
Green Spaces PSPO Survey 2023 - summary of results

Introduction

This survey opened on 18 February and sought to gather residents' views on whether we should introduce a new Public Space Protection Order to protect Elmbridge Borough Council-owned green spaces, countryside sites and riverside sites against:

1. The use of barbeques (BBQs), campfires, bonfires, fire pits and other activities that involve the lighting of fire
2. Unauthorised moorings along the river
3. Overnight camping along the river

For the consultation, the proposed PSPO sites were listed and shown on maps. They included:

1. All council-owned open spaces for PSPO relating to the use of naked flames and barbeques
2. For PSPO relating to unauthorised moorings:
 - a) Albany Reach, Ditton Reach and City Wharf (Thames Ditton)
 - b) Hurst Park Open Space (West Molesey)
 - c) Cigarette Island (East Molesey)
 - d) Cowey Sale Open Space (Walton-on-Thames)
 - e) Surrey County Council's land adjacent to Hampton Court bridge (Parrs mooring)
3. PSPO relating to overnight camping:
 - a) Albany Reach (Thames Ditton)
 - b) Cigarette Island (East Molesey)

Results

So far, we have received 642 responses coming from the following wards:

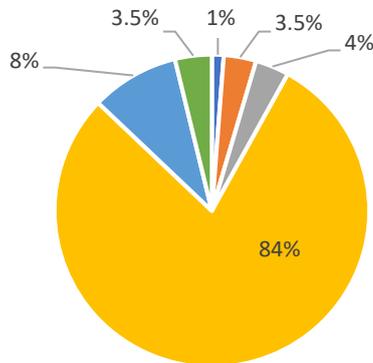
Thames Ditton	29%
Molesey	25%
Walton-on-Thames	9%
Others	8%
Weybridge	7%
Esher	4%
Hinchley Wood	4%



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Hersham	3%
Long Ditton	2%
Cobham and Downside	2%

And from the following groups:



- Local business
- Local community or voluntary group
- A local stakeholder
- An Elmbridge resident
- Visitor
- Other

In response to questions covering the various aspects of the proposed PSPO, responses were as follows (%):

When asked:

- 1- if the use of naked flames (campfires, bonfires, fire pits and other activities that involve the lighting of fire) on public open space presented an increased risk of wildfires in Elmbridge, 73% of respondents strongly agreed and 12% agreed**

Strongly agree	74
Agree	13
Neither agree or disagree	8
Strongly disagree	4
Disagree	1

- 2- if the use of barbeques on public open space presented an increased risk of wildfires in Elmbridge: 67% strongly agreed and 15% agreed**

Strongly agree	68
Agree	16
Neither agree or disagree	11
Strongly disagree	4
Disagree	1



- 3- if the littering and human waste resulting from overnight fishing/camping at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island open spaces caused problems for residents and visitors:

Strongly agree	76
Agree	11
Strongly disagree	5
Neither agree or disagree	6
Disagree	2

- 4- if the littering and human waste resulting from overnight fishing/camping at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island open spaces caused damage to the environment

Strongly agree	75
Agree	12
Neither agree or disagree	6
Strongly disagree	5
Disagree	2

- 5- if the littering and human waste resulting from overnight fishing/camping at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island open spaces caused problems for the council

Strongly agree	73
Agree	13
Strongly disagree	6
Neither agree or disagree	6
Disagree	2

- 6- if the littering resulting from vessels moored without permission on Elmbridge Borough Council-owned land at Ditton Reach, Albany Reach, Cigarette Island, Cowey Sale and Hurst Park and Surrey County Council's land adjacent to Hampton Court bridge (Parrs mooring) caused problems for residents and visitors

Strongly agree	76
Strongly disagree	10
Agree	9
Neither agree or disagree	4
Disagree	1

- 7- if the littering resulting from vessels moored without permission on Elmbridge Borough Council-owned land at Ditton Reach, Albany Reach, Cigarette Island, Cowey Sale and Hurst Park and Surrey County Council's land adjacent to Hampton Court bridge (Parrs mooring) caused damage to the environment

Strongly agree	76
Strongly disagree	10



Agree	9
Neither agree or disagree	3
Disagree	1

- 8- if the littering resulting from vessels moored without permission on Elmbridge Borough Council-owned land at Ditton Reach, Albany Reach, Cigarette Island, Cowey Sale and Hurst Park and Surrey County Council's land adjacent to Hampton Court bridge (Parrs mooring) caused problems for the council

Strongly agree	75
Agree	10
Strongly disagree	10
Neither agree or disagree	4
Disagree	1

- 9- if the noise pollution from vessels mooring without permission on Elmbridge Borough Council-owned land at Ditton Reach, Albany Reach, Cigarette Island, Cowey Sale and Hurst Park and Surrey County Council's land adjacent to Hampton Court bridge (Parrs mooring) caused problems for residents and visitors

Strongly agree	60
Agree	18
Neither agree or disagree	11
Strongly disagree	10
Disagree	2

- 10- The noise pollution from vessels mooring without permission on Elmbridge Borough Council-owned land at Ditton Reach, Albany Reach, Cigarette Island, Cowey Sale and Hurst Park and Surrey County Council's land adjacent to Hampton Court bridge (Parrs mooring) caused problems for the council

Strongly agree	60
Agree	16
Neither agree or disagree	12
Strongly disagree	10
Disagree	2

- 11- A Public Space Protection Order to ban barbeques (BBQs) on public open space was the best way to deal with the risk of wildfires and to prevent injuries to humans, wildlife and damage to natural habitats, Council Land, private dwellings and other property

Strongly agree	69
Agree	13
Neither agree or disagree	7
Strongly disagree	7
Disagree	4



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12- A Public Space Protection Order to prevent the use of campfires, bonfires, fire pits and other activities that involve the lighting of fire or naked flames on public open space was the best way to deal with the risk of wildfires and to prevent injuries to humans, wildlife and damage to natural habitats, Council Land, private dwellings and other property

Strongly agree	73
Agree	13
Strongly disagree	7
Neither agree or disagree	6
Disagree	2

13- A Public Space Protection Order to prevent overnight fishing/camping at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island Open Spaces was the best way to protect the open spaces for all and to preserve them

Strongly agree	69
Agree	13
Strongly disagree	9
Neither agree or disagree	6
Disagree	3

14- A Public Space Protection Order to prevent mooring without permission on Elmbridge Borough Council-owned land at Ditton Reach, Albany Reach, Cigarette Island, Cowey Sale and Hurst Park and Surrey County Council's land adjacent to Hampton Court bridge (Parrs mooring) was the best way to protect these open spaces for all and to preserve them

Strongly agree	76
Strongly disagree	12
Agree	9
Neither agree or disagree	2
Disagree	1

15- If they felt that a Public Space protection order was appropriate to manage fishing/camping, did they think that the best option would be to:

Implement an order at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island Open Spaces to restrict fishing to daytime only (7am to 7pm)	51
Implement a late night curfew at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island open spaces requiring people to leave the park between 11pm and 5am.	38
Other	11



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Comments to 'Other option' in question 15:

Most frequent answers:

Manage the issue /deal with litter with no PSPO	7 responses
Allow fishing and campaign overnight/respect right to access at any time	7 responses
Ban camping/fishing	5 responses
Restrict access time	5 responses
Enforce rules	4 responses
Anti-social behaviour	3 responses
PSPO not appropriate	3 responses
None of the above but no other suggestions	3 responses
Provide toilets and additional litter collection	3 responses
Better signage	2 responses

Summary (total 67 responses)

In response to Question 16 relating to further comments on the PSPO proposal, the top responses were related to the enclosed:

Most frequent answers:

Question 16: Further comments on the PSPO proposal

Summary (total 240 responses)

Illegal mooring borough-wide issue but EBC must mindful of criminalising boaters who are licensed	66
Litter and anti-social behaviour in green spaces a problem	42
Fishing to be monitored	38
Enforce existing laws against anti-social behaviour	22
No evidence of illegal mooring is responsible for litter problem	12

Green Spaces PSPO comments

Responses to 'Other option' in question 15:

If you feel that a Public Space protection order is appropriate to manage fishing/camping, do you think that the best option would be to:

- Implement a late-night curfew at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island open spaces requiring people to leave the park between 11pm and 5am
- Implement an order at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island Open Spaces to restrict fishing to daytime only (7am to 7pm)
- **Other – please specify**

Comments to 'Other option' in question 15: Summary (total 67 responses)

Most frequent answers:

Manage the issue /deal with litter with no PSPO	7 responses
Allow fishing and campaign overnight/respect right to access at any time	7 responses
Ban camping/fishing	5 responses
Restrict access time	5 responses
Enforce rules	4 responses
Anti-social behaviour	3 responses
PSPO not appropriate	3 responses
None of the above but no other suggestions	3 responses
Provide toilets and additional litter collection	3 responses
Better signage	2 responses

Full responses:

Implement permits for overnight fishing/camping.
Implement routine safety patrol on Hurst Meadows to deter the anti-social behaviour I was plagued with last summer (selling drugs/climbing over my garden wall/defacating/urinating/shouting obscenities etc. And lots of portable BBQ right beside my property (I live on Hurst Park). Its been a nightmare and Im considering moving because of it.(Ive only been here less than a year)
In addition to restrict fishing to certain hours(7am-7pm) also implement fishing zones to avoid fishermen fishing on the water access areas.
It is not appropriate at all!
it is not appropriate to ban camping and fishing. littering is already an offence, at any time of day, and a blanket ban is disproportionate.
It should not be allowed
It's inappropriate
leave at 9 pm, can return at 6am
Manage the issue don't target people who enjoy the space and clean up after them
National rod license required, regular bailiff visits and max 48hr fishing with no return in 7 days.



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No fishing
No fishing and no camping 24 hours.
No fishing on Albany reach at all, damage to environment, nesting birds and wildlife too great.
None of the above
None of the above - a public space protection order would not enhance the public's ability to use and enjoy the open spaces, instead it would criminalise many innocent every day activities
not a fisherman so not the best judge. Just clear up after you !
Only implement for those proven to be breaking public order rules & causing littering/ inappropriate behaviour
Or you could just add some facilities like a public toilet and some bins to enable people to spend their time there responsibly and safely.
Other – A PSPO is not appropriate to manage fishing/camping. People have the right to access public space for recreational purposes no matter what time of day it is
People should be allowed to fish on a summer evening and what about late night dog walkers?
prohibit camping/fishing on this public land.
Provide appropriate facilities so persons may relieve themselves and dispose litter. Oftentimes, the anglers are amongst the cleanest and most respectful of the environment. Each category of people have the same amount of troublemakers. We shouldn't restrict their use of the open spaces just to prioritise our particular needs. The areas are meant to be used...not abused nor restricted to walkers only.
provide more frequent trash removal from bins along the tow path and solar lighting
Restrict fishing to between 7am and 10pm
restricting the times people either fish or moor in this space is seems restrictive. What matter what time of day it is. Aren't people allowed to have public access for recreational purposes whatever time it is?
Restrictions should also apply as stated above to Cowey Sale. Summer time night time noise is unacceptable at times, although this noise I'd soften from cars rather than people fishing.
should be allowed to night fish and camp
Sign asking to take litter home or risk fine
Sorry don't know
That use if the space should be allowed no matter what time it is
The council hasnot provided any evidence of the alleged Anti Social Behaviour related to fishing and camping
This is simply insane
total ban to allow the areas to be enjoyed by walkers and families without the mess left behind
Using existing laws to ensure lawful use of the space

Question 16: Further comments on the PSPO proposal

Summary (total 240 responses)

Illegal mooring an issue but most boaters are licensed	66
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Litter and anti-social behaviour in green spaces a problem	42
Fishing to be monitored	38
Enforce existing laws against anti-social behaviour	22
No evidence of illegal mooring is responsible for litter problem	12

Full comments:

<p>I note that EBC will not be able to use PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats moored on EA land. Since use of PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats would not be necessary at all if EA use the powers already available to them to remove overstaying boats, I urge EBC Councillors and Council officers, with the support of our MP, to urge EA to carry out their enforcement responsibilities without further procrastination and delay.</p>
<p>It is a shame the Desborough cut is not included in this order, as it is illegally moored along its entire length.</p>
<p>A much needed proposal</p>
<p>A problem that has also been caused by the fishermen is when they fish at the water access points (there are 3 main access areas at Albany reach), making it dangerous for people/dogs wanting to enter or exit the river.</p>
<p>A PSPO is NOT appropriate to manage boats moored allegedly without permission. They do have permission, the public right of navigation on the Thames entitles them to moor for a reasonable time. If there is a problem with noise or littering the Council and/or Police have more than adequate enforcement powers at their disposal. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. To prevent boats mooring creates safety risks in itself, especially in flood or extreme weather conditions. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.</p>
<p>A PSPO is not appropriate to manage mooring</p>
<p>A PSPO is the wrong way to go as it simply criminalises people. Instead there should be provision to support freedom of activity such as provision of temporary toilets ("portals"), building of serviced toilet blocks at frequent intervals, including facilities for the disabled, dedicated built barbecue stations in popular areas, frequent and capacious litter bins. It would be a pity to go down the road of legislation and court action for those contravening a PSPO, rather to support the community a PSPO would see to discriminate against. And if any of this comes down to cost, is it really more cost effective to alienate the local community, rather to increase council tax for the benefit of all (especially for the richest who can easily afford to pay).</p>
<p>A PSPO would criminalise the everyday domestic activities of people who live on boats who have nowhere else to moor their homes. This would be a breach of their rights under Articles 6 and 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights.</p>
<p>A PSPO/ ASB order is the wrong way to go about this. The consultation has not provided any real evidence of any of the above mentioned problems nor about the complainants. If the problems are real as opposed to perceived, the best solution would be for the Council to provide toilet, rubbish disposal and other facilities and moorings for anglers/ campers/ boaters/ live-on boaters, in the same way as local authorities in popular coastal areas do. Why has this positive, people-friendly solution not been considered?</p>



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<p>A serious issue of the current time is the appalling waste left in public spaces to the detriment of all and risk to wildlife. Anything the council can do to improve this situation is to be encouraged.</p>
<p>About time something is bring done to clean up the riverbank.</p>
<p>Albany Reach is full of people with paddle boards, canoes & swimming. Many are drinking, few have any idea licenses are needed for craft on the river. Few recognise the dangers of a cold river even in summer.</p> <p>More lives will be lost here if this isn't dealt with.</p> <p>As for the rubbish & antisocial behaviour due to alcohol & sunshine, something needs to be done to stop drownings & fights.</p>
<p>All of this means nothing without the accompanying necessary enforcement and penalties. Over the years, neither the council, EA nor the private enforcement agency have done anything of merit to deter the antisocial behaviour and persistent overstayers.</p>
<p>Allow boats moor and fishermen to use these spaces with the checking and validation of fishing and boat licenses .</p> <p>Rubbish bins at busy and designated locations, and to check on miss use at busy or prolonged period's of use.</p>
<p>Allow bootable mooring of boats to allow responsible mooring and identify any irresponsible users.</p>
<p>Although an EBC notice has been posted on DESBOROUGH ISLAND, I do not find this location on the list of proposed PSPO sites to receive consultation. This is a vast area and also requires specific consideration in the consultation. Please see my comments below relating to the Island.</p> <p>Having seen an EBC notice for views on PSPO's for Elmbridge, I would like to comment as a local resident on the proposal being considered. I frequently visit DESBOROUGH ISLAND and the COWEY SALE open spaces, both areas providing much needed recreational activities to enjoy and respect. However especially during the hot, dry summer months these open spaces have become a magnate for people cooking on disposable and portable BBQ's, scorching the surrounds despite the notices prohibiting this use. Obviously this poses a serious fire hazard and greater enforcement is required. Although some litter bins have been provided, the remains are left behind with the island being named locally now as "Debris Island". Vandalism of fences and trees also occurs.</p> <p>The COWEY SALE CAR PARK attracts undesirable anti-social behaviour especially after dark during summer months, this being used as a meeting place. It would certainly help if gates/barriers were installed/closed at the end of the day to deter the nuisance, as the cars grouping and deliberately revving up would be unable to do so. Residents living in the vicinity have complained constantly about this disturbance and nuisance, especially as the noise resonates along the river.</p> <p>With the all year popularity of the Wilde Brunch cafe, more waste bins need to be provided if the area is to be left litter-free, together with more dog waste bins.</p> <p>BBQ's and open fires must also be prohibited as visitors enjoying picnics tend to think this is acceptable.</p>
<p>Any action that can be taken to reduce night time noise at Cowey Sale is welcome. We live opposite, and particularly during summer months noise levels can be too much, with music and cars revving sometimes into the small hours.</p>



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Any curfew implemented must include means of discovering breaches where the persons involved do not arrive by vehicle
Any issues with litter should be dealt with in a targeted manner using existing powers. Interfering with people's right to access nature and leisure and moor their boats for the actions of a few inconsiderate people is not a proportionate response.
Any PSPO or other enforcement should specifically target littering and noise, not the action of simply mooring a boat. It is not a criminal offence to moor a boat. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring.
Anything that can be done to mitigate the ever increasing blight of boats mooring without permission is to be welcomed but unless the EA are persuaded to carry out their duties then any removal of boats from Elmbridge land will simply move the problem up or downstream onto EA land.
Anything you can do to keep our green spaces a pleasant place for people to enjoy. It's OK with me. It saddens me to see the amount of littering and graffiti especially at the car park next to Walton Bridge. I have also seen the remains of barbecues and of course canisters. I would not like to be living near Hillrise where the illegal mooring takes place.
As a boater I am biased about closing moorings, but would add that every 'legitimate and licensed fully paid' boater is probably more annoyed by the mess and disruption caused by unauthorised boaters than most members of the public. Please... make us pay to moor. If your councillors take a trip along the river from Oxford to Teddington you will see that the cleanest areas of the river are those where the boaters pay a nightly fee to stay. There is no mess. The boats are quiet. The council makes money from the boaters and the stretch of river is less polluted and the banks cleaner. Oxford and Reading are NOT managed, and the river in these stretches is a mess. Henley, Pangbourne, marlow, Windsor etc ARE managed, and the river is lovely for all - boaters and non boaters alike.
as a resident of Elmbridge (Whittets Ait in Weybridge) we have suffered for years with noise pollution and general littering in and around the river on the moorings opposite us on the towpath next to the car park opposite The Minnow - so we have sympathy with the other sites. One deterrent for people overstaying their mooring period would be to put a 4 hour limit on nearby carparks which would stop them using the moorings as a permanent home for months and months.
At a time when government has little funding to help the people who live in Elmbridge, it seems irresponsible to try to enforce a PSPO because there a few irresponsible persons.
Ban all dogs from public areas. Many people are intimidated by threatening dogs.
Blanket bans are stupid enforce and fine people who constantly break the rules and litter and cause issue but don't tarnish everyone with the same brush.
Boaters need to be allowed to Moor on lands as it is increasing difficult to find mooring spaces.
But the slum boats? I am a landlord, if my tenants threw sewage out of their windows, if my properties had no gas or electricity safety certificates I'd be in serious trouble. The slum boats seem to be immune to prosecution. And all of the points you make above have been against local ruling for years. Nothing is ever done. I've seen golf being played on Hurst Meadows. I pointed out to the players that golf balls travelling at speed are very dangerous - especially where young children abound. I was sneered at and in receipt of some rather foul language. Elmbridge council? Nowhere in evidence.
Check fishing permits and enforce correctly when they do not have one. Some people in these boats would be on the streets if we take away the free moorings, this cannot be forgotten about Provide BBQ spaces



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<p>Provide BBQ time annual slots or when in heat wave or at a certain temperature No BBQs allowed due to weather</p> <p>Provide more bins</p> <p>More humans More dogs More bins required! You really are failing at that Surrey. Tut tut..</p> <p>We require more freedom outdoors not less.</p> <p>More education required early on in life on littering and risk of fire</p> <p>If people leave rubbish enforce it and give fines</p> <p>We know the council loves fines</p>
<p>Children can't feed the ducks or play in the water as fishing men take over the hole stretch along Albany Reach and along the river. They camp all day and night and leave rubbish everywhere for the council to have to clean up. The area is an absolute mess in summer with litter and bottles left along Thames Ditton beach as it is strangely now known on Google Maps!</p>
<p>Completely banning fishing overnight in the area, is an over reaction. Overnight Permits could raise money and restrict numbers.</p> <p>If human waste is an issue, install a toilet that is open 24hours</p>
<p>Concern at the increasing number of abandoned boats left to disintegrate along the tow path from Hampton Court Bridge to Cherry Tree Avenue West Molesey. An eyesore, pollutant and danger to navigation.</p>
<p>Consideration for the same restrictions to be applied to hurst park. The prevention of overnight fishing/camping is essential to the protection of this green space.</p>
<p>Disappointing these PSPOs cannot be used to prevent mooring without permission on EA owned land (where the majority of overstaying boats on the Thames in Elmbridge are moored). EA have confirmed they have all the powers they need to remove overstaying boats on their land. We urge our Councillors and Council, with support from our MP, to compel EA to carry out their enforcement responsibilities without further procrastination and delay.</p>
<p>Do you have any further feedback on the proposal?</p>
<p>Dont just ban people but have a no litter no fire rule and enforce that</p>
<p>Don't spoil people's freedoms. No curfew. Polite sign to enjoy, value and respect. Thankyou.</p>
<p>Enforcement is the long term issue - ensure it is done!</p>
<p>Enforcement must be implemented routinely and regularly.</p>
<p>Fishermen are a nuisance</p>
<p>Fishermen should not be allowed at any of the water entry points where swimmers and other water users enter the water.</p>
<p>Fishing along Albany Reach should be restricted to certain areas to ensure better monitoring</p>
<p>Fishing is ok after 7pm e.g. on summer nights, so a 7pm-7am ban might be rather harsh. The unpleasant, and sometimes intimidating problems, are people setting up tents, thus establishing their personal territories and mooring of shabby, dubious boats and scuttling old ones. Also please ban the groups of men who congregate and get drunk and intimidate passers by on summer evenings who may like to stop and enjoy the public space. Please ban men urinating in the undergrowth, littering, leaving beer cans by the bins. Please ban fires, barbecues and limit damage to the grass. I have noticed that trees are not replaced when old ones are removed so please replant the trees - this should also help the local wildlife and deter overcrowding and aid recovery of the river bank.</p>



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Fishing needs to be restricted to certain areas of the open spaces within daytime hours.
Free parking in these areas is causing part of the problem. Putting in place parking restrictions would restrict access and long term mooring/fishing.
Get rid of any boat that is illegally moored and clearly just abandoned. Such a lovely part of the river ruined by all this old floatsome. If they were cars they would be towed.
Get rid of the illegal slum boats and the human waste that floats up the thames.
Good as far as it is but will only work with strong enforcement of the rules.
Has the cost of enforcement of the PSPO been calculated and measured against the historic or current cost of resources being applied to manage the issues being experienced and if so, how many years data has been collected?
he Council has not provided any evidence to back up its claim that littering and noise are a problem on the river bank. If there is evidence of a problem with littering and noise then the Council already has the enforcement powers to deal with it. Any PSPO or other enforcement should specifically target littering and noise, not the action of simply mooring a boat. It is not a criminal offence to moor a boat. The Public Right of Navigation includes the right to moor for a reasonable time on the Thames. 'Reasonable' cannot be defined in advance. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. To prevent boats mooring creates safety risks in itself, especially in flood or extreme weather conditions. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.
Hoping that the community comes together on the consultation so that we can keep our open spaces by the riverside a beautiful place for people to enjoy and not have to navigate around fishermen, litter and fires. The fishermen should not be able to fish from the 3 water entry points at Albany Reach and use the banks instead.
Human waste is a huge problem at Albany reach but my main concern is teens drinking late at night at the reach. By informing a curfew between 11pm -5pm won't stop the drinking as children will still be there however it may deter them.
I agree with the proposal and I also think more should be done to stop fishing on the prohibited parts of the river in Hurst Park. The signs are being ignored by some of the anglers.
I am a boater and to ban all mooring in those areas because the odd one leaves litter is mean and short sighted.
I am most concerned about the illegal moorings, which are increasing in number. I am not against the use of the riverbank for river activities - we want a busy, active river - but it needs managing. Boats need to be registered, stays need to be short, which could include an overnight, but we need to prevent them effectively becoming slumboat long stay moorings. This requires not just creating a space, but policing it
I am not particularly in favour of reducing the availability of mooring for those who are the most vulnerable or have a nomadic lifestyle within our society. Not everyone can afford to have a mooring. Better ability to monitor and prosecute those who litter /cause damage to public areas needs to be better enforced. It is only a few who do this - don't punish everyone who wants or needs to live a nomadic lifestyle or those who are most vulnerable. Many are considerate.
I am particularly concerned about the land grab by boat owners along the river in which they mark off land which is public land with PRIVATE signs and with fencing. Undergrowth builds up and along parts of the tow path, you cannot see the river and it is intimidating. If the council don't stop this, more and more of our public walkways and views will be lost.



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I am surprised that there is no mention of illegal mooring in Desborough Cut. I presume this is because that land is not EBC owned?
I believe it is best to encourage people to use the public spaces responsibly gaining maximum benefit from the green spaces in Elmbridge. Make Elmbridge a friendly borough that welcomes people and encourages them to use all the beautiful areas in the borough. Life should be about involvement not prohibition.
I believe that overnight fishing is also an issue at ditton reach and that whichever approach is used for the other spaces to manage fishing should be implemented on dittonreach/city wharf as well.
I do not believe that the council have shown any evidence to back up any claims that would warrant a PSPO Being put in place.
I do not disagree with people who have no other place ...maybe live in flats....to have bar b ques but I think the council should provide an area for this, where the grass etc is kept low in order to limit the chances of wildfire and damage to surrounding area and wildlife etc. There should be restrictions for daylight hours and policed. I believe that if these areas are provided most people would adhere to the rules.
I encourage the adoption of PSPO on all the areas listed as thus far these spaces are being abused by a few to the detriment of many. This should not be allowed to continue.
I feel that houseboats enhance the environment and show a diverse way of living. It increases bird activity and there is no noise issues. I feel that the council are discriminating towards boat owners as they dont conform to the lives that they choose.
I feel that unauthorised boats and overnight fishing and associated bad behaviour, together with rampant littering are ruining these open spaces for the public. There needs to be much stronger responses from the council to prevent these anti social behaviours.
I fully support the proposal to protect public spaces. Boat owners should only be allowed to use public riverbanks and spaces to stop, during the course of bona fide pleasure navigation transit.
I fully support the protection of our public spaces, in the 63 years I have lived in the Borough individual responsibility is sadly lacking so tougher restrictions need to be put in place. The PPO should also protect against multiple dog walkers and this should be restricted to 3 x dogs per person with no two people with more than 3 dogs walking together.
I live itinerantly on a narrowboat. Every year we travel along the Thames and moor around Hampton Court East Molesey and that general area for a few months depending on river conditions. The proposed PSPO would have a severe adverse affect on my family's ability to live in our home. We need to be moored in each place for a reasonable time, two weeks as I get the train or bus to work most weekdays in west London. We are not rich, we cannot afford to get a mooring. This would unfairly penalise us. We do not make a noise, leave litter or behave anti-socially. We are responsible boaters. This would make us criminals for the simple and essential act of living in our home with the secondary effect of making our homes uninhabitable and evicting us from the borough. This is quite wrong. The PSPO legislation does not allow councils to pick on homeless vulnerable people or make people homeless by passing a PSPO. The Council would be committing an unlawful act by doing this.
I note that EBC will not be able to use PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats moored on EA land. Since use of PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats would not be necessary at all if EA use the powers already available to them to remove overstaying boats, I urge EBC Councillors and Council officers, with the support of our MP, to urge EA to carry out their enforcement responsibilities without further procrastination and delay.
I note that EBC will not be able to use PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats moored on EA land. Since use of PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats would not be necessary at all if EA use the powers already available



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

<p>to them to remove overstaying boats, I urge EBC Councillors and Council officers, with the support of our MP, to urge EA to carry out their enforcement responsibilities without further procrastination and delay.</p>
<p>I often use these areas for mooring when passing through and think it would be a travesty to introduce any preventative measures for moorings, another attempt to kill off enjoying the river</p>
<p>I personally haven't encountered any issues with noise pollution from illegally moored boats, but have encountered aggressive behaviour, witnessed first hand the serious pollution issues caused by the owners, including discharge of effluent and large scale burning of rubbish on the river bank. I'd suggest this poses a greater wildfire risk than BBQs (responsibly used).</p> <p>A further issue I've noted is the owners of these illegally moored boats 'annexing' land around the mooring, preventing anyone else from enjoying the spaces. They have the gaul to fence off areas to create their own gardens, storage areas, rubbish tips, etc, etc, then often act extremely aggressively to anyone in the vicinity to maintain their claim on the land. It has to stop!!</p> <p>I note that EBC will not be able to use PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats moored on EA land. Since use of PSPOs to take enforcement action on overstaying boats would not be necessary at all if EA use the powers already available to them to remove overstaying boats, I urge EBC Councillors and Council officers, with the support of our MP, to urge EA to carry out their enforcement responsibilities without further procrastination and delay.</p>
<p>I strongly agree in principle, but this approach seems like a blunt instrument.</p>
<p>How is it going to be enforced anyway?</p>
<p>I strongly support a general night curfew at Albany Reach, anti social behaviours in the daytime and particularly the evening have been alarming here over the past years and are getting worst.</p>
<p>I strongly think that to stop vessels from mooring overnight is a violation of basic human rights, boats are homes too</p>
<p>I think a general curfew earlier than 11pm (7pm) to restrict gatherings with music and drinks would be beneficial for local residents. I walked down to Albany reach many times in the evening last summer and it was like a festival, music, drugs, alcohol and people swimming late into the evening.</p>
<p>I think bbq should be allowed in designated places. Perhaps permanent, concrete BBQ could be installed in places were smoke would not cause disruption to local residents but only provided that curfew would be in place</p>
<p>I think it absolutely necessary to implement these, proposals, especially no fishing after 7pm; when the evenings are lighter for longer in the summer, the proportion of people fishing along the riverbank, ruins the freedom and pleasure for the rest of us wanting to use this area.</p>
<p>I think it's absolutely horrendous that you're trying to restrict people's access to green space, and even worse that you're trying to criminalise people who moor their homes in the area. Shame on you.</p>
<p>I think notices telling people to treat the area with respect and warning of no lavatory facilities would be helpful to add to notices banning bbq's and fishing between certain hours or whatever is decided. I've heard people complaining that there are no loos, completely misunderstanding that Albany Reach is a local beauty spot and not an area designed for mass tourism. Re the question 15. I think bothy should apply. People should not be allowed there after 11.00pm and fishing should be restricted. I have heard anecdotally that swans have been killed by fishermen who are "visitors " to this country</p>



<p>and possibly don't understand that they are protected. I think a sign to this effect might also be included.</p>
<p>I think this NIMBY stuff sounds terrible. People should be allowed to be in the public spaces, islands, and moored along the Thames so long as they aren't doing anything dangerous, or hazardous, or illegal. It's so disappointing that the "residents" feel the moored boats are not residents also - they are! and they care about the river and environment just as much(maybe even more) than building/house/flat dwellers. also- calling them "slum boats" in the local community newsletter was offensive. many of the disruptive and abusive people in the open spaces are teens and young adults who live in local housing doing nitrous oxide/ drinking/smoking. Stop blaming boat dwellers or fishing/camping folk.</p>
<p>I urge EBC Councillors and Council officers, with the support of our MP, to urge EA to carry out their enforcement responsibilities without further procrastination and delay. We have Japanese knotweed on the riverbank adjacent to our property but aren't ask the Elmbridge council to eradicate it as it will make space for more boats adjacent to our property.</p>
<p>I would like to see a total ban on fires, BBQs, fishing and camping etc. to restore the natural environment of the areas and to protect the natural wildlife. I have lived locally near Albany Reach for over 22 years and have to avoid the area because of the anti-social activities and mess left behind, especially human waste, which is disgusting for those who wish to respect and enjoy the beauty of the area.</p>
<p>Illegal Moorings and taking land that doesn't belong to them it's public land and then putting signs up saying no entry. It's something that really winds up local people and should be stopped. These people don't own the land and it is public land next to the river for all to enjoy. They should be removed with immediate effect.</p>
<p>Illegal moorings prevents others from having access to the riverbank. People using the river for water pursuits are affected by the pollution from these boats.</p>
<p>Implement the PSPO without further delay.</p>
<p>In addition to the above, early in the morning I have seen foam and I assume effluent floating from the boats moored at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island. Measures are needed urgently.</p>
<p>In indicating agreement above, it is on the basis that the 'pollution' complained of is excessive and and of persistent and severe detriment to others.</p>
<p>It has become dangerous for people visiting these areas with human waste, rubbish and fires (or their remains) . It impacts residents, locals and the environment when people visit these sites and just leave their waste and create noise. It's one of the reasons we choose to pay higher prices and love here - to access these beautiful areas but they are being ruined!</p>
<p>It is important to protect our wildlife, environment and rivers.</p>
<p>It is inexplicable why you omitted the Ditton Reach green space from the PSPO regarding overnight camping & fishing. This space is plagued by these issues related to camping and fishing and causes huge problems for residents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drug dealing - Drug taking - Wildlife injured by fishing tackle - Littering - drug paraphernalia, plastic bottles, used portable bbq's, fishing tackle, aluminium cans - Using the green space as toilets - Aggressive and abusive behaviour towards residents - Noise - prolonged loud music, swearing and shouting at night - Damage to property - graffiti



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

It needs to be enforced by the council, no point doing all this and then nothing to implement the order. Don't push the problem onto the overstretched Police Service and blame them when they haven't got the staff to sort this out for you.
It should be a no fishing zone like the sign in hurst park with the local flick of swans like Albany reach has!!!
It should be implemented up-to and including Weybridge and Wey navigation. Often boats are illegally moored and rubbish , human waste and drug related items left behind. This is a picturesque area where many people have sunset photos etc. This is slowly being spoilt for all.
It will help with the colossal amount of rubbish left in these spots
It would be better if bailiffs patrolled areas where fishing takes place to check licenses and remind anglers of the importance of tidying up after them. And provide bins in fishing spots.
It's time for all boats moored overnight on public property to be removed
It's a sledgehammer to crack a nut
It's an amenity space for all and any activity or anyone who selfishly abuses or risks damaging these wonderful spaces needs action taken against. I think it's a great idea to use a PSPO to restrict those who are blatantly taking advantage of these open spaces.
Judging by numbers of people involved and frequency of instance incidence at your mentioned sites: Indians hold the most significant barbecues; Eastern Europeans are the most prolific fishermen; Travellers hold en-masse yearly fixed-duration gatherings; The poor, disadvantaged and 'free-spirited' moor boats for protracted periods on the river. From a purely pragmatic viewpoint any proposed 'non-police' policing of the first three groups could prove troublesome. The last group are weak in their lack of community and so would be fairly simple to police, fine or persecute. To make the point clear, try policing, fining or persecuting 50 Indians, 100 travellers or half a dozen Polish men. The above is merely a common sense guide and does not consider any notion of morality: by all means implement your PSPO against some groups interpretation of recreation or living and pave your way to Hell with your good intentions.
Leave the river how it is the only good thing you guys can do is start dredging the river again and make it cleaner that way
leave things as they are, provide better bins.
Let us all hope that the EA check all vessaels ASAP and that Elmbridge enforce PSPOs
Light pollution too disturbing for humans and wildlife.
Limit public parking to 4 hours at these sites & half of the problem will be eradicated
Living near the river and walking along it often and having friends who are just a few steps away from the river, I am very well aware of the problems caused by all of your above points!
Long overdue , just get on with it
Long term mooring of boats is a big problem..
Making the changes agreed above should stop the slow decline and greater risk to these areas from people not thinking about the potential damage to areas which help make Elmbridge a very good place to live.
More late night public toilets
More policing on Albany Reach during busy times eg, hot summer days, Friday and Saturday evenings



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

Move the fishermen away from the beaches
No
No fishing
No fishing at the riverside
No further feedback but it should be known that one mooring at the top of Albany reach us actually responsible for cleaning up and actively litter picks regularly to help residents. Unfortunately this is not the same for all. Also the fishing should be contained to a single area or not at all. Regularly you cannot access any point of the water during the summer due to a line of fisherman and tents. Fishing lines also cause an issue with those swimming or using water equipment such as kayaks and paddle boards as they reach out into the water. The litter leaving is horrendous and bins over flow regularly causing issues for wildlife and residents.
No, this covers everything, thank you for asking my opinion
No. Above says my views
No. The council is joke in my opinion... there's got to be a better way to deal with the boats and fishermen. The main issue is kids in summer coming and leaving everything all over the place, maybe if the local police spent less time at the local petrol stations and more time in the park, it would help...
Noise from fishermen loading and unloading cars throughout the night is problematic for residents in Aragon Av. Noise from kids partying all night in Summer and screaming and shouting in the street is a bigger issue so a curfew would be a good solution
None
only that it needs to happen. The slum boats and unlicensed moorings should have been dealt with a long time ago. If these were illegally parked cars they would have been lifted, removed and crushed by now.
Open spaces should exactly be that. Open for the public to enjoy and relax in at all times, without fear of pollution from noise or waste matter. They should also be free for the public to enjoy fresh air and uninterrupted views for their physical and mental health.
organise volunteering litter picking and environmental surveys to protect the wildlife there
Our river, which should be a great asset to our area, is fast becoming a disgrace. Removal of the disgusting moored boats is an absolute priority if we are to regain the river for ordinary people to enjoy.
Overnight fishing on council land by permit only. Provision of Free 24hr mooring spots on council land where appropriate
People on boats need somewhere free to stay
Please don't forget the disruption on all the above matters that extends further along the river towards Hurstfield Road and Cherry Orchard Road
Please ensure that, if adopted, this order is properly enforced
Please extend the PSPO for unauthorised moorings at the Thames reach from Cherry Orchard Road to Sunbury lock. This area is heavily populated with unauthorised moorings and has been for years. The occupants have land-grabbed stretches of the bank as their 'private land' and nobody can access the banks at all. With PSPO enforcement in patches up and downstream of this reach there will be an insurgence of boats coming to moor up, exacerbating an already unacceptable situation for local residents.
Please include Cowey Sale and the green space around Walton Bridge in the PSPO. Cowey Sale/under Walton Bridge suffers from late night (between 10.30pm-1am+) people in cars who have loud music, backfiring exhausts, and/or use nitrous oxide canisters. Apart from the noise at night, the following morning you can see the evidence of littered canisters along with usually fast food litter or Red bull cans that have also



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

<p>been left behind. Also a question - does this consultation include the boats that are moored in Desborough Cut on the Elmbridge side of the river? Many of those that are there have been there a long time now and create litter and parking issues along Walton Road (going towards Weybridge).</p>
<p>Please listen to this: Measures like this only stop responsible people from enjoying their freedom. The irresponsible people who actually engage in this type of antisocial behaviour already don't care, so they won't care about a PSPO. All this will do is reduce the freedoms of responsible citizens. Instead teach responsibility. Educate those that create these problems, don't punish the rest of us who do no harm. If passed I will complain to the ombudsman for this reason.</p>
<p>Please protect our Elmbridge moorings and open spaces from abuse</p>
<p>Plus fines to be implemented for any kind of litter or human waste being left behind.</p>
<p>Point no 15: BOTH late night curfew between 11pm & 5am AND restriction of fishing to daytime from 7am to 7pm should be in place. The overnight camping of fishermen and their parking of white vans in Aragon Avenue is a nuisance and so is their coming back to their vans in the middle of the night causing noise is a nuisance, clattering along with their equipment</p>
<p>Provide bbq areas, more frequent refuse collections for dog waste and litter, especially summertime. Total ban of moored boats on Albany reach side.</p>
<p>PSPOs should apply to all open green spaces in Ebridge where antisocial behaviour and littering proliferates particularly in the summer months.</p>
<p>PSPOs should be introduced widely across Elmbridge to counter environmental vandalism.</p>
<p>Public Space protection to manage fishing and camping at Albany Reach and Cigarette Island should be BOTH to implement a light night curfew between 11pm and 5am AND restrict fishing to daytime only.</p>
<p>Really good initiative</p>
<p>Recruit volunteers to monitor the sites and report disallowed behaviour so as to minimise the cost to the Council (and therefore to payers of local taxes) of monitoring these sites.</p>
<p>Regarding Q15, whichever time limit is chosen it will have to be 'policed'. Have the Council got the capability to do this? This also applies to illegal mooring - The E.A. have been totally useless and their inability to do anything about it is beyond belief! (the Council as well have done little about the boats along Hurst Park) It is essential that the 24hour mooring locations remain as they are essential for the recreational boat users. In Hurst Park, they have been occupied for a couple of years by boats that have taken up residence and nothing has been done about it. The 'land grabbing' situation has to be resolved along the tow path between Cherry Orchard Gdns and Sunbury Lock.</p>
<p>Residents & visitors need to feel safe walking along the riverbank, which also needs to be cared for & accessible to everyone !</p>
<p>Restore the common sense instead of introducing power over human beings</p>
<p>Restricting either boaters or people fishing is not the answer. Boats have a public right of navigation and mooring on the Thames for a reasonable time. There is also an issue with water safety for boaters in cases of extreme weather that may not be foreseen in advance. They also have a right to navigate. Not all boaters nor anglers are causing disturbance nor littering. Seems as though these groups are being targeted. Where is the proof that loud noise and litter is ONLY the boaters and anglers? Obviously it is not them and them alone. From your survey, it could be construed that the council is discriminating against these groups</p>
<p>Restricting movement along the river and use of the river banks is draconian. The local shops enjoy a lot of trade by boat owners fishermen and various communities that use</p>



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

these spaces for a variety of purposes. These spaces are needed for everyone's health and relaxation.
Restricting parking times for free parking in these areas particularly where overstayers on moorings ste as they will require their car. Limiting free parking for example to 4 hours at free parking sites would eliminate many boat overstayers as they need their transport to get to work
Rubbish management better implemented at Albany reach, with daily collections in the summer period.
Sadly this PSPO is only of limited value as it is solely regarding Council owned land, however if it enables the council to move on the current illegal moorers it will certainly help an will Hopefully discourage further illegal mooring
Seems unfair to stop those respecting the environment & nature - if an order had to be in place, think it should only be between 11pm-5am.
Sooner the better please!
Sooner the better.
Stop all fishing
STOP FISHING
Stop the boat dwellers from building fences and gates, (worse near cherry orchard basically land grabbing the tow path should be all to enjoy not just the few
Target the litter and noise not the mooring up of boats. It is not a criminal offence to moor a boat.
Targeting marginalised boating communities is not the best way forward
Thank you
That the above open spaces are permanently protected from development of any sort, including cafes and take/sways.
The above restrictions should also apply to West End Village Green
The biggest issue is to stop all unautorimoorung along the Thame with special focus on removing those boats/people who seem to have taken up permanent mooring spots
The boats are not your primary problem. Drug dealing, and car racing in the unlocked car park are the main problem, as well as abusive drunk fisherman making women feel unsafe at night.
The boats that are moored without permission are also a navigation hazard. These vessels are frequently double and triple moored causing legitimate river users such as rowers, kayaks, and SUPs to be pushed further out into the middle of the river and thus more likely to create a collision hazard with oncoming traffic.
The Boroughs open spaces must be protected.
The continued long term mooring of boats along the specified sections of river prevents the general public from enjoying the space. They are unsightly and pose a pollution risk.
The Council has not as yet provided any evidence to back up its claim that littering and noise are a problem on the river bank. If there is evidence of a problem with littering and noise then the Council already has the enforcement powers to deal with it. Any PSPO or other enforcement should specifically target littering and noise, not the action of simply mooring a boat. It is not a criminal offence to moor a boat. The Public Right of Navigation includes the right to moor for a reasonable time on the Thames. 'Reasonable' cannot be defined in advance. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. To prevent boats mooring creates safety risks in itself, especially in flood or extreme weather conditions. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

<p>The Council has not provided any evidence of Anti Social Behaviour related to mooring boats. Mooring a boat is not in itself Anti Social Behaviour, nor is overstaying on a mooring, nor is living on a boat. Neither has it provided the text of the proposed Order, which by law it should do. This consultation is not valid.</p>
<p>The Council has not provided any evidence to back up its claim that littering and noise are a problem on the river bank. If there is evidence of a problem with littering and noise then the Council already has the enforcement powers to deal with it. Any PSPO or other enforcement should specifically target littering and noise, not the action of simply mooring a boat. It is not a criminal offence to moor a boat. The Public Right of Navigation includes the right to moor for a reasonable time on the Thames. 'Reasonable' cannot be defined in advance. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. To prevent boats mooring creates safety risks in itself, especially in flood or extreme weather conditions. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.</p>
<p>The Council should have taken action years ago. Illegal tramp boats are a menace in the area. Anti-social behaviour, drug dealing, and an unpleasant atmosphere are now in residence by the river and tow path.</p>
<p>The illegal mooring of boats adjacent to Felix Road near Walton rowing club has been going on un policed for years. 24 hour mooring! The mind set in the UK is very low, hence you are having to ask such obvious questions.</p>
<p>The illegal moorings north of Cherry Orchard Way should be included in the lists above.</p>
<p>The illegally moored boat on Albany Reach near the Mole causes considerable inconvenience for Thames Ditton Regatta when it hires the site from Elmbridge Borough Council each year by reducing our amenity as we want to use the mini-wharf here it is moored and the boat owner no longer pays any attention to our request for him to move for the day (he did the first year he lived there).</p>
<p>The increased hot dry summers combined with young people and fishermen bbqing along the Thames in this area has a huge jump in risky, unsanitary behaviours for us residents. Threat of fires started by inebriated visitors to the riverside combined with them not having facilities to alleviate themselves or the common sense to remove their rubbish has created a real unpleasantness and almost a dread of the summer months. We moved here a a young family for the proximity to the river and the peaceful atmosphere. Yet in the last 4 years it has become unsafe for our children to walk down To the end of the road to see their beloved river. Yes the river Should be for all - but a small few should not ruin it with risky, reckless and disturbing behaviour for all. Restrict camping and mooring. And actually MONITOR these restrictions. Ban all fires. Impose parking restrictions for anyone other than residents. Provide more bins. Please!</p>
<p>The issue of anti social behaviour at Albany Reach and along Aragon Avenue during the late spring and Summer months is also an issue. A ban on all groups between 11pm and 5am would be helpful along with a restriction on alcohol and strict enforcement of littering regulations would help.</p>
<p>The main element which will have a positive effect on protecting these spaces is banning overnight camping and illegal mooring. It would also be useful to restrict / specify the number of fishing points - in particular Albany Reach has become overrun with fishermen using entrypoints into the river which prevents other users safely accessing / enjoying the river.</p>
<p>The mess created on Cigarette Island by illegal boats/camping/fires etc is beyond belief.It needs to be sorted out urgently.In addition there are sunken boats in the river which will be leaking contaminates and plastics into the river.It has been going on for far too long and needs to be resolved.</p>



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

<p>The mooring of boats on Elmbridge council land is bad enough with all the issues you mention, in addition to that these boats have installed sheds, gazebos, garden furniture and have fenced off their own gardens. They pick the prime location stopping the day visitor from enjoying the countryside and the river etc.</p>
<p>The overnight camping/ fishing restriction should also include Hurst Park, as it becomes more common problem.</p>
<p>The overnight fishermen are also a problem in Hurst Park</p>
<p>The permanent mooring of houseboats along the Desborough Cut at Walton has resulted in the cancellation of the Weybridge Ladies Regatta.</p>
<p>The human waste discharge from all permanently moored boats is fouling the river making all boating activities a risk to public health.</p>
<p>The problem of unauthorised mooring has come about due to lack of other affordable housing options. The council needs to address the cause rather than just move the people onto EA land further upstream, which this PSPO will do.</p>
<p>The proposals regarding fishing and overnight camping should also include Hurst park!</p>
<p>The proposals would require efficient monitoring . Removal of illegally moored boats needs to be less mired in legal processes .a quick effective response is vital & long overdue</p>
<p>The PSPO will only be effective if it is enforced. I trust EBC will be able to ensure enforcement. I appreciate that PSPOs are not effective for unconsented mooring on EA land, and this is a major blight on the land at the moment. I would urge EBC Councillors and Council officers to insist to the Environment Agency that they carry out their enforcement responsibilities. Otherwise boats moved on from EBC land will simply move along to EA-owned land.</p>
<p>The PSPO will require an increase in resources to enforce the activities and areas. I understand from the Council's signage that the Council already has powers over all these activities on council owned land so it is unclear how the PSPO will make enforcement any more effective.</p>
<p>The Public Right of Navigation includes the right to moor for a reasonable time on the Thames. 'Reasonable' cannot be defined in advance. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.</p>
<p>The reported behaviours that are causing problems are not those that are targeted by the proposed protection order. If an order is to be passed, it needs to target the behaviours that are actually the problem, namely littering and noise pollution - not fishing, camping or mooring. An order may need to target lighting fires, but in my experience the best way to prevent field etc fires is education and the provision of simple fire fighting equipment</p>
<p>The unauthorised boats moored along the Thames are a blight on the local area. Anything that can be done to stop this happening would be welcome. Given how close these open spaces are to properties, putting them at risk during hot weather, prohibiting naked flames and barbecues would also be welcome.</p>
<p>The wording of this survey is not neutral and is written to create a leading bias.</p>
<p>There are already laws which can be used to stop antisocial behaviour such as playing loud music, and illegal behaviour such as littering. Peoples rights to enjoy public space are already absurdly limited in England. Why not spend valuable council time and money in expanding these rights for everyone rather than limiting access to the few scraps of</p>



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

<p>the countryside we are free to enjoy. If everyone weren't squeezed into the same recreational space there would be far less conflict of interests. If you care anything for the environment then put money into compulsory purchasing marginal farmland on the river banks for nature reserve space... to use the leading questions in this survey to blame environmental degradation on boaters or youngsters out camping is a joke while the water authorities and farms are permitted to pour sewage into the river continuously. The river is in a state of complete environmental degradation because of neglect by both national and local authorities, who use actions like this proposal as a smoke screen to obfuscate their incompetence and cronyism on the heart of the matter.</p>
<p>There are enough bylaws to deal with problems along the river .</p>
<p>There are many people that live on boats, the boat may be their only home. Unfortunately other humans have wrecked the nature and peace. I for one know, we always clean up after ourselves and in actual fact - we clean up others rubbish too! All I can politely ask is - Do Not Paint Everyone with the same paint brush</p>
<p>There is no evidence to support the claim that littering and noise are a problem on the river bank. If there is evidence of a problem with littering and noise then the Council already has the enforcement powers to deal with it. It is discriminatory to suggest that people who moor boats are the cause of the alleged littering and noise. What is more, any PSPO or other enforcement should specifically target littering and noise, not the action of simply mooring a boat. It is not a criminal offence to moor a boat. It simply isn't the case that The Public Right of Navigation includes the right to moor for a reasonable time on the Thames. 'Reasonable' cannot be defined in advance. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. To prevent boats mooring creates safety risks in itself, especially in flood or extreme weather conditions. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.</p>
<p>These are serious issues requiring action and enforcement if they are to be resolved.</p>
<p>These rules already exist but how are they going to be enforced.</p>
<p>This is a leading questionnaire that doesn't clearly lay out the public rights you are removing from residents and the public. There are so many other options that would be more cost effective and actually good for the environment. It is a shame that the council seeks control through misinformation.</p>
<p>This is a mandatory solution to a situation that must be stopped. The inappropriate use of Albany Reach is posing an ever growing risk to the environment and human safety. Children who spend summer days using this area for health and fitness are having to dodge broken glass, litter and human waste. Residents who pay a premium to live and enjoy this area are completely avoiding it other than to go and clean up the mess each morning - presenting a health and hygiene risk to themselves.</p>
<p>This is a terrible idea, public spaces protection orders would criminalise ordinary people, including people living on boats, carrying out everyday recreational and domestic activities. This would make people's boat homes uninhabitable and evict them from large areas in all but name. Just who are these terrible protection orders supposed to protect? Answer, only the very rich residents around there who think that the entire river bank belongs to them. Not any ordinary people who do not have their own gardens, river frontages, moorings, private fishing and access to massive acreages of land to use for their own recreation or domestic activities. Leave the ordinary people alone.</p>
<p>This is an excellent proposal - at the moment there is far too much litter & anti social behaviour that ruin these areas for the majority of users.</p>



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

This is just so unimaginative, lazy and elitist. You have provided no evidence that it's moored boats causing the problem, in my experiences its almost always middle and upper class kids and young adults binge drinking and behaving obnoxiously that causes the problems like noise and littering - so why no call to ban booze?

This is like blaming immigrants for councils being underfunded - it's actually racist against the travelling community - and it's not even logical because the boating community is massively diverse. Open fires can be a problem, but only when we're in periods of drought, so any banning on bbqs should be entirely weather related! You could simply also start by posting signs - or introducing groundskeepers whose job is also encouraging the use of low flame and partially electric eco bbqs like Casus grill or LotusGrill if you're actually concerned about the environment. (though I have my doubts, this appears to be a manipulative effort to just enclose the space away from public access).

I am absolutely disgusted at this move to try to strip away one of the few joys citizens have left during a cost of living crisis simply because you've probably received a few complaints - or because you're looking to cut costs on staff who are currently collecting litter and working on the grounds. This is not a decent solution, it's callous and reactionary and as already shockingly lazy.

If there's too much litter, host a litter collection with volunteers once a week - littering is a problem all over this country and the reason it's not been dealt with is because people like yourselves come up with lazy solutions rather than dealing with the root causes of the issues - which you're usually too prejudice to recognise what these actually are and far too easily look for a group of minority individuals with no power to blame.

Boating has a long history of travelling and mooring outside palaces including Hampton Court; instead of banning (like the book burners and crazed pitched for witch burners of our past) why not try to do something that show the educational level humanity has reached? Invite boaters in, create a cohesive community with events showcasing the history of boating - for example, invite boating artists to host events teaching Roses and Castles art - that's something that would encourage family fun activities and less binge drinking behaviours. <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/canal-history/history-features-and-articles/roses-and-castles-canal-folk-art>

Try positive reinforcement and community cohesion, not exclusionary tactics and out-of-date punish all for the actions of a few mentality.

This is long overdue action on illegal boats setting up permanent moorings at Hurst Park, discharging sewage into the river, land-grabbing riverside space, preventing residents from using the riverbank and brazenly flouting 24 hour mooring rules.

This is not needed, please police the illegal activities as per existing law enforcement and stop finding new ways of public restrictions. People are enjoying this places by day and night. Ad some AI operated cameras and fine or arrest people that are breaking the law and not restriction of genuine Leisure seeking people!!!

This is simply insane people have been fishing and camping for thousands of years and is a natural and human right and should not be limited with extreme safeguards such as curfews etc is an absolute joke, as the for the boats moored "illegally" most of the them are live aboards and peoples homes and again people have been doing this for 2 or 300 years.. once again another right ruined by ignorance and blindness.

This needs to be reviewed on a 5 year basis.

This order must be policed and enforced or else it is a waste of time. I hope the council has sufficient money to do this properly.



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

<p>This questionnaire is heavily weighted, obviously if people are littering then they are causing problems for the environment and naked flames can be dangerous in green spaces. I'm a horticulturalist, I care massively about the environment and everything I have learnt is about how we can work with nature for the benefit of everyone. People need to be able to access and enjoy green space. Green spaces should be accessible, not restricted. You should be creating safe bbq areas - people clearly want to use the space in this way. There is a big need for free moorings because otherwise some people would be homeless. Housing is not affordable. Include more bins. Please think about this in a different and more positive way!</p>
<p>This seems like there's discrimination against a certain type human, who wishes to live in a boat. Humans have been building and using open fire since the beginning of human existence</p>
<p>This survey seems very biased.</p>
<p>There is a need to reduce damage and risk to these areas.</p>
<p>To implement the same things as the above and not allow illegal mooring between Sunbury lock and Hurst park, where lots of boats are living and have put up private property notices, when the riverside is meant to be for everyone.</p>
<p>To prevent land, grabbing in West Molesey down the tow path to Sunbury lock.</p>
<p>U could provide special council owned and permanent barbecues in special areas eg. Cigarette island, that public can use . Just like they do in Australia ,which has a far more dangerous climate for spreading wild fires . Instead of just banning everything, try and think out of the box a bit. I kayak and scull on the river, and it is great to see kids and adults enjoy the river in the summer, so make it safe rather than banning barbecues.....!!!</p>
<p>Unauthorised mooring along Desborough cut and between Walton bridge and Sunbury lock is a major problem. This proposal seems to miss what is the scourge of Elmbridge riverside.</p>
<p>Under these proposals, Three Men in a Boat would be fined £100s of pounds every day of their journey! These proposals would be laughable if they weren't so frightening. Where is the Freedom we voted to leave the EU for? Certainly not in Elmbridge, where you can't potter along the river, catching a few fish, cooking Irish stew on a camping stove and sleeping under the awning of your little boat at nights. Jerome K Jerome would be turning in his grave if he knew the awful restrictions on our Freedom being cooked up for the river he had so much fun on.</p>
<p>Unrestricted mooring at Hurst Park pollutes the river, prevents access to the riverbank by residents, other river users and visitors, causes noise, and in some cases land grabbing of the riverbank. It has been an ongoing problem for years and anything that can be done to deter unsightly illicit mooring along this beautiful stretch of river is to be welcomed.</p>
<p>Use your powers and sort the illegally moored boats out. I offered to help you five years ago having brought in PSPOs in two London boroughs!!</p>
<p>Vessels moored without permission along the river banks in the borough cause the greatest problems and should be dealt with without delay.</p>
<p>we dont want any fishing</p>
<p>We have to put in place some measures to protect our open spaces this will save resources in cleaning up and allow these places and wildlife to safely thrive</p>
<p>We need action as soon as possible!</p>
<p>What about removing illegal moorings by the slip road, end of Sadlers ride,</p>
<p>What evidence is there that littering and noise are an issue. If so you have enforcement powers to deal with it. Any PSPO or other enforcement should specifically target littering and noise, not the action of simply mooring a boat. It is not a criminal offence to moor a</p>



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

<p>boat. The Public Right of Navigation includes the right to moor for a reasonable time on the Thames. 'Reasonable' cannot be defined in advance. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. It sets a precedent for other areas on the waterway (slippery slope) and should be managed by exception, using your existing powers not a total ban. To prevent boats mooring creates safety risks in itself, especially in flood or extreme weather conditions. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.</p>
<p>Who is actually going to monitor this? Given that the EA has a mandate to monitor their moorings, & fail to do so, & the Councils are always cutting costs & complaining that they don't have enough money....who is actually going to monitor this?</p>
<p>Who will monitor the PSPO? It needs resources to implement it.</p>
<p>Fishermen cannot stay overnight or for long periods without leaving human waste.</p>
<p>River boat moorings create human & foul water waste in addition to litter. The users damage the river bank & supporting structures. They attract vehicle parking in inappropriate areas.</p>
<p>Why are you blaming all people that camp and moor in these places? I moor in these places sometimes and I don't pollute or litter etc. You shouldn't blame a whole group, we aren't a social problem.</p>
<p>Why don't you like fishermen?</p>
<p>Why is this even being discussed, I have seen areas already where there are no authorised overnight moorings and it is revolting, ruining the environment, making it dangerous for women to walk around solo or walk their dogs alone in those areas. Mark my words, if this is allowed, you will have a case of assault, rape or murder in the areas you allow this and the blood will be on the councils hands for allowing this.</p>
<p>Why target only fishing / camping? We live by Hurst park and in the warmer months we have a lot of teenagers hang out in the park late at night being very noisy / anti social/ throwing things in the river, smoking, using the park as a toilet and prob a lot more. Can't we have a restriction on this type of behaviour as it is just as disruptive, if not more?</p>
<p>With regard to the BBQ it would be amazing if we could get to a point where designated bbq areas were created but I don't think the British public would be responsible enough to use them sadly</p>
<p>Would be good to do something to restrict commercial dogwalking in the borough.</p>
<p>Yes - a public protection order to enforce dogs to be on a lead in Hurst park open space. It has now become a no go area for those of us who do not like dogs as there are so many ill trained large and sometimes aggressive dogs off the leash while their owners stare at their phones or talk to their friends.</p>
<p>Yes put more bins out and hopefully they will use them and have cctv installed so it can be monitored 24/7 then the problems should stop</p>
<p>Yes, Ditton Reach seems to have been ignored in points 3, 4 ,5 We also suffer from issues of human waste and excrement up against our property and we should also be included. Point 13 should also include Ditton Reach. We have a big problem with overnight fishing/ camping which leads on to littering, noise pollution and human waste issues. If you are going to impose bans at Albany Reach Ditton Reach must be included as well or the council will simply push the problems there to us. Point 15 Again Ditton Reach has been excluded- we feel the area should be vacated overnight from 11pm to 6am There is no reason for people to gather here in a buoy up</p>



Elmbridge
Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

residential area overnight.

I am sure the missing of of Ditton Reach was an oversight and should be included in proposals with Albany Reach. We suffer a dreadful problem with such problems as Drug dealing

Drug taking

Littering - drug paraphernalia, plastic bottles, used portable bbq's, fishing tackle, aluminium cans

Using the green space as toilets

Aggressive and abusive behaviour towards residents

Noise - prolonged loud music, swearing and shouting at night

Damage to property - graffiti

Yes, Hurst Park security needs to be sorted ASAP. My house looks on to the river and is an end-of-terrace, and not overlooked by anyone. So teens gather in the summer - drinking, swearing, foul language, urinate, defecate behind a very large weeping willow which hides them from public view (apart from Me). They sell drugs and smoke weed blatantly. I am now scared living in this house, after less than one year since moving here. I'm considering moving now to get away from the harassment.

Yes. The Council has not provided any evidence to back up its claim that littering and noise are a problem on the river bank. If there is evidence of a problem with littering and noise then the Council already has the enforcement powers to deal with it. Any PSPO or other enforcement should specifically target littering and noise, not the action of simply mooring a boat. It is not a criminal offence to moor a boat. The Public Right of Navigation includes the right to moor for a reasonable time on the Thames. 'Reasonable' cannot be defined in advance. This is a draconian and oppressive proposal and should not be implemented. Boaters should not be criminalised for exercising their public right to navigate, including mooring. To prevent boats mooring creates safety risks in itself, especially in flood or extreme weather conditions. The proposed PSPO would create homelessness among boat dwellers, depriving them of a place to moor their homes. The proposed PSPO powers would target homeless or vulnerable people which local authorities are specifically prohibited from doing.

You are asking all the wrong questions! You seem to be picking on a very small group of people. The main problem with these areas is the general public picnicking on hot days leaving masses of rubbish, food, discarded nappies, beer cans etc.

I walk regularly on Albany Reach and Hurst park and it is not the few fishermen and boats causing the problem.

There is appropriate legislation to deal with illegal moorings but no policing of the areas to prevent anti social behaviour.

Do you really think that banning overnight fishing will resolve the issues?

New bins are great but no use if people just decide to leave their rubbish on the grass!

You do not need additional laws, flytipping laws cover the entirety of the council's complaints here and can be enforced if there are issues

You should be ashamed of yourselves and your attitude towards what you deem as "other people". Access to green spaces should not be a luxury reserved only for your wealthy residents. If the council is having issues with "waste" maybe think about paying for some bins and facilities.



Elmbridge
Borough Council

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