

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

SECTION 59

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

This order is made by Cambridge City Council (the 'Council') and shall be known as the Public Spaces Protection Order (Touting) 2026 (formerly Public Spaces Protection Order (Touting) 2016).

PRELIMINARY

1. The Council, in making this Order is satisfied on reasonable grounds that:

The activities identified below have been carried out in public places within the Council's area and have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality,

and that:

the effect, or likely effect, of the activities:

is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,

is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and

justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

2. The Council is satisfied that the prohibitions imposed by this Order are reasonable to impose in order to prevent the detrimental effect of these activities from continuing, occurring or recurring, or to reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence.
3. The Council has had particular regard to the rights and freedoms set out in Article 10 (right of freedom of expression) and Article 11 (right of freedom of assembly) of the European Convention on Human Rights and has concluded

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that the restrictions on such rights and freedoms imposed by this Order are lawful, necessary and proportionate.

THE ACTIVITIES

4. The Activities prohibited by this Order are:

Soliciting for and/or promoting and/or arranging for and/or concluding the booking or sale of river-related goods or services to members of the public in a public place (including any punt tour or the hire or use of punts, boats or similar craft on the River Cam and any walking tour which includes or incorporates such services) whether:

- orally, and/or
- by distributing sales or publicity materials, and/or
- by carrying or wearing a tout board, sandwich board or similar advertising device, and/or
- by using, offering or displaying any electronic device for booking or sale purposes, and/or
- by any other form of verbal advertisement or of touting.

THE PROHIBITION

5. A person shall not engage in any of the Activities anywhere within the restricted area as shown shaded on the attached map labelled 'The Restricted Area'

This Prohibition is subject to the Exception stated below

THE EXCEPTION

6. The Prohibition does not apply to those cross-hatched shaded areas as identified on the attached map labelled 'Excepted Areas', provided that the Activities are carried out with the authority of, and by or on behalf of, a punt operator whose vessels are licensed for commercial purposes by the Conservators of the River Cam.

Informative: the Excepted Areas are locations at Quayside, Silver Street, Trinity College frontage at Garret Hostel Lane, Queens Green, and the Walkway from Quayside to Jesus Green (La Mimosa).

PERIOD FOR WHICH THIS ORDER HAS EFFECT

7. This Order will come into force at midnight on 27th September 2026 and will expire at midnight on 27th September 2029.
8. At any point before the expiry of this 3 year period the Council can extend the Order by up to three years if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that this is necessary to prevent the activities identified in the Order from occurring or recurring or to prevent an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER?

Section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 says that it is a criminal offence for a person without reasonable excuse –

- (a) to do anything that the person is prohibited from doing by a public spaces protection order, or
- (b) to fail to comply with a requirement to which the person is subject under a public spaces protection order

A person guilty of an offence under section 67 is liable on conviction in the Magistrates Court to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale

FIXED PENALTY

An authorised officer of the Authority may issue a fixed penalty notice to anyone he or she believes has committed an offence under section 67 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act.

For the purpose of this order “an authorised officer of the Authority” means an employee, partnership agency or contractor of Cambridge City Council who is authorised in writing by Cambridge City for the purpose of giving directions under the Order.

APPEALS

Any challenge to this order must be made in the High Court by an interested person within six weeks of it being made. An interested person is someone who lives in,

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regularly works in, or visits the restricted area. This means that only those who are directly affected by the restrictions have the power to challenge. The right to challenge also exists where an order is varied by the Council.

Interested persons can challenge the validity of this order on two grounds: that the Council did not have power to make the order, or to include particular prohibitions or requirements; or that one of the requirements of the legislation, for instance consultation, has not been complied with.

When an application is made the High Court can decide to suspend the operation of the order pending the Court's decision, in part or in totality. The High Court has the ability to uphold the order, quash it, or vary it.

MAPS

The following maps display the Restricted Area, where the Order applies and where the Activities are prohibited (as per paragraph 4), and also the Excepted Areas around the official punt stations where touting is permitted (as per paragraph 6). Further details can be obtained from the City Council by contacting 01223 457950 or enviocrime@cambridge.gov.uk

Section 67 Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014

- (1) It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse-
 - (a) To do anything that the person is prohibited from doing by a public spaces protection order, or
 - (b) To fail to comply with a requirement to which a person is subject under a public spaces protection order
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale
- (3) A person does not commit an offence under this section by failing to comply with a prohibition or requirement that the local authority did not have power to include in the public spaces protection order