



Derby City Council

COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY REVIEW BOARD
11 September 2017

ITEM 7

Report of the Strategic Director of Communities
and Place

Additional Resource on Waste Enforcement Update

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Issues relating to fly-tipping, littering and bins-on-streets, particularly within inner-city wards, have been a regular source of complaint to the Council. In response, the Council has taken action to address this. Waste enforcement has been made a priority and is included as one of the Council Leadership's 50 Pledges and will also support the Pledge to make Derby one of the country's cleanest cities. Waste enforcement is a key part of the Neighbourhood Charter, which is due to be published shortly and the work supports the principles of working together also set out in the recently-launched Metro Strategy.
- 1.2 A small team of Public Protection Officers has been seconded from Nottingham City Council to deal with fly-tipping, littering and other waste enforcement issues in Derby. Given the size of the team, the most effective approach will be a targeted, intelligence-led one, focusing on 'hot spot' areas. A pilot project using this approach is nearing completion and a summary of the successful actions achieved to date and an example of a direct impact of these actions is included in the report. Approval is sought to extend this approach to further hot spot areas.
- 1.3 The initial success of the work undertaken so far will bring its own challenges, from maintaining the improvements made within the target areas and from similar issues that emerge across the city that local residents will expect to be tackled. These challenges will need to be kept under review.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the actions taken within the pilot area and the improvements achieved.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To inform the Board of the action being taken.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Problems with fly-tipping, littering and bins-on-streets, particularly within inner-city wards, have been a regular source of complaint to the Council for several years. Although some piecemeal enforcement and education of residents has taken place during this time, departments have not been resourced to address this issue, and staffing reductions to meet savings targets for government cuts has only exacerbated the situation.
- 4.2 In response to public and media concern about the problem, the Council resolved to take action to address this. Waste enforcement was made a priority and included as one of the Council Leadership's 50 Pledges. The work supports the Pledge to make Derby one of the country's cleanest cities and waste enforcement is also a key part of the Neighbourhood Charter, which is due to be published shortly. The Charter will set out for local residents the Council's actions to improve their neighbourhoods (including addressing waste issues) and also seek their support in achieving this.
- 4.3 The new approach to waste enforcement utilises experienced Public Protection Officers (PPOs) seconded from Nottingham City Council, supporting the principles of working together also set out in the recently-launched Metro Strategy. These five uniformed officers will focus primarily on waste enforcement and education, dealing with fly-tipping, littering, waste management and bins-on-streets. They are authorised to issue fixed penalty notices and prosecutions will be handled by the in-house Environmental Protection (EP) Team. The primary aim is to secure compliance with legal requirements and to work with the community to achieve improvements. The PPOs, like all the Council's regulatory officers, will operate within the Council's Enforcement Policy and to the principles in the Regulators Code. The real test of success is whether local residents and businesses see significant improvements.
- 4.4 Although the PPOs will deal with ad hoc complaints on a city-wide basis as necessary, the greatest impact can be achieved by targeting resources at the areas with the greatest problems. This intelligence-led approach relies on information sharing and a joined-up approach between partners including Environmental Protection, Neighbourhood Management, Waste Management, Street Cleansing, the Police, Housing Standards and Derby Homes. A weekly tasking meeting identifies particular problem 'hot spots' and targets, and agrees a plan of action.

- 4.5 This shared intelligence has identified a number of 'hot spot' areas for intervention. These areas are typically blocks of 10-12 streets. The first of these areas, set out at Appendix 2, has been used as a pilot project to measure the effectiveness of this approach. The PPOs, supported by EP officers, Neighbourhood Officers and Streetpride Officers, have engaged in a joined-up education and enforcement campaign, supported by a Communications Plan to maximise the impact of the work. The PPO's role has involved visiting every property on a street-by-street basis to give advice, serving a legal notice (S46) setting out how to store and present bins, dealing with incidents and where necessary serving fixed penalty notices (FPNs) for non-compliance or offences. Enforcement action has also been taken by EP Officers, dealing with blocked entries, waste in houses and gardens, and statutory nuisances.

Work in this pilot area began on 10 July 2017 and has resulted in the following actions to date:

Action	Details
S46 Notices served by PPO's (storage and presenting of bins)	498 (Reeves Rd, Leacroft Rd, Princes St, Holcombe St)
Littering FPN's served by PPO's	49 (25 x paid at £50 each)
Fly Tipping FPN's served by PPO's	17 (5 x paid at £250 each) First none payment of Fly tipping FPN with legal with a view to prosecution
Community Protection Notice Warnings (CPNW's) served by EP Officers	8 (for waste in gardens and alleyways on Reeves Rd)
Community Protection Advice Letters	5 properties on Princes Street received standard waste in garden/alley letters, 1 alleyway being cleared by Metropolitan Housing. Any not cleared to be issued with CPNW's
Duty of Care Visits undertaken	4 by PPO's, details of which passed through to EP officers to follow up with enforcement action if waste arrangements not put into place
Fly tipping investigations	127 (investigated by PPO's) 40 (investigated by EP Team throughout City)
Dog Fouling FPN's in last 12 months	1 x PPO's, 2 x EP officers (both paid)

An example of the direct improvements achieved can be seen in the 'before' and 'after' photographs in Appendix 3.

A photograph of a PPO engaging with a local resident is attached in Appendix 4.

- 4.6 Based on the improvements achieved in this pilot area, it is proposed to roll-out this approach to other hot spot areas over the coming months. Cabinet approval is sought to extend the enforcement work into the areas set out in Appendices 5a, 5b, and 5c, namely:
- Area 2 – the streets bounded by Pear Tree Road, Walbrook Road, Upper Dale Road, Dale Road and Lower Dale Road
 - Area 3 - the streets bounded by Upper Dale Road, Stenson Road, Normanton Park, Haddon Street, Overdale Road, St Chads Road, Stone Hill Road, Lower Dale Road and Dale Road
 - Area 4 – the streets bounded by Stockbrook Street, Abbey Street, Burton Road, and Dean Street

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Not applicable.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Olu Idowu, Head of Legal Services Amanda Fletcher, Head of Finance Liz Moore John Tomlinson, Director of CEaRS
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For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Mike Kay 01332 641940 michael.kay@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Map of 1 st Enforcement Area Appendix 3 – Before & After Photographs
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Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 £150,000 has been set aside for the planned enforcement work in the 2017/18 – 2019/20 MTFP. Sufficient resource is available to progress the proposed scheme.

Legal

- 2.1 Officers employed to undertake enforcement work for the Council must comply with the Regulators Code and the Council's Enforcement Policy.

Personnel

- 3.1 The seconded PPO's are managed by the Environmental Protection Team Manager within Regulatory Services. The contract runs until the end of March 2019.

IT

- 4.1 None arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None arising directly from this report.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 Part of the waste management advice provided will include recycling of waste and waste minimisation.

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 None.

Risk Management and Safeguarding

9.1 None arising directly from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 This work supports the Council's aim of ensuring **safe** and **strong** communities.