SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

The following is a summary of the recorded breaches of the PSPO in the Town Centre since its implementation.

The current PSPO deals with:

- Begging
- Loitering
- No return in 24 hours
- Groups of 3 or more
- Alcohol
- Intoxicating substances
- Urinate / Defecate
- Charitable hawking,
- Camping
- Parking equipment interference and loitering

Below is the evidence gathered by the Council.

There were 2149 reported breaches, between the 8 November 2017 and 31 March 2020:

The five primary incidence types reported were Loitering (703), Return 24 Hours (587), Begging (437), Intoxication (227) and Drinking (96).

Activity peaked during April and July 2019, but not to the extent of the 2018 numbers. This in part may be due to the fact that the weather during the summer of 2018 was more favourable than that during the summer of 2019.

2018 saw Loitering, No return in 24 hours, begging and intoxicating substances as the highest offences. 2019 saw No return within 24 hours, begging, loitering and drinking as the highest offences.

Figure 8 below shows the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued for some specific PSPO breaches. The majority of Fixed Penalty Notices were issued in 2018, with Loitering, no return in 24 hours and intoxicating substances being the higher breaches

During 2019/20 19 fixed penalty notices were served

5 for begging, 1 for drinking, 1 for interfering with parking machines, 9 for no return within 24 hours and 3 for urination defecation.
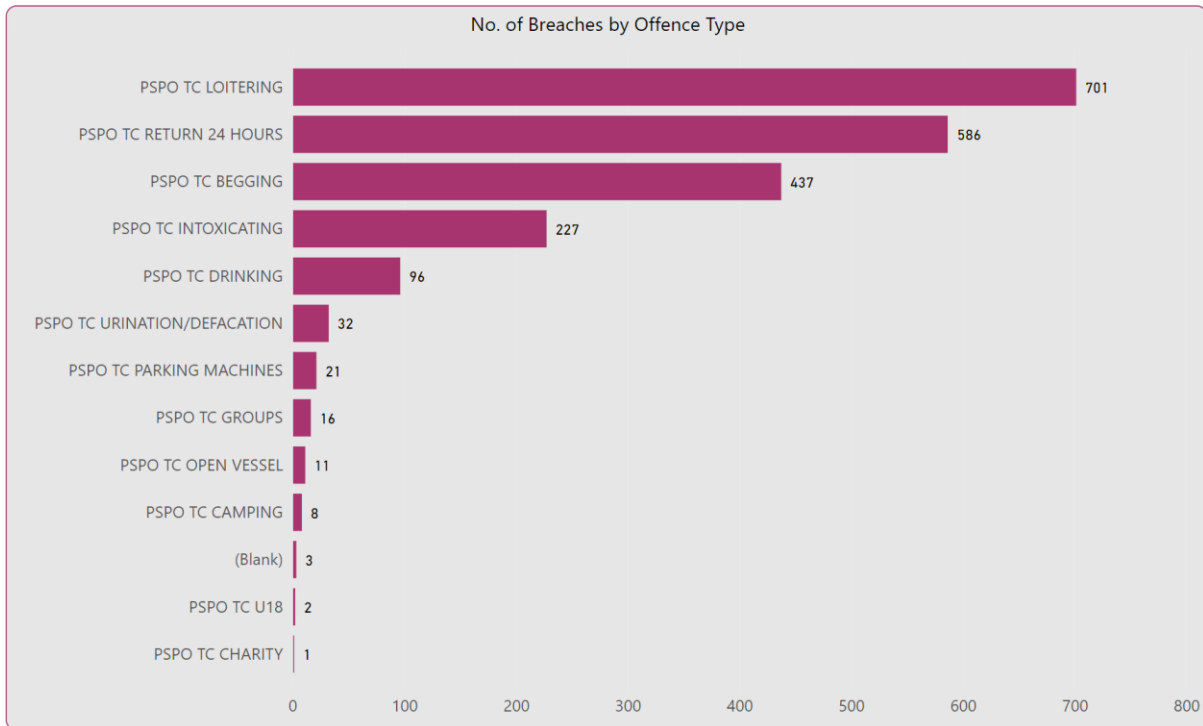
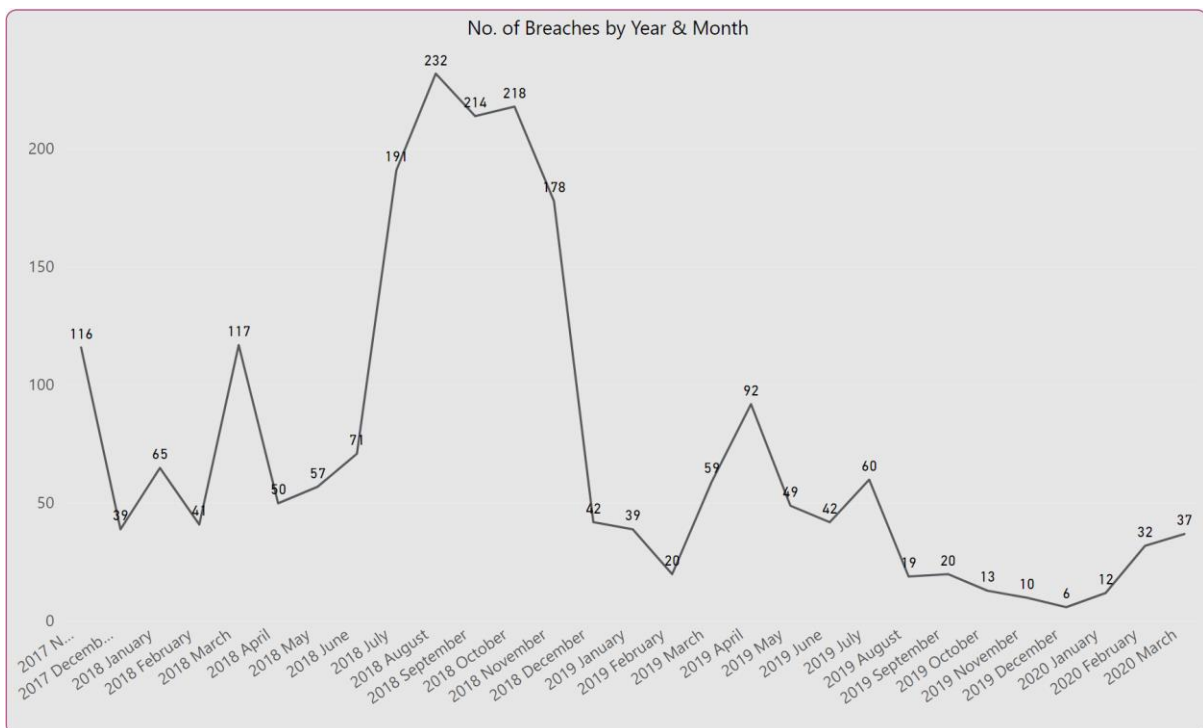*Figure 1) The Figure shows all breaches for period November 2017 to March 2020*

*Figure 2) For **all** breaches, the main period for breaches were from July – November of 2018. Likely due to a hot summer and mild winter. There is also a significant spike of activity around the April period for both 2018 and 2019*
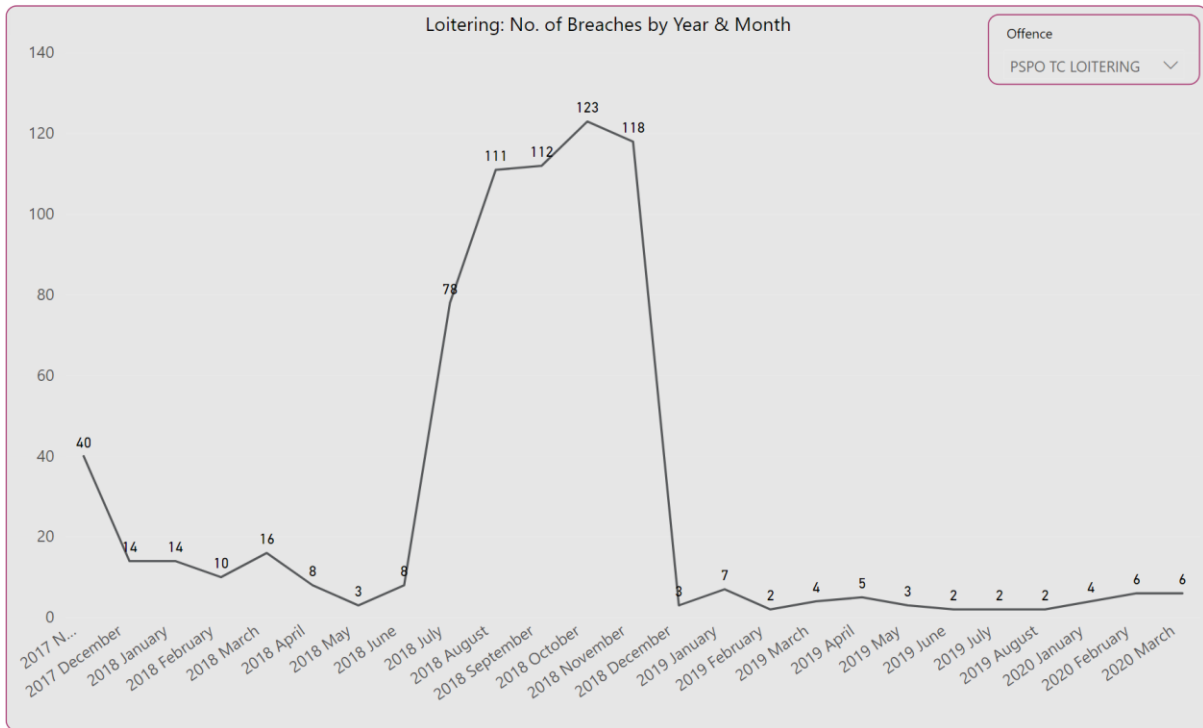
Loitering

Figure 3) When looking specifically at Loitering, the primary months for breaches were in the summer/early autumn of 2018 Jul to Nov.
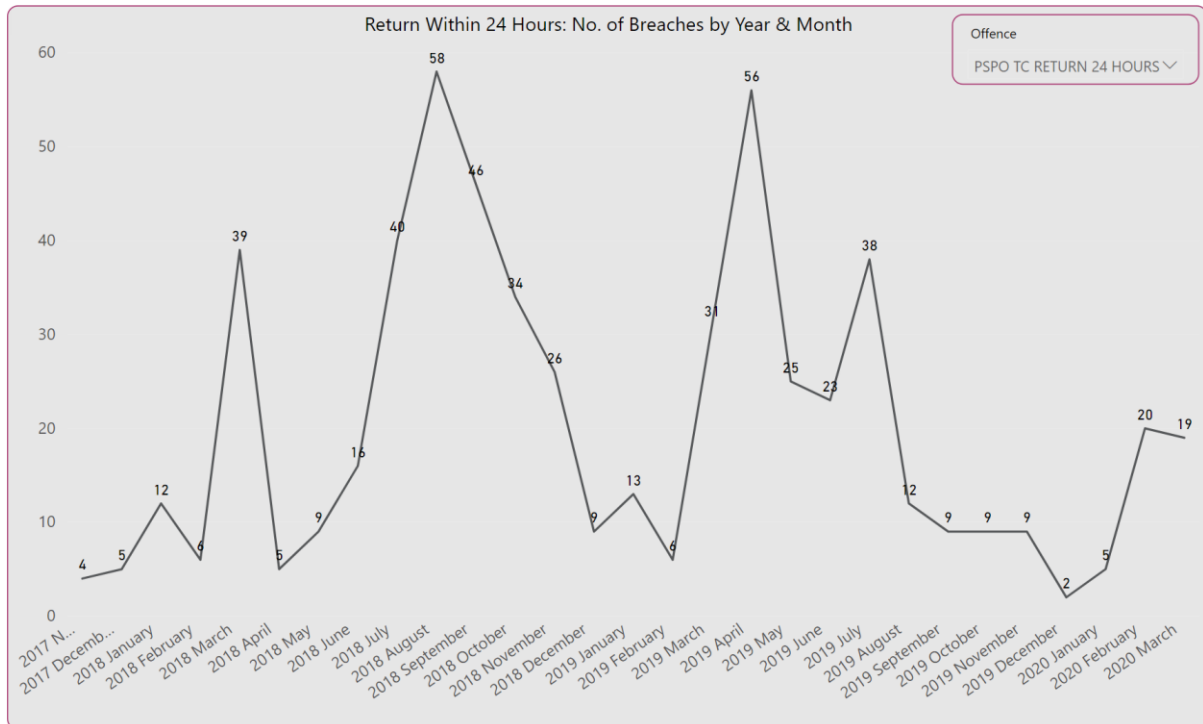
Return Within 24 Hours

Figure 4) The breaches for Return within 24 Hours was significantly more spread, with spikes in 2019, but the largest number was still in the summer of 2018.
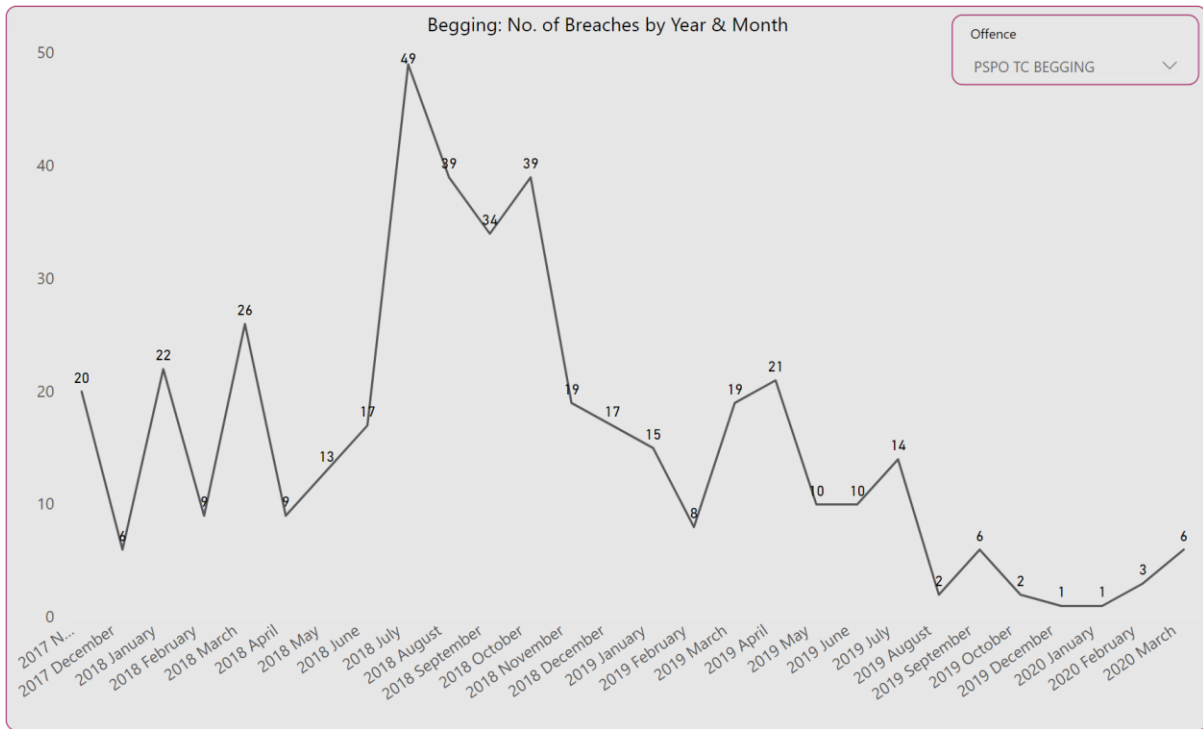
Begging

Begging: No. of Breaches by Year & Month

Figure 5) Begging shows a similar pattern, however, more individuals were found to beg during the winter months.
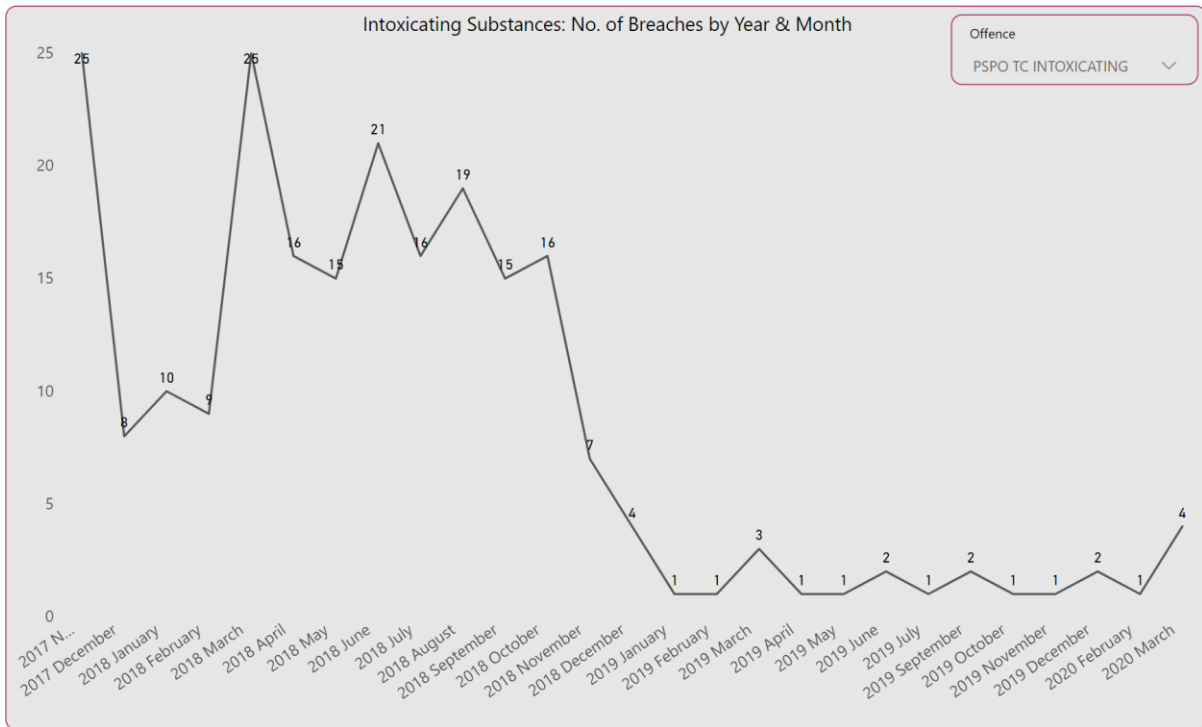
Intoxicating Substances

Figure 6) Intoxication (i.e. drugs not alcohol) had a wider spread, and dropped significantly during 2019.
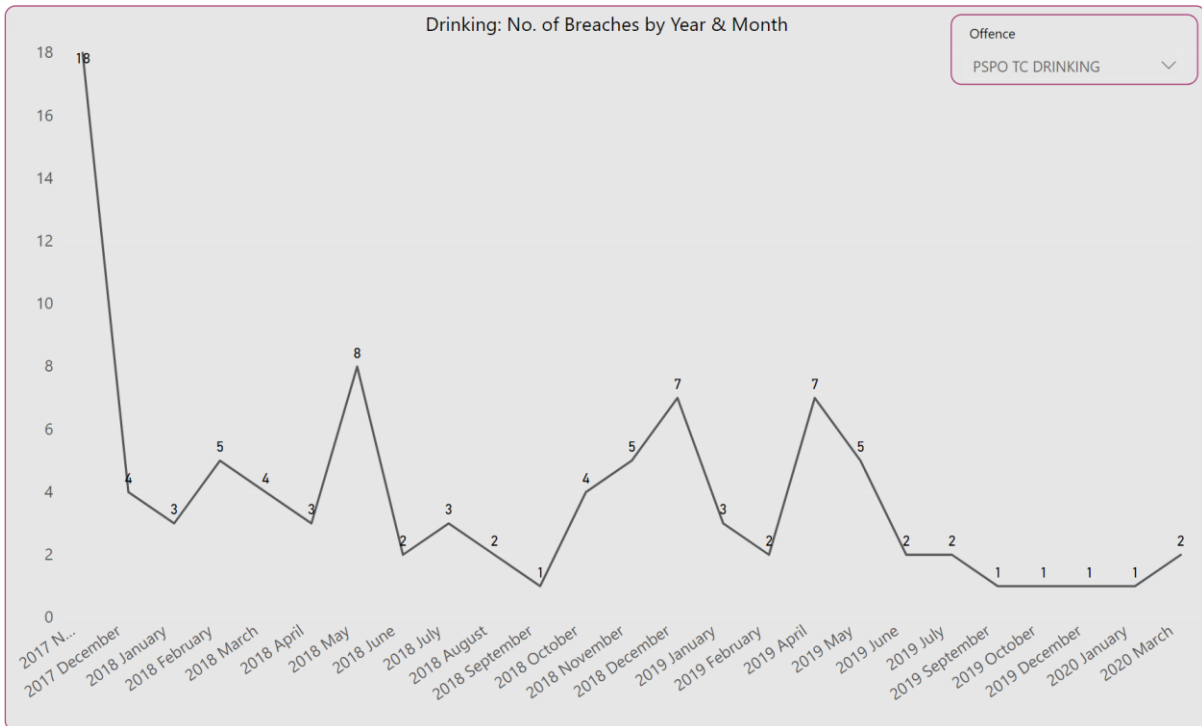
Drinking

Figure 7) No. of Drinking breaches shows an average of 4.2 breaches per month between 2017 and 2019.

*Figure 8) Annual comparison of **Fixed Penalty Notices** per prohibition*

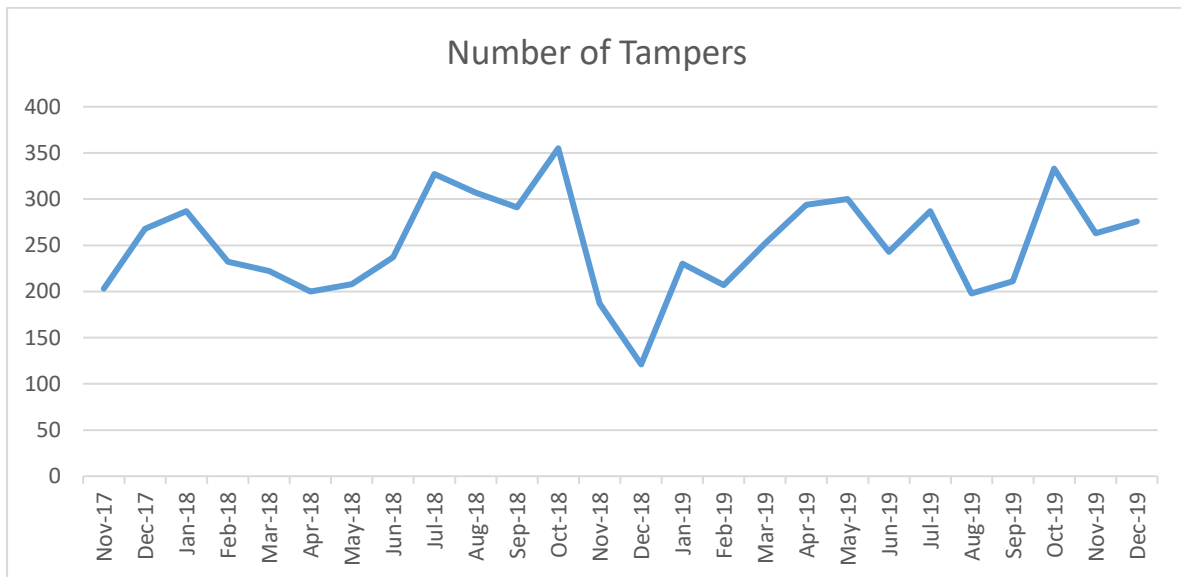Parking Meter Machine Tampering

Figure 9) This shows an average of 251 incidents with Parking meters per month. The tampering incidents with parking machines, results in a loss of income for the Council and additional expenditure of £120k to replace these machines.