

**Full Council  
15 April 2021  
Questions from Councillors**

**Question 1 – submitted by Cllr Paul Kimber**

**Question to Full council Weymouth to Waterloo Rail services**

In view of Dorset Councils commitment to Climate change and Greener economy, we should be encouraging more Public Transport use, not advocating more car use.

The new timetable for Monday to Friday, starting on 17th May 2021 will be hourly with the loss of early morning trains and late trains from Waterloo to Weymouth, although it will be a through service. We have lost early morning trains from Weymouth and the 2135 from Waterloo to Weymouth.

I have received complaints about the new rail timetable from passengers to Weymouth to Waterloo. Passengers are concerned that many of our trains on the new timetable have been cut resulting in less trains with off peak travel cut.

I've also understand from travellers that travel regular to Southampton will have to revert to using their cars and this must be an issue right across Dorset for people working in Southampton wanting to travel back after 2200.

**Is the portfolio holder willing to contact South Western Railway and request the new timetable is revised to give commuters and passengers an all-round rail services from Weymouth to Waterloo as it was?**

**Response by Cllr Ray Bryan**

Due to the Covid situation, there is a reduction in passenger numbers, leading to a loss of revenue. It therefore is unlikely that services to Weymouth can be increased at this time. The Council is naturally concerned about the reduction of services, particularly given the climate and ecological emergency. We will therefore be working with SWR in future to at least reinstate the existing timetable and preferably to provide a more frequent service." I will also be working with Chris Loder MP to work towards Dorset having a much improve public transport offering for the coming years including of course our rail network.

**Question 2 – submitted by Cllr Jon Orrell**

We have a public space protection order PSPO for alcohol related antisocial behaviour in Weymouth. Yet it is not proving consistently effective or enforceable, despite community support officers, that we pay for, to bolster the police. The PSPO was due for revision in 2021. This would be an

excellent opportunity to make it fit for purpose, in keeping our streets clear in known hotspots. **Can the move to defer this revision for a year be challenged?**

### **Response by Cllr Jill Haynes**

Thank you to Cllr Orrell for your question.

I recognise the problems that the irresponsible consumption of alcohol can cause. A small team of Council Community Patrol Officers work closely with Dorset Police to prevent and tackle anti social behaviour issues arising from alcohol misuse; this can include the seizure of alcohol. However, the safety of our officers and Dorset Police is always a consideration and other Police powers are sometimes more effective.

The Weymouth Anti-Social Behaviour Public Spaces Protection Order covers a number of issues including the consumption of alcohol in specific public places. The Order was due to expire on 19 Aug 2021 but has recently been extended. This will allow time for the development, consultation and approval of a new Order covering the whole of Dorset Council area. Public Space Protection Orders are complex pieces of work, and we have to provide appropriate consultation before putting them in place. This has meant that we are unable to put in a replacement Order before the current Order expires in August 2021.

With the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, Licensing Officers are working with local retailers to ensure that alcohol is not being sold irresponsibly and enforcement action will be taken if necessary.

I will ensure that officers take Cllr Orrell's comments into account when preparing the new Order. I will be happy to meet to discuss his concerns going forward.