

Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation



Background

We're proposing to introduce new Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) in our district and we'd like your views.

We know that our district is a great place to live, work and visit. We're proud to serve a population of more than 100,000 and deliver services to more than 50,000 homes -- from street cleaning and recycling and waste collections, to environmental health, planning and caring for our parks and open spaces.

Folkestone & Hythe District Council understands how anti-social behaviour can have a detrimental effect on local communities, with those affected often feeling powerless to act. With our partners, like Kent Police we have a key role to play in helping make local areas safe places. Tackling anti-social behaviour continues to be a high priority. One way of doing this is the use of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs).

PSPOs are aimed at ensuring public spaces can be enjoyed free from anti-social behaviour such as, harassment, aggression and any other behaviours which may have a detrimental effect on communities. PSPOs are not about stopping the responsible use of the night-time economy, having a glass of wine with a picnic on the Leas or preventing young people from seeing their friends – but they do help the Council and the Police to control excessive drinking when accompanied by anti-social behaviour issues that are damaging to our communities.



What Are Public Spaces Protection Orders?

PSPOs were introduced under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to deal with a particular nuisance in a particular area that is having a detrimental effect on the quality of life for those in the local community. A PSPO can prohibit specified things being done in a restricted area or can require certain things to be done by persons carrying out specified activities in that area.

We currently have an existing PSPO in the district to address antisocial behaviour, which covers Folkestone, Cheriton as well as parts of Seabrook and Sandgate. It was introduced to address the issues of drinking in an open space, begging and sleeping in an open space.

In response to a range of concerns that by local residents and businesses we are now proposing to use this PSPO more widely across the district. This leaflet gives some detailed background to the proposals.

PSPOs will not be used to target vulnerable people and those in genuine need. The Council will continue to support or signpost to partner services as appropriate.

PSPOs will only be used to protect communities from unwanted anti-social behaviours and shall only be enforceable where there is reasonable evidence to do so. More information is available online at:

www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/community/community-safety/PSPO



What are we proposing?

We are proposing seven measures to introduce this PSPO in specific areas of the district. The measures we are proposing are based on current information relating to antisocial behaviour and disorder.











This consultation is being carried out to establish to what extent these issues affect residents. This will then dictate whether some, or all, of the measures are introduced in certain areas or district wide.

This PSPO will be in place for three years but will be monitored and reviewed to consider whether it should be extended. The council can, at any time, call an earlier review or make appropriate changes where necessary.

Area Key

Each of the measures has a key to show which new areas are being considered.

Maps can be found in the back of the document on pages 10 - 15.

 Hythe High Street & Oaklands	 Dymchurch	 New Romney
 Lower Leas Coastal Park	 Folkestone	 Seabrook
 Cheriton	 Sandgate	 Hawkinge
 Lydd		

Measure 1 – Control of anti-social alcohol consumption in a public place

This measure makes it an offence to fail to comply with a request by an authorised person (council/police) to stop drinking or surrender any vessel believed to contain alcohol, if officers believe anti-social behaviour has been committed or is likely to be committed.

Already in place in Folkestone, Cheriton parts of Sandgate and Seabrook, we propose extending this measure to Hythe (High Street and Oaklands), Dymchurch, New Romney, Hawkinge and Lydd - **please see maps on pages 10 - 13**

Measure 2 – Control of intoxicating substances in a public place

This measure proposes to deal with effects intoxicating substances may have on a person's behaviour when in a public place. A person would be guilty of an offence if they didn't surrender any intoxicating substance in their possession and/or they were found to be ingesting, inhaling, injecting, smoking or otherwise using intoxicating substances.

It does not include tobacco or prescription medication.

This proposal covers the use of items which are used to administer intoxicating substances including needles that are not correctly packaged.

We propose introducing this measure to cover the whole of Folkestone, Hythe (High Street and Oaklands), Dymchurch, New Romney, Cheriton and parts of Seabrook, Sandgate, Hawkinge and Lydd - **please see maps on pages 10 - 13**

Measure 3 – No urinating, spitting or defecating in a public place

This measure makes it an offence to urinate, spit or defecate in a public place.

We propose introducing this measure to cover the whole of Folkestone, Hythe (High Street and Oaklands), Dymchurch, New Romney, Cheriton, parts of Seabrook and Sandgate, Hawkinge and Lydd - **please see maps on pages 10 - 13**

Measure 4 – No begging

Under this measure, no-one will be able to make verbal, non-verbal or written requests for goods, money or donations unless they are authorised to do so at an appropriate location e.g. authorised charity collections.

Already in place in Folkestone, Cheriton, parts of Sandgate and Seabrook, we propose to extend this measure to cover Hythe (High Street and Oaklands), Dymchurch and New Romney - **please see maps on pages 10 & 11**



Measure 5 – Control of anti-social street entertainment

We do not want to ban street entertainment but we are considering introducing this measure in Folkestone to address excessive levels of noise (amplified music), nuisance or annoyance caused by inconsiderate street entertainers. We would use the PSPO as a tool to deal with any street entertainers who are inconsiderately causing a nuisance or annoyance.

- **please see map on page 10**

Measure 6 – Control of unauthorised ‘chuggers’ etc

We are not proposing to ban chuggers etc (people who approach passers-by in the street asking for subscriptions or donations to a particular charity) but we are considering this measure in Folkestone to limit the number of chuggers at any one time and address any inconsiderate behaviour. We are interested in your views on this measure. - **please see map on page 10**



Measure 7 – Control of unauthorised camping

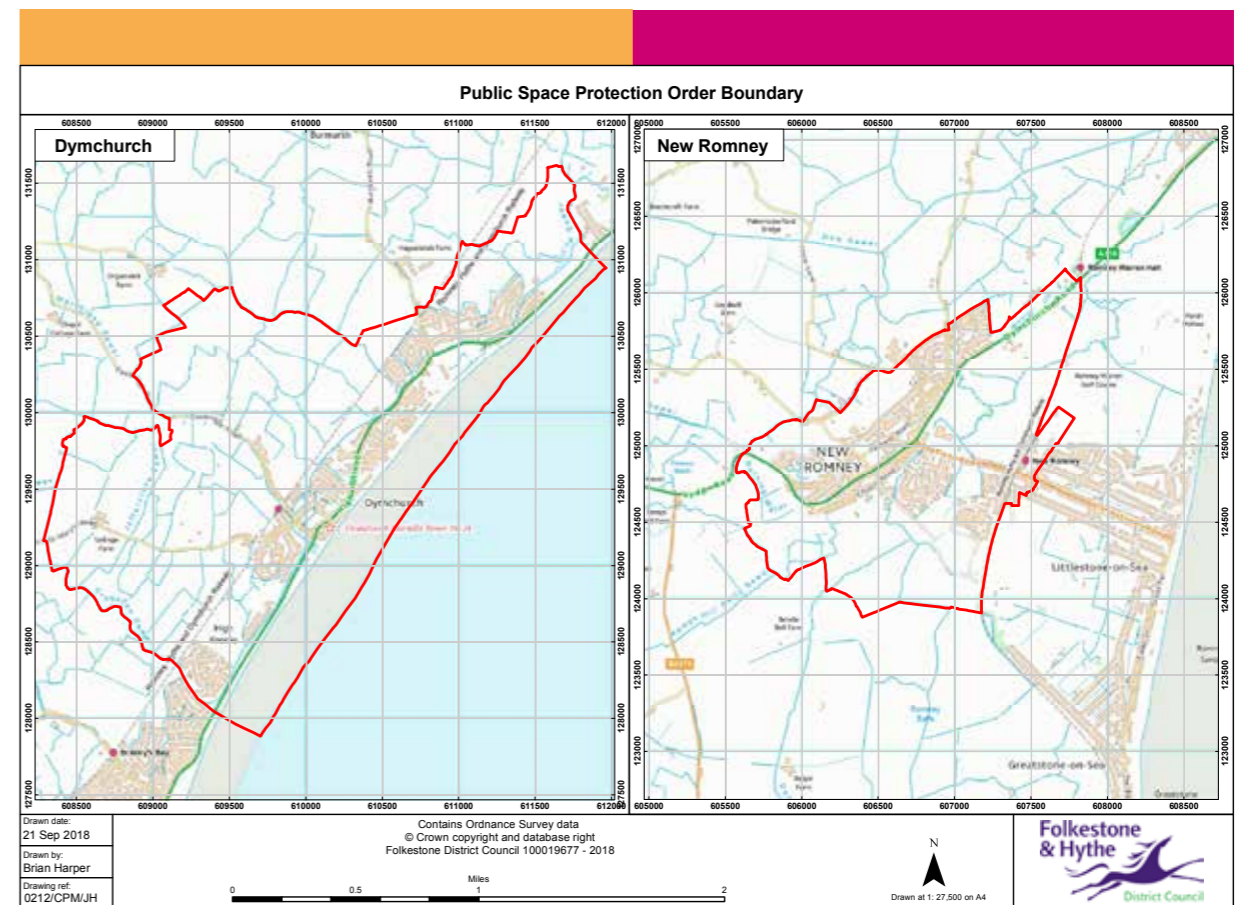
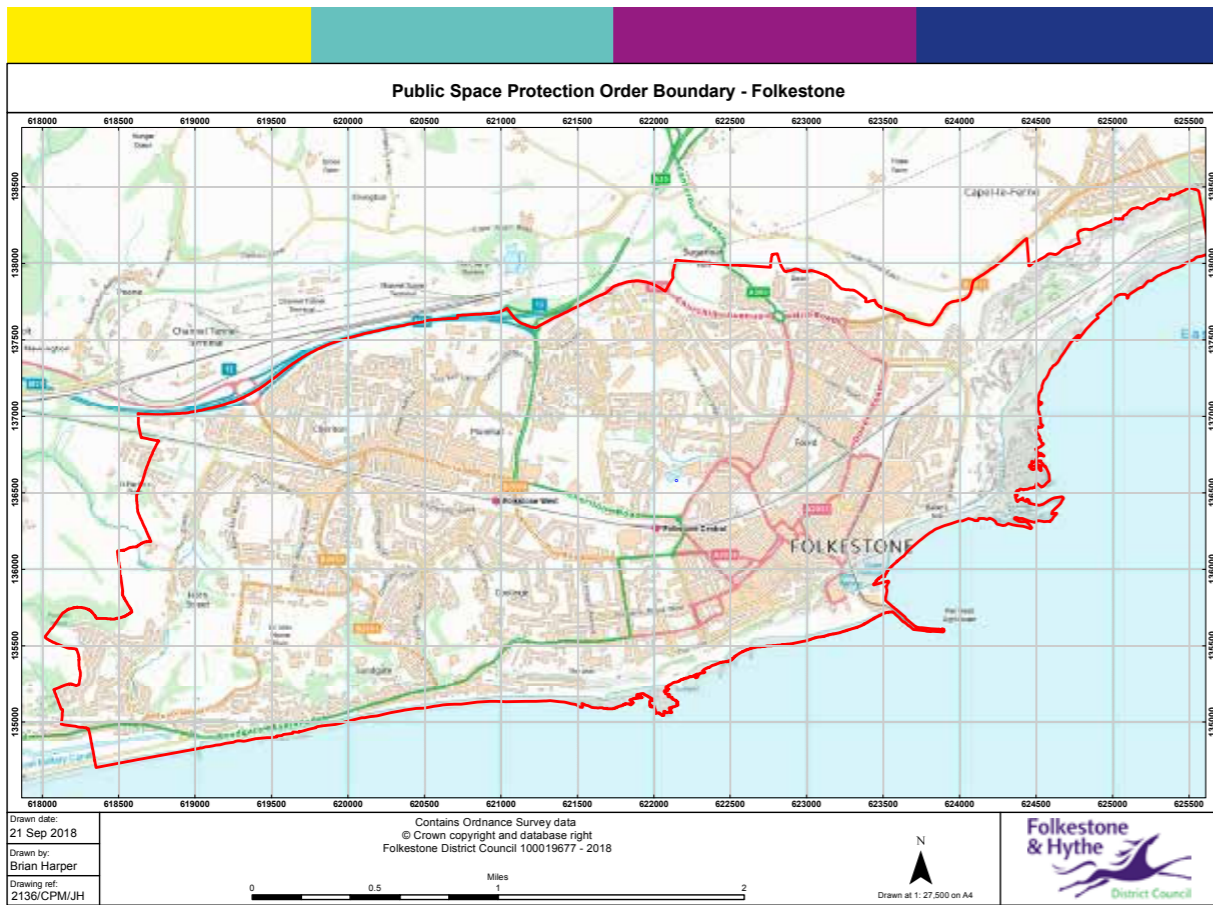


Some camping can lead to anti-social behaviour. This measure would make it an offence to position any vehicle, caravan or other temporary structure that is designed or intended to provide shelter or accommodation for the purpose of overnight stay within the restricted area without pre-agreed approval from the landowner.











A person would have to clear away the vehicle, caravan, temporary structure/ associated paraphernalia without delay if instructed to do so a by an authorised person.

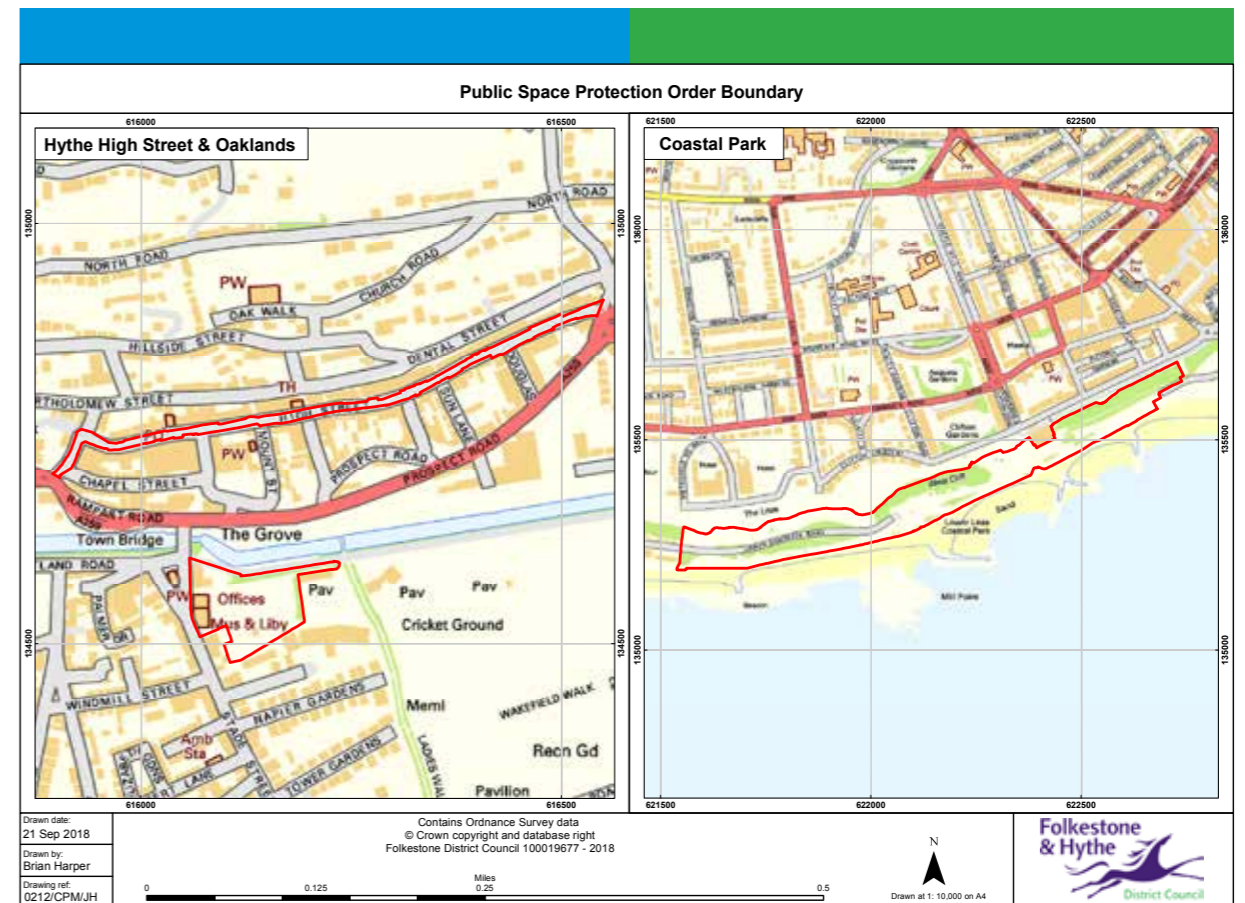
This measure would cover areas such as all of Folkestone, including the Lower Leas Coastal Park, Hythe (High Street and Oaklands), Dymchurch, New Romney, Cheriton, parts of Seabrook and Sandgate, Hawkinge and Lydd. Including but not limited to public parks, car parks, children’s play areas, graveyards, churchyards. - **please see maps on pages 10 - 15**



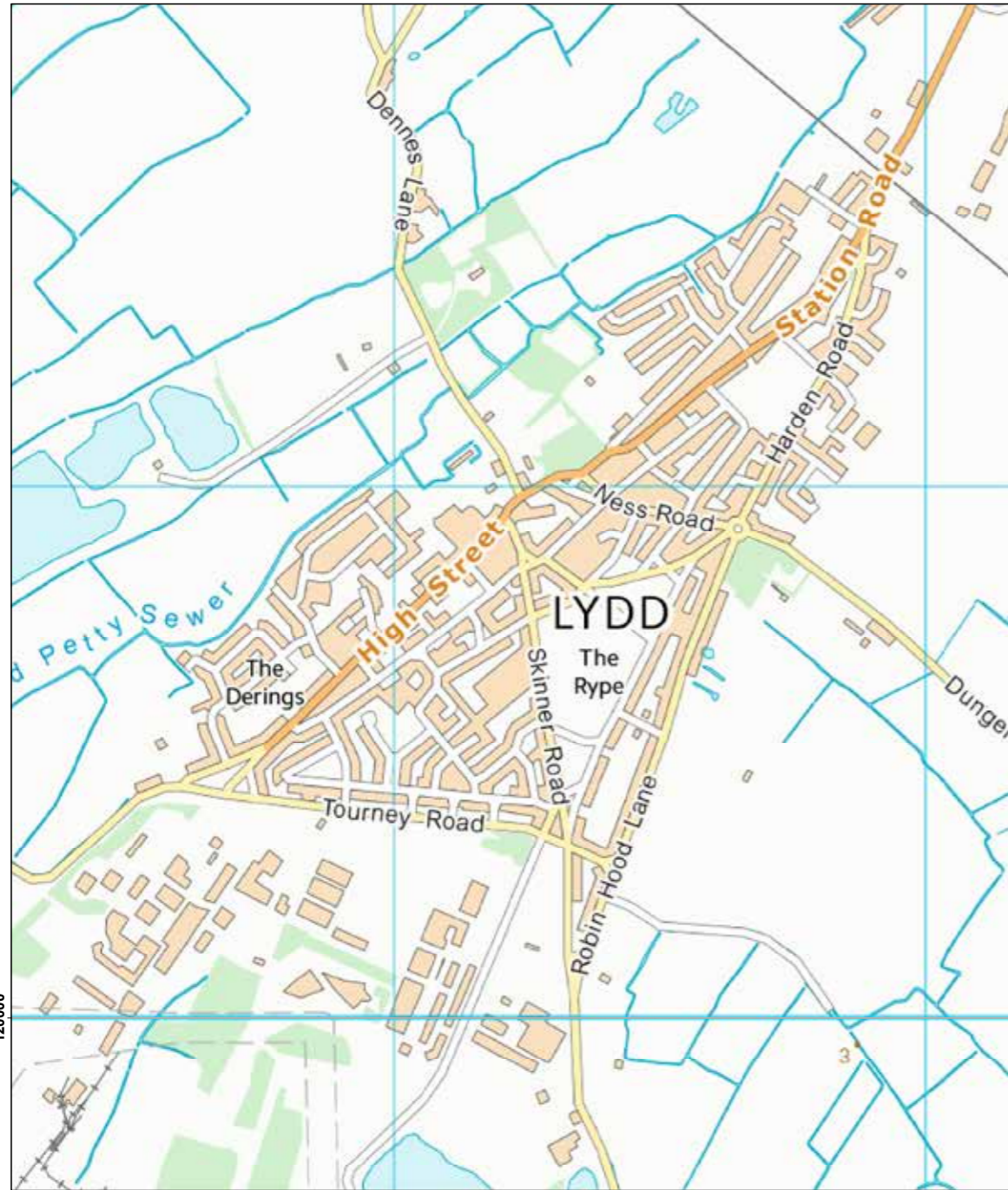


Area Key

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
|  Hythe High Street & Oaklands |  Dymchurch |  New Romney |
|  Lower Leas Coastal Park |  Folkestone |  Seabrook |
|  Cheriton |  Sandgate |  Hawkinge |
|  Lydd | | |

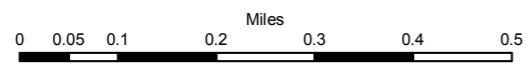


Lydd



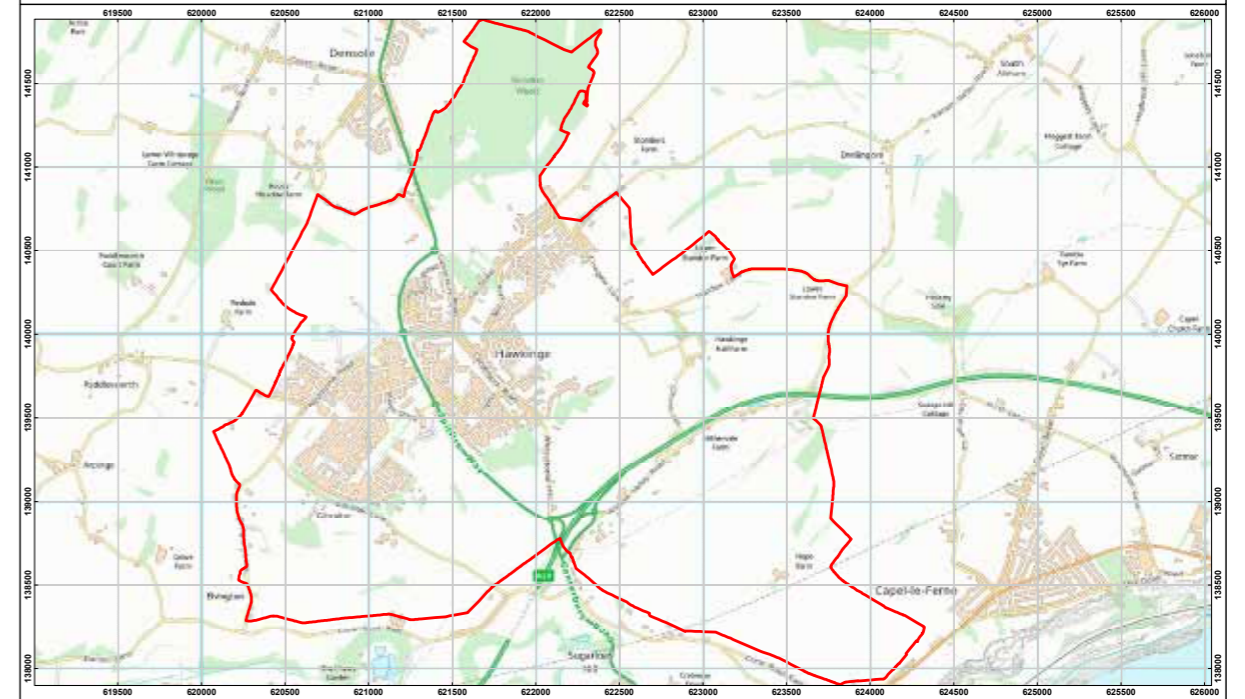
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15 Nov 2018
Drawn by:
Brian Harper
Drawing ref:
0420/CPM/JH

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Hawkinge



Drawn date:
15 Nov 2018
Drawn by:
Brian Harper
Drawing ref:
0938/CPM/JH











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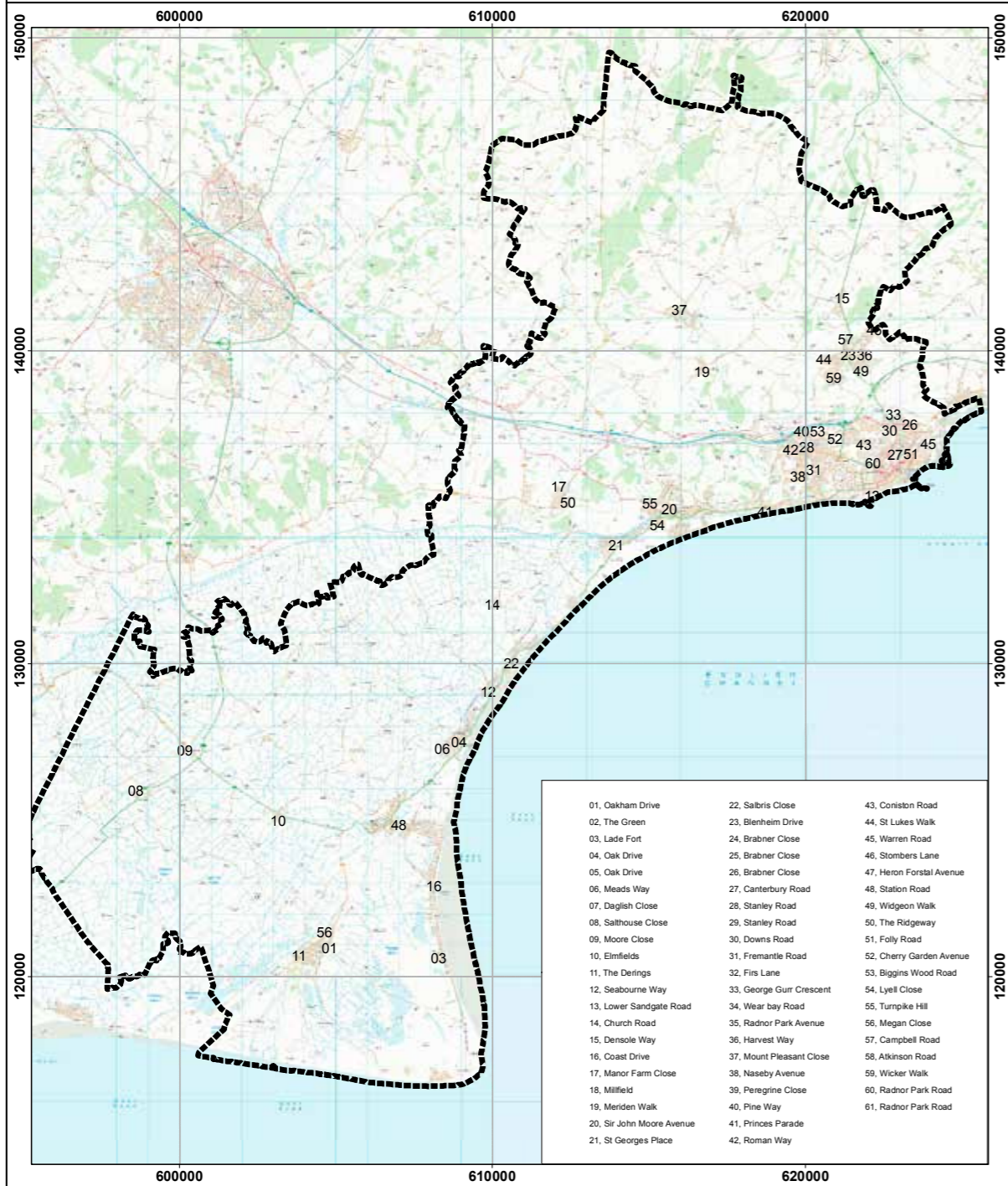
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Area Key

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
|  Hythe High Street & Oaklands |  Dymchurch |  New Romney |
|  Lower Leas Coastal Park |  Folkestone |  Seabrook |
|  Cheriton |  Sandgate |  Hawkinge |
|  Lydd | | |

Public Space Protection Order Boundary - Play Areas



Drawn date:
02 Oct 2018

Drawn by:
Brian Harper

Drawing ref:
FHDC/DPA/LK

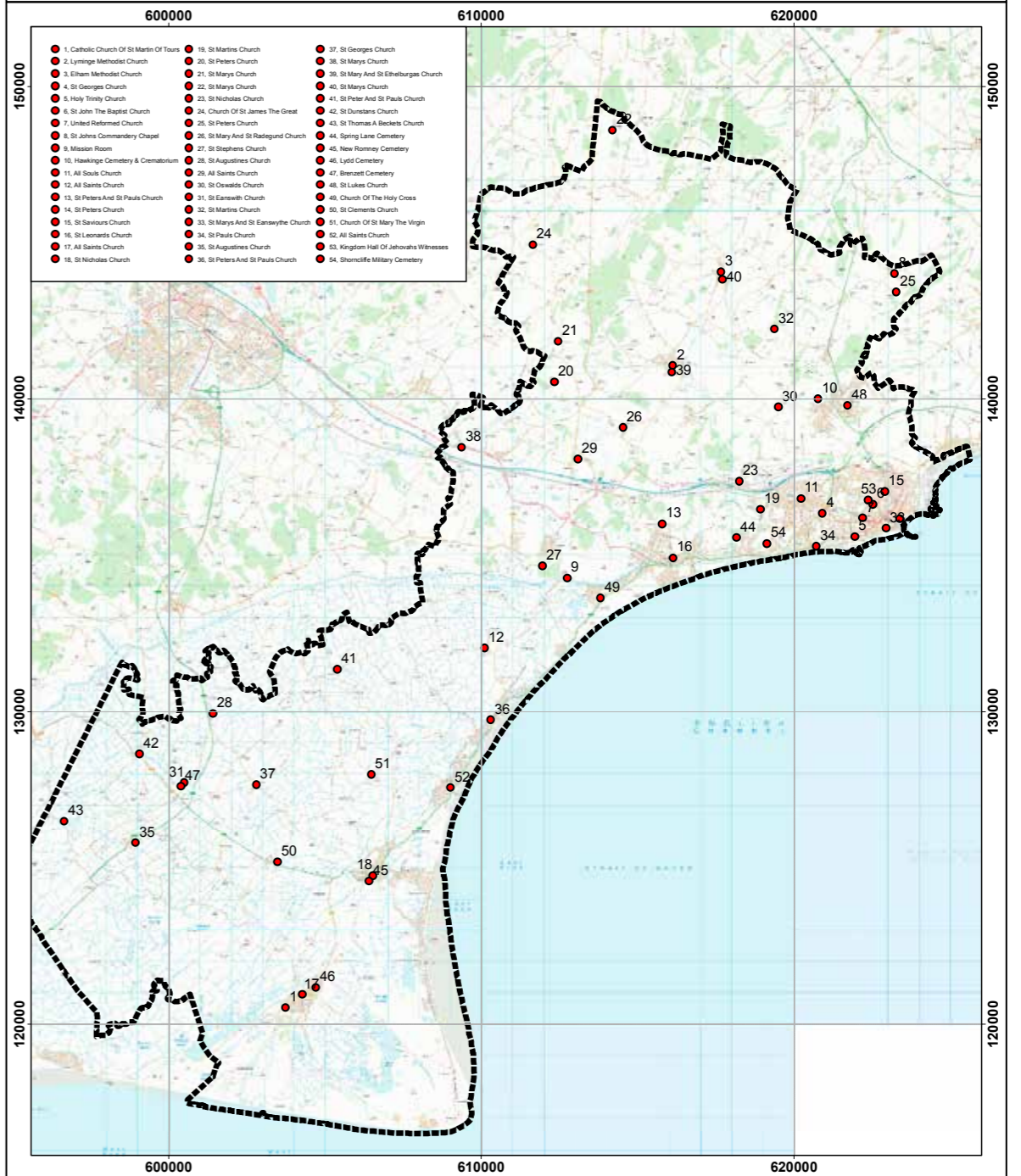
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Miles
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Public Space Protection Order Boundary - Churchyards & Cemeteries



Drawn date:
21 Sep 2018

Drawn by:
Brian Harper

Drawing ref:
FHDC/DPA/LK

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Tell us what you think

The consultation opens on Monday 26 November 2018 and runs for eight weeks.

We would like to invite you to give us your views on our proposals. There are different ways you can do this.

- You can fill in a questionnaire online or download a paper copy at:
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/community/community-safety/PSPO
- Pick up a paper copy from:
 - The Civic Centre**, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone
 - Folkestone Town Council**, 1- 2 Guildhall Street.
 - Hawkinge Town Council**, Hawkinge Community Centre
 - Hythe Town Council**, Stade Street
 - Sandgate Parish Council**, High Street.
 - Dymchurch Parish Council**, 13 Orgarswick Avenue
 - New Romney Town Council**, Town Hall, High Street
 - Lydd Town Council**, 13 High Street
 - Kent Police**, Bouverie Road West, Folkestone

Send your completed questionnaire or write to us at:

PSPO Consultation, Community Safety, F&HDC, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY

You can also:

- Drop your completed questionnaire into any of the above locations
- Email us: community.safety@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk
- Call us **01303 853500** and ask to comment on the Public Spaces Protection Order consultation

Tell us what you think

Or why not come and talk to us at our drop-in event?

Friday 11 January 2019 9:30 - 11:30am

**Folkestone & Hythe District Council,
Civic Centre,
Folkestone,
CT20 2QY**

This consultation will close on Monday 21 January 2019

A copy of the Draft Order with detail for each of the 7 proposed measures is available to view at:

www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/community/community-safety/PSPO



