

Hello,

I am writing on behalf of West Thornton, Bensham Manor and Thornton Heath Safer Neighbourhood teams. We all work in collaboration and the exclusion of West Thornton Ponds from the wider PSPO will affect all areas.

The extension of the PSPO has the full support from the teams due the fluidity of movement of the individuals who the PSPO is designed to displace from Bensham Manor and Thornton Heath. By excluding The Ponds we will simply be relocating to an area which they already use.

The Ponds frequently has S and I grade calls and is problematic for Response Team and SNT. SNT have worked to issue ASB warnings with the plan to escalate to CPNWs however the issue is that many of the frequenters who are causing more aggravating social issues are moved on from as they are only temporarily housed on one of the many temporary placements on London Road meaning that it can't be escalated from an ASB warning. The individuals who return frequently and drink may not be causing antisocial behaviour when we attend, making it very difficult to issue ASB warnings for just drinking alone. At the moment we have no power to police drinking as antisocial behaviour unless it escalates to drunk and disorderly behaviour. A PSPO will enable officers and ASB council teams to move individuals who are drinking before antisocial behaviour takes place and address the issues that local residents are reporting.

The SNT alone have dealt with a fire, collapsed individuals, rough sleepers, street drinkers fighting amongst themselves, and the Greggs bakery opposite is hit hard for theft which is likely to be attributed to the ASB in the area, in line with the broken windows theory.

Furthermore, with the development of the new flats on the junction of Thornton Road and London Road, this matter is likely to become even more important to more local residents as they move into the building.

Kind regards



Thornton Heath Safer Neighbourhood Team
Metropolitan Police Service

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