

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**North East Area Council Meeting:****28th September 2017****Agenda Item: 8****Report of North East
Area Council Manager.****Review of the Area Council Enforcement Commissioned Services –
recommendations from the workshops held on 4th September 2017 and
13th September 2017.****1. Purpose of Report**

To seek approval for the recommendations made at the Area Council workshops held on 1st September 2017 and 13th September 2017, regarding the North East Area Council Enforcement Commission.

2. Background

The North East Area Council identified 'improving the environment' as one of its key priorities when the Area Councils were first established in 2013 - 2014. Public feedback had consistently identified environmental blight through littering, dog fouling and illegal parking as a cause for local concern, and highlighted that the people who live and work in the area wanted to see action being taken. Following the results of in depth discussions at a workshop of the North East Area Council, the Area Council resolved to agree support for the development of a specification to enhance environmental enforcement across the North East area at the Area Council meeting held on December 5th 2013.

Due to the complex nature and associated legal requirements for delivering an effective Environmental Enforcement Service, an integrated approach between BMBC's Community Safety and Enforcement Service and any external Provider was essential, and it was agreed to enter into a Service Level Agreement with the Community Safety and Enforcement service for equipment, training and other support resources and items.

Following a robust procurement process, Kingdom Security Limited was awarded the North East Area Council contract in August 2014. The service was commissioned to strengthen the ability to demonstrate a strong stance on enforcement issues through the extra provision of 2 officers in the North East Council area.

The North East Environmental Enforcement contract was subsequently re-let to Kingdom Security Limited as part of a wider European procurement exercise with other Area Council's in April 2016. This contract is now in its second year and members built in the option to extend with the contract period ending in March 2019.

There are two people currently employed through this contract, and a Service Level Agreement is operational with BMBC Community Safety.

At the North East Area Council meeting held on 27th July 2017, the Area Council agreed that it's Environment Steering Group should review the impact of the Environmental Enforcement contract.

3. Review Process

A comprehensive review of the Enforcement Contract took place at North East Area Council workshops held on September 4th and September 13th 2017. The Councillors discussed the contract in depth with Staff from Kingdom Security and BMBC Enforcement Services.

The results since the service has been operational are as follows:

	Littering	Dog Fouling	Parking	Total
Year 1 Aug 2014 -Mar 2015	167	93	13	273
Year 2 Apr 2015- Mar 2016	446	110	149	705
Year 3 Apr 2016- Mar 2017	449	56	175	680
Total	1062	259	337	1658

The total cost of the contract since August 2014 until March 2017 was £175,056, and the income received to date is £67,501.

As benchmarking work done across Area Councils suggests that areas with two officers are gaining very similar numbers of tickets to those with more officers, it can be suggested that there may be a maximum number of tickets which can be issued in any given area, regardless of officer numbers.

A discussion followed and the Members agreed that the commission had led to a decrease in litter in the communities, and that the visible presence on the streets of the Enforcement Wardens was a deterrent.

It was recognised that issuing tickets for dog fouling can be more difficult than for littering, and that targeted operations were beneficial to help to address this problem.

It was recognised that parking enforcement is one element of this contract and closer integrated working with BMBC Parking Enforcement would be beneficial and complimentary. An action plan will be considered to avoid duplication of resources.

4. Recommendations made by the North East Area Council workshop

Following the review of this service the following recommendations were put forward:

- The Councillors on the North East Area Council Environment Steering Group members are satisfied with the performance of this service, and recommended that at a cost of approximately £66,552 (including the service level agreement contribution), the service should continue until the end of March 2019.
- That a more targeted approach is adopted for littering on local streets and estates with positive reinforcement through the promotion of the Bin it to Win it campaign.
- That a more targeted approach be adopted for dog fouling on local streets and estates with positive reinforcement through the distribution of the dog fouling bags.
- That a media campaign is undertaken in order to raise public awareness of how to report areas that require attention.
- That Enforcement Officers will accompany the Councillors and partner agencies at Street Surgeries to further highlight their presence in the local community.

Officer Contact: Caroline Donovan

North East Area Council Manager

Tel: 01226 773013

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