

Letter for parents, staff and local residents

October 2016

Dear Parent, member of staff or local resident

Further to discussions with Engayne Primary school, and at the request for a postponement of the introduction of a PSPO, I am writing to confirm Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) will be applied around your school with effect from Monday the 16 January 2017.

This follows from a number of complaints about the safety of children around your school caused by car users, particularly those dropping off and collecting pupils. In April 2016 Havering Council agreed to consult on the introduction of PSPOs and Engayne Primary School was one of six selected to take part in the first phase of implementing PSPOs.

That public consultation showed a clear majority for the implementation of a PSPO at four of those schools including Engayne Primary School and the scheme will now be implemented.

Once the new PSPOs are in place, any vehicle seen stopping to drop off or pick up pupils during the school run within the designated zone will be monitored by cameras and Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) of £100 will be issued. There will be no prosecution if paid within 14 days of being issued. People who do not pay FPNs, and those who offend persistently (more than three times), may be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £1,000 and a criminal record.

Please see the attached frequently asked questions document and map for further details on this scheme. However if you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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The new PSPO scheme around Engayne School

Frequently asked questions:

Q. What is a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)?

A. *Public Space Protection orders were introduced under the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. They can help by giving local councils and police additional powers to tackle antisocial behaviour in specific locations. They have been designed to deal with particular antisocial behaviour problems that can have a detrimental effect on the local community. This is done by applying restrictions and requirements to an area and targeting individuals who are breaking the law.*

Q. Why is a PSPO needed?

A. *Current parking enforcement legislation requires officers to wait 10 minutes before issuing a ticket. This means a child's life is at risk for at least 10 minutes before the Council can take action on dangerous parking. Over the last year, Havering Council civil parking enforcement officers have issued more than 1,200 tickets outside schools, with over 1,800 visits to 55 primary schools carried out. However, the limited number of enforcement officers means that they are not offering a sufficiently serious challenge to those parents determined to continue parking dangerously.*

Q. When will the PSPO around the school apply?

A. *The stopping and dropping off or picking up of school children between 8am and 9.30am and also between 2.30pm to 4pm will be prohibited. Details of the scheme will be displayed on signage in the PSPO area.*

Q. Which streets will be affected by this PSPO?

A. *The attached map shows the area (marked with a red line) covered by the PSPO.*

Q. Did the public have a say on the introduction of PSPOs?

A. *Yes. Havering Council consults with schools and residents in streets around any school where a PSPO is proposed. In the first phase of introducing PSPOs to protect children around schools six locations were consulted and four said they supported the introduction of a PSPO. Engayne School was one of the four where the consultation showed strong support for the introduction of a PSPO.*

Q. How will PSPOs be enforced?

A. *PSPOs can be enforced by the Police, Police Community Officers, Council Enforcement Officers and they will be monitored by CCTV cameras and automatic number plate recognition software.*

Q. What will the PSPO signs look like?

A. *Like this:*



Q. What will happen for children who are registered disabled and need to be dropped off very close to the school entrances?

A. Vehicles used by the parents, carers or relatives of such registered disabled children will be specifically exempted from the provisions of the PSPO.

Q. Will your CCTV cameras infringe our privacy?

A. Cameras enforcing the PSPO will only be used during the designated restricted times and will use automatic number plate recognition technology.

Q. Isn't this just a money-raising scheme for Havering Council?

A. No. Under the PSPO scheme any financial penalties will be criminal penalty fines and those fines will be paid to the Crown, not Havering Council. The Council is bringing in the PSPO to keep children safer as they travel to and from school.

Q. Who do I contact if I have any questions regarding PSPO schemes?

A. E-mail: school-pspo@haverling.gov.uk