

West Mercia Constabulary  
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 Bromsgrove  
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 B60 2 DF



**WEST MERCIA  
 CONSTABULARY**  
 TOGETHER - WORKING FOR SAFETY AND JUSTICE

11<sup>th</sup> December 2008

Sharon Smith  
 Principal Licensing Officer  
 Planning & Environment Services  
 The Council House, Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove  
 Worcestershire  
 B60 1AA

Dear Sharon,

**Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places) Regulations  
 2007- Application for COFTON HACKETT**

Please find the enclosed response form relating to the above proposed Order. As you will see there is little evidence in support of the application. May I refer you also to the attached CDRP Analyst's report and that of the Local Policing Sergeant for this area.

I understand that PS WILKES has already liaised with Cllr. McDonald as part of this process and in addition let me add a reassurance to Mr McDonald and his constituents that the Local Policing Team and District Support Staff will continue to monitor the situation.

Yours sincerely

**Police Constable  
 1747 Mark Townsend  
 Local Policing Support Team  
 Bromsgrove Police Station**

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**Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 – Section 13(4)  
Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places)  
Regulations 2007**

**RESPONSE TO A REQUEST TO INTRODUCE A DESIGNATED PUBLIC  
PLACES ORDER (Alcohol Free Zone)**

1. Proposed designated area:

Areas in Cofton Hackett, Rubery Policing Sector identified as:

GROVELEY LANE  
ASHMEAD DRIVE  
CHESTNUT DRIVE  
PARSONAGE DRIVE  
MIDDLE DRIVE  
OAKFIELD DRIVE  
ASHMEAD RISE

2. Are the Police in support of introducing an Order in the above-mention area?  
Please give your reasons:

No, there is insufficient evidence at this time to support the application for an order

3. Does the area identified on the enclosed location plan, accurately cover all known 'hot spots'? If not, please return the enclosed location plan indicating what other areas need to be included or excluded:

Yes

P.T.O

4. If the Police are NOT in support, please give your reasons:

Please see the attached report from Bromsgrove's CDRP Analyst, Emily Humphreys. The Analyst's report is derived from data collated from the Police CRIMES database between 1 June 2007 and 27 November 2008 (18 months).

In summary, during this period, only 4 incidents out of a total of 59 reports of Anti Social Behaviour in the proposed Alcohol Free Zone , were flagged up as Having been alcohol related.

In addition, Rubery Local Policing Sergeant, PS Mark WILKES, having reviewed this data, sees little value in pursuing the application any further. (Copy also attached)

Based on this evidence, we (the Police), under the Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places Regulations 2007, cannot be '**satisfied that nuisance or annoyance to the public or disorder has been associated with drinking in the aforementioned place**', and therefore cannot support this application

5. Do you have sufficient resources to make the introduction of this Order effective? Please give details:

Not applicable

Please return this response form to the Licensing Section, Planning and Environment Services, The Council House, Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcs., B60 1AA, or email it to [sharon.smith@bromsgrove.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.smith@bromsgrove.gov.uk) no later than 14<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

If you have any queries with completing this form, please contact Sharon Smith on 01527 881626.



## Alcohol-related Disorder in Cofton Hackett – Alcohol Free Zone Proposal

An application has been made for an Alcohol Free Zone (AFZ) in Cofton Hackett. The following report outlines the number and type of anti-social behaviour incidents occurring within the proposed AFZ area (as defined those incidents where the easting and northing given in the incident/offence record places them within the boundary on the below map). All data is collected from the Police CRIMES database. All data collected from the period 01 June 2006 and 27 November 2008 (18 months).

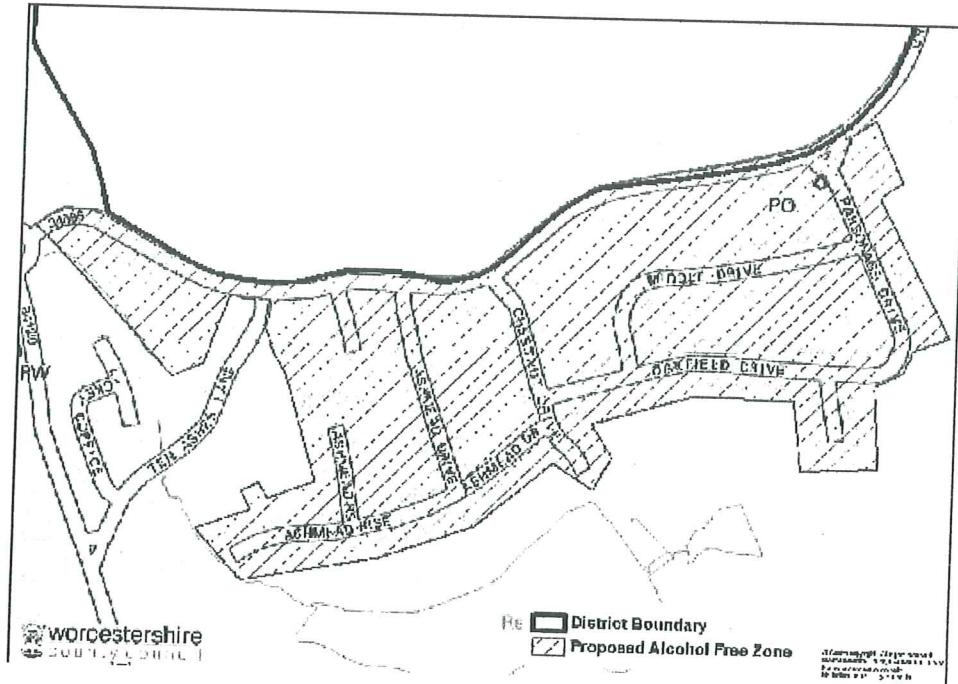


FIGURE 1: LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED AFZ

### Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents

59 reports of anti-social behaviour were logged as having occurred in the proposed Alcohol Free Zone area between 01 June 2006 and 27 November 2008.

Incident Category	Total
Rowdy Behaviour	38
Malicious Communications	6
Vehicle Nuisance	5
Nuisance Neighbours	3
Abandoned Vehicles	2
Hoax Call to Emergency Services	2
Environmental Nuisance	2
Fireworks	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>

FIGURE 2: NO. AND TYPE OF INCIDENTS REPORTED IN PROPOSED AFZ (01 JUNE 2006 TO 27 NOVEMBER 2008)

#### *General ASB Incidents in the AFZ Area – summary of relevant points*

- Of a total 38 rowdy behaviour complaints in the area, 31 related to youths, and 26 specifically to youths gathering on the streets.
- More youth related ASB took place on Oakfield Drive than any of the other roads in the AFZ area, with 10 incidents logged there over the last 18 months. Chestnut Drive was the location for 8 incidents, several of which took place in the play area there. 6 Incidents were logged on Parsonage Drive (not including those at the Focus store). The allotments behind Oakfield Drive, and the Myhill fields and play area were also repeat locations, especially for vandalism and graffiti related complaints.
- The Focus store on Parsonage Drive was a specific hotspot location for youth related anti-social behaviour. Complaints included youths gathering on the car park and in the loading area, running in between moving cars and forklift trucks at considerable risk to their own safety, messing around with the trollies and playing football. Of the total 8 incidents reported at Focus in the last 18 months, all but one took place since April 2008, with 3 in July 08 and 3 in September 08, suggesting that this behaviour is increasing in frequency.
- The number of incidents in the AFZ area seems to be following a decreasing pattern with only 8 incidents since June 2008, compared to 13 between June and November 2007.

#### *Alcohol-related Incidents*

- Only 4 of the 59 total ASB incidents in the area during the last 18 months were flagged up as being alcohol related, where alcohol consumption was mentioned in the log text of the report.
- 3 of these alcohol related incidents were linked to youths gathering, outside the shops on Groveley Lane/Parsonage Lane, in the park opposite Ashmead Drive, and in a bus stop on Groveley Lane. The other incident related to an intoxicated customer inside the Focus store – and is therefore not relevant to an alcohol free zone application. .
- Aside from the consumption of alcohol by youths in a public place, the other aggravating factors prompting these ASB complaints included the youths being loud, and climbing on the bus stop.
- In one report logged in March 2008, it was mentioned that gatherings of this nature were an ongoing issue.
- All 3 incidents had been logged between 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

### Incidents by Month

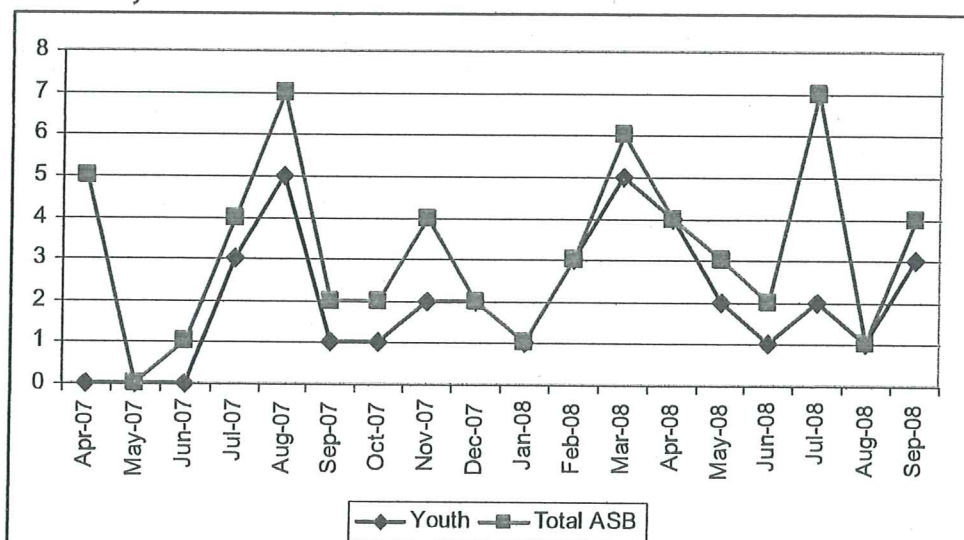


FIGURE 3: NO. OF TOTAL ASB AND YOUTH-RELATED INCIDENTS PER MONTH IN PROPOSED AFZ (01 JUNE 2006 TO 27 NOVEMBER 2008)

- In general, there have been an average of 3 anti-social behaviour incidents per month over the last 18 months within the proposed AFZ area, and an average of 2 youth related incidents per month.
- The total of 4 alcohol related ASB incidents reported in the space of 18 months does not indicate a significant problem with alcohol/street drinking. However, the 3 incidents that were relevant to an AFZ application all took place between 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> April 2008, a period of just over 6 weeks, with none occurring before or after those dates, suggesting alcohol-related ASB may have been a significant issue in the area during that time.
- There does seem to be an ongoing issue with youths gathering in the area, but seldom is alcohol mentioned in the complaints relating to this – indicating that an alcohol free zone may not be effective in reducing this type of behaviour.

It is important to note that alcohol-related incidents are identified as those mentioning one or more of the following key words in the logs text of the incident report:

Drink, drunk, alcohol, intoxicated, public house, licensed premise, wine, beer, vodka, lager, spirit.

This method, though the most effective way of definition available at present, does lead to a certain amount of inaccuracy. If a word is misspelled, or alcohol is not mentioned specifically in the text of a report, then incidents will not be identified and included in analysis.