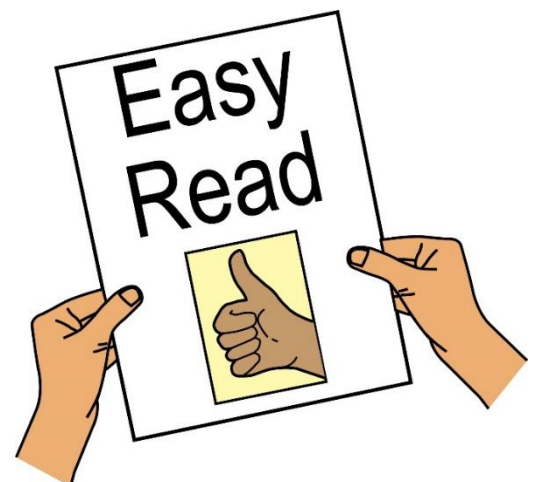


Consultation about Street Harassment in Public Places



Public Spaces Protection Order 2023



Street Harassment in Public Places

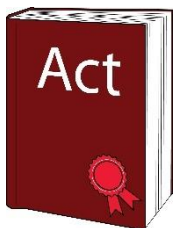
Public Spaces Protection Order 2023

Street harassment: this means unwanted comments, gestures, and actions. They are forced on a stranger in a public place. The victim has not given their consent to this behaviour.

Public Space Protection Order: this is an order which aims to deal with a problem or problems in the local area. These problems harm people in the community or affect their lives in a bad way. The Order aims to make sure that people can enjoy public spaces in their local area.



This Order is for Hammersmith and Fulham

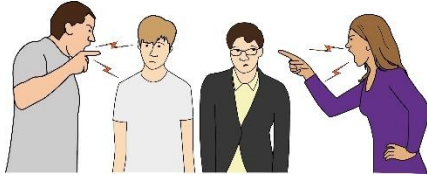


It has been made under the:

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act

2014: this is an act that was brought in by the government. It was brought in to deal with behaviour that causes harm or distress to people.



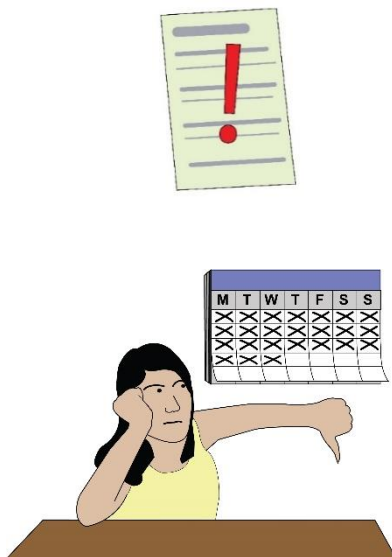
The Order is being made to deal with harassment in Hammersmith and Fulham.

The Council will carry out this Order if:



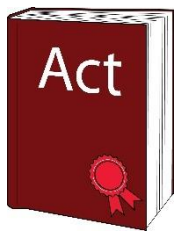
- This behaviour has a bad effect on people's quality of life in the local area. Or, is likely that these behaviours will happen in a **public space** and have a bad effect.

Public space: this means a place that is open and accessible to the general public.



The Council will also carry out the Order if:

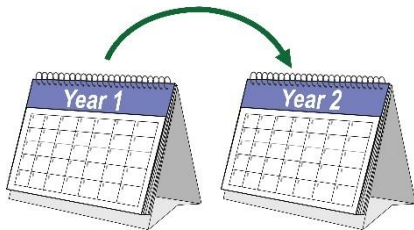
- The behaviour keeps happening. Or, it is likely that it will keep happening. This makes the behaviour unreasonable. And, it justifies the use of the Order.



Hammersmith and Fulham Council are using its powers under:

- The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act
- All its other powers

Here is what the Order says:

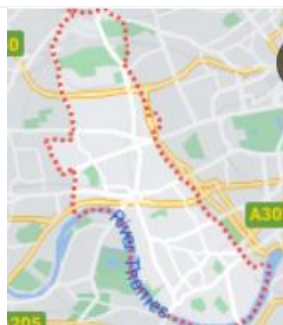


3 years

1. This Order starts on “” and ends on “”.

The Council might use their powers by law to make the Order last longer.

The Order will stay in place for 3 years at the most. It could be changed or extended.



2. This Order is for all public spaces in Hammersmith and Fulham. This means areas of land which the public can access.



Some public areas are free to enter. Some public areas cost. But, they are still public spaces either way.



3. The Order says that:

Nobody should carry out **verbal abuse**. They should not cause harm or distress on purpose.

Verbal abuse: this means saying things that cause distress to a person. For example, name calling, shouting or saying horrible things.



Nobody should cause harm by carrying out unwanted or unwelcome behaviour. This means sexual behaviour too.

Penalty



Any person who does not follow the Order will have to pay a fine. The fine will be up to £1000.

Fixed Penalty Notice

Fixed Penalty Notice: this is a notice that gives a person the opportunity to pay a fine. If they choose not to pay this fine, they have to go to court instead.



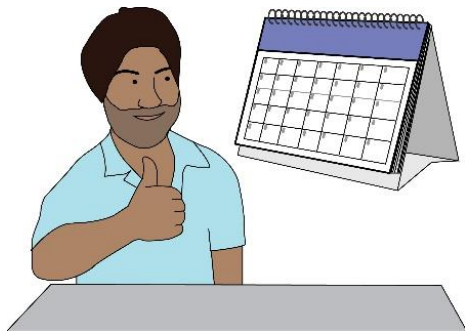
These people can give out Fixed Penalty Notices:

- Police Officers
- Police Community Support Officers
- The Council's Law Enforcement Officers
- Other **authorised council staff**

Authorised council staff: this means any council staff who has been given permission to step in when they see street harassment happening.



They can give out fixed penalty notices to people who keep breaking these rules.



A person who has been fined will have 14 days to pay the fixed penalty. The fixed penalty will be **£100**.

Or, it will be **£60** if it is paid within **7 days**.



The person must pay within **14 days**. If they don't do this, they might have to go to court.

Appeals – this means challenging a decision in court



Any challenge to this Order must be made at the High Court. A challenge must be made within 6 weeks of the Order being made.



A challenge must be made by an interested person. An interested person is someone who:



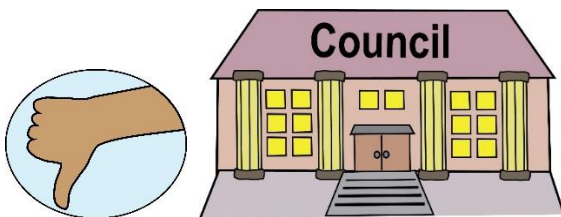
- Lives in the area
 - Works in the area often
- or
- Visits the area



This means that only people who are directly affected have the right to challenge the Order.

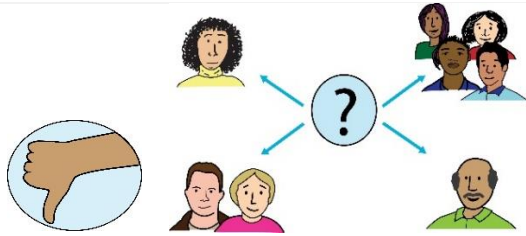


An interested person can also challenge the Order, if it has been changed by the Council.



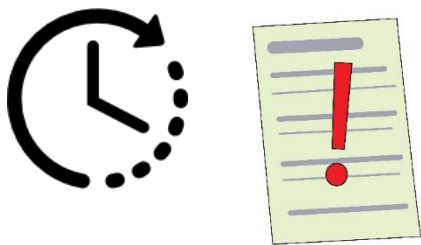
Interested persons can challenge the Order if:

The Council did not have the power to make the Order. Or, they didn't have the power to make certain rules as part of the Order.



The Council did not meet a responsibility by law. For example, a **consultation** had not been carried out.

Consultation: this is when people who might be affected by a change or decision are asked for information about how it will affect them.



When an application is made, the High Court can decide to pause the Order. They can do this while they wait for the Court's decision.

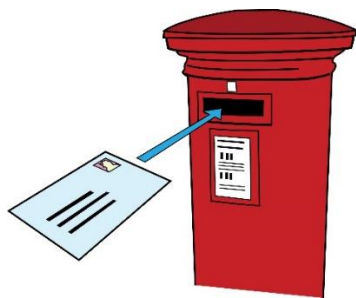
They can pause all the Order or part of the Order.



The High Court can decide to

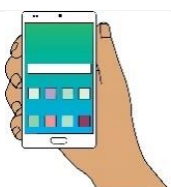
- Keep the Order
 - Get rid of the Order
- or
- Change the Order

Getting in touch



Here is our address:

London Borough of
Hammersmith and Fulham
Community Safety Unit
W6 9JU



Here is our phone number:

020 8753 2816



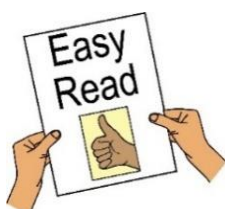
Here is our email:

csu@lbhf.gov.uk



Here is our website:

www.lbhf.gov.uk



This is the end of this document.

This document was put into Easy Read by the Empower Team at People First.



You can visit their website here:

www.peoplefirstltd.com