

Options for Consideration

The following options have been identified as potential ways forward, Members are asked to identify those options they would like to be taken forward for a detailed appraisal.

- Contracted Out by the Council – The Council would still pay for, or subsidise, a service for rats and/or other pests as thought appropriate, process requests for services, set the charging structure and oversee the performance of the contactor. Existing staff, vehicles and equipment would no longer be required.
- Partnership Arrangements – The Council would need to find a suitable Local Authority that would be willing to enter into an agreement to provide pest control services in part of the District either on a reciprocal basis or in exchange for an annual payment. Existing staff could be retained but some equipment and one vehicle would be surplus to requirements if we became the junior partner. Management and administration cost would remain unchanged.
- In House – The Council recruits a full time permanent member of staff to fill the existing vacancy. Management and administration costs remain unchanged.
- Leave it to the private sector – The Council withdraws from providing any pest control service and leaves it to the private sector. The Council would need to use its legal powers to require rat and mice control if it became aware of unacceptable rodent infestations. All staff, vehicles, equipment and management and administration would no longer be required.
- Service Level Agreement with another LA – The Council identifies a suitable Local Authority to provide a predefined level of service in return for an annual payment. All staff, vehicles, equipment and management and administration would no longer be required, but there would be a requirement to oversee the agreement.