

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Epping Forest and Commons Committee	8 th May 2017
Subject: Update concerning the extension of DCOs as PSPOs at Burnham Beeches.	Public
Report of: The Superintendent of The Commons	For Information
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <p>At the January 2017 meeting of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Members authorised the Superintendent of The Commons to:</p> <p><i>Consult on extending the effect of the existing DCOs at Burnham Beeches beyond 30 November 2017 as PSPOs.</i></p> <p>This report provides members with a brief update on progress to date and some of the issues arising.</p> <p>Recommendation(s)</p> <p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note this report 	

Main Report

Background

1. At the January 2017 meeting of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Members authorised the Superintendent of The Commons as follows: *To consult on extending the effect of the existing DCOs at Burnham Beeches beyond 30 November 2017 as PSPOs.*

Current Position

2. The Superintendent has taken the following actions in support of the above since that approval was granted:
 - a. Held a meeting with the Burnham Beeches Consultation Group who approved the broad timetable in support of your Committee's decision. A local dog walker spoke against the current DCO schedules and made proposals of her own.
 - b. Met with the above dog walker and a small group of supporters to learn more of their views and to outline the City's position. The Superintendent also offered to:
 - i. Work with dog walkers to carry out research to test their ideas and compare them to the current form of DCOs
 - ii. Provide an additional place on the Burnham Beeches Consultation Group for a member of that group of dog walkers.

- c. Given presentations to the following organisations to inform them of the City's proposal to extend the existing DCOs as Public Space Protection orders (PSPOs) and to provide background concerning the effectiveness of the current Dog Control Orders (based on the report to this Committee of January 2017):
 - i. South Bucks District Council (SBDC)
 - ii. Farnhams Parish Council (FPC)
 - iii. Burnham Parish Council (BPC)
 - iv. Bucks County Council (BCC)
 - v. Natural England (NE)
3. The local dog walkers mentioned in 2 above were present and are actively seeking change in the form of an iPetition.
4. BCC wish to pursue discussions after the local election process in May. NE do not expect to comment.
5. Your Superintendent has also:
 - a. Commissioned and completed a visitor survey as part of the 'necessary consultation' process to determine visitor views as to the extension of the existing DCOs as PSPOs.
 - b. Liaised closely with the Public Relations Office, City Solicitor and Remembrancer on related issues.
6. South Bucks District Council recently informed your Superintendent that they were about to consult on the introduction of their own PSPOs to control dog issues within the District. This process commenced 17th April and ends Sunday 14th May.
7. SBDC are consulting on the following proposals:
 - i. Continuation of existing power making it an offence if a person in charge of a dog fails to clean up its faeces
 - ii. Inclusion of the power that makes it an offence to fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer
 - iii. Inclusion of the power that makes it an offence to allow a dog into enclosed children's playgrounds.
 - iv. Inclusion of the power that makes it an offence to fail to produce a dog bag or other means for picking up after your dog when asked to do so by an authorised Officer
 - v. Extension of these powers to cover the whole of the District (with the exception of Burnham Beeches which it is anticipated will be covered by City of London Corporation PSPOs)
8. Members should note that SBDC are not consulting on the use of 'Dogs on leads' areas.
9. Following discussions between the City Solicitor, SBDC and the Superintendent it is proposed to specifically exclude Burnham Beeches from

the District Council's PSPOs as the City is currently consulting on the extension of its own PSPOs which contain different provisions.

10. As Stoke Common Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is not currently covered by the City's DCOs/PSPOs, inclusion in SBDCs proposals will be of benefit to the SSSI with the potential to reduce disturbance to the rare ground nesting birds that breed there.
11. In the event that SBDC's Members approve their proposed PSPOs it would be possible for the Burnham Beeches Rangers' to be authorised to enforce the PSPOs on their behalf. Dependent upon the outcome of SBDCs consultation this issue may be brought to this committee for decision later this year.

Next steps

12. The Superintendent must ensure that the necessary consultation, publication and notification processes are followed. Amongst others, the following steps will be completed:
 - i. Consultation with appropriate and recommended bodies, organisations and groups. This process is live and ends 15th June 2107.
 - ii. Assess the outcome of the consultation process.
 - iii. Report to your committee with recommendations concerning the extension of PSPOs.
 - iv. Implement the final decision of this committee.
13. The broad timetable is included as Appendix 1.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

14. The proposals support the City's key policy priorities as follows:
 - a. **KPP5.** Increasing the outreach and impact of the City's cultural, heritage and leisure contribution to the life of London and the nation by: Developing and improving the physical environment around our key cultural attractions; and providing safe, secure and accessible Open Spaces.

The proposals support the Open Spaces Departmental Objectives as follows:

- b. Improve the health and wellbeing of the community through access to green space and recreation.

Implications

15. 11i-iii must be completed by September 2017.
16. 11 iv must be completed by 30th November 2017.

Conclusion

17. Your Superintendent has carried out all necessary actions to date as required by this committee's recommendation of January 2017 to extend the DCOs as PSPOs by 30th November 2017.

18. A recommendations report will be provided to this committee by September 2017 for decision.

Appendices – Appendix 1. PSPO timetable

Background Papers:

Epping Forest and Commons Committee	16 January 2017
Subject: Future options for the Dog Control Orders at Burnham Beeches	Public
Report of: Superintendent of The Commons	For Decision

Report of:

Andy Barnard – Superintendent. The Commons

T: 020 7332 6676

E: andy.barnard@cityoflondon.gov.uk