

WIGAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2026 – WIGAN & LEIGH TOWN
CENTRES
ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CRIME & POLICING ACT 2014

This Order may be cited as:-

Wigan & Leigh Town Centres Public Spaces Protection Order 2026

Wigan Borough Council ('the Council') in exercise of its powers under sections 59 to 75 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime & Policing Act 2014 ('the Act') and under all other enabling powers, hereby makes the following Order

1. The Order shall come into operation at 12 noon on 16th October 2026 and shall have effect for **three years** thereafter, unless extended by further orders under the Council's statutory powers
2. The Order relates to the parts of the Borough of Wigan as shown edged red on the attached plans (the Restricted Area)
3. The Council is satisfied on reasonable grounds that activities carried on in a public place within the Restricted Area have had, and are likely to continue to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. Namely that the activities have been carried on within the Restricted Area and have had, and are likely to continue to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality.
4. The Council is also satisfied that the conditions set out in 59(3) of the Act have been met. Namely that the effect or likely effect of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature and that these activities are unreasonable and justify the restrictions imposed by the Order. The restrictions imposed by this Order are reasonable and proportionate and are imposed to prevent the detrimental effect from continuing, occurring or recurring, or to reduce that detrimental effect, or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence. In all circumstances it is expedient to make this Order for the purpose of reducing crime and/or anti-social behaviour in a public place.
5. The Council has had due regard to its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and has considered the rights and freedoms contained within the Human Rights Act 1998 and is satisfied that the restrictions imposed are reasonable and proportionate.

Prohibitions

The behaviours below are hereby prohibited: -

1. Harassment, Alarm, Distress and Intimidation

No person shall engage in behaviour, either alone or as part of a group, within the Restricted Area which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm, distress, nuisance or intimidation to any other person.

2. Alcohol and Intoxicating Substances

No person shall consume alcohol or continue to consume alcohol after being required by an Authorised Person not to do so, or use an intoxicating substance within the Restricted Area where their behaviour causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm, distress, nuisance or intimidation to any other person.

3. Asking for Money, Goods or Assistance

No person shall ask another person for money, goods, services or other assistance within the Restricted Area in a manner that:

- a) is persistent or repeated following refusal;
- b) obstructs access to any premises, highway or public place;
- c) causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm, distress, nuisance, annoyance or intimidation.

4. Obstruction of Public Space

No person shall, without reasonable excuse, obstruct, impede or interfere with another person's use of the road, footpath, entrance, exit, passageway or other public place within the Restricted Area.

5. Public Urination and Defecation

No person shall, without reasonable excuse, urinate or defecate in any public place within the Restricted Area other than in facilities provided for that purpose.

6. Drug-Related Litter and Paraphernalia

No person shall discard, deposit, abandon or leave any drug-related paraphernalia or associated waste, including needles, syringes, foil, pipes or similar items, within the Restricted Area without lawful authority or reasonable excuse.

7. Anti-Social Use of Cycles, E-Bikes and E-Scooters

No person shall use a pedal cycle, electrically assisted pedal cycle, e-bike, e-scooter or similar device within the Restricted Area in a manner which causes, or is likely to cause:

- a) danger to any person;

- b) harassment, alarm or distress;
- c) intimidation; or
- d) nuisance;

This includes, but is not limited to:

- a) riding at excessive speed in pedestrian areas;
- b) riding recklessly or without due care and consideration;
- c) failing to give way to pedestrians;
- d) performing wheelies, stunts or similar manoeuvres;
- e) riding in a manner which intimidates or threatens other users of the area.

8. Feeding Birds

No person shall place, deposit, distribute or leave food for the purpose of feeding birds within the Restricted Area.

Exemptions

Nothing in this Order shall prohibit or restrict:

- a) any person acting with lawful authority;
- b) any police officer, police community support officer, emergency service worker or local authority officer acting in the course of their duties;
- c) any statutory undertaker exercising statutory powers or duties;
- d) any activity carried out pursuant to a licence, consent, permit or other lawful authority.

Offences

An Authorised Person may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice under section 68 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to any person whom they have reason to believe has committed an offence under this Order.

Any person who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a prohibition imposed by this Order commits an offence under section 67 of the Act and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale, except for alcohol-related offences where the maximum penalty is level 2 on the standard scale.

Definitions

'Authorised Person'

- A Constable;
- Police Community Support Officer;
- Council Officer authorised in writing by the Council; or
- Any other person authorised in writing by the Council for the purposes of this Order.

'Public Place'

A place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

'Restricted Area'

The areas shown within Schedules 1 and 2 (Wigan & Leigh Town Centres).

'Intoxicating Substance'

Any substance, other than a medicinal product used in accordance with medical directions, capable of producing a psychoactive or intoxicating effect.

'Reasonable excuse'

A reasonable excuse is a lawful, genuine and objectively justifiable reason for engaging in conduct that would otherwise constitute a breach of this Order, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, including, but not limited to, any medical condition, disability, vulnerability, emergency, statutory duty, lawful authority, or other exceptional circumstance.

Dated the

day of

2026

EXECUTED as a DEED by affixing

THE COMMON SEAL of WIGAN BOROUGH
COUNCIL in the presence of:

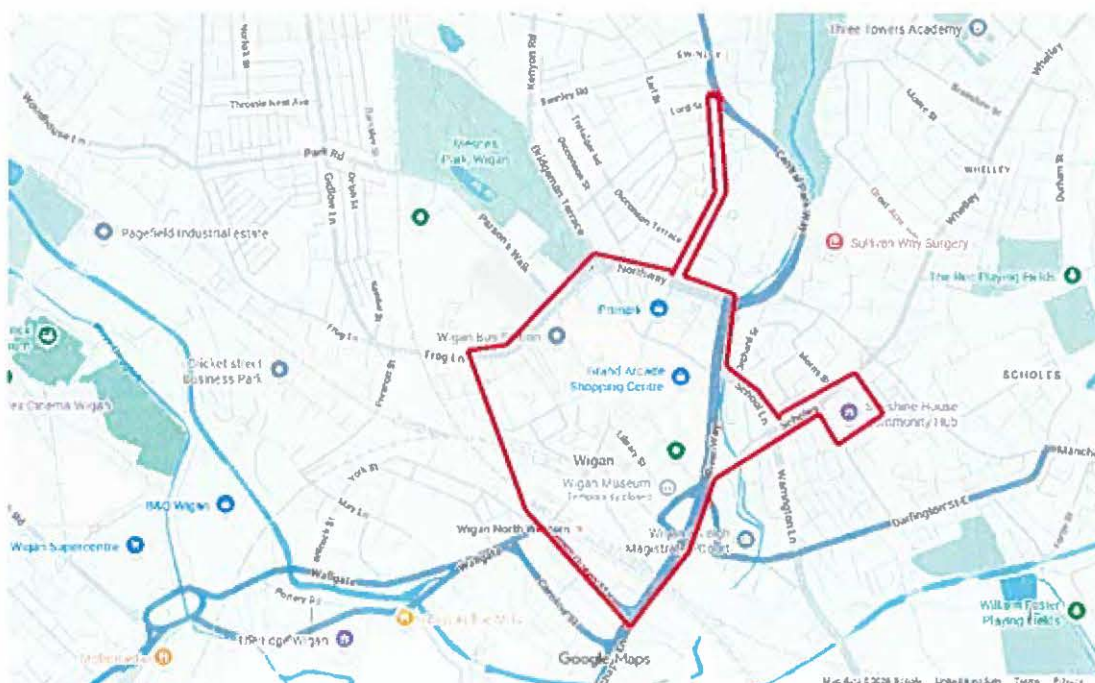


Chief Legal Officer



SCHEDULE 1 – Map of Restricted area (Wigan Town Centre)

Overview



Chief Legal Officer



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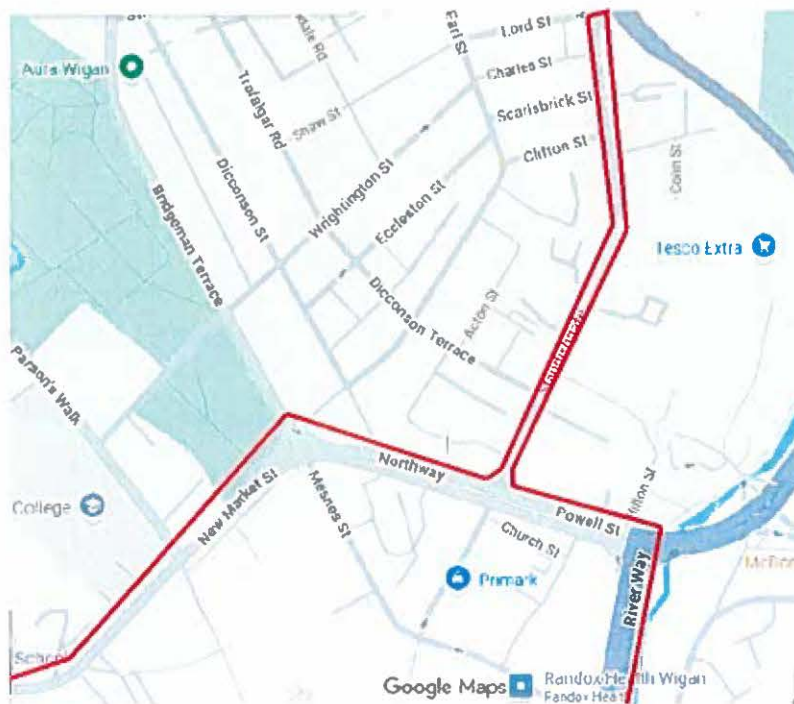
Map of Restricted area (Wigan Town Centre)

Detailed view 1 (pages 7 – 9)



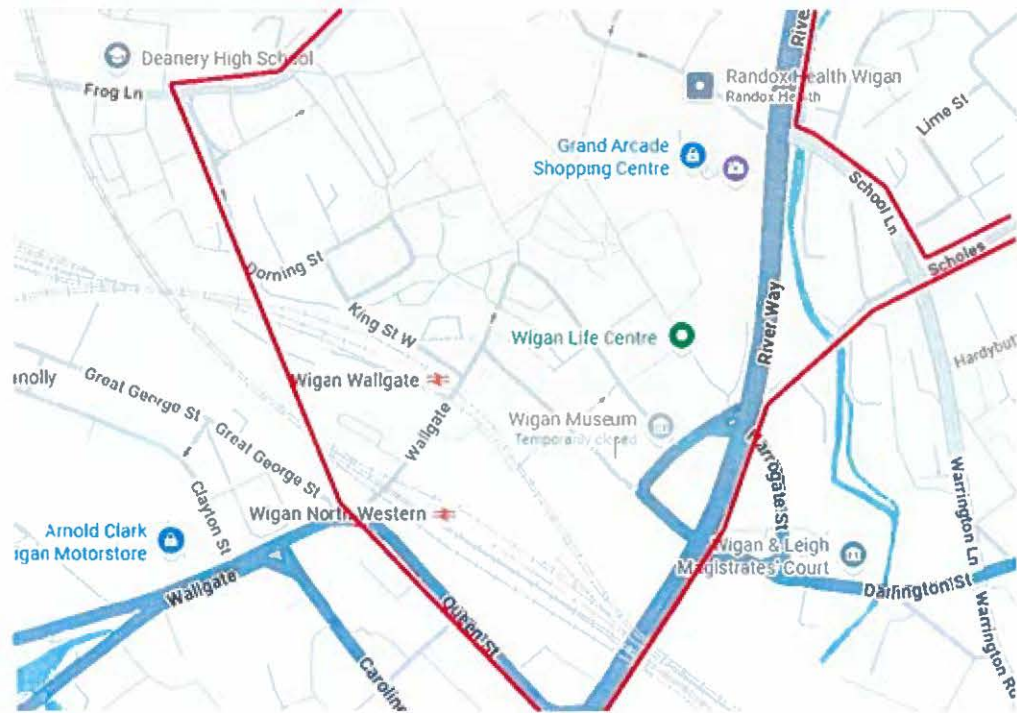
Map of Restricted area (Wigan Town Centre)

Detailed view 2 (pages 7 – 9)



Map of Restricted area (Wigan Town Centre)

Detailed view 3 (pages 7 – 9)



SCHEDULE 2 – Map of Restricted Area (Leigh Town Centre)

(Overview)



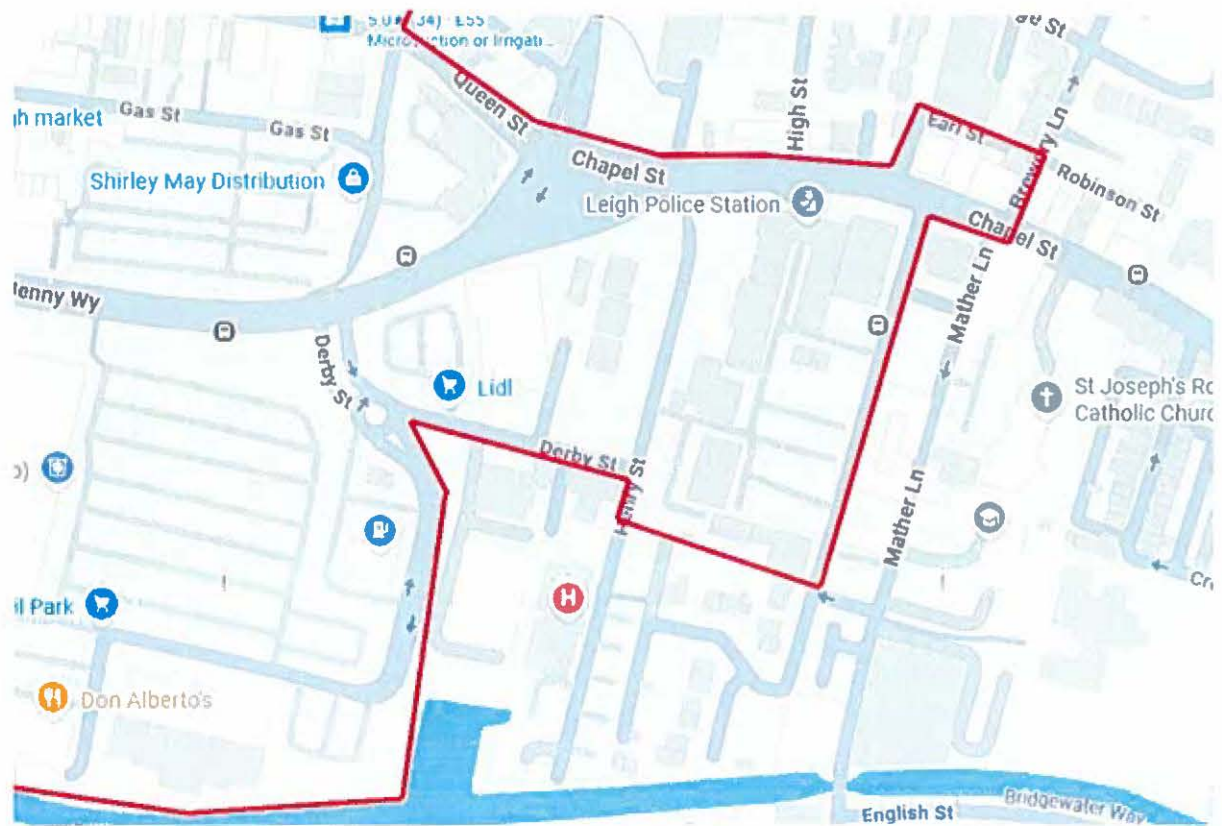
Chief Legal Officer



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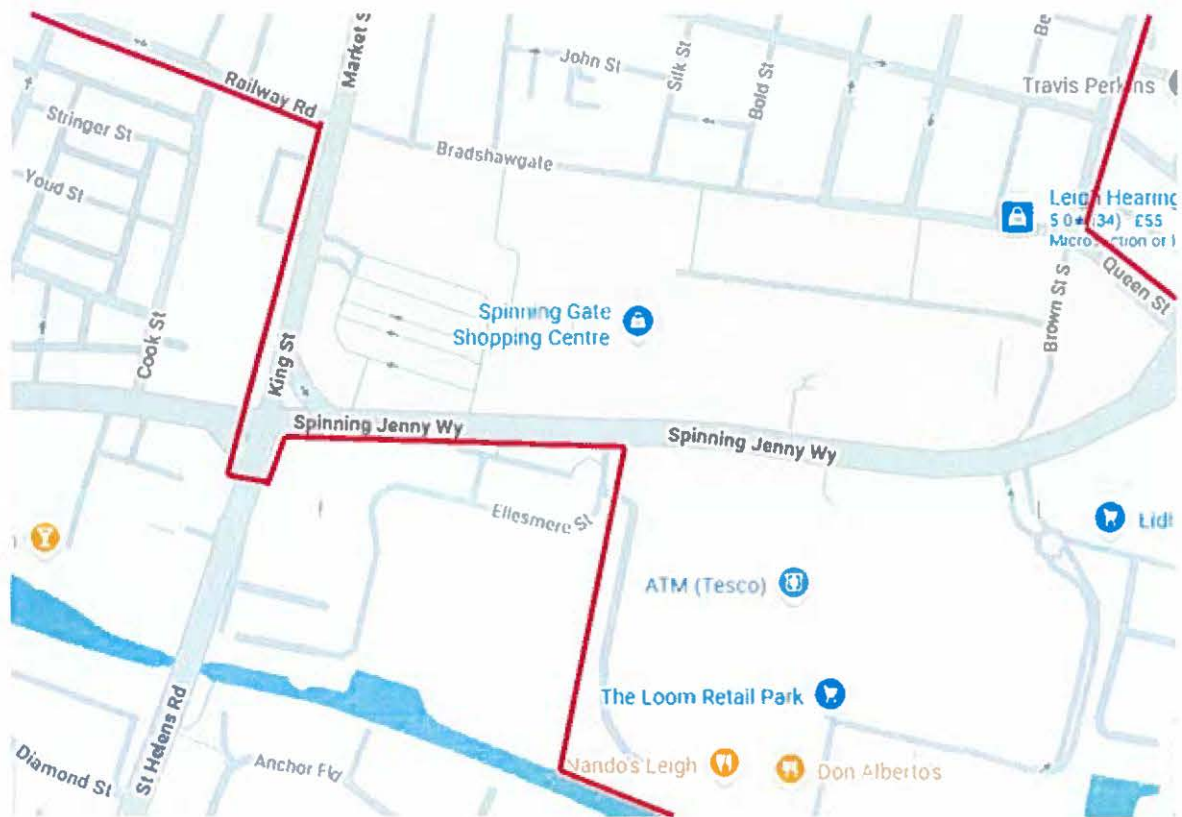
Map of Restricted area (Leigh Town Centre)

Detailed view 1 (pages 11 – 15)



Map of Restricted area (Leigh Town Centre)

Detailed view 2 (pages 11 – 15)

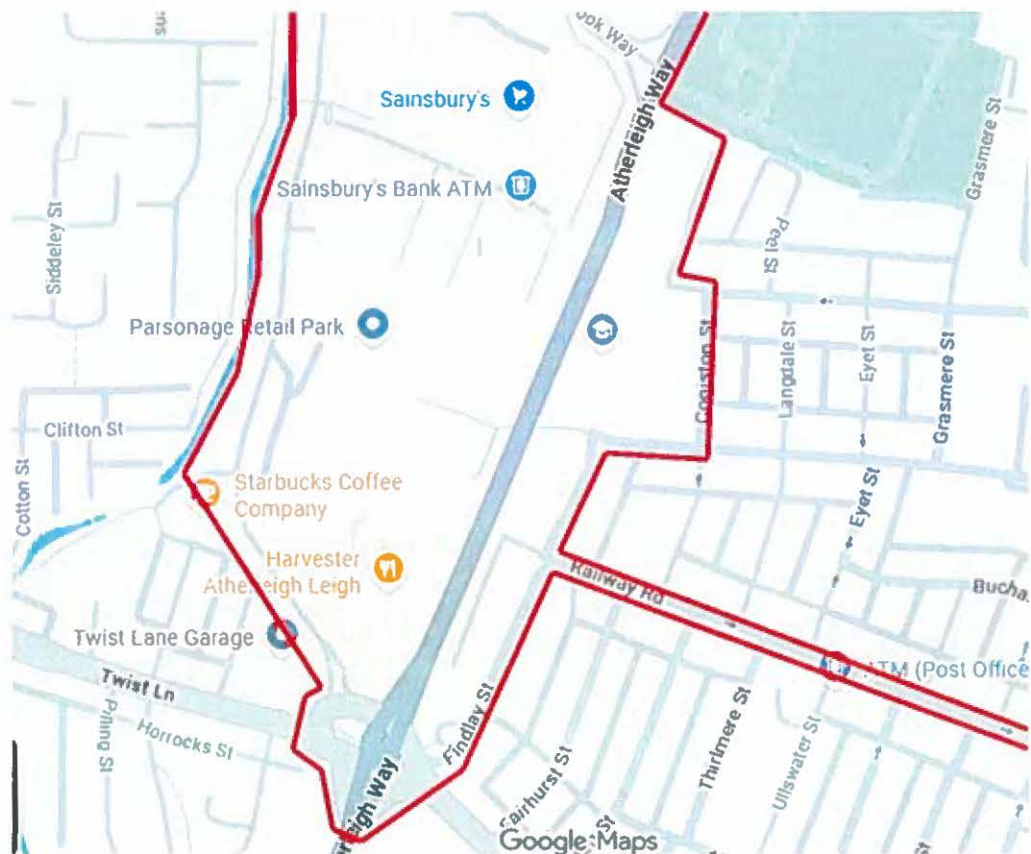


Detailed view 3 (pages 11 – 15)



Map of Restricted area (Leigh Town Centre)

Detailed view 4 (pages 11 – 15)



Map of Restricted area (Leigh Town Centre)

Detailed view 5 (pages 11 – 15)

