2.06%
Other	9	9.28%

Rhyl Town Centre PSPO 2024

Consultation feedback

Question 1:

Do you agree that Denbighshire County Council and North Wales Police should seek to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Rhyl Town Centre for a maximum of three years, until 2027?

The effect of the PSPO will be to discourage people from committing anti-social behaviour and/or to drink in the street within the specified area

Response	Number of respondents	Percentage of overall respondents
Yes	88	91.67%
No	5	5.21%
I'm not sure / I don't have an opinion	3	3.13%
TOTAL RESPONSES	96	N/A

Rhyl Town Centre PSPO 2024

Consultation feedback

Question 2

Do you agree that if introduced, the proposed PSPO for Rhyl Town Centre should include powers to deal with anti-social behaviour and street drinking?

The powers granted under the Order would include:

- Powers to disperse people (i.e. make them move away) from the restricted area if they are committing anti-social behaviour or drinking in the street
- Powers to stop people who have been asked to disperse from returning to the restricted area for a period of up to 48 hours
- To ban people from drinking in the street
- Powers to require people to surrender alcohol in their possession if it is being consumed in the street, or it is likely to be consumed in the street

Anti-social behaviour (96 Responses)

Should the proposed PSPO for Rhyl Town Centre include powers to deal with anti-social behaviour?	Number of respondents	Percentage of overall respondents
Yes	89	92.71%
No	3	3.13%
I'm not sure / I don't have an opinion	4	4.17%
TOTAL	96	N/A

Rhyl Town Centre PSPO 2024

Consultation feedback

Should the proposed PSPO for Rhyl Town Centre include powers to deal with street drinking?	Number of respondents	Percentage of overall respondents
Yes	84	90.32%
No	5	5.38%
I'm not sure / I don't have an opinion	4	4.30%
TOTALS	93	N/A

Question 3

If the PSPO for Rhyl town centre were to go ahead, do you agree with the proposed boundaries for the restricted area?

Response	Number of respondents	Percentage of overall respondents
Yes	69	75.82%
No	19	20.88%
Unsure / No opinion	3	3.30%
TOTALS	91	N/A

Rhyl Town Centre PSPO 2024

Consultation feedback

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Consultation feedback

Comments received

Of the 100 Respondents who accessed the survey, we received a total of 66 comments. A small number of concerns were raised in broadly three categories, and these are listed below:

1. Individual comments relating to an extension of the PSPO area

18 Individual responses, 18% of overall respondents to the survey

Our response:

A PSPO cannot be implemented without substantial evidence of need. North Wales Police (NWP) provided evidence to the local authority, who undertook a strict legal test to justify the conditions of the PSPO, and the area that will be subject to it. NWP have advised that based on evidence covering the past two years, they cannot legally justify an extension to the Marina Quay area of Rhyl.

2. Individual comments relating to concerns around drug use not being included in the PSPO

9 Individual responses, 9% of overall respondents to the survey

Our response:

The Police already have powers to deal with people taking, carrying, or selling drugs. As a result, this does not need to be included as a condition of this PSPO

Rhyl Town Centre PSPO 2024

Consultation feedback

3. Individual comments relating to concerns around begging

3 Individual responses, 3% of overall respondents to the survey.

Our response:

A PSPO cannot be implemented without substantial evidence of need. North Wales Police (NWP) provided evidence to the local authority, who undertook a strict legal test to justify the conditions of the PSPO, and the area that will be subject to it.

NWP have advised that based on evidence covering the past two years, they cannot legally justify the inclusion of begging.

Decision outcome:

Following approval of the Delegated Decision Report by the Lead Member for Housing & Communities, we can confirm that the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Rhyl Town Centre will be enacted as proposed, with effect from 4th April 2024.

Signage will be placed around the PSPO boundary at least 28 days before the PSPO comes into effect.

For more information and to view the PSPO as enacted in full, please visit the Council's main website:

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/community-and-living/community-safety-and-support/public-spaces-protection-orders.aspx>