

Cabinet – 13 January 2009

Tackling Environmental Crime

Portfolio: Councillor Perry, Communities and Partnerships

Service Area: Public Safety

Wards: All

Key Decision: Yes

Forward Plan: Yes

1. Summary of Report

This report seeks the approval of Cabinet for the actions identified within the updated Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan and the arrangements for coordinating actions across council services through the Joint Enforcement Board, and also with partners across the Borough through the Borough Tasking Group, both chaired by the Head of Public Safety. It provides an update for Cabinet on progress with key actions within the current Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan, involving services across the council and linking to joint work to tackle environmental crime and anti social behaviour with partners.

The environmental enforcement improvement plan will help us tackle serious public concerns about fly tipping, litter, vacant buildings, graffiti, fly-posting and anti social behaviour. In delivering this plan the council, and its partners, will target particular hotspot, ensure effective co-ordinated action and will work with local residents to build pride in local communities

2. Recommendations

Cabinet is requested to:-

- 2.1 Approve the updated Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan and its actions for tackling environmental crime;
- 2.2 Note the enforcement outcomes achieved since the last report was presented to Cabinet around measures for tackling environmental crime.

3. Background

- 3.1 Cabinet received a report (21 November 2007) which set out an Enforcement Improvement Plan for implementing activities to increase environmental enforcement outputs and increase public awareness. This recognised the

community leadership role for the Council to co-ordinate an approach to tackle environmental crimes in partnership with others, to enable their input, and to respond to community concerns. Cabinet noted the increase in enforcement outputs since the last report was presented on 12 July 2006 and the continued steps being taken to work across service boundaries to increase environmental enforcement activity, and through work funded through the Local Area Agreement. Since May 2007, this has resulted in fines/costs for environmental crimes totalling over £25,000.

- 3.2 Further progress has continued to be made in enforcement activity since then and a schedule of the outcome of environmental crime investigations completed by officers working within the Public Safety service is set out in **Appendix A**.
- 3.3 The current version of the Enforcement Improvement Plan is set out in **Appendix B**. This document is reviewed by members of the Joint Enforcement Board, chaired by the Head of Public Safety, at 6 weekly intervals, when updates are also received on progress being made by the topic specific tasks groups to tackle environmental crime issues:
- **Void Property group** - Integrating responses to void buildings
 - **Fly-posting and Graffiti group** - introducing graffiti enforcement
 - **Waste and Fly-tipping** - to minimise the impact on fly-tipping and increase of filthy and verminous gardens
 - **Highways group** - to address issues around verge parking, obstructions in the street, etc
 - **IT Group** – to address reporting and mapping of incidents
 - **Neighbourhood Clean-Ups group** – planning community clean up and community safety events
 - **Dog Control** - to establish if there is a business case for a Dog Control order
- 3.4 A major campaign – **Cracking Environmental Crime** - was launched in Walsall by the Council in June 2009 to clamp down on the minority who blight our borough with their inconsiderate actions. The campaign aims to stamp out serious issues including fly-tipping, littering, graffiti, and vandalism. The campaign bears a strong brand which will help to promote the Council's achievements in environmental enforcement and educate and inform residents and staff on how they can help to combat environmental crime in the borough. Commencing with a campaign around fly-tipping, and currently concentrating on fly-posting, it will move into promoting actions to combat dog fouling and graffiti in the New Year. A report has been presented to all Local Neighbourhood Partnerships (LNPs) explaining the purpose of the campaign and seeking their support in leading the Take Pride in Your Street and Clean Up the Hotspots in 2010 aspects of the overall campaign. Many of the LNPs are supporting neighbourhood clean – up days, with financial support also from Walsall Housing Group.
- 3.5 A re-organisation within Green Spaces is now near completion, and following a appropriate training, both Park and Countryside Rangers will become authorised to be involved in relevant environmental crime activity.
- 3.6 Work has begun within the new Public Safety Service to integrate the former Public Protection and Safer Walsall Partnership support services, and the intention is to develop a new staffing structure that works closely with the emerging

neighbourhood management structure to enhance enforcement activity in local neighbourhoods.

3.7 In line with an increased emphasis on environmental enforcement activities, the draft budget, which was recently submitted for consideration by the respective Scrutiny Panels, proposes growth in a number of areas of service provision around the clean and green agenda, reflecting residents' concerns about the need to improve the cleanliness of the borough's streets. Subject to Council approval, this will:

- establish mainstream funded posts for environmental crime enforcement,
- increase the number of litter hit squads to enable them to do more routine community focused work and deal with fly-tipping,
- focus on graffiti on private residential property for a six month trial period
- organise additional "skip" days,
- enhance cleaning of the ring road and other main routes, and,
- improve weed treatment of highways.

There will also be additional staff based in parks to increase public confidence and to carry out relevant enforcement activity.

4. Resource considerations

4.1 **Financial:** Statistics show that areas which suffer from high levels of environmental crime are more likely to suffer vandalism and other crimes. Fly tipping, littering, fly posting, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles, dumped syringes and graffiti are examples of environmental crime. Up to 30 tonnes of rubbish are illegally fly-tipped in the borough every week and over £85,000 of public money is spent on cleaning up fly-tipping in the borough each year.

Cabinet has draft budget proposals that are still subject to further scrutiny and full Council approval in February. Included in these draft proposals are increases in spending to enhance street cleansing and to tackle environmental crime by £388,710, plus £163,000 for increased staff visibility and enforcement activity in parks, green spaces and countryside.

4.2 **Legal:** A stronger legal emphasis is being developed through the training plans identified by the Law and Evidence group, and process controls being developed by task groups to clarify "who does what" arrangements. Legal Services are active participants in these task groups.

4.3 **Staffing:** The report and attached Enforcement Improvement Plan reflect the joined-up working of staff from different service areas, and in working in partnership with others to increase enforcement activity around environmental crime. Efforts are ongoing to ensure that the benefits of this approach are maximised.

5. Citizen impact

The Council is committed to achieving its priorities of improving the overall standard of the environment, improving access and encouraging pride in the

borough. Action against environmental crimes helps to improve the image of the borough, makes people feel safer and builds a sense of civic pride.

Tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and improving cleanliness standards are key priorities for residents and hence are key satisfaction drivers. Improvement on these issues should result in improved perceptions therefore, especially where success is communicated to residents. Proposals should help improve several of the key national perception indicators derived from the new Place Survey (referenced in paragraph 8); the West Midlands wide 'Feeling the difference' survey and hence the Police confidence indicator that measures the extent to which local people agree that the Police and Council are dealing with the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to people.

6. Community Safety

Partnership working to tackle environmental crime and associated anti-social behaviour is linked to higher levels of public confidence, feelings of safety and reducing fear of crime. Continued improvements in our environmental enforcement will therefore help address the problem of anti-social behaviour throughout the borough.

7. Environmental Impact

Environmental crimes are anti-social activities that damage the quality of the environment. Research shows that environmental crimes are an early sign of urban decay and can contribute to an environment where there is a fear of crime and in which crime takes hold, particularly if intervention is not prompt and effective.

There will be a direct environmental impact arising from the recommendations in building local pride in neighbourhoods, and in seeking to punish perpetrators of environmental crimes.

8. Performance and Risk Management Issues

Performance : Significant progress has been made since an Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan was first approved by Cabinet:

- There has been a significant increase in prosecutions for litter, waste and other environmental offences. Since May 2007, there have been 15 successful litter prosecutions, seven successful noise prosecutions, four fly-tipping prosecutions and two prosecutions about householder waste. Since May 2007 111 fixed penalty notices for environmental crimes such as littering and dog fouling have been issued and paid.
- On 10 and 15 of December 2009 Environmental Enforcement Officers worked with West Midlands Police to tackle vehicles carrying waste. If you transport other people's waste you must be registered as a waste carrier. Failure to be registered could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice of £300 or an appearance at the Magistrates Court where the penalty upon conviction

could be up to £5,000. It is also an offence for residents to give waste to a third party without checking that they're a bona fide waste carrier who will dispose of the waste legally. The penalty for residents can be a Magistrates Court appearance and a fine of up to £5,000. Maximising the opportunities presented by Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology, over the two days 17 vehicles carrying waste were stopped. Three of these vehicles were impounded and their drivers taken for questioning by the Police. 14 vehicles were issued with Notices requiring the production of their Waste Carriers License to prove that they were trading legally.

- Close working between the Joint Enforcement Board and Borough Tasking Group has led to pilot work being carried out to target problematic void properties and to test and extend enforcement powers. Data from partner agencies is being mapped in the monthly Borough Tasking document to make links between ASB reported by partner agencies (police and fire) and also local authority services to allocate joint resources for tackling relevant issues.
- A high profile campaign - **Cracking Environmental Crime** – has raised awareness around environmental crime and provide an opportunity to highlight key successes. Also Information is collated which is reviewed monthly to establish trends in reporting of environmental crimes so that this can be built onto the delivery of the “Cracking Environmental Crime” campaign, including data from council services and WHG. Council cleansing vehicles and WHG’s neighbourhood service vehicles are being branded with the campaign slogan. The campaign aims to build support within local communities to help tackle this blight on the borough.
- Street Champions have been re-launched through Community Crime Fighters programme with the support of the Neighbourhood Justice Coordinator
- Neighbourhood clean-up days are being carried out in many parts of the Borough, and residents are being reminded of the core services provided by the council in terms of recycling centres and the collection service for bulky items – increasing the buy-in of local people
- New agreements are being arranged with statutory undertakers to keep street furniture clear of graffiti and fly-posting
- A pragmatic approach to placarding for community events has been drawn up for approval by Cabinet
- Heads of Service meet regularly to oversee the work of key task groups seeking to address specific areas of environmental crime, to understand and apply the law and to improve professional practice
- Training sessions have been delivered around the requirements of the Regulatory and Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) to be followed by training in law and evidence and environmental crime legislation.
- Green Spaces restructuring which will enable both Park and Countryside Rangers to be authorised to be involved in relevant environmental crime activity.

It is intended that these proposals will maintain or enhance current performance on the National Indicator for cleanliness standards covering levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly-posting (NI 195). In addition, the proposals will impact positively on several other relevant national indicators including;

- neighbourhood satisfaction (NI 5)
- perceptions of ASB (NI 17)

- the police and Council dealing successfully with crime and ASB (NI 21)
- understanding ASB and crime concerns (NI 27)
- arson incidents (NI 33)
- perceptions of drug use/dealing (NI 42)

and other environmental crime types such as dog fouling, vandalism and deliberate damage.

The Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel has requested an information report on enforcement activity on private land. It is anticipated that this will be presented at the Panel's meeting on 18 February 2010.

Risk: A Management Action Plan has been developed to manage the risks of not delivering the actions set out within the Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan, and this risk appears in the Neighbourhood Services and Public Safety risk register. Risk management arrangements concentrate upon the role of the Joint Enforcement Board and commitment of the respective Heads of Service to ensure actions are carried out within and between service areas, and specifically through the workings of the task groups led by representatives from different service areas. The provision of additional staff to deliver frontline services as described within the report, subject to draft budget proposals, further scrutiny and full Council approval in February will significantly reduce risks of non-delivery of the actions specified.

9. Equality Implications

These proposals benefit all parts of the community equally. The enforcement approaches being developed are consistently applied across the borough.

10. Consultation

The effective enforcement of environmental crime depends on close co-operation with a range of partners including the Safer Walsall Borough Partnership, the Police, the Fire Service and Walsall Housing Group, and in this respect the operation of the Borough Tasking Group provides an opportunity for consultation and partnership working around environmental crime hotspots. A shared reporting system as developed by the Fire Service is used for reporting a range of environmental issues, including unsecured void buildings, abandoned cars, fly-tipping, dumped gas cylinders etc by partners, council services and the Local Neighbourhood Partnerships.

This partnership has improved skills and competencies across relevant agencies and has increased the capacity to respond to public expectation, and the emerging agendas for liveability, sustainability and cleaner safer greener communities.

There is an emerging contribution for volunteers to strengthen and sustain joint working, in terms of Local Neighbourhood Partnerships, Community Action Groups, Local Neighbourhood Watch and Street Champions who report their concerns about environmental issues and become involved in exploring solutions. An important component of joint enforcement working is a build up of public information and working with local schools and businesses to increase awareness

in the period leading up to the enforcement activity. The Neighbourhood Justice Coordinator acts as a conduit for involving offenders in Community Payback work to tackle areas which have suffered from environmental crimes.

Background Papers

Report to Cabinet on 21 November 2007.
Joint Enforcement Board Actions.

Author

Dr Judith Sunley
Head of Public Safety

☎ 01922 652213

✉ sunleyj@walsall.gov.uk



Jamie Morris
Executive Director

4 January 2010



Councillor Garry Perry
Portfolio Holder

4 January 2010

Appendix A

Walsall Council Environmental Crime Prosecutions Complete.

Household duty of care	Fly Tipping	Appeal hearing	Noise	Litter
------------------------	-------------	----------------	-------	--------

Offender	Offence	Outcome	Date of Conviction	Area
Stuart Fellows	Litter (s87)	Fine =£100 Costs =£155.26	18/5/2007	Darlaston
Samantha Gallear	Waste (Householders Duty or Care) Regulations 2005	Fine =£200 Costs =£1947.71	Date of conviction = 11/7/2007	Bentley
Jade Myring	Litter (s87)	Fine = £100 Costs =£402.20	22/1/2008	Darlaston
David Deeley	Litter (s87)	Fine = £100 Costs = £482.20 Compensation=£15	11/3/2008	Aldridge
Joanne Davies	Litter (s87)	Fine =£80 Costs =£100 Compensation=£15	19/3/2008	Darlaston
Michelle Maritza	Litter (s87)	Fine = £80 Costs = £100 Compensation = £15	19/3/2008	Darlaston
Susan Wright	Litter (s87)	Fine =£160 Costs =£60 Compensation £15	8/4/2008	Darlaston
Jane Clarke	Litter (s87)	Fine = £150 Costs =£372.20 Compensation £15	1/7/2008	Walsall TC
Michael Jones,	Litter	Fine = £70 Costs =£150 Compensation £15	29/7/2008	Walsall TC
Jane Clarke	Litter – appeal to crown court over original sentence	Reduced sentence to £120 costs maintained	1 st August 2008	
Mr P Singh	Breach of Noise Notice S80	Fine £540.00 Legal Costs Contribution £300.00 Victim Surcharge - £15.00	14 th August 2008	Willenhall

		Total - <u>£855.00</u>		
Mrs P Kaur	Breach of Noise Notice S80	Fine £300.00 Legal Costs Contribution £100 Victim Surcharge £15.00 Total <u>£415.00</u>	14 th August 2008	Willenhall
Harjinder Raj	Litter	Fine £100.00 Legal Costs Contribution £317.20 Victim Surcharge £15.00 Total <u>£432.20</u>	23/9/8	Walsall TC,
Gareth Wootton	Litter	Fine £100.00 Legal Costs Contribution £317.20 Victim Surcharge £15.00 Total <u>£432.20</u>	23/9/8	Walsall T.C.
Gary Tolley	Litter	Fine £100.00 Legal Costs Contribution £317.20 Victim Surcharge £15.00 Total <u>£432.20</u>	23/9/8 Walsall T.C.	Walsall T.C.
Mohammed Matloob	Litter	Family Paid £80 the day before the Court Hearing in agreement with EH and Legal services	23/9/8 Walsall T.C.	Walsall T.C.
J Flavell	Litter	Fine £160 Costs £239.70 Victim Surcharge £15 Total £414.70	21/10/2008 Walsall T.C.	Walsall T.C.
Mr H Watkinson	Fly tipping	Guilty of 2 charges of fly tipping fined £100 for each found not Guilty 3 rd fly tip case. £300 contribution to costs and victim surcharge of £15. A total of £515.	3 rd November 2008	Reedswood Park
A Williams	Fly Tipping	100 hours community service and £100 costs	13/1/2009	Lichfield Road Willenhall
Kelly Addis	Waste (Householders Duty or Care) Regulations 2005	6 months conditional discharge £100 costs		Meranti Close, Willenhall.
Debbie Hateley	Breach of Noise Notice S80	£438 fine £15 Victim of Crime compensation £530.91 costs	20/01/2009	25 Green Rock lane
Marcus Hateley	Breach of Noise Notice S80	£438 fine £15 Victim of Crime compensation	20/01/2009	25 Green Rock lane

		£530.91 costs		
John Liam Richard Lavin	Fly tipping s.33 (6)	£5000 fine, £700 compensation, £15 victim of crime surcharge, £600 costs	17/2/2009	Darlaston (The Boat)
John Liam Richard Lavin	Fly tipping s.33 (6)	£3500 fine, £600 costs.	17/2/2009	Tame Street East, Walsall
Nichola Sargent	Litter s87	Fine £120 Costs £50 Victim Surcharge £15 Total £185	3/3/2009	High Street, Bloxwich
Jackie Jones – The Crown Public house	3 Breaches of an Abatement Notice EPA 1990 s80	Fine £100 x 3 Costs £150 Victim of crime £15 Total £465	24/3/2009	The Crown Darlaston
Daniel Edwards	3 Breaches of an Abatement Notice EPA 1990 s80	Fine £200 Costs £80	7/4/2009	Lower North Street – the Butts
The Friary Committee	4 Breaches of an Abatement Notice s.80 EPA	Fine £500 per offence = £2000 Costs £741.71 Total £2741.71	5/5/2009	The Friary PH Whetsone Lane Aldridge
Richard Marston	Litter – S87 EPA	Fine £50 Costs £50 VOCS = £15	6/5/2009	Willenhall TC
John Liam Richard Lavin	Fly tipping s.33 (6)	Appeal by Mr Lavin to Crown Court against the Magistrates decision/fine Appeal failed costs awarded to the Council in the sum of £640	1/6/2009	Tame Street East, Walsall & Darlaston (The Boat)
Mathew Jones	Litter – S87 EPA	Failed to appear in court Fined: £175.00 Victim Surcharge: £ 15.00 Local Authority Costs: £227.00 A total of: £417.00	14.12.09	
Total fines/costs for prosecutions since May 2007 is over £25,000				

Pending 2 litter cases

Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan

IMPLEMENTATION MANAGER:

Head of Public Safety

01922 652213

sunleyj@walsall.gov.uk

13 January 2010

Version 3



Walsall Council

The actions in this improvement plan are grouped into logical themes. Each theme has a nominated “theme leader” who is responsible and accountable for ensuring all actions within their theme are implemented to the required standard and within the required timescales. The table below highlights how recommendations for improvement may impact on the various council services involved and partners.

Service area	Reporting and Recording of Environmental Incidents	Environmental Enforcement Procedures and Competency	Sharing resources	Training
Public Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trading Standards ▪ Environmental Health ▪ Antisocial behaviour Unit ▪ Community Safety team ▪ CCTV team 	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Street Pride <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grounds maintenance and street cleansing ▪ Waste Management 	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
Engineering and Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pollution Control ▪ Transportation ▪ Traffic and Road Safety ▪ Highways management ▪ HRMPS ▪ Engineering, design and construction 	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Leisure \Culture and Lifelong Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Green Spaces 	✓	✓	✓	✓
Neighbourhood Partnerships and Programmes	✓	✓	✓	
Regeneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development Control/ Planning enforcement ▪ Building Control ▪ Local land Charges 	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓

THEME 1

Reporting and recording of environmental incidents

THEME LEADER:

Judith Sunley/Lynne Hughes

REF	ISSUE	IMPROVEMENT ACTION	PRIORITY 1 2 3	BY WHOM?	Which Service?	BY WHEN	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	CURRENT STATUS
1.1	To establish an accurate picture of the level of Environmental crime	<p>Identify the different systems for reporting incidents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRM / Council website • Mayrise • M3 • Parks • React • CTS • Void property referrals • CAT one off issues • Fixmystreet.org, social networking (Twitter) • Social landlord reported incidents • Police/fire ASB • Others? <p>And explore how this information can be collated to establish hotspot areas in the various categories of .fly-tipping, litter, dog fouling, graffiti, fly-posting, abandoned vehicles, planning amenity, filthy and verminous property, noise, anti social behaviour, under-age sales etc</p>	1	<p>Cracking Environmental Crime Working Group (K Stone)</p> <p>IT group (J Sunley)</p> <p>Borough Tasking Group (J Sunley)</p>	<p>Street Pride Green Spaces Public Safety NPP FSS WHG/Social landlords</p> <p>Street Pride Green Spaces Public Safety NPP FSS</p> <p>Street Pride Green Spaces Public Safety Police, Fire, Youth services, etc</p>	6/2010		
1.2	Role of council staff in making reports	<p>Identify target employees in service areas to report environmental crime and antisocial behaviour, and the extent of involvement in subsequent investigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Awareness o Reporting o Investigating o Decision to prosecute/ take enforcement action 	1	<p>Joint Enforcement Board (J Sunley/ Service areas</p>	<p>Street Pride, Green Spaces, NPP, Public Safety Engineering & Transportation,</p>	6/2010		
1.3	Role of partners and volunteers in making reports	<p>Clarify the roles of partners and volunteers (Street Champions, Key tenants, Friends Groups etc) in relation to reporting environmental crime and antisocial behaviour:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Awareness 	2	<p>Service Areas</p>	<p>NPP SWP</p>	9/2010		

REF	ISSUE	IMPROVEMENT ACTION	PRIORITY 1 2 3	BY WHOM?	Which Service?	BY WHEN	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	CURRENT STATUS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Reporting 						
1.4	Use of new technology for improving data capture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate latest technology to enable “input once and done” reporting of environmental crimes into core IT business systems, mapping linking up the back office systems more effectively to front office CRM systems (as part of business transformation) • Consider handheld data capture devices and GIS/GPS mapping of information 	1	IT group (J Sunley)	Litter Hit Squad Park Rangers	6/2010		
1.5	Partnership working	Utilise the Borough Tasking and Community Action Tasking processes to capture information about environmental incidents and outcomes	2	BTG CAT	All plus Police, Fire, Youth services, social landlords etc	3/2010		
1.6	Establish suitable performance management arrangements for the purpose of monitoring environmental crimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up Performance Management and reporting arrangements to ensure ongoing and reliable information on such matters as number of reports recorded, penalties issued, prosecutions initiated/secured, etc • Links to “Timely Information for Citizens” project • Develop Geo Reveal linked to Plan Web for reporting incidents and outcomes 	1	IT group (J Sunley)	Street Pride Green Spaces Public Safety FSS, ICT	6/2010		
1.7	Ensure clear message is imparted to staff and the public linking to Sustainability Strategy and Corporate Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the “Cracking Environmental crime” communications plan • Publish ‘successes’ (including prosecutions) on web site, members Digest, News and Views, Team Spirit, Walsall Pride and local press, radio, etc. • Monitor impact through performance data and satisfaction surveys (Citizens Panel, Feeling the Difference, Conversation with a Purpose, etc) • Explore use of “branding” of key messages on van liveries and front-line staff uniforms • Decide how to continue to promote the Council’s efforts to tackle environmental crime on completion of the Cracking Environmental Crime campaign. 	1	K Stone N Greenway Services areas/press office	All	5/2010		

THEME 2

Environmental Enforcement Procedures and Competency

THEME LEADER:

Mark Holden

REF	ISSUE	IMPROVEMENT ACTION	PRIORITY 1 2 3	BY WHOM?	Which Service?	BY WHEN	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	CURRENT STATUS
2.1	To maintain an up-to-date schedule of relevant legal powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide and maintain summary analysis of all powers/ opportunities afforded by legislation across participating service areas • Ensure there is awareness of and compliance with council enforcement policy and relevant systems and procedures • Update scheme of delegations for all relevant services 	1	Law and Evidence group (J Beavon)	All	3/2010		
2.2	To make better use of existing staff resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • council • Establish for the target employees identified in target service areas their roles in relation to environmental crime and antisocial behaviour: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Awareness ○ Reporting ○ Investigating ○ Decision to prosecute/ take enforcement action • Establish a scheme of delegation of appropriate powers from the respective Head of Service in accordance with the constitution • Use of credential to demonstrate the legislation staff are empowered to enforce • Establish a competency framework • Development and application of enforcement procedures • Report any impact on staff groups via JNCC/ERF as required 	1	Joint Enforcement Board (J Sunley)	All	12/2010		
	• partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish cross service/partnership working groups to identify key players and "tolerance" intervention levels • Document local authority/external agency protocols and enforcement procedures 	2	Joint Enforcement Board Service areas	All	3/2011		

REF	ISSUE	IMPROVEMENT ACTION	PRIORITY 1 2 3	BY WHOM?	Which Service?	BY WHEN	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	CURRENT STATUS
2.3	Prescribe protocols and procedures as required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish types of environmental crime activity, agree reporting protocols, "tolerance" intervention levels and agreed responses, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graffiti • Fly-posting • Planning "amenity" for void property 	1	Task groups Service areas Law and Evidence group/	Street Pride, Public Safety Engineering & Transportation, Development and Control	9/2010		

THEME 3
Sharing Resources

THEME LEADER:
Judith Sunley

REF	ISSUE	IMPROVEMENT ACTION	PRIORITY 1 2 3	BY WHOM?	Which Service?	BY WHEN	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	CURRENT STATUS
3.1	Establish and implement integrated management arrangements for environmental enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish the scope and purpose of the Joint Enforcement Board and agree a forward plan of Board meetings • Establish groups to manage process controls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RIPA group (D Blacker) ○ Law and Evidence Group (J Beavon) 	1	Joint Enforcement Board (J Sunley)	All	3/2010		
3.2	Address problem areas including fly-tipping, void buildings, graffiti, anti-social activities	<p>Review relevant working groups to tackle environmental crime issues to ensure continued effectiveness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Void Property group - Integrating responses to void buildings ○ Fly-posting and Graffiti group - introducing graffiti enforcement ○ Waste and Fly-tipping - to minimise the impact on fly-tipping and increase of filthy and verminous gardens in readiness for the change in refuse collection service (<i>waste group</i>) i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ litter bins left on highway ○ side waste ○ failure to recycle ○ Highways group - to address issues around verge parking, obstructions in the street etc ○ IT Group - to address reporting and mapping of incidents ○ Neighbourhood Clean-Ups group - planning community clean up and community safety events ○ Dog Control - to establish if there is a business case for a Dog Control order 	1	<p>P Rooney</p> <p>P Rooney</p> <p>M Holden</p> <p>L Boothman/ P Leighton</p> <p>J Sunley /L Hughes</p> <p>A Ody / C Grant</p> <p>G Hood</p>	All	9/2010		
3.3	Target hot spots of environmental crimes for co-ordinated enforcement action	Using relevant data around "hotspots" of environmental crime activity identified in the monthly borough tasking document, participate with other service areas, partners and other agencies to address environmental (signal) crimes, and public	1	Borough Tasking Group (J Sunley)	All	3/2010		

REF	ISSUE	IMPROVEMENT ACTION	PRIORITY 1 2 3	BY WHOM?	Which Service?	BY WHEN	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	CURRENT STATUS
		perception of their local neighbourhood						
3.4	Explore options through civil parking enforcement to contribute to wider environmental crime agenda	Maintain a watching brief to enable greater involvement as the legislation enables more flexibility	1	S Pretty P Leighton	Engineering and Transportation	Ongoing		
3.5	Improve awareness of council waste and street cleansing services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify programme of 'community clean-up days', linked to environmental crime hotspots areas identified by BTG, CATs and linking to LNP work and Community Safety events (12 pa) 	1	M Holden A Ody A Jones L Hughes J Morris	Street Pride, Public Safety NPP WHG	3/2010		
3.6	Empower community to respond to local issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify the role and management of Street Champions and re-launch Use Community Action T asking groups to identify local groups and local volunteers to address local issues. Utilise Community Payback schemes to benefit the community to tackle hot spot areas 	2	N Chumber A Ody L Hughes J Morris	Public Safety	3/2010		
3.7	Encourage cost recovery of cleaning up costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise opportunities to recover cleaning up costs against land owners/ individuals and debt management measures to recover clean-up costs through enforcement actions taken Publish an event organisers pack setting out responsibilities and who to notify when planning community or public events - including 'environmental responsibilities' Develop "who does what" process guidelines to clarify enforcement responsibilities with regard to graffiti, flyposting and void properties 	2	Joint Enforcement Board (J Sunley) Fly-posting and Graffiti group Void property group	All	12/2010		

THEME 4
Training

THEME LEADER:
John Beavon

REF	ISSUE	IMPROVEMENT ACTION	PRIORITY 1 2 3	BY WHOM?	Which Service?	BY WHEN	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	CURRENT STATUS
4.1	To ensure that relevant staff are adequately trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review training needs to increase awareness and reporting of environmental crime, and enforcement outcomes for target staff addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Awareness ○ Reporting ○ Investigating ○ Decision to prosecute/ take enforcement action • Identify course content and appropriate internal and external training providers • Nominate staff in each service area to attend training 	1	Joint Enforcement Board (J Sunley) Law and Evidence group Service areas	All	3/2011		
4.2	To raise awareness of partners and volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify awareness training materials for a range of audiences and a range of environmental crimes to increase the reporting of reliable information – informed witnesses • Deliver training and information briefings 	2	Joint Enforcement Board Service areas	All	3/2011		
4.3	To raise awareness of Members and community leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify awareness training materials for a range of audiences and a range of environmental crimes • Deliver training and information briefings 	2	Service areas	All	3/2011		

Joint Enforcement Board - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Name of Delivery Group	Joint Enforcement Board
Chair	Dr Judith Sunley
Vice chair	To be determined
Facilitator	Rosemary Coates
Frequency of meeting	6 weekly
Location of meeting	Challenge Building Training Room

Aim of the Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary aim of this group is to increase the extent and effectiveness of actions taken within different services areas, and in conjunction with partners to combat environmental crime across the Borough and to provide reports as required through service area Performance Boards, to Cabinet, and to the public through agreed communications channels. Agreed activities to be delivered through an Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan and tasked to relevant operational working groups to be chaired by relevant service area lead officers. Working groups to agree work programmes to deliver agreed activities and milestones and provide regular reports to the Joint Enforcement Board. 														
Purpose of Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To coordinate and direct the activities of the working groups To receive and analyse reports from topic working groups, and relevant intelligence and monitoring information about the levels of environmental crime and effectiveness and progress of the activities agreed with the Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan (see attached diagram) To provide a strategic overview of trends in levels of reported environmental crime and customer feedback and National and Local indicators To consider deployment of resources across service areas and partner agencies to implement targeted actions to address these concerns in the identified hotspots – adding value to delivery of existing services by combining efforts in collecting data, delivering actions and reporting outcomes To recommend key tasking in the nominated hotspots areas for local delivery To measure and report on the impact of joint working in addressing tasking activities. 														
Scope of activities	<p>Addressing those aspects of nuisance and antisocial behaviour which are reported to act as signal crimes influencing public perceptions about fear of crime, and the quality of life in local neighbourhoods:</p> <p>Empty properties, fly tipping and waste, graffiti and fly-posting, litter and dog fouling, verge parking and highways obstructions, overhanging trees and hedges, abandoned vehicles.</p>														
Support to Delivery Groups	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Service area</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Representative</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Protection</td> <td>Judith Sunley</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Street Pride</td> <td>Mark Holden</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Engineering & Transportation</td> <td>Steve Pretty</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Green Spaces</td> <td>Graham Hood/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neighbourhood Partnerships & Programmes</td> <td>Julie Gethin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning & Building Control</td> <td>David Elsworthy</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service areas will nominate representatives for Board and Working Group meetings with appropriate decision making to agree and implement taskings. (Suitably briefed substitutes are required to attend 6 weekly Board meetings in the absence of the nominated representative. <p>Facilitation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduling meetings for the financial year annually, arranging room booking and refreshments, setting agenda with chair, requesting intelligence from liaising with lead officers to progress agreed actions to be provided by SWBP. Agenda and current revision of Environmental Enforcement Improvement Plan to be dispatched electronically at least 5 days prior to meeting. 	Service area	Representative	Public Protection	Judith Sunley	Street Pride	Mark Holden	Engineering & Transportation	Steve Pretty	Green Spaces	Graham Hood/	Neighbourhood Partnerships & Programmes	Julie Gethin	Planning & Building Control	David Elsworthy
Service area	Representative														
Public Protection	Judith Sunley														
Street Pride	Mark Holden														
Engineering & Transportation	Steve Pretty														
Green Spaces	Graham Hood/														
Neighbourhood Partnerships & Programmes	Julie Gethin														
Planning & Building Control	David Elsworthy														

Scope and Governance

