



Suffolk Constabulary – Evidence to Support Public Space Protection Order

Latitude Music Festival 2019

A Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) has been in place over the last three years. The existing PSPO expires on 14th July 2019. This year's Latitude Festival is to be held between 18th and 21st July 2019 requiring the PSPO to be renewed.

The PSPO is known to assist in the prevention and detection of drugs offences relating to New Psychoactive Substances (NPS). Due to the serious harm that NPS may cause, legislation was introduced in 2016. The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 introduced powers for police officers and other designated persons to deal with the production, importation and supply of NPS but did not go so far as to make simple possession a criminal offence. This omission has resulted in a number of difficulties for event staff during large scale events. In response to this issue a PSPO was granted in 2016 for the Latitude Festival. As a result security staff became empowered and supported to tackle the issue of NPS. Police had enforceable legislation for which offenders could be dealt and the protection and safety of all attendees of the festival was enhanced.

Having the PSPO in place also offers as a deterrent to those looking to bring NPS to the event. Organisers are clear that those entering will be searched and dealt with accordingly if found to be in possession.

The effects of NPS are highlighted in a statement from Acting Detective Inspector Bodmer ***Full Statement Attached***

Peter Nicholson the Security Co-Ordinator for Latitude has said;

“The introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order at Latitude Festival has provided a very useful tool in tackling a range of anti-social and criminal behaviour. From it being first introduced there has been a step-change in the effectiveness of security on site. The fact that it is in place

gives security staff the confidence that enforcement is an option when dealing with these matters and provides even more safety at what is predominantly a family event.”

Robin Pivett, Suffolk Constabulary’s Controlled Drug Liaison Officer has provided a statement in which he highlights current local and national drug trends, the harm that NPS present and the amount of drugs & NPS found within amnesty bins in previous years at Latitude Festival. ***Full Statement Attached***

Below are crime figures for the drugs related offences recorded during Latitude Festival for the period 2016-2018. This data can be misleading in that the incident reference 37/38916/18 relates to the arrest of two persons carrying over 1300 individual Psychoactive Substances. These substances were initially discovered by security, which may not have happened should the PSPO not have been in place.

<u>Ref Number</u>	<u>Offence</u>	<u>Arrest</u>
2018		
37/38916/18	Possess a psychoactive substance with intent to supply	Yes
37/39101/18	Attempted - Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	Yes
37/39127/18	Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - MDMA	Yes
37/39293/18	Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A	yes
37/39118/18	Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	
37/39128/18	Having possession of a controlled drug - Class A - Cocaine	Yes
37/39457/18	Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	yes
37/39430/18	Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	Yes
2017		
37/48360/17	Poss Class A & B	Yes
37/48636/17	Poss W/I Supply Cannabis	Yes
37/48640/17	Poss W/I Supply	Yes
37/48642/17	Poss W/I Supply	Yes
37/48681/17	Poss Cont Drug	Yes
37/48863/17	Poss W/I Supply Cannabis	Yes
37/48877/17	Poss Cannabis	No
37/48881/17	Poss Cannabis	No

37/48885/17	Poss Cannabis	No
37/48887/17	Poss Cannabis	No
37/48889/17	Poss Ketamine	No
37/48892/17	Poss of Cannabis	No
37/48893/17	Poss of Cannabis	No
37/48894/17	Poss of MDMA	No
	2016	
37/44491/16	PWITS	
37/44498/16	PWITS (Nitrous Oxide)	
37/44667/16	Poss Cannabis	
37/44481/16	Possession MDMA	
37/44493/16	Cannabis	
37/44729/16	PWITS Cannabis	

Sgt 403 Beresford

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Safer Neighbourhood Team