# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL (CITY CENTRE) PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2021

Worcester City Council ("the Council") in exercise of its powers under Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") being satisfied that the conditions set out in section 59 of the Act have been satisfied and that it is in all the circumstances expedient to make this Order for the purposes of reducing anti-social behaviour in the Restricted Area that has a detrimental effect on the quality of life in the locality. Furthermore the Council is satisfied that the effect of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, and is, or is likely to be such as to make the activity unreasonable and the effect justifies the restrictions imposed. The Council hereby makes the following Order:-

- a) This Order may be cited as the Worcester City Council (City Centre) Public Spaces Protection Order 2021 ("**the Order**").
- b) This Order takes effect on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and continues to have effect for a period of three years thereafter unless extended by further orders under the Council's statutory powers.
- c) This order applies to the land within the City Centre, as shown coloured blue on the attached plan, to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as or right or by virtue of express or implied permission ("the Restricted Area").

BY THIS ORDER the following prohibitions apply at all times within the Restricted Area and requires specified things to be done at all times by persons carrying on specified activities in the Restricted Area:-

#### Prohibition on the intentional feeding gulls

1. No person at any time shall provide or deposit food with the intention that it is consumed by gulls within the Restricted Area

#### Prohibition on aggressive begging

- **2.** Persons are prohibited from Aggressive Begging with the Restricted Area.
- 3. For the purposes of this Order Worcester City Council defines "Aggressive Begging" as:
  - i) Loitering or approaching people within five (5) metres of a cash machine, pay station, shop, restaurant/café or any such other place where members of the people expect privacy or feel vulnerable to making a financial transaction, having their money, bank cards, wallets, purses or phones on display; or
  - ii) Intimidating or threatening language or gestures; or
  - iii) Any other behaviour that, in all the relevant circumstances, a reasonable person would regard as intimidating and designed to cause a member of the public to offer money to a person not known to them
- 4. This prohibition shall not apply to any authorised collections made on behalf of registered charities or other approved organisations with the express prior written consent of the Council.

#### Prohibition on dangerous skateboarding and cycling

No person shall cycle or skateboard in the Restricted Area in a dangerous manner that may put others at risk, including travelling at excessive speed, or travelling without paying due care and attention to others or conditions pertaining at the time.

#### Interpretation

- **6.** For the purpose of this order:
  - i) "Authorised Officer" means an employee, partnership agency or contractor of Worcester City Council who is authorised by Worcester City Council for the purposes of giving directions under the Order or a Police Constable or Police Community Support Officer.

#### **Offences / Penalties**

- **7.** Failure without reasonable excuse to comply with the prohibitions or requirements imposed by this Order is an offence under Section 67 of the Act.
- 8. A person guilty of an offence under Section 67 of the Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale or a fixed penalty notice of a maximum of £100.00 (discounted to £60.00 if paid within 10 days).

#### **Appeals**

- **9.** If any interested person desires to question the validity of this Order on the ground that the Council had no power to make it or that any requirement of the Act has not been complied with in relation to this Order, he or she may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date on which this Order is made.
- 10. 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.

Dated: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

The Common Seal of

## **Worcester City Council**

Was hereunto affixed in the presence of:-



Georgina Coley

Deputy Monitoring Officer

### **Restricted Area**

