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CABINET STATEMENT

TITLE: DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDER

DATE: 28th July 2010

BY: Councillor Paul Cannon, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Safer Communities

I wish to update Members on the Partnership's plans to introduce a Designated Public Place Order in Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

On 30 June 2010, we gave notice of our intention to make the Order, initiating a 28 day consultation period, which ends today.

Without prejudicing due process as will be considering any representations we have received from the public, subject to that, the Community Safety Partnership intends to press forward and confirm the Order, which we anticipate will take place in the next few weeks.

A Designated Public Place Order enables a local authority to place restrictions on drinking alcohol in the designated public place – in this case the whole of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park – providing that place has a history of alcohol related crime, disorder and nuisance and it has not been possible to resolve the problem through other means. A DPPO is a last resort and will only be considered when all other options have been tried and failed.

This Order would make it an offence for any person to refuse a police officer's request to refrain from drinking in Ynysangharad Park and those who ignore it would face a fine or prosecution.

I should point out that this is not intended to disrupt peaceful activities where alcohol may be consumed such as a family picnic and would also not affect events where a

license is in place for the sale of alcohol such as the Big Bite or Ponty's Big Weekend. Rather, it is targeted at people whose drinking results in anti-social behaviour and detracts from the atmosphere of the Park.

As I said, this is a course of action that has been carried out by the Community Safety Partnership and agreement has been reached with the police that they will implement their powers under the Order. There is a range of measures that have already been taken such as installation of CCTV and additional police patrols but it is clear to us that additional powers are necessary to address the anti-social behaviour and vandalism committed by a minority in the Park.

I would stress again that this route is a last resort and we have been building up the case for a DPPO in the Park.

This clearly demonstrates the determination of the Council to work with the police through the Community Safety Partnership to clamp down on anti-social drinking and ensure the pleasant atmosphere of the fantastic public facility that is Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

In summary therefore, now that the public consultation period has finished, we will be reviewing any responses – although as I understand, there have not been any opposing the proposal unless something has come in very late – with a view to making the Designated Public Place Order through a further public notice.