



PSPO feedback/debrief London Marathon 2022

Licensing Team

The marathon appeared successful day which saw almost all the premises we engaged with in the lead up, cooperating with the overall aim of what we wanted to achieve. Generally, a happy and enjoyable day seemed to be had by all with no atmosphere of hostility or aggression witnessed.

On arrival at 10am, Paul Holmes engaged with an illegal Ice Cream Trader who had his van Parked on the pavement adjacent to The Blue Orchid Hotel J/W Minories. In conjunction with Robert Breese from The City of London he moved away into Tower Hamlets area across the street.

Paul Holmes spoke with 4 groups in the Trinity Square and Seething Lane area, concerning possession of alcohol. All of these were non-confrontational and explained that they didn't realise the PSPO was in place. They were informed that they would have passed a number of signs en-route to the area which informed the public of the PSPO. All four consumed the drink they had and were only in possession of a small quantity in any event, so they left the vicinity.

At the request of door security at The Hung Drawn & Quartered Pub Gt Tower Street, Paul Holmes spoke to a small group of couples drinking there as the security didn't want anyone to think they had come out of their pub. The people were understanding and finished their drink and left.

Patson's (Off Licence) were visited on many occasions by COLP, they, like the small off sales premises near the Minories Pub, sold some alcohol, but not in large quantities. They both stated that they were telling people that they weren't allowed to drink in the street and risked having the alcohol removed from them by Police. We did not see the issues at Patson's that occurred in 2019 where they were queuing out of the shop to buy alcohol. This year was similar to last year for Patson's I believe, a very low-key day which passed off without having to be warned further about sales.

Paul Holmes met Matt Beaumont from Cleansing to locate the alcohol waste bin which we found in Seething lane, not exactly where it was shown on the plan, but there was an issue in that the bin was locked. Matt contacted someone to come and unlock it. A better location for this bin would be on Trinity Gardens behind the Liberty Bounds, which is where it was last time.

A bit of confusion was thrown up with the idea of no tables & chairs outside, when All Bar One near Patson's had tables & chairs but they were within the demise of their property and not on the highway. In some ways this added to people's annoyance that they couldn't take alcohol outside when they could see the tables & chairs there. All bar one customers did use them for coffee and soft drinks.

Traitors Gate had an issue with one group going outside, the manager was apologetic and posted a staff member to be at the door for the duration. Insp Hay requested that a member of staff stood on the door to prevent this, as they had no SIA. Paul Holmes has contacted the area manager Simon Gifford to ensure that security is provided on the next occasion.

Insp Hay also engaged with number of group (totalling 25 people) with regards to alcohol. There was one group which nearly lead to a ticket, however with tac coms, this was bought under control. The SOGS were then deployed at the location at about 3pm to monitor alcohol possession as it seemed to be increasing.

Report from CPU1 – Inspector SOGS Insp Ives

The below is rough count of the use of PSPO warnings.

A van - 30

B van - 15

C van – 25

Insp 3

Total - 73!

Our tactic was that if members of the public were boisterous then the full ultimatum was given and drinks disposed of. If the person approached was clearly not an anti-social risk (for example one well behaved family where the mother had a small half sized bottle of wine), they were told to finish what they had in their hand and not open any more containers or else they would have to leave the area. This approach maintained a friendly atmosphere and seemed to work, the PSPO gave officers the confidence and legal framework to enforce these tactics.

Having worked previous marathons, this was one of the most successful pieces of intelligent Policing I have come across. The warnings were effective and were used with common sense. The word clearly got around in the crowd that drinking was not tolerated and the pubs and off licences were also supportive and appeared to be conforming. The difficulty of assessing crime prevention work is that you cannot measure what doesn't happen! However I have no doubt that the good natured and successful sector that we had in the City was in no small part down to the PSPO. I would personally say that a PSPO is **essential** for the next marathon in April if we are to avoid the previous ugly scenes and injuries of marathon days past.

Kevin

Level 1 PSU Inspector – Marathon 2022

TOTAL WARNINGS GIVEN BY COLP ESTIMATED AT 100