



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee  
21 March 2019  
Agenda Item 7

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected: All

**A Review of the Dog Control Service**

**Report by the Director for Communities**

**Executive Summary**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 Following a report considered at Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) in July 2018 in relation to dog fouling and litter a request was made by JOSC that a review of the entire Dog Control Service be conducted and a report be compiled.
- 1.2 This report outlines the review of the Dog Control Service and compares the service delivery model with other local authorities in East and West Sussex and also discusses options for future service delivery for consideration (Appendix A).

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to note the performance of the Dog Control Service and the options outlined in the report for future service provision.

### **3. Context**

- 3.1 On 26 July 2018 a report entitled 'What is the Future for littering and Dog Fouling control?' was taken to JOSC Committee and at this meeting it was requested that a review of the entire Dog Control Service be conducted and a report be compiled. This report (Appendix A) covers all aspects of the Dog Control Service which also includes Animal Welfare licensing activities.
- 3.2 The report informs on the statutory duty of local authorities to provide a Dog Control Service.
- 3.3 The Inhouse Dog Control service covers a wide range of activities, a stray dog service, a first point of contact in dog barking complaints, dealing with fouling, dog aggression and a variety of other complaint types, tackling breaches of the Public Spaces Protection Orders, issuing Community Protection Notices for difficult, persistent and complex cases and the inspection of animal establishments that require a licence and investigating alleged animal welfare complaints.
- 3.4 The report describes the breadth and depth of the service and how it integrates with other departments within the Councils. It outlines the benefits of such an inhouse service and presents options as to how future service delivery could look.

### **4. Issues for consideration**

- 4.1 The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to note the performance of the Dog Control Service and consider future options for service provision.

### **5. Engagement and Communication**

- 5.1 Local Authorities within East and West Sussex provided details of their Dog Control Service Provision for comparison.

### **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The total cost of the dog warden service is:

	2018/19 budget
	£
Staff costs	76,390
Transport	3,770
Supplies and services	15,370
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>95,530</b>
<b>Less: Income</b>	<b>- 4,380</b>
<b>Net cost</b>	<b>91,150</b>
<b>Allocated as follows:</b>	
Adur District Council	36,460
Worthing Borough Council	54,690

6.2 Appendix A outlines potential options for the future of the service which may reduce the net cost of service delivery but which will require further investigation.

## 7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 Local authorities in England have a statutory duty to collect and detain stray dogs under the Environmental Protection Act Section 149 and 150.
- 7.2 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 provides the power to Local Authorities to create Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) and issue Community Protection Notices (CPN).

### Background Papers

Previous Reports JOSC Report 26 July 2018 Agenda Item 9  
 'What is the Future for Littering and Dog Fouling Control' found at:  
<https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/media/media,150019,en.pdf>

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## Sustainability & Risk Assessment

## **1. Economic**

- The Dog Control Service incorporates the use of PSPO's for Dogs and Community Protection Notices and contributes to the perception of Adur and Worthing as safe and clean spaces to invest and spend time in. Public Space Protection Orders allow opportunities for engagement and low level intervention, often reducing the need for more resource intensive intervention.

## **2. Social**

### **2.1 Social Value**

- The Dog Control Service activities have a positive impact on our communities who ultimately benefit from safer and cleaner spaces.

### **2.2 Equality Issues**

- Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

- The service utilises Community Protection Notices and Public Space Protection Orders, both are valuable tools in reducing anti social behaviour and promoting safe use of public spaces.

### **2.4 Human Rights Issues**

- Matter considered and no issues identified.

## **3. Environmental**

- Dog Control activities prevent misuse of our public spaces including the green spaces and foreshores by irresponsible dog owners.

## **4. Governance**

- Dog Control and Animal Welfare Activities promote a good reputation of our Council among our communities by reducing anti social behaviour within our public spaces.