

Appendix



LAMBETH SCRUTINY ACTION PLAN

Report title: Environmental Crime Scrutiny Commission

Report commissioned by: Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Date adopted by Cabinet: 9 March 2015

Proposed dates for monitoring reports to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

| Update | Date | Completed? | Note |
|--------|------|------------|--------------------------|
| 1st | | | 6 months after adoption |
| 2nd | | | 18 months after adoption |

Environmental Crime Scrutiny Commission

Action Plan – March 2015

| | Recommendation | Response | Milestones & target dates | Resource implications | Lead Officer |
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| 1. | The Commission recommends that the principal of enforcement be prioritised in the council's approach to tackling environmental crime. | Enforcement is a key component of the council's re-commissioned Community Safeguarding service, which brings together all current ASB, crime and regulatory services into one neighbourhood focussed service providing a single response to these issues. The new service will utilise all the enforcement powers available to the authority where appropriate within resources in order to deter envirocrime and prosecute offenders | New service go live date of July 2015 | Part of the on going OBB savings proposal for Community Safeguarding | Kristian Aspinall / Ann Corbett |
| 2. | The Commission recommends a greater use of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) to address littering and small-scale fly-tipping in Lambeth and encourages the council to work with other local authorities to lobby central government for a more effective FPN power to tackle larger scale fly-tipping (i.e. the ability to issue a larger FPN of up to £400-£500). | The council is procuring a private contractor to issue FPNs for littering, spitting and dog fouling that will increase the usage of FPNS for littering in the borough. Internal teams utilise FPNs where appropriate. In terms of lobbying, the LGA on behalf of local government lobbied the select committee for improved fly-tipping powers and more effective legislation in October 2014 as part of the government review of littering and fly-tipping legislation, and a response is expected before parliament goes into recess. | FPN contract to be procured by July 2015. Lobbying on going. | Zero cost contract for private FPN issuing. | Kristian Aspinall |
| 3. | That the council adopts a zero tolerance approach to the enforcement of public | The council does not tolerate any level of envirocrime in Lambeth, and where | FPN contract – July | None – FPN contract will be | Kristian Aspinall / Gill |

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| | urination, dog fouling and spitting in public. | possible we will enforce and prosecute with the full range of powers. We are exploring the procurement of a private FPN contractor will increase our enforcement capacity to tackle spitting and dog fouling, and we will publicise the launch of this new enforcement service heavily to deter this type of envirocrime. In addition, our behaviour change communications campaign is working to change people's attitudes and understanding towards these forms of envirocrime. | 2015 Behaviour change campaign – on going | at zero cost, and the behaviour change campaign is an on going communications campaign through “do the right thing” | York |
| 4. | The Commission recommends targeting of enforcement in areas of persistent fly-tipping, including prosecutions, which should be widely publicised if successful to share that action has been taken. | Our new Community Safeguarding model is based around neighbourhood teams, which will allow resources to be prioritised according to each areas needs. E.g. one neighbourhood team might prioritise fly-tipping if that was an issue in the area, whilst another may focus on night time economy related anti-social behaviour. | New service go live date of July 2015 | Part of the on going OBB savings proposal for Community Safeguarding | Kristian Aspinall / Ann Corbett |
| 5. | The Commission recommends that the council explore further options for increasing publicity around enforcement action and penalties, and considers using high profile communication campaigns and education materials to encourage people to take a more responsible and proactive approach to protecting their local environment. | The council has an environment focussed “Do the right thing” campaign for March to June, but additional publicity on top of this (and the FPN contractor publicity highlighted above) is resource intensive and not a viable option within current budgets. The use of low cost social media, such as twitter, for the new neighbourhood teams to publicise local enforcement | Enviro campaign – May to July 2015. New service model – July 2015 | Part of the on going financial commitments for these workstreams | Gill York / Kristian Aspinall / Ann Corbett |

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| | | results will be explored in the new commissioned service. | | | |
| 6. | The Commission recommends that improved publicity and information be made available on what materials can be taken to the Lambeth Reuse and Recycling Centre at Vale Street, and that consideration be given to increasing the range of items that can be disposed of there, such as the inclusion of mattresses. | <p>A communications plan will be produced to regularly advertise to citizens what items can be taken to Vale Street. The plan will include advertising in: Lambeth Talk, the Weekender, using Twitter, Facebook and the Environment blog.</p> <p>The comms plan will also advertise free collection services offered by other organisations, such as the British Heart Foundation and Emmaus.</p> <p>Research will be carried out to see whether disposal companies can be found for other items currently not collected at Vale Street.</p> <p>Please note that there are already on going talks with the London Textiles Forum regarding the disposal of mattresses from Vale Street.</p> | <p>Comms plan to be completed by beginning of April 2015.</p> <p>Investigation into collection of other materials to be completed by beginning of July 2015.</p> <p>After July 2015, depending on results of investigation, contracts with new collection companies to be drafted and signed.</p> | <p>No additional resources will be needed for the comms plan to be produced and actioned. Additional resources will also not be required to investigate whether extra materials can be collected. However, extra funding may be required for additional items to be disposed of.</p> | Kevin Crook |
| 7. | The Commission recommends the installation of clear signage to deter fly-tipping in problem areas. | <p>Currently there are no plans to increase council signage for fly-tipping, due to both resource and effectiveness costs – without substantially increasing enforcement resources at the same time additional signage could potentially “legitimise” fly-tipping in an area. Additionally, extra signage risks increasing public concern over an issue that may not be a significant concern for that area.</p> | N/A | N/A | N/A |

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| 8. | <p>During its evidence-gathering the Commission learned that it is legal to dispose of dog excrement in ordinary litter bins if it is properly bagged. The Commission recommends that better signage and information be provided to raise residents' awareness of this, particularly in areas where dog fouling is most prevalent.</p> | <p>We will ensure that this information is cascaded through our Street Champions program, as this will be the most effective way of informing our residents of this option for disposing of dog waste.</p> | On going | N/A – already on going program | Doug Perry |
| 9. | <p>The Commission recommends that the council adopts a targeted approach to the use of closed-circuit television to capture evidence of people fly-tipping.</p> | <p>The council already uses CCTV where appropriate, based on intelligence and need to assist in the prosecution of fly-tipping. This includes re-deployable cameras and the CCTV van.</p> | Already implemented | N/A | Ann Corbett |
| 10. | <p>That the council be requested to review the effectiveness of Lambeth's policy of charging residents to use its bulky waste collection service, including an appraisal of how much money is raised through the service and the costs of enforcement.</p> <p>The review should also take into consideration the bulky waste collection services provided by Lambeth Living as the commission observed during its evidence-gathering that collection points on estates are popular spots for fly-tipping.</p> | <p>Officers will conduct a review of the bulky waste collection service and how this links to incidents of fly-tipping, including whether charging for waste collection impacts on fly tipping rates. The review will set out the financial and environmental implications of removing the charge. This is not a review of the fees and charges for waste collection, but an assessment of the link between charging for waste collection and fly-tipping.</p> <p>Officers from environment will work with colleagues and residents from estate, during 15/16 on a number of waste presentation, recycling and reuse initiatives. This will include a review of the free bulky collection service on</p> | <p>The report for the street based service will be completed in July as part of the 2nd waste strategy review.</p> <p>The collaborative work being carried out on estates will be on-going through 15/16 and beyond. However it is envisaged at this point that the review of estate waste and how this is presented will be a priority for the first quarter of</p> | <p>There are no cost implications associated with the production of this review.</p> | <p>Michael Clarke Kevin Crook</p> |

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| | | estates and the link perceived or real with high incidents of fly-tipping. | 15/16. | | |
| 11. | The Commission recommends that the timed collections of waste and refuse, particularly in respect of kerbside recycling collections, be more strictly enforced. | Zones are already in place after being rolled out over the last 12 months, and enforced as necessary. | Already implemented | N/A | Ann Corbett |
| 12. | The Commission noted on their walkabout of the borough that green rubbish bags and bags of garden/ green waste are currently stored by staff on the borough's streets and pavements for later collection, and that this frequently generates incidences of littering and fly-tipping; the Commission recommends that the practice of storing green rubbish bags and garden waste on streets/ pavements for later collection be reviewed. | The council will operate a trial in two areas (Streatham Vale and Oval/Vassall) from March 2015 until June 2015. That looks at the impact of introducing lockable on-street containers for the purpose of storing green bags that contain Street cleansing arising's. The move to a needs based intelligence led deployment of cleansing resources will also provide a number of opportunities for better integration of cage vehicle resources with the street sweeping operation. | The trial will be completed in early June when officers will prepare a report that details the impacts of the trial on environmental quality. The report will also explore options for funding a wider role out if the trial is successful. | The trials of 16 units are being funded by Veolia the incumbent contractor. However there may be a requirement for capital investment should we wish to roll the scheme out further. | Michael Clarke Kevin Crook |
| 13. | The Commission noted that a significant amount of littering and fly-tipping was generated by some of the on-street recycling banks located around the borough; the Commission recommends that the positioning of the recycling banks be reviewed and consideration given to re-locating those banks which generate the most fly-tipping and litter. | Recycling banks provide a valuable way for citizens to dispose of items, which cannot be collected in their regular weekly collection, such as clothing, oil and electrical items. These items could be otherwise fly-tipped. Investigation work will be carried out to discover which recycling banks have dumping problems and ideas will be looked at to see how dumping can be reduced/stopped at these sites, | The investigation work and report will be completed by October 2015. Depending on the results of this investigation, a timetable will then possibly be drawn up for some recycling banks to be re-located. The contract | The investigation work will not require any additional resources. However, it should be noted the move of recycling banks will incur a | Kevin Crook |

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| | | <p>including whether the offending recycling banks should be removed. There is a concern that moving a recycling bank will just transfer the dumping problem to another place. A report will be produced to conclude whether the benefits of a recycling bank outweigh the negatives. Veolia are contracted to remove dumped waste from recycling banks on a daily basis. We will also carry out monitoring to ensure this is happening.</p> | <p>monitoring of banks will be completed by July 2015.</p> | <p>charge and could lead to a possible loss of income for the Council. No additional resources will be required for the contract monitoring.</p> | |
| 14. | <p>The Commission encourages the council to adopt and trial innovative solutions to tackling environmental crime, such as the use of new technology to log and record incidences of envirocrime, and the systematic use of data and intelligence to target envirocrime enforcement efforts.</p> <p>In addition, the Commission recommends that consideration be given by the council to undertaking a trial use of Big Belly solar compactor bins in a targeted area of the borough.</p> | <p>Through development of the new single point of contact for the recommissioned Community Safeguarding service we will better support residents to report envirocrime, such as being able to upload photo's through their MyLambeth account. Introducing other methods of reporting envirocrime outside of this contact point, In terms of the Big Belly Solar compactor bins, a trial is underway in Clapham to assess the effectiveness and impact of solar compactor bins.</p> | <p>Single point of contact – July 2016</p> <p>Solar compactor bins – on-going</p> | <p>Single point of contact – cost met through corporate capital budgets for MyLambeth development.</p> | <p>Kristian Aspinall / Kevin Crook & Veolia</p> |
| 15. | <p>The Commission supports the increased emphasis on building capacity to empower local communities to play an active role in shaping the delivery of enforcement and community safeguarding services and recommends that the council works more closely with community groups on initiatives to prevent environmental crime. The Commission</p> | <p>Both the street champions initiative and the new neighbourhood based Community Safeguarding teams will increase local engagement in the tackling of ASB, including envirocrime, in their neighbourhoods. Both put the local resident in the centre of problem solving and improving the quality of their neighbourhood.</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Doug Perry / Ann Corbett / Sandra Roebuck</p> |

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| | notes the good practice already being undertaken in some local communities and recommends that the learning from these initiatives is captured and applied across the borough. | In addition, the BIDs now in place in the borough offer a further route for local communities to tackle envirocrime in their area. | | | |
| 16. | The Commission recommends that Responsible Retail Agreements (RRAs) are used more widely by the council to reduce the impact of litter, waste and fast food detritus on local environmental quality. | We will continue to secure RRAs as part of our approach and to promote responsible business practice in the borough. We are also promoting responsible retailship through the Business Improvement Districts (BIDS). In addition, we will be looking at using our planning powers to ensure appropriate and responsible business ownership, particularly when a business changes its purpose & license. | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ann Corbett / Sandra Roebuck |