



B O S T O N B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

REPORT TO: Environment and Performance Committee

DATE: 14 July 2020

SUBJECT: Crime & Disorder Annual Review/ASB/PSPO
(Alcohol) Statistics 2019/20

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Councillor Paul Skinner, Leader

REPORT AUTHOR: Ian Dunn – Anti-Social Behaviour Officer

EXEMPT REPORT? No

SUMMARY

1. Anti-Social Behaviour Annual Update

The Council's Community Safety Team use National Legislation and County-Wide Policies and Procedures when dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). The team works alongside numerous partner agencies, particularly the Neighbourhood Policing Team based at Boston Police Station.

The Council's two ASB Officers widely utilise the powers contained within the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 (**see background papers for link to legislation**), guided by the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Strategy's 'Intervention and Incremental Approach Policy and Procedure 2015' when dealing with ASB and other non-criminal offences. The approach normally has 4 stages. Statistics throughout this report have been provided against each stage for ASB enforcement and PSPO enforcement.

- ASB enforcement statistics for the period 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020 and in comparison with the previous year, 1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019, are set out within **Appendix 1**, a summary is provided below:
 - i. Stage1 ASB Advice Letter:
 - 2019-20 – **61** Letters Issued
 - 2018-19 – **85** Letters issued
 - ii. Stage 2 ASB Warning Letter:
 - 2019-20 – **80** Letters issued
 - 2018-19 – **22** Letters issued

iii. Stage 3 Acceptable Behaviour Agreement:

- 2019-20 – **17** ABA's
- 2018-19 – **1** ABA

iv. Stage 4 Civil Injunction:

- 2019-20 – **9** granted by the Court
- 2018-19 – **3** granted by the Court

For over 18's –

v. Stage 3 CPNW:

- 2019-20 - **2** Community Protection Notice Warnings
- 2018-19 - **12** Community Protection Notice Warnings

vi. Stage 4 CPN:

- 2019-20 - **0** Community Protection Notices
- 2018-19 - **3** Community Protection Notices

The Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for alcohol incremental approach also has four stages, PSPO enforcement statistics for the period 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020 and in comparison with the previous year, 1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019 are set out within **Appendix 2**, a summary is provided below.

i. Stage1 PSPO Advice Letter:

- 2019-20 – **57** letters issued
- 2018-19 – **141** letters issued

ii. Stage 2 PSPO Warning Letter:

- 2019-20 – **7** letters issued
- 2018-19 – **20** letters issued

iii. Stage 3 Community Protection Notice Warning (CPW):

- 2019-20 – 1 letters issued
- 2018-19 – 6 letters issued

iv. Stage 4 Community Protection Notice (CPN):

- 2019-20 – 0 letters issued
- 2018-19 – 1 letter issued

Breach of PSPO (refused a request by an authorised officer to desist from drinking alcohol within the designated area or leave the area):

Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN):

- 2019-20 – 0 FPN's issued
- 2018-19 – 0 FPN's issued

FPNs can be used for breaching the Order.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That members review, comment, and challenge the information presented within the report and its appendices. That the committee makes any recommendations to cabinet that it feels appropriate.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- To enable members to review, comment, and challenge the information presented.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

None

REPORT

1 Background - ASB

1.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act) commenced on 20 October 2014. All of the powers set out within the Act, except Civil Injunctions, came into force on this date.

1.2 The Act can be accessed at:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents/enacted>

1.3 As a partner to Safer Lincolnshire's incremental policy approach to dealing with ASB, local authorities and the Police normally adopt a four stage process; however, one or more of the stages can be dispensed with depending on the severity of the ASB to hand.

- Stage 1 is normally an ASB Advice letter, generated by the Police or local authority and issued by the local authority. This can be delivered by a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) or a Council ASB Officer to the perpetrators home address. This is usually issued to first time ASB perpetrators.
- Stage 2 is normally an ASB Warning Letter, again this is generated by the Police or local authority. A Stage 2 is normally given to second time ASB offenders within a 6 month period, or given for more serious offences of ASB. This is normally delivered by a Police officer to the perpetrators home address.
- Stage 3 for under 18's is normally an Acceptable Behaviour Agreement (ABA). The perpetrator is invited in (with their parent/guardian) to discuss their behaviour with a council ASB Officer and a Police Officer, normally the ASB Police Co-ordinator for Boston. An ABA is a voluntary agreement that the perpetrator can agree to sign. ABA's have a number of conditions that perpetrators are asked to agree to help stop their ASB. The agreement normally lasts for six months and is reviewed every six weeks. Perpetrators can be offered support mechanisms from a range of organisations including but not being limited to the Early Help Team, Youth Offending Service or Addaction. The additional support is usually voluntary but can help the young people and families manage behaviour. For adults it is a Community Protection Notice Warning Letter (CPNW) which can also be generated by the Police or local authority. A CPNW can be used against an individual or a business if their behaviour or actions are having a detrimental effect on the local community.
- Stage 4 normally involves seeking a Civil Injunction for U18's. If all previous steps have failed and the perpetrator continues to commit ASB, a court file is prepared by the ASB Officer, approved by senior officers in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation and referred to Lincolnshire County Council's Legal Services Team.

Cases are presented to a Court that makes any ruling it considers appropriate. A Civil Injunction can be granted for up to a **year** for anyone up to the age of 18 with anyone over 18 facing anything up to an indefinite Order. Injunctive conditions are sought following discussion at an Anti Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (ASBRAC*) and the Youth Offending Service. Conditions sought are designed to support and deter the person from committing further ASB and usually include a curfew, an agreement to not involve themselves in ASB, specification of 'no go' areas and a 'non-association with other people' requirement whom have been identified in ASB alongside them. When dealing with serious ASB of a persistent nature, a power of arrest can also be applied for.

A Community Protection Notice (CPN) is used for anyone 18 and over who have breached the conditions of their CPNW and can be for an indefinite period of time or until the requested conditions have been complied with. These are also used for individual perpetrators or businesses if their behaviour or actions continue following a CPNW and they have a detrimental effect on the local community.

For breaches of CPN's the Police or local authority may seek to get a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) against the person or local business. The conditions will often mirror those of the CPN and any breach of the order is a criminal offence. A CBO can be made for an indefinite period of time.

**ASBRAC is attended by Local Authority, Police, Fire & Rescue, Housing Associations, Addaction, Framework, P3, Early Help & the Youth Offending Service.*

- 1.4 ASB enforcement statistics for the period 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020 are set out within **Appendix 1**.

2 Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) (Alcohol)

- 2.1 BBC's Public Space Protection Order (in relation to Alcohol) commenced on Monday 12th January 2015 and has been extended until 11th January 2021. The effect of the Order is to prohibit the consumption of alcohol within the PSPO area and to require specified things to be done by person/s consuming alcohol in that area.

The Order applies to all persons within the area, whether resident or otherwise, at all times. Pursuant to section 63 of the Act, where a Police Officer, Community Support Officer or other Authorised Person requires that a person desists from consuming alcohol (or the item reasonably believed to be alcohol), or surrender the alcohol (or item which is reasonably believed to be alcohol) and the person fails to do so, that person shall be committing an offence.

A person who fails, without reasonable excuse to comply with a requirement imposed on him or her by a Police Officer, Community Support Officer or other Authorised Person commits an offence and is liable; i. - on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £500; ii. - To a fixed penalty notice not exceeding £100 (if the fixed penalty has not been paid within 14 days following the date of the notice, that person may be convicted of an offence as set out at point i above).

A Police Officer, Community Support Officer or other Authorised Person may dispose of anything surrendered pursuant to the Order as they see fit'.

2.2 The process of enforcing the PSPO is very similar to the incremental approach used when dealing with other forms of ASB:

- Stage 1 is a PSPO Advice letter, triggered by the Police and posted to the perpetrator by the Council's ASB Officer. This is usually issued to first time PSPO perpetrators.
- Stage 2 is a PSPO Warning Letter, again this is triggered by the Police. This is given to second time PSPO offenders within a 6 month period. This is normally delivered by the Police to the perpetrators home address.
- Stage 3 is a Community Protection Warning Letter (CPW). The CPW is generated by the Council following a report from the Police that determines a perpetrator has been asked to surrender alcohol for a third time. The CPW is served by a Council ASB officer and signed by the perpetrator.
- Stage 4 is a Community Protection Notice (CPN). The CPN is generated by the Council following a report from the Police that determines a perpetrator has been asked to surrender alcohol for a fourth time and is in breach of their CPW. The CPN is served by a Council ASB officer and signed by the perpetrator.

2.3 A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued when a perpetrator refuses or desists from drinking alcohol, or any liquid considered to be alcohol, fails to hand over alcohol, or any liquid considered to be alcohol when instructed to by an authorised officer, or fails leave the designated zone when requested to do so by an authorised officer. The FPN is hand served by a Council ASB Officer.

2.4 PSPO enforcement statistics for the period 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020 are set out within **Appendix 2**.

3 CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Whilst the statistics set out within Appendices 1 and 2 provide members with volume metrics, what they do not demonstrate is the breadth of issues and the variable time that cases can take to bring to satisfactory conclusions, officers will be in attendance at the meeting to answer questions from the Committee and can talk through examples if requested to do so.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with receiving this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications associated with receiving this report.

ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None

(This section should be used to outline what consultation has been undertaken and provide an overview of the feedback received.)

CONSULTATION

Statutory Crime & Disorder Annual Review

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Reform of anti-social behaviour powers Statutory guidance for frontline professionals	www.legislation.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -

APPENDIX 1	ASB Report 2018/19
APPENDIX 2	PSPO Report 2018/19
APPENDIX 3	Response from Inspector 123 Fran Harrod

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

This report has not previously been considered by another Council Committee.

FINANCE PROFORMA

BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

PROFORMA FOR EXECUTIVE APPROVAL OF THE RELEASE OF RESOURCES (CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS)

FROM:

THIS PROFORMA PROVIDES THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE ATTACHED

REPORT:

REPORT DATE:

OPTION 1	£ Year 1 2013/14	£ Year 2 2014/15	£ Year 3 2015/16	£ Year 4 2016/17	£ Year 5 2017/18
-----------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

Revenue

Total Revenue

Cost

Funding required:

Total capital cost £

Revenue cost £

Considered by:

Enter committee here

Enter Council or
Cabinet here

Date:

Financial Services Comments

Risk

Procurement

Value for Money Efficiency

This FP is valid for 3 months from FP date	If this FP is no longer required please advise Finance	If there are changes to the original report it may invalidate this document, it must be reviewed by Finance.

Appendix 1 - Anti-Social Behaviour Stats – 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020

<p><u>April 2019</u> ASB Advice: 10 ASB Warning: 4 ABA: 0 CPNW:0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0 CBO: 1</p>	<p><u>May 2019</u> ASB Advice: 2 ASB Warning: 1 ABA: 5 CPNW:0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0 CBO: 0</p>	<p><u>June 2019</u> ASB Advice: 1 ASB Warning: 0 ABA: 2 CPNW:0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0 CBO: 1</p>
<p><u>July 2019</u> ASB Advice: 1 ASB Warning: 0 ABA: 0 CPNW:0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 5 (Including 1 interim injunction) CBO: 0</p>	<p><u>August 2019</u> ASB Advice: 1 ASB Warning: 3 ABA: 0 CPNW:0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 1 CBO: 0</p>	<p><u>September 2019</u> ASB Advice: 7 ASB Warning: 2 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 1 CBO: 0</p>
<p><u>October 2019</u> ASB Advice: 14 ASB Warning: 2 ABA: 0 CPNW:0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 1 CBO: 0</p>	<p><u>November 2019</u> ASB Advice: 5 ASB Warning: 11 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 1 CBO: 0</p>	<p><u>December 2019</u> ASB Advice: 12 ASB Warning: 10 ABA: 7 (Including 1 interim) CPNW: 0 CPN:0 Civil Injunction: 0 CBO: 0</p>
<p><u>January 2020</u> ASB Advice: 3 ASB Warning: 4 ABA: 1 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0 CBO: 0</p>	<p><u>February 2020</u> ASB Advice: 5 ASB Warning: 0 ABA: 2 (1 declined) CPNW: 2 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0 CBO: 0</p>	<p><u>March 2019</u> ASB Advice: 0 ASB Warning: 43 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0 CBO: 0</p>

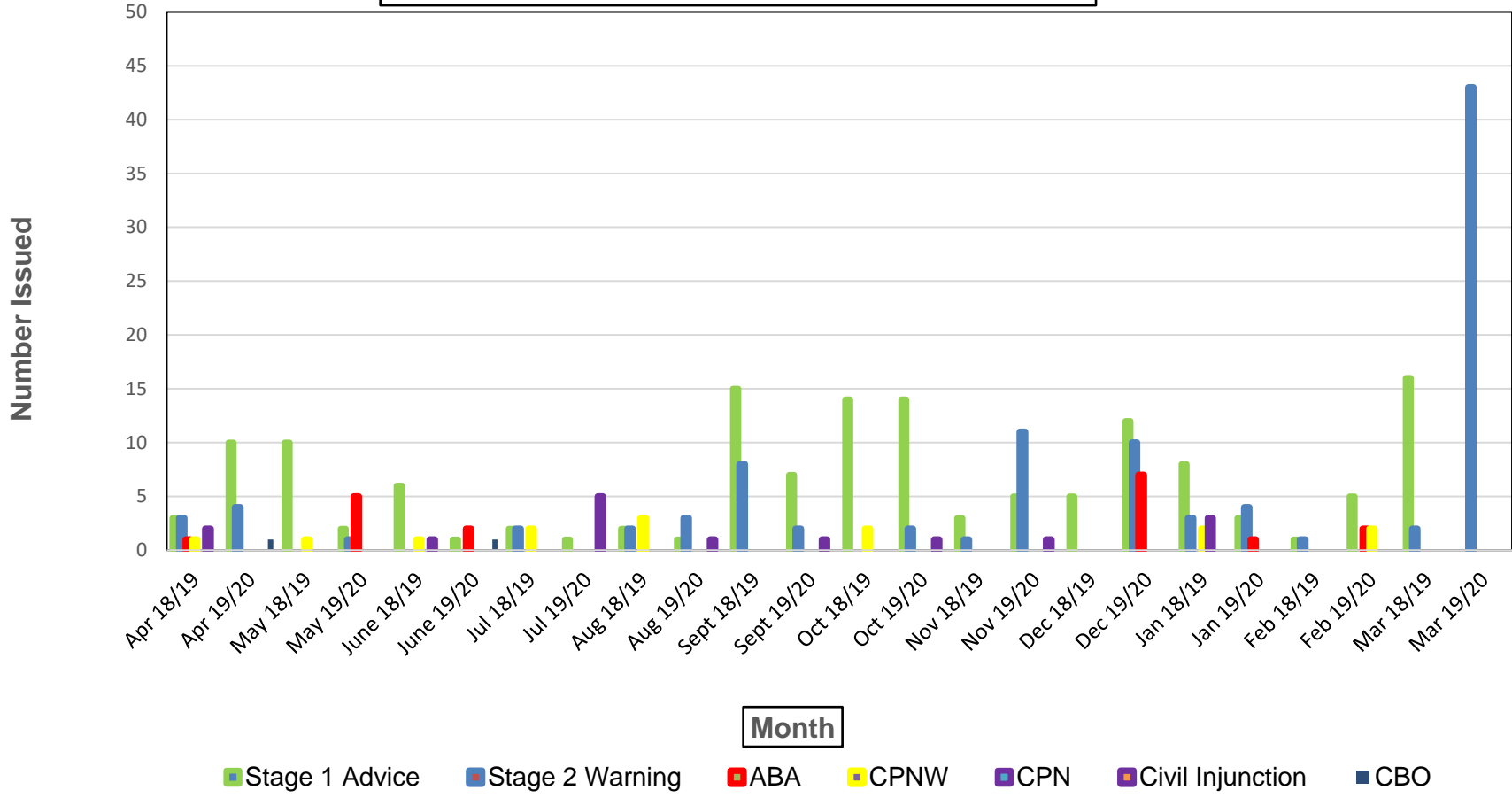
Totals:
ASB Advice: 61
ASB Warning: 80
ABA: 17
CPNW : 2
CPN: 0
Civil Injunction: 9
CBO: 2

Anti-Social Behaviour Stats – 1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019

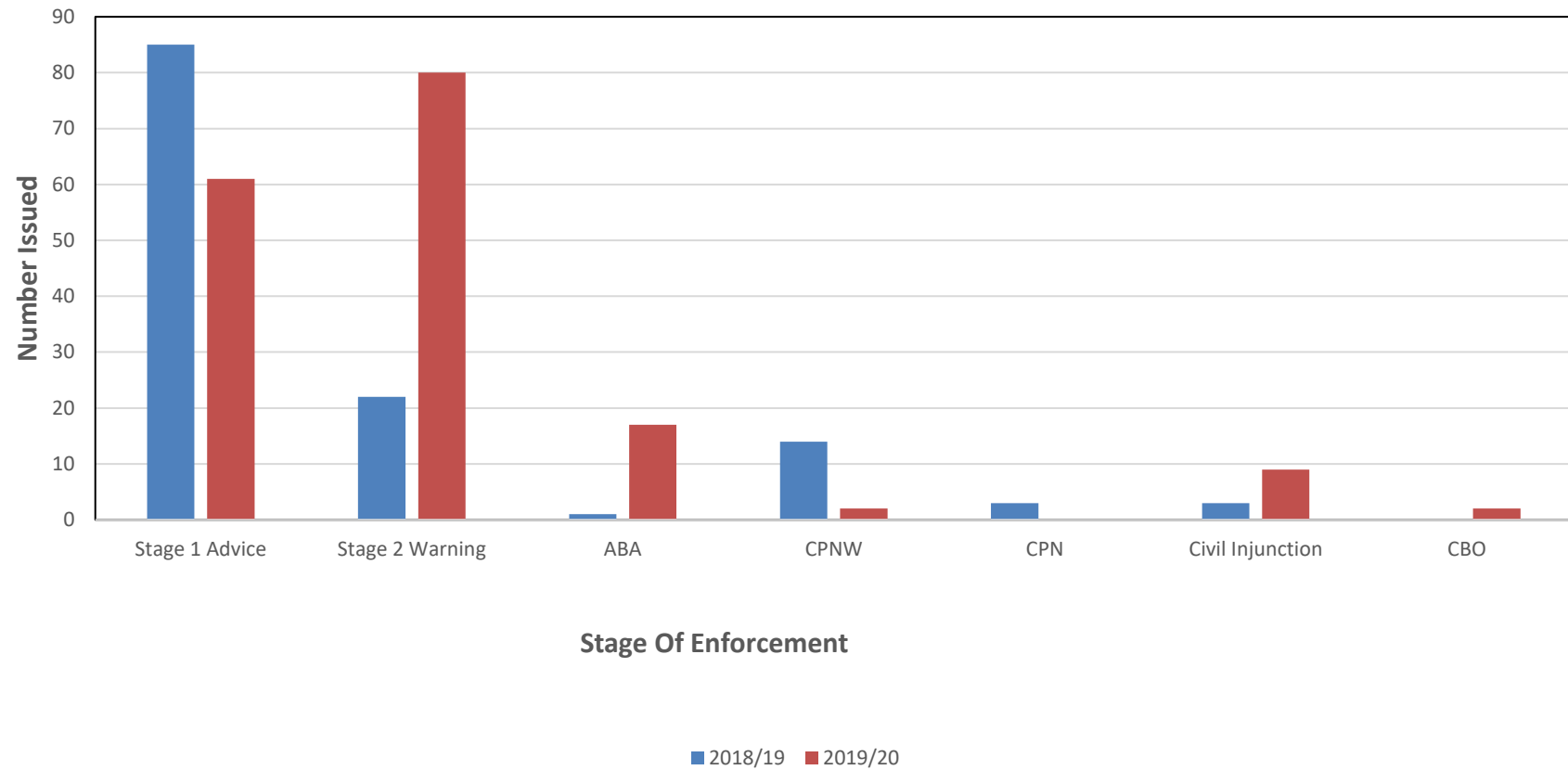
<p><u>April 2018</u> ASB Advice: 3 ASB Warning: 3 ABA: 1 CPNW:1 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 2</p>	<p><u>May 2018</u> ASB Advice: 10 ASB Warning: 0 ABA: 0 CPNW:1 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>	<p><u>June 2018</u> ASB Advice: 6 ASB Warning: 0 ABA: 0 CPNW:1 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 1</p>
<p><u>July 2018</u> ASB Advice: 2 ASB Warning: 2 ABA: 0 CPNW:2 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>	<p><u>August 2018</u> ASB Advice: 2 ASB Warning: 2 ABA: 0 CPNW:3 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>	<p><u>September 2018</u> ASB Advice: 15 ASB Warning: 8 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>
<p><u>October 2018</u> ASB Advice: 14 ASB Warning: 0 ABA: 1 offered (refused) CPNW:2 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>	<p><u>November 2018</u> ASB Advice: 3 ASB Warning: 1 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>	<p><u>December 2018</u> ASB Advice: 5 ASB Warning: 0 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN:0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>
<p><u>January 2019</u> ASB Advice: 8 ASB Warning: 3 ABA: 0 CPNW:2 CPN: 3 Civil Injunction: 0</p>	<p><u>February 2019</u> ASB Advice: 1 ASB Warning: 1 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>	<p><u>March 2019</u> ASB Advice: 16 ASB Warning: 2 ABA: 0 CPNW: 0 CPN: 0 Civil Injunction: 0</p>

<p><u>Totals:</u> ASB Advice: 85 ASB Warning: 22 ABA: 1 CPNW : 14 CPN: 3 Civil Injunction: 3</p>

Anti-Social Behaviour Stats - 1/4/2018 - 31/3/2020



Anti-Social Behaviour Stats - 18/19 Vs 19/20



Appendix 2 - Public Space Protection Order (Alcohol) – 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020

<p><u>April 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>May 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>June 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>
<p><u>July 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>August 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 26 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: FPN:0</p>	<p><u>September 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 18 PSPO Warning: 4 CPW: 1 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>
<p><u>October 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 2 PSPO Warning: 1 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>November 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 6 PSPO Warning: 1 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>December 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 2 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>
<p><u>January 2020</u> PSPO Advice: 2 PSPO Warning: 1 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>February 2020</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>March 2020</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>

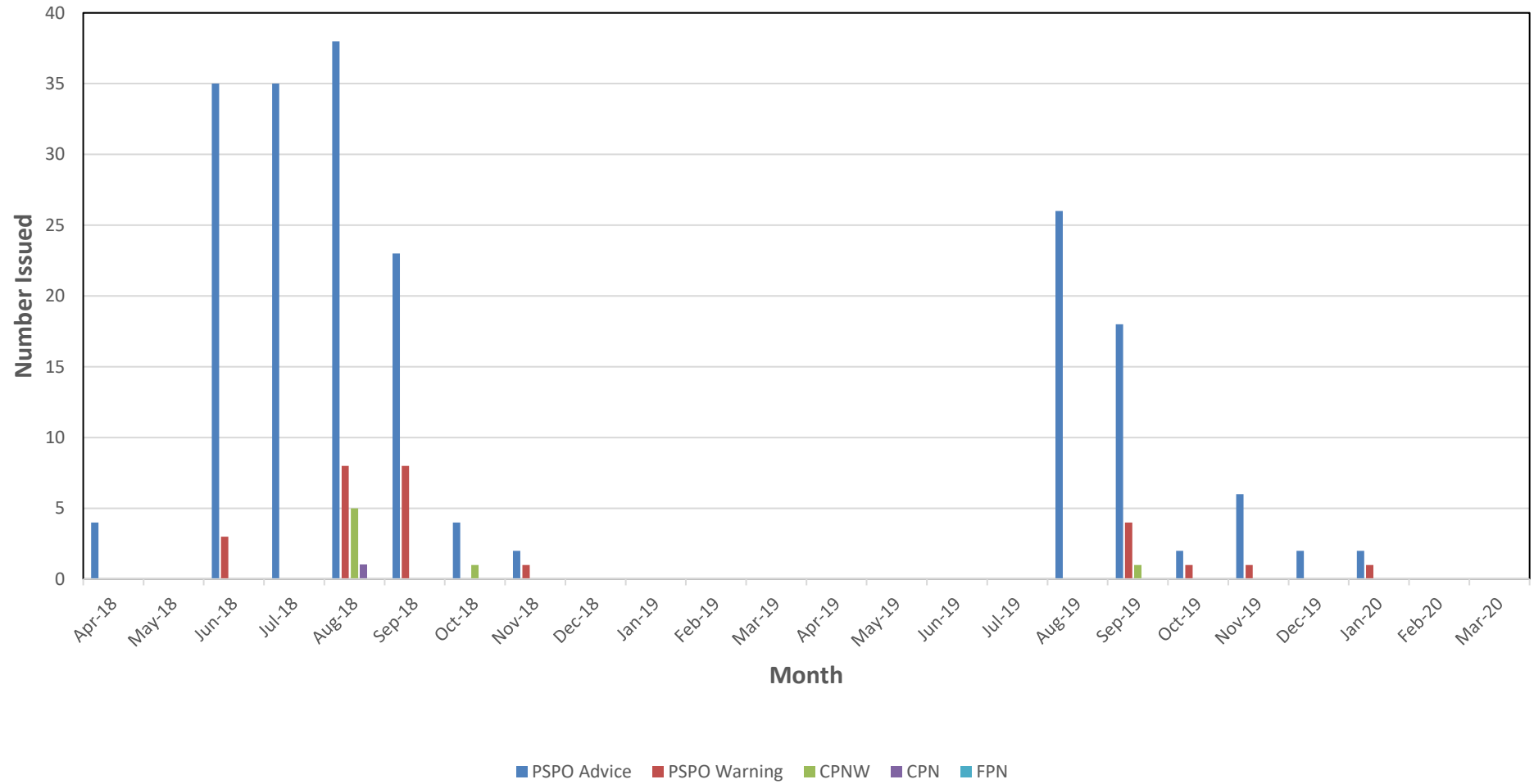
<p><u>Totals:</u> PSPO Advice: 57 PSPO Warning: 7 CPW: 1 CPN: 0 FPN: 0</p>
--

Appendix 2 - Public Space Protection Order (Alcohol) – 1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019

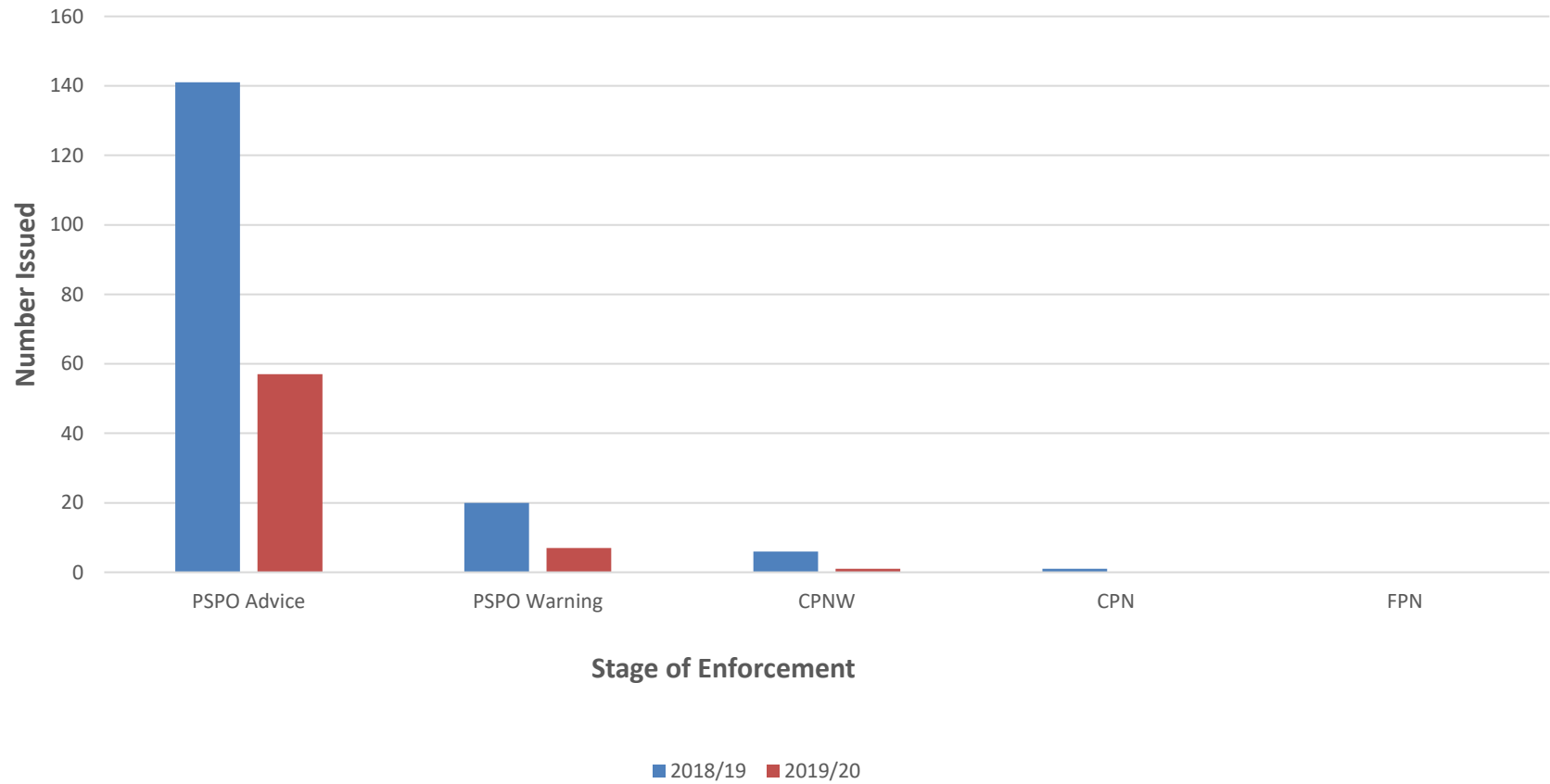
<p><u>April 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 4 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>May 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>June 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 35 PSPO Warning: 3 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>
<p><u>July 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 35 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>August 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 38 PSPO Warning: 8 CPW: 5 CPN: 1 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>September 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 23 PSPO Warning: 8 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>
<p><u>October 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 4 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 1 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>November 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 2 PSPO Warning: 1 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>December 2018</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>
<p><u>January 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>February 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>	<p><u>March 2019</u> PSPO Advice: 0 PSPO Warning: 0 CPW: 0 CPN: 0 FPN:0</p>

<p><u>Totals:</u> PSPO Advice: 141 PSPO Warning: 20 CPW: 6 CPN: 1 FPN: 0</p>
--

PSPO Stats - 1/4/2018 - 31/3/2020



PSPO Stats - 18/19 & 19/20



Appendix 3 – Response from Inspector Fran Harrod – Boston Neighbourhood Policing Team.

In considering the last reporting period, it is firstly important to note that those who have been engaged in criminal behavior that was ALSO anti-social behaviour, have been dealt with criminally.

Thus, a youth involved in a fight where an assault or public order offence took place, would not necessarily appear in anti-social behavior statistics. Neither would a person whom was found drinking or drunk, became aggressive or violent and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of any offence, such as being drunk and disorderly in a public place.

Therefore the figures you see below are based on instances where officers have found anti-social behavior to be taking place, which has not crossed the threshold into criminal behavior. It can therefore be seen what value the joint incremental approach has making it possible to take some form of action to rectify the behaviour of those which is unacceptable, but not criminal.

Anti-social behavior

Anti-social behaviour has been dominated in the last reporting period by troublesome groups of youths that have flared up and been dealt with by way of incremental approach.

We remember the large group who chose at the end of 2019 to circulate on bicycles causing nuisance throughout the town centre and beyond. It is worthy of note that of those young people in this period only 7 found themselves being required to sign up to acceptable behavior agreements, from 54 advice/ warning letters issued. The next stage should behaviour NOT return to acceptable levels was fortunately never reached.

Those scrutinising will no doubt question the sudden spike in second stage warning letters issued in March 2020. This followed a sudden alarming upswing in youth violence arranged over social media, with no commonalities; youths from numerous different schools and nationalities were gathering together and all fighting one another over one week where behavior was particularly bad, culminating in an incident during the middle of the day in Central park that spilled out into Red Lion Street. This behaviour was UTTERLY unacceptable and resulted in 6 arrests. So severe was the conduct of those present a joint decision was made that all who could be identified (in an excellent and speedy effort between partners and local schools, in the middle of a school holiday) would go immediately to a second stage warning letter; an unusual but necessary step. There has been no resumption of this behaviour since, nor further issues with the vast majority of those dealt with. This period also included problems in other parts of the town, notably McDonalds, Queen Street.

It is worthy of note the process by which warning letters are served when large groups need to be dealt with. Those parents of those responsible attend the police station, with their children, en masse. They are placed in a conference room and shown all the

evidence of wrongdoing, including CCTV/ body worn video footage of their children's behavior. There are representatives present from Police, Boston Borough Council Community Safety Team, housing associations (where applicable) and organisations such as Futures For Me that can provide positive diversion for the children of families present. If necessary we split into language groups, so all parents and guardians can fully understand what is happening with assistance of translators, and the full implications of such behavior (public safety, criminalisation, and effects on schooling and future prospects, risk of tenancy).

With so few young people going beyond the warning stage, we are left with the hard core, that can be robustly targeted, and who then tend to stick together rather than draw other more impressionable youths into their circle. All of this work is obviously shared with education providers, with whom we work closely.

It is not however, solely youth who find themselves involved in the anti-social behavior incremental approach. Whilst the PSPO gives us the powers to require those drinking within the designated area to surrender their alcohol, that person may often be found to be causing anti-social behaviour as well (without hitting the criminal threshold for arrest). In this instance my preference is for that person to be dealt with for their ASB, not merely the fact they were found drinking in the PSPO designated area.

To this end an individual is about to be served a CPNW as a tool for combatting persistent drunkenness in town and failure to engage with agencies who could help them; this is regardless of how that drunkenness came about.

PSPO enforcement

Following the 2019 review and an operation concentrating on street drinking and urination/defecation instances of first and second stage letter service went up. Boston Borough Council and police also jointly agreed a process whereby anyone who had taken footage of anyone engaged in the latter activity, rather than just sharing on social media to understandable outrage, share instead with the Council who in turn would put out press releases to ascertain the identity of offenders where it was not known (as had previously done with littering, which is the heading under which such behaviour falls). No material has been shared, and such videos have dwindled on social media.

Note that the issuing of letters is clearly an effective tool, as after second stage repeat offending dies off in the vast majority of cases, with very little need to move to CPNW.

Whilst undertaking this work, it became clear that the vast majority of those found drinking also had issues with homelessness and/or substance abuse. It became quite clear that addressing the root cause to stop persistent offenders and get people off the streets and out of addiction was a good use of joint agency time, rather than simply catching them drinking repeatedly.

To that end in October 2019 Police hosted a first multiagency meeting in regards to Boston Homelessness, which for the first time got the numerous agencies with the power to address the issue in one room. Ongoing work lead by Boston Borough Council and

partner agencies has established accommodation and referral's into rehabilitation, which, along with emergency measures enacted by government due to the COVID19 pandemic has seen the truly street homeless (of all nationalities) housed and no longer engaged in poor behaviour on the streets (bar two known individuals whom Police have issued CPNW's for persistent begging). The challenge now is to refresh approaches to those who continue to drink casually, and the early months of what will be the next reporting period (coming out of lockdown) has seen more PSPO referral's coming through, with a particular focus on the issue during the coming summer months.

During lockdown, the preference was to deal with anyone found under COVID-19 enforcement, rather than the incremental PSPO approach.

Other preventative work includes the continued successes of the Community Alcohol Partnership, evidenced by the fact the Boston has very little issue with underage drinking, certainly in public.

The Police licensing department is also extremely active in providing evidence of opposition to any application, review or renewal when concerning factors exist, and these can also include the contribution of a particular premises to ASB, irresponsible sales, and street drinking.

CCTV

Having reviewed Andrew Haws report on CCTV provision in Boston it is quite clear what a vital tool this is in addressing crime and disorder in Boston, as I write the report it has just aided officers in the pursuit of a thief wanted for 6 shopthefts who is on a suspended sentence and should now find themselves remanded in custody.

The 43 youth whose identities were unknown in the matter of the incident in Central Park came purely from the CCTV footage provided to the officer in the case.

I note the potential for further augmentation to the system; such a future provision would be invaluable for improved detection rates and improvements in the quality of life for those in a number of current hot spot areas in which we are currently conducting problem solving case work.

Ridealongs

As per last years review, the invitation to elected members to accompany officers on patrol is a standing item.

Sadly only one Councillor took me up on this opportunity, and I understand from their feedback it was of benefit to them.

At no point does any Boston Officer, Detective or PCSO find themselves without multiple competing demands and priorities.

Ridealongs can provide any reader of this document with the opportunity to experience the staggering breadth and diversity of work that an officer is expected to address shift after shift, whilst focusing on the issues that cause greatest threat, harm and risk (subject to easing of COVID19 restrictions of course).