

Committee: Licensing and Environmental Health
Title: Environmental Health (Protection) Update
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Item for information

Summary

1. This report outlines to members the work of the Environmental Health (Protection) Service as undertaken between October and December 2017.

Recommendations

2. That members note the contents of this report.

Financial Implications

3. None arising from this report.

Background Papers

4. None

Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	None
Community Safety	No direct impact on community
Equalities	No impact on equalities
Health and Safety	No impact on employee health and safety
Human Rights/Legal Implications	All intervention work is carried out in accordance with existing legislative framework and the Council's enforcement policy
Sustainability	Enforcement work undertaken in keeping with the principles of sustainability
Ward-specific impacts	No ward specific impact
Workforce/Workplace	Environmental Health Team

Situation

6. The Environmental Health (Protection) Service is a statutory regulatory service dealing with a wide range of complex public health issues. The principle aim of the service is to work towards disease prevention and create healthy supportive environments.
7. The functions delivered under the umbrella of Environment Health (Protection) are numerous and can be divided into 4 separate functions, namely Environmental Protection, Private Sector Housing, Enforcement and Animal Warden Services. A breakdown of delivery services is provided below.

8. Environmental Protection

- Investigation of statutory nuisance complaints (Noise, Smoke, Odour)
- Air quality monitoring & delivery of policy & Action Plans
- Enforcement of environmental protection legislation
- Issuing of, and inspection of premises with Environmental Permits
- Private water supply sampling and risk assessments
- Contaminated land assessment
- Investigation of defective drainage complaints
- Public Health Funerals
- Statutory consultee on planning and licensing applications

9. The Private Sector Housing Service

- Housing advice and enforcement for the private housing sector
- Investigation of reported sub-standard rented housing
- Inspection of rented accommodation
- Provision of grants and loans to upgrade substandard property
- Inspection and licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)
- Inspection and licensing of caravan sites
- Provision of disabled facilities grants
- Empty homes enforcement

10. Enforcement Services

- Abandoned vehicles
- Littering
- Fly-posting
- Fly-tipping
- Graffiti
- Taxi licensing
- Licensed premises

11. Animal Welfare Services

- Animal welfare licensing
- Stray dogs
- Animal related nuisances
- Dog Control Orders
- Fouling
- Animal related anti-social behaviour

12. Many of the services are recognised as having a positive impact on public health. Examples of this include air quality monitoring and initiatives to improve air quality, the provision of grants to enable disabled people to remain out of care and live independently and through to the work with planning to reduce the impact of traffic noise on sleep.

13. Performance is measured through the service plan targets that link to the Council's Private Sector Housing Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan. A summary of the volume of service requests for Q3 is provided below.

Report of Service Requests (SR) 3 rd Quarter (01 Oct 2017-31 Dec 2017)	
Services Requests Type	No. of SR's received
Planning application consultations	153
Private sector housing SRs	9
Environmental protection SRs	402
Animal related SRs (noise/ ASB)	44
Stray dogs	14
Animal welfare licensed premises	39
Pest infestation complaints	11
Enforcement of un-licensed drivers	21
Litter & fly tipping complaints	34
Un-taxed & abandoned vehicles	73
Other waste offences	2
Number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued	2

14. Committee will be provided with a summary of the service activity on a regular basis going forward.

15. Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Report for information only			

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.