

APPENDIX 2

Malthouse Close – Knapp Avenue PSPO Consultation report

RESPONSE	COMMENTS
<p>Resident FOR</p> <p>5</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. My wife and myself are firmly against the re-opening of the foot path to the rear of number 5 Malthouse close. Prior to the closure we were constantly having to phone the police because of it being used as a rat run for drug dealers, antisocial behaviour and being used as a toilet. We live opposite to the entry and were wary of leaving the house as youths were sitting on the top steps drinking, smoking and using bad language. 2. As a resident of one of the houses very close to the entrance on Plumtre Way and garden leading on to the footpath I would like to voice my concerns. My first concern is the stench of Marijuana that comes from teenagers hanging around in these footpaths both day and night and secondly, we have recently started having children/teenagers throw objects at our house and running off into the footpath which we have had to put up fake CCTV camera's as a deterrent, although this does not seem to have taken effect and the police are disinterested. Although these footpaths can save people time by cutting through they have caused me and my family nothing but misery and I really hope the whole network can be shut down. 3. My wife and myself are firmly against the reopening of the footpath to the rear of number 5 Malthouse Close. Prior to the closure we were constantly having to phone the Police because of it being used as a rat run for drug dealers, antisocial behaviour and being used as a toilet. We live opposite to the entry and were wary of leaving the house as youths were sitting on the top steps drinking, smoking and using bad language. 4. I am a resident on Malthouse Close, number *. Since the aforementioned footpath was closed off, Malthouse Close has been a place where I am pleased to call home. Prior to the closure there was always gangs of youth in the area and they made it uncomfortable to use the footpath because of their drinking, drug taking and general foul mouths, male and female. There was always drug dealing activity, as they had a clear route of escape if the police where to arrive. Almost every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night there would be youth coming home from the pubs and they would be fighting on the Close and they would be urinating up the cars and in your front gardens. As I said before since the closure it is so much better and reopening it would be an invite for the scum of this area to start again with their activities. This is not what the residents off Malthouse Close want. Thanking you for all you are doing to keep this area safe. 5. I am in receipt of your letter dated 4th December 2018 regarding the footpath from the rear entry of 5

	<p>Malthouse Close to its junction with the footpath between Knapp Avenue and Plumptre Way. I live at number * Malthouse Close with my wife and we would like to strongly object to the reopening of this footpath. We foresee nothing but problems if this footpath reopens and have no desire to be subject to the anti-social behaviour it will attract.</p>
<p>Resident AGAINST 0</p>	
<p>Police</p>	<p>I have reviewed reported crime and anti-social behaviour in the Malthouse Close location over a period of 6 years, from December 2012 to December 2018. A total of 17 reports have been made during this time period. Upon review, none of these incidents relates to violence which isn't of a domestic nature, nor ASB. In short, the PSPO appears to have been effective in this respect.</p> <p>As alluded to in your letter, the footpath from Malthouse Close terminates where it meets the footpath which runs between Plumptre Way and Knapp Avenue. Analysis of incidents reported to the police in the past 12 months, December 6th 2017 to December 6th 2018, on both Plumptre Way and Knapp Avenue shows that a total of one hundred and forty-two (142) incidents were reported on Plumptre Way. Eighteen (18) of these related to ASB, eleven (11) were reports of violence and ten (10) were drug-related incidents. Over the same period, ninety-seven (97) incidents were reported on Knapp Avenue, with eleven (11) of these ASB, nine (9) relating to violence and one (1) drug-related incident. From this analysis, it's fair to say that the footpath sits within an area where there are a significant and consistent number of reports of crime and ASB incidents being made.</p> <p>In light of this, I would respectfully request that the PSPO is <u>renewed</u>.</p> <p>In addition to the high number of incidents recorded in the nearby location, removal of the order would lead to access to the Malthouse Way footpath once again. From local knowledge, groups of local youths congregate in the Knapp Avenue / Plumptre Way vicinity. Should the PSPO be rescinded, my belief is that it is highly likely that the footpath would then become a cut through for local youths resulting in an increase in foot traffic, thereby increasing the risk of an increase in incidents at the location. Additionally, the specific geography of the Malthouse Close footpath makes it somewhere where local youths would be drawn to. It is split level, affording a seated meeting place on concrete steps and is protected from view of the houses in the location by a high panelled fence, meaning that any criminality / ASB could go on unseen. It would provide an ideal location for drug dealers to operate and given the overall level of drug-related criminality in Eastwood, this is something I am keen to avoid. I would not want to see an upsurge in ASB / ASB-related crime activity on Malthouse Close, where there</p>

	has previously been none for the past 6 years. The PSPO has clearly been a success in improving the quality of life for local residents and I would be keen to see that quality of life maintained.
NCC Highways	I have spoken with the District Manager for the area and also the local County Councillor on this matter and we would recommend that the order remains in place or the issues with anti-social behaviour will simply return.