

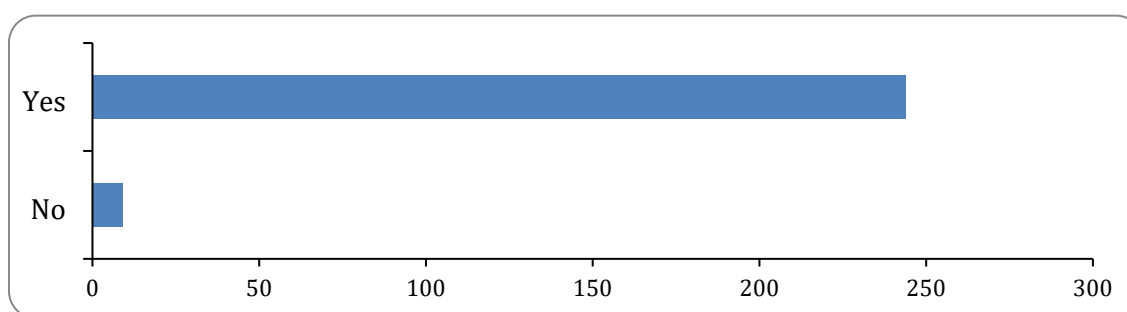
## Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) - The Vine, Sevenoaks

The activity ran from 14/08/2023 to 24/09/2023

Responses to this survey: **253**

### 1: Are you a resident of Sevenoaks District?

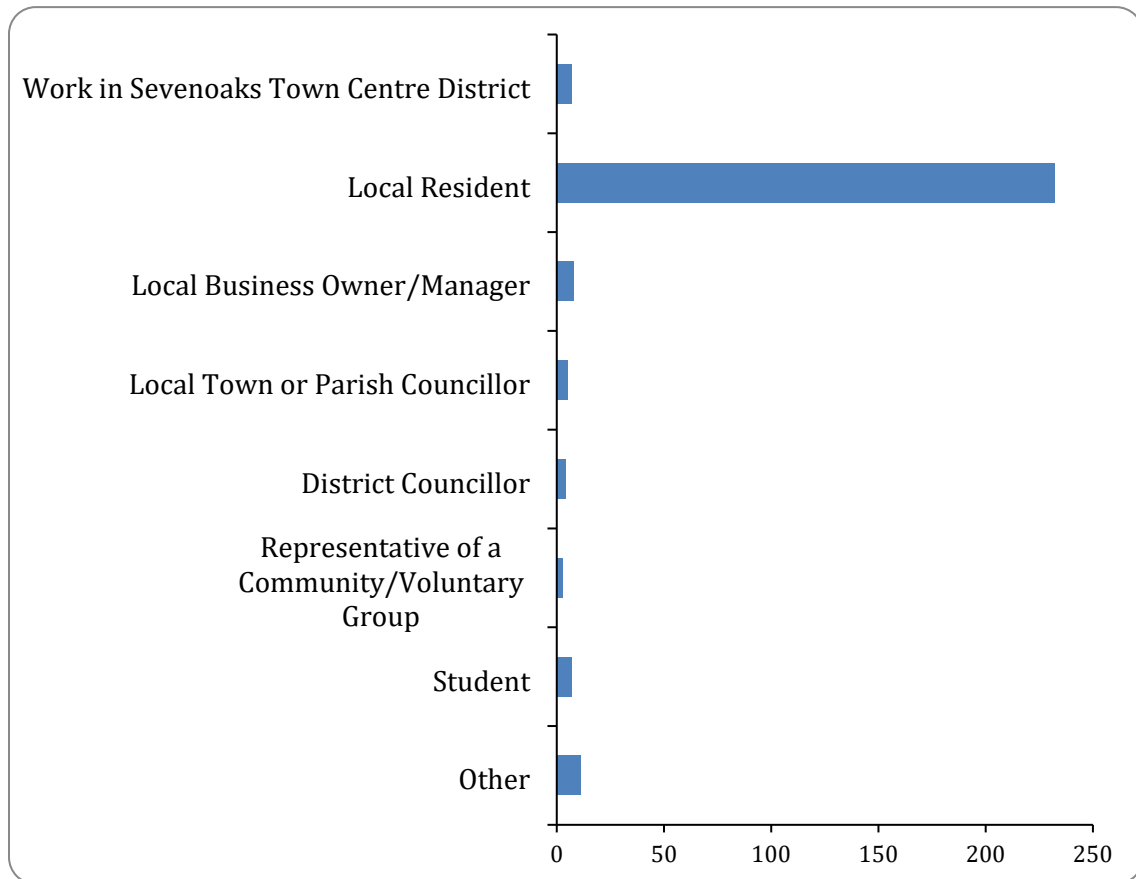
There were 253 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	244	96.44%
No	9	3.56%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

## 2: Who are you responding as?

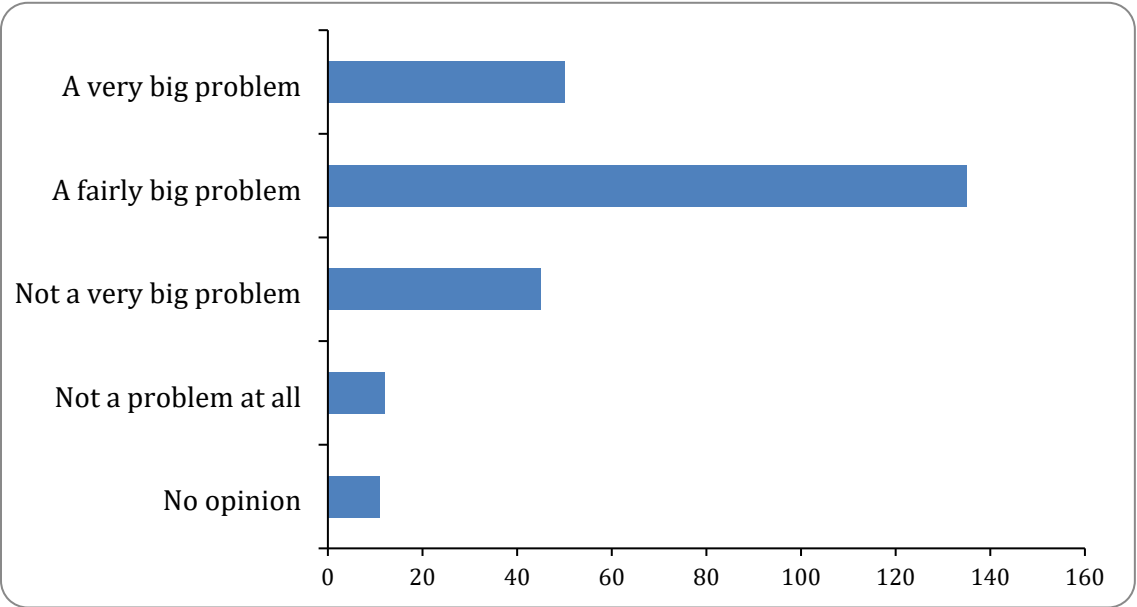
There were 253 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Work in Sevenoaks Town Centre District	7	2.77%
Local Resident	232	91.70%
Local Business Owner/Manager	8	3.16%
Local Town or Parish Councillor	5	1.98%
District Councillor	4	1.58%
Representative of a Community/Voluntary Group	3	1.19%
Student	7	2.77%
Other	11	4.35%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

**3: Thinking about The Vine overall how much of a problem do you think anti-social behaviour (ASB) causes in the area? Is it...**

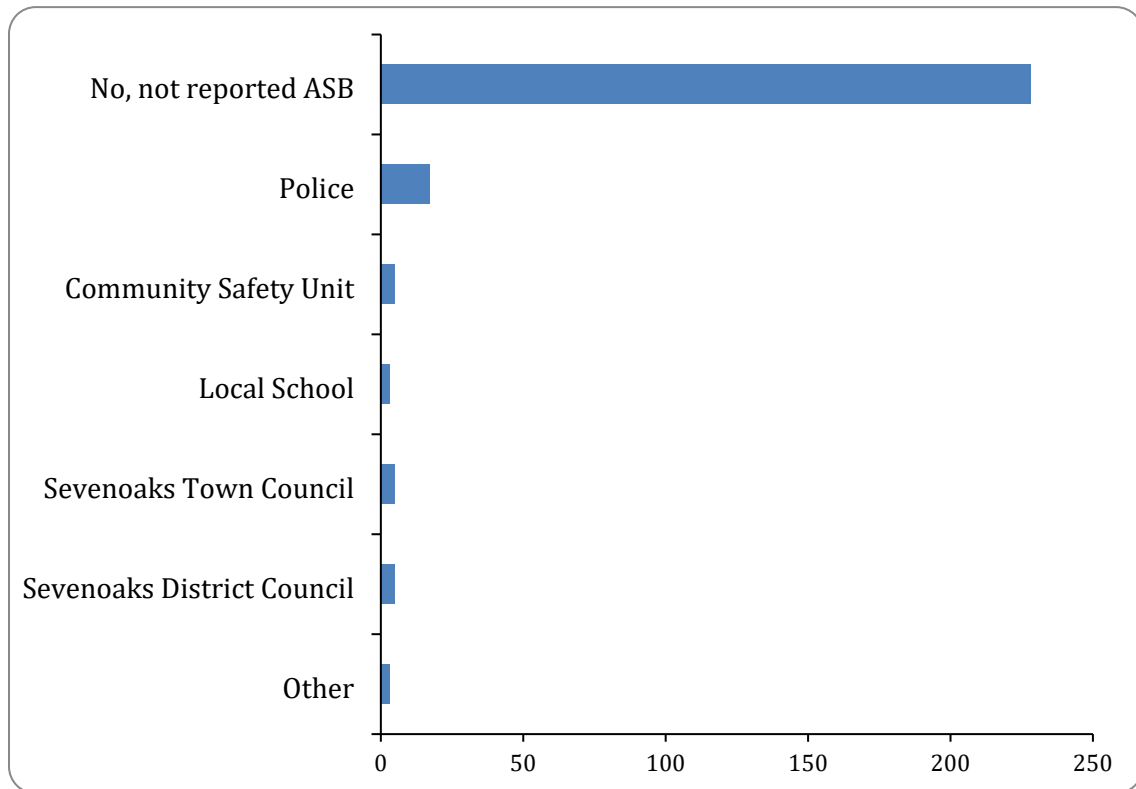
There were 253 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
A very big problem	50	19.76%
A fairly big problem	135	53.36%
Not a very big problem	45	17.79%
Not a problem at all	12	4.74%
No opinion	11	4.35%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

#### 4: Have you reported ASB regarding The Vine and who did you report to?

There were 253 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
No, not reported ASB	228	90.12%
Police	17	6.72%
Community Safety Unit	5	1.98%
Local School	3	1.19%
Sevenoaks Town Council	5	1.98%
Sevenoaks District Council	5	1.98%
Other	3	1.19%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

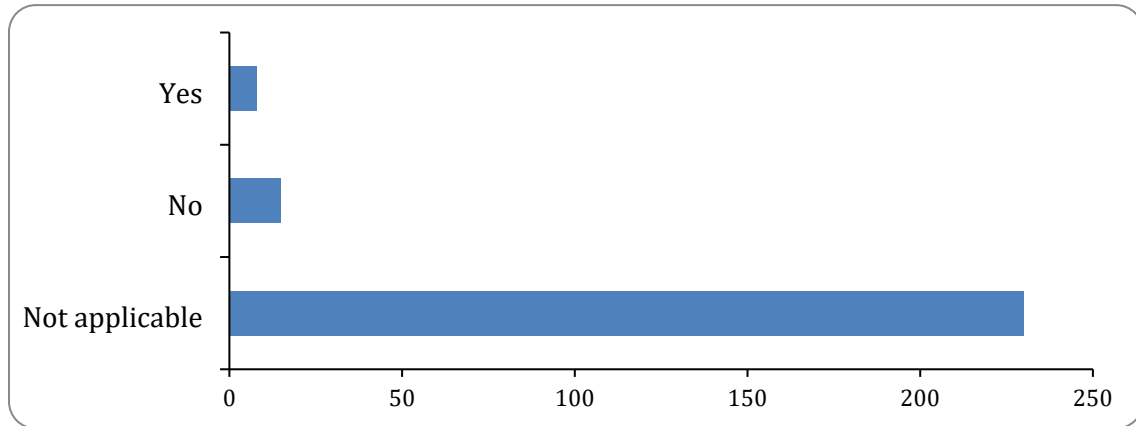
#### If you have selected other please specify

There were 3 responses to this part of the question.

Not at the vine but in Bat and Ball  
Councillor  
Discussed problems with CSU at SDC.

### 5: Do you feel you received a satisfactory response after reporting concerns?

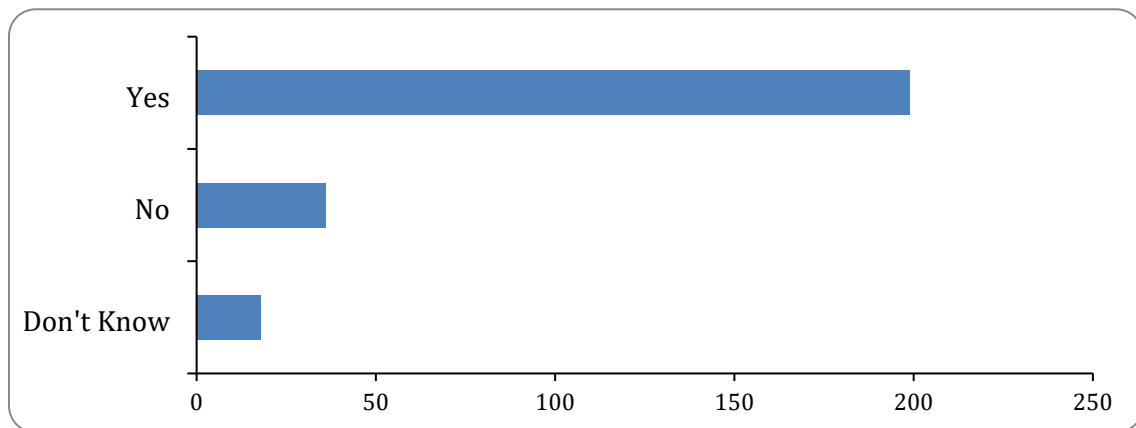
There were 253 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	8	3.16%
No	15	5.93%
Not applicable	230	90.91%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

### 6: Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to deter Anti-social behaviour (ASB) at The Vine, Sevenoaks?

There were 253 responses to this part of the question.



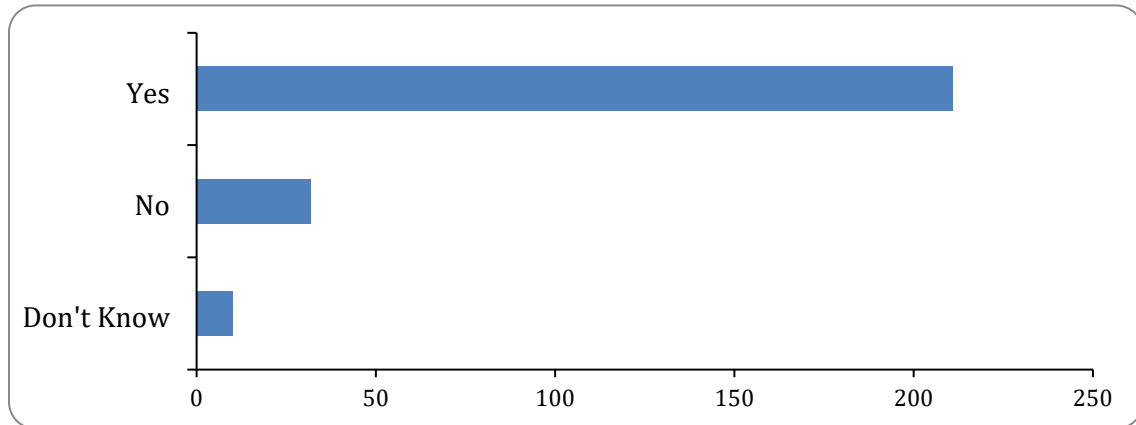
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	199	78.66%
No	36	14.23%
Don't Know	18	7.11%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

## 7: The following activities would be prohibited by the proposed PSPO:

- i. Engaging in anti-social behaviour which is likely to cause harassment, alarm and distress to those persons in the locality.
- ii. Returning to the area within 24 hours after being asked to leave.

### Do you support the activities proposed above?

There were 253 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	211	83.40%
No	32	12.65%
Don't Know	10	3.95%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

## 8: Are there any other activities relating to ASB, which you would like to see included in the PSPO for The Vine, Sevenoaks?

There were 253 responses to this part of the question.

<p>These could be included in the first point above, but I'd like specifically for the following to be called out: public drinking and leaving broken glass and metal bottle caps behind; the playing of amplified music by anyone without specific permission; and vandalism of the cricket pitch equipment and enclosure. I see all of this almost every week.</p>
<p>Please add prohibitions on:</p> <p>Playing amplified music or making other loud noise after 10 PM. This should be included so that there is no debate over whether this behaviour is anti-social. It should also be clear in the order that noise before 10 PM may also be covered by the prohibition on anti-social behaviour.</p>

Setting off fireworks.
Leaving rubbish or disposing of it improperly. Rubbish, broken glass, and metal from bottle caps and cans is a big problem.
7 is not worded well. I think 'activities' in the question should read action. I do not support the listed activities: I do support their prohibition.
Any activity which affects the enjoyment of others of the Vine should be prohibited, especially noise or rowdyism. Currently, there is no restraint on either.
Drinking
Underage drinking , vaping and smoking to be stopped
Banning of alcohol use on The Vine Banning of playing loud music Restriction in the numbers comprising large groups
I would like the council to take measures to ensure that buildings are not damaged ie restricting the access to the roof of the vine
No alcohol after specific hours and no laughing gas or no gases prohibited
Offenders banned from the area
BBQ Racism
Climbing on the building and on to the roof being included as anti-social behaviour. Damaging the cricket square. Drinking alcohol on The Vine, after a certain time curfew (unless has been purchased from Vine clubhouse) - I.e. something in place that deters late night drinking on the vine.
A ban on public drinking should be brought in.
Damage to property and public spaces (eg flowers, ponds, leaving toilets in an unusable state)
Bicycles (not toddlers on kid's bikes) should be banned though I don't know if this is a problem really.
Bicycles (not toddlers on kid's bikes) should be banned though I don't know if this is a problem really.
Believe these steps should be taken at first and then reviewed after a period of time.
Drinking and littering should be punishable by ban and fine
As residents of the locality, we have been witness to instances of antisocial conduct that arise when groups of adolescent individuals congregate near the vineyard. Our fellow residents on St. Botolphs Road have encountered instances of property damage, and it is our unequivocal endorsement that the implementation of a public space order be pursued without reservation.
I'd just like to have some sort of definition of what constitutes ASB - for example I might see children having a happy noisy kick around as a good healthy activity but someone who lives right by the Vine might see it as a noise nuisance.
The previous question is ambiguous. I support blocking all of the ASB activities proposed above
Realistically, a PSPO will do nothing. There are sometimes hundreds of kids on The Vine - trying to disperse this is borderline impossible.
More protective measures should be put in to protect the buildings - too many

occasions kids are on the roof of the pavilion causing damage.
You realistically need police offers manning each Friday and Saturday evening in the summer.
Police to be supported by everyone and for the police to be tough with those who are causing disruption and/or breaking the law.
Leaving trash everywhere
loud music
Drug-taking/ supplying. Vandalism
Also to included at Bat and Ball station
No smoking
There is a lot of underage drinking and soft drug use going on. So I think those behaviours should be addressed
I'm not in favour of ASB.
ASB at 'The Vine' has not directly affected me personally. I do have concerns with the amount of rising ASB generally within the district.
Suffolk way car park + area outside the leisure centre is also problematic on top of the vine
Large gatherings (whether anti-social or not) should be dispersed
Drug taking /selling of drugs
I do not feel there should be large groups gathering for parties and drinking on the Vine.
Sort out greatness skate park too
Safety for all, but more importantly a deterrent to those who could follow the bad behaviour
I have seen people sitting with trolleys stacked with cases of lager - I assume to sell to underage people. This needs to stop.
Underage drinking, drug dealing
Yes dropping litter
Ban on alcohol on the Vine unless at an organised event (eg Beer festival). This would help with the litter problem as well. Question 7 is badly worded - I presume that you mean do I support the ban on the activities listed, not the activities themselves!?
Groups of teenagers on grass, smashing bottles, climbing on the roofs and being intimidating to passers by.
I have seen underage children purchase alcohol from shop by the lights.
Drug dealing Alcohol Littering
Large crowds of teenagers from out of town, drinking, using nox canisters etc and harassing locals.
Teenagers need a place to gather. I don't know whether the Asb is caused by locals or people travelling in to sevenoaks from surrounding areas to cause trouble. If the latter then this should be policed rather than restricting locals.



Just being present
Existing police powers for dispersement should be enough assuming the police are present
Throwing objects Loud music Littering Fighting Shouting and screaming after 8pm Drinking alcohol
Under age drinking
With the expansion of off road buggies and Quad bikes getting cheaper areas like the Vine are going to seem attractive to invade; I therefore think a sign banning such vehicles with a hefty fine should be displayed.
Drinking alcohol in public areas other than recreational spaces. For example on roads, public transport.
Leaving litter (particularly drugs paraphernalia, drink bottles etc.)
Destruction to property
It will be hard to enforce 24 hour ban. Is it possible to stop drinking outdoors?
Drinking alcohol and taking legal highs
The definition of ASB appears to be comprehensive, but I would suggest identifying drinking alcohol as an activity.
I feel as a Senokian having lived my life close to The Vine I found it really sad that this situation. In my youth there were Police patrolled all the open spaces twice an evening. If they found young couples in the huts we were told to leave in no uncertain terms, lack of Police presents surely is a factor.
Please Ensure it includes land to the East of the Vine (bordering Seal Hollow Road) the Pavilion Gardens and land to North of and around the War Memorial. Otherwise, for the notices issued by the CSU in Spring 2023 relating to the Vine ASB the gangs of youths exit the Vine and linger on these adjacent areas which they deem to be 'safe'
Drug taking and drinking
It isn't just the vine, it also occurs up and down at Botolphs road between the vine and the train station as it appears those coming in from outside of Sevenoaks are often the offenders and create an unpleasant environment on the road that connects these two points.
Graffiti.
People should not be permitted to let off fireworks or play loud music
They should also be required to move on after 11 pm
Inclusion of Holly Bush Park/ area .... We have noticed that the kids in the vine are simply now moving down to the holly bush park area - music and groups in the evening and we have had graffiti to the house on holly bush lane and litter / fly tipping of shopping carts etc in the park area
I would like to see citizens of all ages treated with dignity and respect at all times
Police support needed on St Botolphs road after these gatherings (after gcse and a levels finish and results days)
Cameras put up at the vine

Ensure whole Vine area is included, not just the cricket pitch.
No alcohol allowed on the vine when there is no event taking place
Underage drinking. Large gatherings
Drinking alcohol Loud music
Exclusion zone on bonfire night and roundtable fireworks night
Removal of their alcohol and / or drugs
I would like proof of anti-social behaviour before such drastic measures
Please can we just police the Vine area on the weekend nights, walking into and back from town for/after a drink or something to eat is fairly intimidating when these groups congregate.
Fines for littering and underage drinking
No. This is an intermittent problem for which there are existing tools for dispersal. Cooperation between authorities and agencies has proved effective when done well.
Police presence to enforce
Noise disturbance and mess
Aggressive behaviour
Meeting in groups over 5 people after 8pm
The problem of drugs has to be addressed as this results in even worse behaviour, anything the police can do to deal with this would be appreciated. Support for the police from local shops selling alcohol in bulk to young people would also help, possibly reminding of the age limits for selling it would also help!
Not to cause damage to property or the ground at the Vine.
Many of the issues are caused by kids travelling into Sevenoaks from other areas by train. When the police disperse groups of youths, the problems just move to other areas. This needs to be considered. Can the order include the confiscation of alcohol from people without ID?
Many of the issues are caused by kids travelling into Sevenoaks from other areas, often by train. When the police do disperse people, the problems often move to other areas and this needs to be considered. More than once, we have seen resulting disruption of rail services.
Damage/vandalism and especially anti-social behaviour affecting the nearby residents in a lovely area.
No apart from general noise, litter , intimidating nature of groups gathering and walking and blocking pavements and roads near the vine
There should be no PSPO, there should be police or wardens to reassure young people who meet on the vine. Youth is not catered for in Sevenoaks.
A
Alcohol drinking
Try to put in place some measures to deter youths from hanging out there later in the evenings so constant patrolling of area and an easy community reporting of real time issues would help
Excessive noise/music in evenings from youths gathering even when not behaving badly
I do not think is a PSPO is appropriate
Partying and drinking in the Vine

Littering! Noise esp after 11pm. Concerned that the anti-social activities may move to Judd place. Can that be included please?
The above proposals are vague, presumably in order to cover as many aspects of ASB as possible. I assume cycling, littering (including gas canisters), drug taking, and damage to the cricket pitch (howsoever caused) are included in the term antisocial behaviour.
Police patrol
No. But does the remit of this PSPO limit community events such as the lions club beer festival and cricket match enjoyment?
Regular police presence in Sevenoaks town centre from Thursday and over the weekend
I don't like the idea of giving Councillors powers to fine. We need more police officers, not to empower Councillors.
Noise
Most teenagers are just having fun socialising with friends. I live by the Vine & it's nice to see everyone meeting up on Friday eves. It's only a few that ruin it. Young people need somewhere to meet - they'll move on s'where else if it's not the Vine. Obviously aggressive or rude behaviour & drugs are not acceptable but I hope young people will still be able to enjoy meeting up there in the future - just without those who have spoilt it.
Ban on drug/gas taking
Littering
No open alcohol and those breaching the order be searched for illicit drugs. The smell of cannabis is appalling and the behaviour is terrible.
The size of groups congregating to be controlled
Alcohol and other substances banned.
Consumption of alcohol
Sevenoaks town should not allow shops that sell alcohol and/or vapes near the Vine
The definition given above is quite wide and would cover excessive noise and rowdy behaviour. Also there are no toilets open on the vine in the evening so the kids often go on to private property in the surrounding areas to relieve themselves.
The seating area in the wood just off The Vine on the opposite side of Holly Bush Lane is also subject to anti-social behaviour and underage drinking. This wooded area should also be included in the PSPO.
Checks on under age drinking
No alcohol
No drugs
Fly tipping and binge drinking in public spaces. Littering public spaces with beer cans etc.,
A lockdown on vaping/drinking and checking the local off licenses aren't selling underage.
Unknown
Driving of vehicles with noise exhausts.
Why the focus on the Vine?
There's regular anti-social behaviour in the Riverhead area, with little or nothing done to manage it.
I think the proposals if followed through should be effective

Riding bikes carelessly on the paths and green.
Damage to trees and plants
Damage to the physical environment specifically
Dogs
Dogs off their leads
I think the question above is confusing. I fully back any actions taken to stop anti-social behaviour. I think those outlined should suffice as long as police attend when called.
Drinking
Drugs
Vandalism
Violence
Prevent large gatherings of youths
Drinking alcohol outside of a formal / organised event.
Littering and damage to property
What happens when they move off the vine and cause trouble elsewhere?
underage drinking
Music to have a time and volume restriction.
Bikes and e-scooters being ridden on pavements.
If it is considered necessary installing cctv could be a deterrent
Littering and Barbeques
These young people need somewhere to go and a way to entertain themselves in a way that is safe for everyone. Just making them leave one area is going to create a problem in another. Find ways to get the youth occupied and entertained in other ways. Perhaps they don't have the cash to do any activities themselves, perhaps their parents didn't teach them how, not everyone is lucky with their parents. Just to view them as monsters without offering alternative is not helpful.
That should be sufficient though a ban on drinking on the Vine might be considered.
Large groups gathering making a lot of noise and being abusive.
<b>No or Don't Knows x 116 responses</b>

## 9: Please write down any further comments you may have about the PSPO.

There were 253 responses to this part of the question.

I fully support anything that will allow the majority of the public to use this space without having a dog's paw cut by glass, without having to see (and eventually help pay to fix) vandalism, without being subjected to other people's loud music, and without fearing large groups of people suddenly turning up and acting rowdy.
I wholly support some action. The Vine is one of the Town's greatest assets. It is to be enjoyed by all residents and visitors. Further, local residents, who are prepared to accept 'legitimate' evening events at the cricket club, should not be expected to have to contend with noise levels which intrude on the enjoyment of their own homes.
Welcome it
Stopping underage activities

Alcohol plays a large part in the anti-social behaviour on The Vine, particularly with large groups of young people.
The playing of loud music which is a common occurrence during the summer months from both small and large groups is a major problem for residents and for other visitors' quiet enjoyment of the area.
Litter is also a problem. The Council are good at clearing this but consideration should be given to more bins on the area.
It should not impact the use of the space by younger children wishing to play
The Vine should be a peaceful area for residents and visitors.
It is important that people respect the right of the people of all colour, religion and age
It is a great idea
The children gather there as there are no other safe spaces for them to go. This also needs to be addressed. Also better lights and CCTV on the vine might help also.
The young people causing problems on the Vine do not represent the behaviour of most of the teens in the community, and should not be allowed to tarnish the reputation of the majority.
Some Parents seem to avoid responsibility for the actions of their youngsters: I think they should be subjected to a 'meeting' with the officials concerned so they can be 'made aware'.
Some Parents seem to avoid responsibility for the actions of their youngsters: I think they should be subjected to a 'meeting' with the officials concerned so they can be 'made aware'.
Fully support making the town a safer space
Good plan - hope it works for Sevenoaks
We are talking about managing children.
I see no need to give the Police extra powers in order to preserve calm on the Vine. I am sure that if the Police were to turn up when there is unruly behaviour, the unruly behaviour would abate.
I am also clear that the solution to this is not to do with policing. It is to do with looking at the causes of the problem and - in particular - finding other activities for the children to do.
I am against using a PSPO to manage children's behaviour.
The time and money devoted to this proposed PSPO would be better spent funding recreational and community activities at other venues in the vicinity that would be of interest to teenagers, so they had some other things to do and places to go, rather than congregate on the Vine. A PSPO should be a last resort, not the first choice, otherwise NIMBYISM will simply transfer the perceived problem elsewhere.
I am the County Council Representative for Sevenoaks Town. No resident has written to me concerning this issue. But I am aware of some of the issues that have occurred. They seem to have been dealt with adequately within current provisions. I am concerned that if the order is enforced we are simply going to displace the problem

and not provide a solution. I would be happy to work with all stakeholders to find such a solution.
I need more information - for example while I would definitely not want young people dealing drugs in the area I wouldn't want to stop teenagers just 'hanging out' with their mates - better on the Vine even if they are a bit noisy and maybe even drop a bit of litter than trying to sneak into a pub underage.
Tougher action needs to be taken to stop all ASB in the town. Including targeted shoplifting but youths & general intimidating behaviour of a handful of young people beyond the Vine. Stopping the proliferation of vape shops & off licenses would help
See above
Fully support this - Sevenoaks is a wonderful place but can easily go downhill if allowed to by not being tough with ASB issues.
well done
The opening of a vape and alcohol shop across the road is encouraging the anti-social behaviours and shouldn't have been allowed.
I believe that the police already have adequate powers to deal with misbehavior at The Vine. This has been demonstrated in recent weeks. The bigger picture is whether there is enough police in the town to nip this type of behaviour in the bud.
Unsociable behaviour by teens at Bat and Ball station.
Twice reported youngsters on the roof of Bat and Ball station
Vi haven't experienced any ASB but I'm generally only in town in the daytime
Surely anti-social behaviour and underage drinking is already illegal and law enforcement has the requisite powers to enforce this.
If the children aren't on the vine they will be somewhere else and the vine is probably a safer place than most.
This sounds like a politicised effort and I would rather see positive efforts than victimisation.
Consideration should be given to providing spaces and facilities where teenagers can get together and socialise in the local community. I'm worried this order would just move the problem to somewhere else and doesn't address the underlying issues.
Ridiculous policy - no real ASB happening in sevenoaks
Suffolk way car park + area outside the leisure centre is also problematic on top of the vine
Lots of areas by Suffolk way car park are poorly lit
The pavement on the vine side of the street and the vine itself is poorly lit makes the whole situation way more intimidating.
Only effective if the area is policed between 7pm and 10pm
I support the application on behalf of those Residents who regularly use or live close to the Vine.
Pandemic summer of 2020 the Vine was a wonderful space for local teenagers to meet. It was a post lockdown open space refuge for many young people from the local market town of Sevenoaks.

Subsequently it has become a magnet for south London teens who walk there from Sevenoaks station. This has changed the atmosphere and sadly the lovely Vine is not the haven it was.
I have always found the Vine to be a peaceful place to sit and enjoy the surroundings in the past and would not hesitate walking through it at night. I avoid the area in the evenings now especially on the weekends as feel intimidated by large non cricket gatherings. I am also concerned about the damage on the Vine and the cost to us as a community in the clearing up of the mess left.
This has been going on since I was a child and I'm nearly 50 the skate park at greatness is just as awful, we need more policing these areas, kids are drinking, smoking weed and then causing havoc, stealing people's bikes and scooters then trashing them
Great for something to be done to deter it
Whilst I agree that some of the behaviour has been unacceptable - my daughter has also met friends there on a summers evening. There are very few facilities in Sevenoaks for the young people and the vine feels a safer place to meet than tucked away in Knole park
I think it is very positive that the police are taking this action
More needs to be done, ASB will just occur in another location
A good idea.
It seems to me that the police have had sufficient powers to deal with the trouble so far. The Vine is this year's gathering place and we know where they are likely to be. If this order was implemented they would simply move elsewhere. The problem will probably diminish as the weather gets worse
Think it's about time something's done
It's more needed at Bat and Ball station and station road Greatness And Tesco riverhead car park
Speeding cars on both sides of Vine also are a harassment.
Its bit necessary to disperse well behaved kids, they need somewhere to hang out, but when kids come looking for trouble, that needs to be dealt with and deterred.
Applying restrictions to one area will just move the problem elsewhere. Better to address the causes.
Again being seen to be present
Potentially it will just spread ASB to other areas in the district.
This is pointless unless you provide decent leisure and social facilities and spaces for young people to congregate. What is available right now is derisory yet you charge a huge amount of council tax.
Common sense policing is all that is needed. Sometimes it's just an explanation and a hint that is needed - sometimes it's much more it's just dependent on the culprit. I have every confidence in the policing I have seen.
One person alone may not be sufficient.
We need proper policing and punishment
The proposed PSPO is long overdue at the Vine. Putting it in place sends a clear message that the Police and the Council mean business. It also sends the message that if a PSPO can be applied to The Vine it can be applied anywhere.
We in Sevenoaks would like a Station open in the town

See above
There is a lack of policing almost entirely on Friday and Saturday evenings and nights which is resulting in the anti-social behaviour. This needs to be addressed through presentation of the police.
I have answered 'don't know' to questions 6 and 7 as I live opposite Holly Bush rec ground and am worried that your PSOP will move the ASB further my way. If you included Holly Bush in this PSPO then I think it is a good idea, for both areas. I have recently had my front wall daubed with paint as has my neighbour, we live on Holly Bush Lane opposite the vehicular entrance to the recreation ground. We feel alarmed and distressed by young people congregating in this entrance.
Inclusion of Holly Bush Park/ area .... We have noticed that the kids in the vine are simply now moving down to the holly bush park area - music and groups in the evening and we have had graffiti to the house on holly bush lane and litter / fly tipping of shopping carts etc in the park area
Risk moving problem from a fairly confined space to other locations across Sevenoaks then having unhappy groups walking around less secure areas
This measure will tend to demonise young people. I believe that there are sufficient existing police powers to mitigate occasional criminal behaviour
The biggest problem is the local teenagers (and others who get the train to Sevenoaks and walk up the hill) who congregate at the vine and drink smoke vape drugs. They can be fairly intimidating and leave lots of rubbish. A few months ago, after gcse exams had clearly finished, we had a group walking back to the station and one boy ran into our drive (St Botolphs road) and tried to kick our front door down as a dare.
It's a good idea and about time
This is obviously in relation to young people gathering there at the weekend. Please can we think more inclusively and try to find a way to entertain these youngsters rather than deter them. There is literally nothing in Sevenoaks for teenagers under the age of 18. After lockdown, the majority are just looking for a place to hang with their friends. Can we please find a way to support them to do this safely?
I feel sad this is required and hope another area in Sevenoaks doesn't now have the same problem.
Trouble is also caused by people walking down Dartford Road towards St John's Hill on a Friday & Saturday night: litter in gardens, pulling up estate agent signs, removing bricks from a neighbour's wall.
Great idea and important for the area
It will need to be policed properly More CCTV cameras are needed down there
If it is only applied to the Vine, would the people causing the behaviour not be expected to target other local open spaces, such as Hollybush Rec and Greatness Rec, where it will be less immediately visible but just as unwanted?
The ASB is caused by drinking alcohol and smoking weed so they need to be made to surrender what they have on them. This will discourage returning.
This is outrageous & where is the proof of such anti-social behaviour before enforcing such drastic measures
Living within a short walk of The Vine, I've never seen any anti-social behaviour so if any does occur it's likely very rare. If there is any anti-social behaviour then the current tools available to the local police will suffice. The Tory MP Trott is likely to follow her



government's lead in using this as an excuse for suppression or restriction of enjoyment of open spaces by the wider community, and this is simply a low common denominator method of trying to win votes in the next election.
How will it be policed?
Making an issue of complete non-issue
I am unclear how consultees can respond to the proposal without more detail. Residents are being consulted without knowing the methods, penalties, implications of the order. What restrictions would there be on the use of the space? What would trigger action? Would it criminalise young people? How does this deter ASB? Is there evidence that such orders are effective? This consultation is too broad brush and risks damaging consequences to the young people whose socialising is being addressed.
Rubbish is left every weekend. Disgraceful mess
ASAP
This is a good idea but young people do need an alternative safe space where they can positively engage such as the switch in Maidstone. They need a cool place to hang out not the place under the stag! But somewhere new and inviting with young mentors that engage with them but also let them enjoy the space independently.
Any additional support in order to assist the police who have to deal with this issue should be supported, they cannot deal with this on their own - parents must be involved also - perhaps some kind of sanction might encourage them to take more interest in the behaviour of their children.
The council should not have the power to enforce any fines or enforcement they are not under oath.
We should let young kids such as teenagers enjoy their social time. Unfortunately, there no places in Sevenoaks for the kids. Just because they sit in the evening on the Vine it doesn't mean they're the troublemakers. Make some space for young generation please.
I personally passed over or by the Vine 4-5 times weekly in last 20 Years that I live here and I have never experienced any problem.
Many thanks
The same issues impact Hollybush Park area also and this needs to be taken into account as well.
The same issues impact the Hollybush Park area and this should be included within the scope of the order.
I assume the police would have (or already do have) the power to confiscate alcohol from people who do not have ID?
Everything should be protected around this area of The Vine. Respect is what is required here, both for the memorial at The Vine, the walled gardens with seats for people to use - somewhere peaceful away from the hurly burly of traffic and parking etc. This area represents the town of Sevenoaks, its character, the trees etc. A quiet place to sit in and enjoy, or watch the cricket. Anti-social behaviour should not be tolerated here.
If this is enacted, the anti-social behaviour will move elsewhere, probably to Knole Paddock rugby club where it will be even less visible.

A concern that there is nowhere else suitable for young people to meet in sevenoaks. I understand that they want to congregate and socialise and for many this is harmless fun but for some I have a concern that there seems to be a large number of underage youths drinking alcohol, vaping , and smoking
Definitely not needed. If people are breaking the law then arrest or caution them. Young people need a place to meet friend that is not a family home. They also need a toilet after 6pm! They will be driven into Knole Park where there can be no adult help to hand. They are youths who live here and cannot be at risk of a record or being vilified for meeting friends on the Vine. Adults did it on round table's beer festival!
No but I am concerned that activity may move to the Plymouth Drive rugby pitches as has been seen before.
Good idea
I think this is a great initiative and should be considered for other areas in the district too
Large gatherings and behaviour have deteriorated enormously in 2023 and causing major disruptions to residents around the vine. New local shop it's also selling alcohol/e-smoking stuff to under-age youths fueling disorder.
I do not think is a PSPO is appropriate
Good idea
Teenagers are anti-social when they stay at home on social media and they're anti-social when they go out and socialise. What do you want?
A PSPO for the Vine is long overdue. This historic heart of the town, which used to be treated with respect, has been disgracefully abused over the past few years, especially during Covid lockdowns. Those who live nearby have my particular sympathy.
Punish and fine parents
I believe that this could and should be resolved by a strong presence of the police. Two or more very visible police patrolling the Vine all evening for as long as it takes. The trouble makers would eventually drift away. This is what the police are for. If SDC need to help fund "extra" police presence this would be acceptable.
Can we have some clarity on what constitutes "anti-social behaviour which is likely to cause harassment, alarm and distress to those persons in the locality?"
I would like to see a clearer definition of what actions may be considered As anti-social. Children should be allowed to gather there and socialise as it is a public space. I worry the residents would view innocent gatherings and socialising as anti-social even if no harm was caused. I do appreciate that there have been clear problems but I would be interested to know to what extent just using the public space would fall under this umbrella
I appreciate it may be a different aspect however I do see the aspect of creating space(s) for young people in Sevenoaks to be able to meet - which in turn potentially can keep things more in "check". I have found that it is not just at The Vine young people are beginning to congregate but at other "spots" around town. Again this is an "extension" of the discussion around anti-social behaviour which I do agree needs to be addressed and handled along the lines as outlined in the proposal.
Much ado about nothing?
We need more police officers to deal with anti-social behaviour. Not Councillors issuing fines.
An excellent idea

Please ensure that individuals under the age of 18 who take part in the antisocial behaviours covered by the PSPO, and their families, are given relevant support to ensure the behaviours do not reoccur. The young people in this area need more emotional and relational support than they are currently being given. We are not going to be able to eliminate the behaviours unless we address the underlying causes- and that requires full family support, not just a warning or conviction from the police.
Do you have a plan for where the youth of Sevenoaks should go to spend their time?
If you don't, then the proposed PSPO is an even more stupid idea than it first appears.
I am totally unsupportive of this proposed approach.
Good if it means it's clear what is acceptable & what is not
Is there a danger that asb will be displaced from the Vine to other areas eg Knole Park, car parks in town centre, station etc. what will be done to monitor and ensure that this doesn't happen or if it does that it is dealt with.
If they breach these orders, can criminal proceedings be made please!
It would be nice to have a safe space for teenagers developed in the area.
Will it move the kids somewhere else. Many come from out of area.
I think this is totally unfair and unnecessary. Sevenoaks offers young people no indoor or outdoor spaces in which to socialise, something which is critical to their well-being. To restrict access to the Vine would be to restrict their mental health so I am completely opposed to this. Let's support our young people rather than limit them.
I feel anti-social behavior is becoming increasingly problematic and having measures in place to curb it are essential.
I think this is a disgrace and perhaps you ought to consider how you can support the youngsters by providing spaces for them to socialise whether indoors or out. Our youngsters need to be able to have the ability to socialise safely and respectfully so a real consideration should be a what can we do for them attitude, not to brandish them as a nuisance.
I would like to hear how this can be achieved by the council and the police.
I do think that teens should be able to enjoy outdoor spaces in reasonably sized groups and I don't think that the terrible behaviour of a few should spoil the enjoyment of local spaces for others as there are very few areas for teens to go
It's a shame that some feel its ok to behave like this, when many young people of the area would love to use the space just to meet friends...and relax!
Or use the space for a specific activity aimed at teens... eg festival/ concerts/skills hub?
An alcohol free zone
There should be a stricter control on shops that agree to sell alcohol and/or vapes to under aged students
How will it be enforced? The problem gatherings seem to occur randomly on Friday evening with the occasional Saturday evening. There are periods when there are no large problematic gatherings.
This proposal really concerns me both as a resident and a parent. It worries me about power like this being given to local Councillors. I really don't think we have a huge issue with anti-social behaviour and in instances where it occurs I feel it is more appropriately dealt with by the police who are trained properly and have an understanding of the law.

<p>Whilst I agree that the ASB needs to be dealt with, I just hope that it won't stop all teenagers from using the space responsibly. It would be a shame if the behaviour of a few ruin it for everyone else. But enabling it to be a safe space to be used would be good. I currently wouldn't let my children go there at the moment due to the reputation of what has been going on.</p>
<p>I support the pspo but there is a lack of suitable places and activities for young people to meet and do in the sevenoaks area. The introduction of a pspo should be part of a wider plan to improve facilities for young people in the area.</p>
<p>Gypsies must be prevented from staking pitches in public spaces.</p>
<p>It can be a very threatening space even as an adult. We have stopped using it for our evening dog walks.</p>
<p>Why the focus on the Vine? There's regular anti-social behaviour in the Riverhead area, with little or nothing done to manage it.</p>
<p>It would be reassuring if a councilor/member of the police responded to this statement.</p>
<p>Good luck!</p>
<p>I think it needs careful and firm policing.</p>
<p>Hope it's successful. Then you can look at sorting out the behaviour in Riverhead Tesco car park.</p>
<p>No reason not to have it as a tool to use</p>
<p>Any kid found to be causing anti-social behaviour shouldn't just be asked to leave, they should be arrested and only released once their parents have collected them and given a warning.</p>
<p>I fully back protecting the Vine which is an important historical and social space for the town. When large gangs of disruptive young people congregate that it deters other users and often they leave litter and even damage to the area.</p>
<p>Report back to parents and have them take responsibility for their child's behaviour</p>
<p>It's a great idea and important to make residents feel safe. Also important for the security of local businesses.</p>
<p>The key is to provide the CSU and the Police with the flexibility to apply common sense for the Community so that they can't hide behind small print leading to delay and inaction frustrating the Community they serve.</p>
<p>It should cover the multistory car park/gym car park/playing field next to gym which also collects similar activity</p>
<p>Need to see more of a presence in all areas of the District</p>
<p>I encountered no anti-social behaviour and only vaguely heard of any. But I do get my dog off the lead on the cricket ground and so do countless dog walkers. This is the only place near we can let them run freely. A PSPO would take away that freedom. Does the basic law not give power to the police to prevent anti-social behaviour without needing a PSPO? Is the problem really that big? Isn't this just going to displace the problem to another location in Sevenoaks instead of addressing it?</p>
<p>It is unfortunately, in these difficult times to consider all possible ways to help in making Sevenoaks a safer place in which to live.</p>
<p>This should cover the disgraceful damaging activities which youths do on the green. But shouldn't prevent dog walkers letting well trained dogs off of lead on cricket</p>

ground where so many dogs play together when no cricket on. Such a shame to be banning dogs off lead in so many places
Please can we continue to let our dog off the lead
A super above
Disturbance anywhere at night when residents are trying to sleep affects quality of life. Not only that it will also put people from living in the locality. It is therefore unfair to ignore the problems as they will only increase.
Ensure the people are disbursed and do not return and are arrested and punished if they ignore the order
Ensure the situation is policed accordingly
Unfortunately it is a shame it is necessary
<b>No or N/A x 107</b>