

**ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL  
CLEANSING SERVICES – ACTION PLAN**

**2 MARCH 2010**

<b>SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>	<b>BY WHOM</b>	<b>BUDGET COST</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>
<p>That, in order to deter potential offenders, more enforcement action is needed against people committing offences such as dumping in back alleys, littering and dog fouling.</p>	<p>Council Officers will approach high performing neighbouring authorities to learn how more enforcement action can be achieved, and make recommendations for improvements. This will include work carried out to improve levels of enforcement in back alleys and the use of dog control powers to control fouling.</p> <p>A discussion paper on the use of Dog Control provisions across the Town will be prepared for Executive consideration.</p> <p>A thorough review of enforcement across the Environment Service Grouping will be carried out to identify options for additional enforcement provision.</p> <p>The existing Community Protection Service Fixed penalty Notice Strategies will be reviewed consolidated before taking through the Executive process.</p>	<p>Environmental Protection Manager</p>	<p>Subject to recommendations</p>	<p>Paper taken to Executive by August 2010</p> <p>Report with recommendations by April 2010</p>

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	A multi-disciplinary working party will be set up to examine and trial different ways of getting better publicity, with a view to raising more awareness of the enforcement achievements locally.			
That, following prosecutions, more publicity should be undertaken to raise the profile of Council enforcement activity - such as writing to all residents in a street following a prosecution or fixed penalty in their street (for example in respect of back alley dumping), 'naming and shaming' perpetrators, or discussing with the Evening Gazette the possibility of introducing a 'Scales of Justice' section regarding environmental prosecutions in Middlesbrough.	See above actions			
That, in order to reduce problems of dog fouling in gated back alleys, Dog Control Orders requiring all dogs to be kept on leads in back alleys, should be introduced.	See above actions			
That all Council staff working in the public domain should be encouraged to report any environmental problems.	Through the use of team brief and other council communication systems, staff will be encouraged to report environmental problems and adopt the 'Citizens Code'	Tom Punton	None	On going
That local 'Street Champions' should be introduced in the worst problem areas, possibly in conjunction with Community Development. These should be encouraged to report environmental problems directly to	Based upon BVPI 195 and other monitoring information from Area Care Managers, areas of particularly poor performance will be identified, and where street (environmental)	Geoff Field / Martin Harvey	None	On going

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the Council and be given priority in reporting to the Council's Contact Centre.	champions can be identified, priority response to identified problems will be given.			
That following completion of the review of working methods and patterns to meet cleaning needs in respect of the emerging 24 hour economy, proposals should be submitted to the scrutiny panel for comment.	Exercise to be carried out in conjunction with Town Centre management. Proposals will be put before scrutiny when they are complete.	Keith Garland	To be confirmed	Update to scrutiny panel on any revised proposals Sept / Oct 2010
That moves towards more flexible specifications for grounds maintenance, street cleaning etc should be linked with the review of fleet / vehicle provision and the review of working methods and patterns which is to take place in regard to the 24 hour economy.	The panels recommendation is noted and will be linked to the above action and reported accordingly.	Keith Garland	To be confirmed	Update to scrutiny panel on any revised proposals Sept / Oct 2010
That the Council should ensure that continued monitoring is undertaken to ensure that there is no reduction in standards as the Erimus Housing grounds maintenance contract comes to an end.	On going through the use of the Streetscene Services Standards officer and regular liaison with Erimus and Vale Contract Services.	Geoff Field	None	On going
That work is continued with Erimus Housing and Vale Contracts to move towards ensuring that there are no visible gaps or differing standards in the cutting regimes of Vale Contracts and the Council.	Communication will continue between Erimus Housing and Streetscene Services. More formal meetings will take place towards the end of the contract. However this may not be possible once the tendering process for the new contract commences.	Geoff Field / Keith Garland	None	Negotiations on going. New contract to commence April 2011
That all options are explored regarding work which is being undertaken to review Council depot provision - for example building one new depot or refurbishing existing depots,	The depot review is ongoing. When more detailed options and proposals are established, an update report will be submitted to scrutiny.	Tom Punton / Geoff Field	To be confirmed in detail	Update to scrutiny panel Sept 2010

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<p>with the Environment Scrutiny Panel to be consulted on detailed proposals.</p>				
<p>That the officer responsible for monitoring cleanliness in respect of the NI 195 performance indicator undertakes an exercise to determine the impact of back alley cleanliness on this indicator and reports findings to the Environment Scrutiny Panel. This should include information on a ward basis so that the worst problem areas can be identified.</p>	<p>The Standards Officer will continue to monitor back alley areas to assess performance, and provide a report to the scrutiny panel in six months.</p>	<p>Geoff Field</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Update to scrutiny panel August 2010</p>