

# **STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **CABINET DELEGATED DECISION**

**COUNCILLOR MT BOWEN  
PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR COMMUNITIES**

**Tuesday, 30 March 2021**

**2020/24 WILDFIRE PSPOS**

### **STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION:**

The introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to help prevent wildfires was considered by the Council in 2018 in response to a planned (but subsequently cancelled) sky lantern festival on the edges of Buxton. This was due to concerns about the risk of lanterns drifting into Staffordshire Moorlands and potentially causing fires at a time of heightened fire risk. The possibility of introducing a PSPO was raised again by the Peak District National Park Authority and District Councillors in 2020 following large numbers of people visiting the Peak District after the restrictions introduced to prevent the spread of coronavirus were lifted in the summer of 2020. The Communities Overview & Scrutiny Panel considered a draft PSPO to help prevent fires in grass and moorland areas on 23 November 2020. On 1 December 2020, the Cabinet agreed that the Council should carry out the necessary consultation, publicity and notification that is required by statute before introducing a PSPO.

### **ANY ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

The Council could have chosen not to introduce a PSPO in the terms suggested.

### **DECISION:**

That the draft Public Spaces Protection Order (wildfires) 2021 be **APPROVED**.

### **A RECORD OF ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

### **A NOTE OF ANY DISPENSATION, IF GRANTED:**

None