

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 NOVEMBER 2010

REFERRAL TO CABINET

95. DOG FOULING

The Director of Law, HR and Asset Management, presented a report providing an update on the work of the Dog Fouling Enforcement Team managed by Wirral Community Patrol Service.

Following the successful "Give a Dog a Bad Name" dog fouling campaign, the budget resolution for 2010/2011 provided a further £40,000, "to be used to build on the current successful scheme with funding being used in conjunction with Jobs For The Future funding in order to employ trainees who would be trained in patrolling and enforcement and add to the strength of the team giving greater coverage over longer periods of time." The Director reported that six Dog Fouling Enforcement Officers were being employed in each of two phases, extending the life of the programme from July 2010 to September 2011. They had received training in:

Dog fouling enforcement
Litter enforcement
Managing conflict and aggression
Customer care
Basic health and safety

Whilst their primary purpose was prevention and enforcement of dog fouling, the team also reported other issues in relation to the streetscene. Between the end of June 2010 and the end of September 2010 they had identified whilst on patrol 5934 incidents requiring action e.g. safety issues, exposed wires on lampposts, uneven pavements, fly tipping, graffiti, criminal damage. Instances of graffiti, littering and fly tipping were also referred to Technical Services Department for action.

The team monitored the weekly incidence of illegal dog fouling and in two hotspot locations they had noted significant reductions.

Seacombe Promenade	53% reduction in incidence
Poulton Road	99% reduction in incidence

In addition to their enforcement responsibilities, the team was also engaged in the education of dog owners through attendance at public events or providing advice to dog owners whilst they were on patrol.

On a motion by Councillor Smith seconded by Councillor McLachlan it was:-

Resolved-

- (1) That the Committee note the content of this report.**
- (2) That the Cabinet be asked to provide the necessary funding to ensure the continuation of the Dog Fouling Enforcement Team and that this request be considered in the light of other demands on council services.**