

RESULTS

This original proposals and result of the responses are listed below:

Proposal 1

Surrender any intoxicating substance (i.e. alcohol or other legal highs) in their possession to an authorised person on request, if:

- a) They are found to be ingesting, inhaling, injecting, smoking or otherwise using intoxicating substances; or
- b) They are in possession of such intoxicating substances with the intent of using intoxicating substances within this area; or
- c) The authorised person has reasonable grounds to believe that such person is using or intends to use the intoxicating substance within the said area.

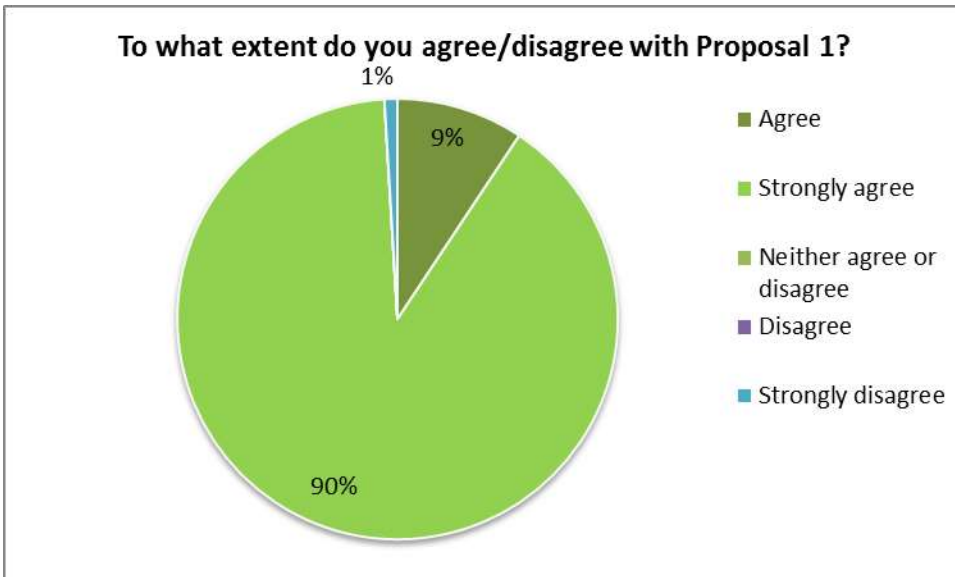
Intoxicating Substances is given the following definition (which includes Alcohol and what are commonly referred to as 'legal highs'): Substances with the capacity to stimulate or depress the central nervous system.

Exemptions shall apply in cases where the substances are used for a valid and demonstrable medicinal use, given to an animal as a medicinal remedy, are cigarettes or vaporisers (tobacco products), or are food stuffs regulated by food safety legislation, or where the use of the intoxicating substances fall within the curtilage of a premises licensed for the sale and consumption of alcohol and within the operating hours of such.

An authorised person is a Police Constable, Police Community Support Officer or Wigan Council Officer, who must be able to present their authority if it is requested.

1. To what extent do you agree/disagree with Proposal 1?

471 (89.7%)	Strongly agree
49 (9.3%)	Agree
0 (0.0%)	Neither agree or disagree
0 (0.0%)	Disagree
5 (1.0%)	Strongly disagree



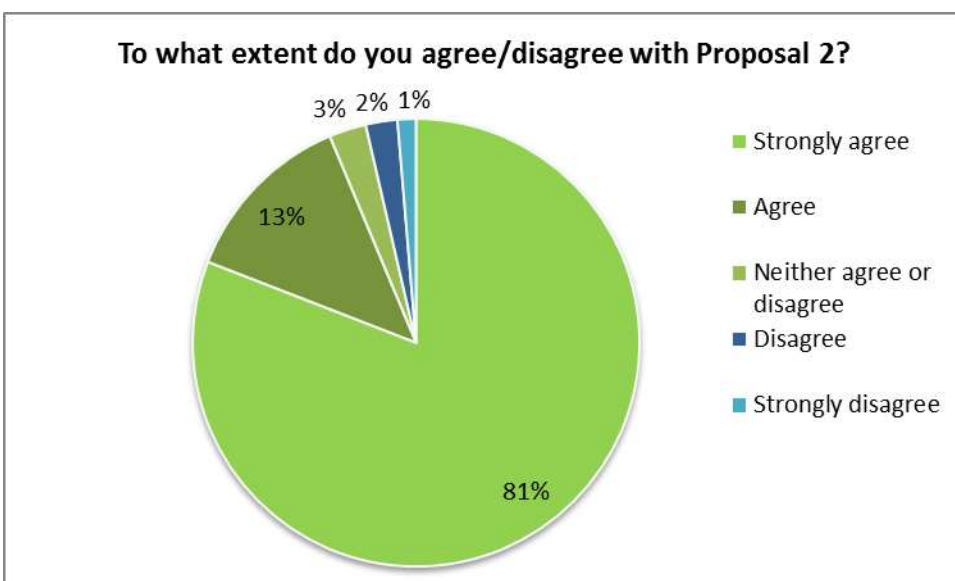
Proposal 2

Not make any unauthorised request(s) for money i.e. begging (either by asking or implying i.e. having a sign) in a public place from a person or people they do not know.

For this purpose 'unauthorised' means without the express written consent of any owner (or person having control over or an interest in the land in question).

2. To what extent do you agree/disagree with Proposal 2?

423 (80.9%)	Strongly agree
67 (12.8%)	Agree
14 (2.7%)	Neither agree or disagree
12 (2.3%)	Disagree
7 (1.3%)	Strongly disagree

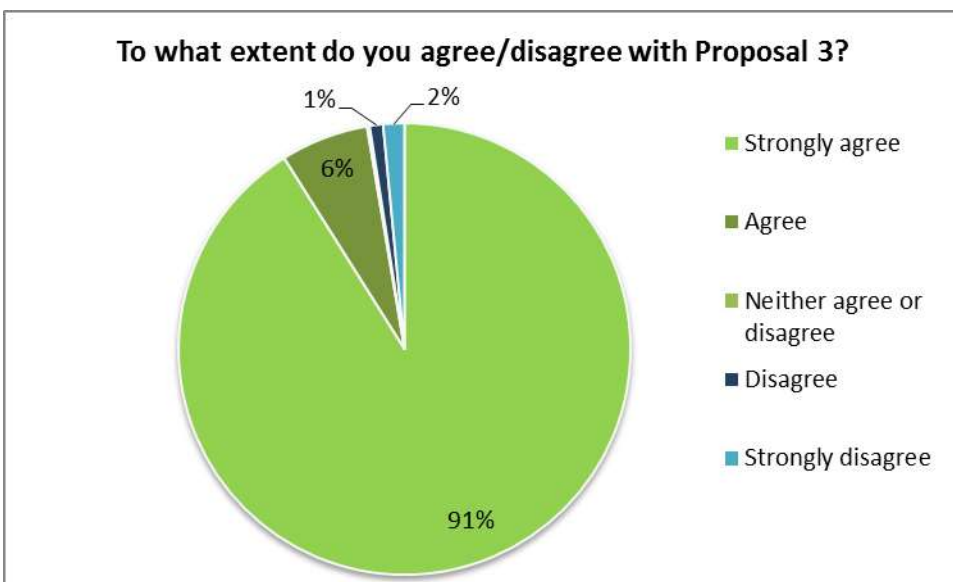


Proposal 3

Not behave either individually or in a group of two or more people in a manner that has resulted or is likely to result in any member of the public being intimidated, harassed, alarmed or distressed by that behaviour.

3. To what extent do you agree/disagree with Proposal 3?

477 (91.0%)	Strongly agree
33 (6.3%)	Agree
1 (0.2%)	Neither agree or disagree
5 (1.0%)	Disagree
8 (1.5%)	Strongly disagree



Proposal 4

If a person is deemed to be breaking Proposal 3, an authorised officer may -

Order any individual or all members of a group to disperse (i.e. split up but remain in the designated area)

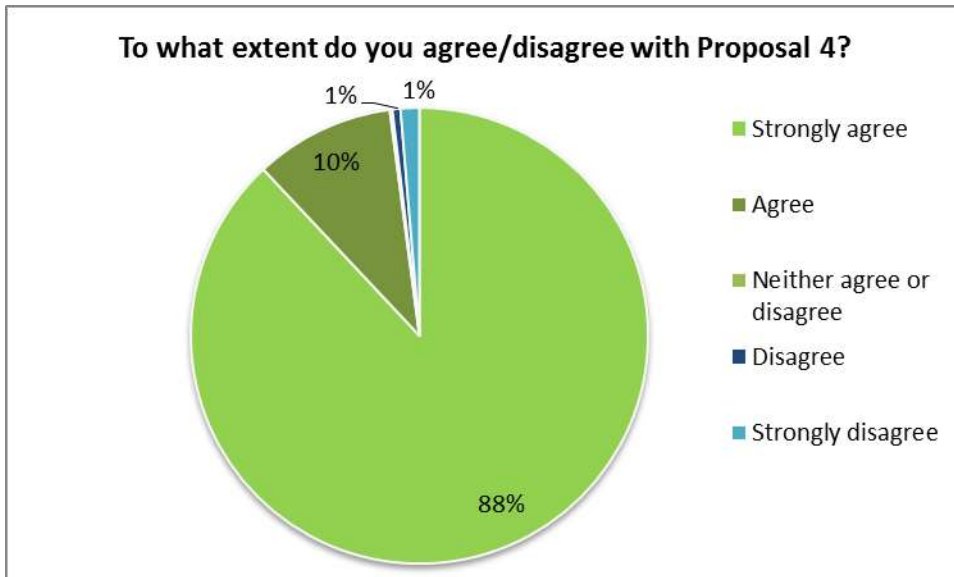
Order them to disperse and LEAVE the designated area, if they live outside of it.

Order them to disperse and LEAVE the designated area, if they live outside of it, and not return until a specified time (maximum of 24 hours).

(For those that live within the designated area, option 1 can be lawfully used.)

4. To what extent do you agree/disagree with Proposal 4?

462 (88.0%)	Strongly agree
52 (9.9%)	Agree
1 (0.2%)	Neither agree or disagree
3 (0.6%)	Disagree
7 (1.3%)	Strongly disagree



As can be seen from the above results, the overwhelming majority of respondents are in favour of the proposals put forward in the consultation. In addition a number of additional comments were made by people responding to the consultation. Below is a selection of the comments

“Leigh is becoming an absolute disgrace I choose not to go into the centre to do shopping on days off anymore as I feel intimidated by groups of people either begging, people coming out of chemists quite clearly off their faces. The town has a serious problem with drug addicts, old ladies being mugged in charity shops I really hope that this does go ahead and hopefully make Leigh a better place to live.”

“I have noticed lately that there are a lot more people seemingly under the influence of drink/ drugs in town centre. I have witnessed quite a few occasions where some people are arguing / fighting and acting in a way that makes me feel unsafe. I think this would be a good thing for Leigh and more people would be inclined to shop there if the problem was addressed. I personally prefer going elsewhere as I don’t find it a pleasant environment to shop”

“It is very intimidating in Leigh town centre with beggars, drunks and people on whatever; I don’t feel comfortable going into Leigh on my own.”

“Needs the area in question to include the cenotaph and post office area as this attracts anti-social groups”

“When I go in to town with my daughter I always feel intimidated by the volume of drug/drink users we always feel very scared when in town so we try and not go as much anymore unless necessary.”

“Homeless people begging/using a dog to induce sympathy. Is a methadone clinic on the main shopping street essential? Too much litter and overflowing bins. Thank you for taking the time to consider this issue.”

“I think it’s a brilliant idea and needs to go ahead. I walk down Railway road quite a lot into Leigh town centre and it can be intimidating men drinking on the road shouting and swearing. Something does need to be done.”