

REPORT FROM: CORPORATE DIRECTOR

TO: POLICY and RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 27th June 2019

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DISTRICT ENFORCEMENT

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To consider the review requested at Annual Council.

RECOMMENDATION

- (1) That the Committee nominate 3 members to meet with District Enforcement.
- (2) That a further report be submitted following the meeting.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To address Members' concerns relating to the contract.

1. At the Annual Council meeting the following resolution was passed:

Pendle Council notes the commencement of the contract for District Enforcement Limited to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for littering and dog fouling has led to well over a thousand fines being issued worth scores of thousands of pounds. And that the vast majority of FPNs have been related to cigarettes rather than more significant street litter with fines for dog fouling representing an extremely small proportion of the total.

Council also notes that there have been reports of FPNs being issued to vulnerable people and in inappropriate circumstances and that there has been no discernible impact on the level of littering on Pendle's streets and public spaces since the contract commenced.

Council therefore resolves that an urgent review of the litter enforcement contract is carried out with a view to making it more effective in tackling the real issues of littering and dog fouling, or terminating the contract at the earliest opportunity- and that the Policy and Resources Committee considers the issue as soon as possible.

2. The contract started in February this year and is for an initial period of 12 months. Either party can terminate it by giving not less than 60 days' notice to expire at the end of the 12 months.
3. To the end of May the number of FPNs issued is 1554, comprising 1535 for litter and 19 for failure to pick up dog fouling.
4. Regular meetings are held between Environmental Services staff and District Enforcement and targets have now been set for littering and failing to pick up dog fouling. Increased hours are now being devoted to the enforcement of dog fouling offences
5. District Enforcement are very willing to meet Members to discuss the performance under the contract and related issues. It is suggested that the Committee nominate say 3 members (one from each political group) for this purpose and following the meeting a further report will be brought to the Committee.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising from the report.

Financial: The contract provides that District Enforcement retain 100% of the income from FPNs to cover the cost of the service provided and additional income is then shared 50:50 between the Council and District Enforcement.

Legal: None arising from the report.

Risk Management: None arising from the report.

Health and Safety: None arising from the report.

Sustainability: None arising from the report.

Community Safety: None arising from the report.

Equality and Diversity: None arising from the report.