

PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Thursday, 21st September, 2017
Time of Commencement: 7.00 pm

Present:- Councillor Sandra Hambleton – in the Chair

Councillors Burch, Matthews, Olszewski, Robinson, Spence,
J Tagg and Walklate

Officers Nesta Barker - Head of Environmental Health Services,
David Beardmore, Geoff Durham and Paul Washington
- Principal Solicitor

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Dymond, L Hailstones, P Hailstones and White.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest stated.

3. PEST CONTROL ADVICE PROVISION

The Committee considered a report seeking their support to cease offering free pest control telephone advice. Members were advised that general advice from frequently asked questions would still be available on the Council's website.

Three options, outlined in paragraph three of the report were considered by Members and it was agreed that option three was the best way forward.

Resolved:

- (i) That it be recommended to the Cabinet that pest control advice only be available on a chargeable basis from 2018.
- (ii) That the charge for telephone advice for 2018/19 be £10.00

4. STRAY DOG FINES

The Committee considered a report seeking support to cease offering a deferred payment option to residents of limited means seeking to reclaim their dog.

Members were assured that the purpose of the report was to support a method of payment and was not to do with the rehoming or euthanizing of dogs as media reports had stated.

Members were asked to consider two options, set out in paragraph three in the report. However, Members felt that more information was required and other options should be investigated before a decision was made.

Resolved: That this matter be deferred to a future meeting to allow a new report to be prepared containing more information and other options.

5. FOOD HYGIENE RATING SCHEME RE-INSPECTION REQUESTS

The Committee considered a report regarding the change in policy by the Food Standards Agency to introduce fees on a cost recovery basis for re-inspection/re-visits.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the change in the Food Standards Agency charging policy be noted.
 - (ii) That the introduction of a cost recovery fee for the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme re-inspections be approved.
 - (iii) That it be recommended to Cabinet that a proposed charge of £160 be implemented from 1 April, 2018.

6. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER - DOG CONTROL

The Committee considered a report seeking approval to adopt a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in respect of dog controls.

Members' attention was drawn to paragraph 2.29 onwards of the report relating to signage and to Appendix One – the public consultation responses and Appendix Two – recommended wording for the PSPO.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the results of the public consultation, showing broad support for the proposed PSPO – as detailed in Appendix One, be noted.
 - (ii) That a fixed penalty value, previously set at £100 and reduced to £70 if paid within ten days, apply.
 - (iii) That current officer authorisations to enforce controls be noted and endorsed.
 - (iv) That borough wide signage in respect of dog fouling cease.
 - (v) That the making of a PSPO, in respect of Dog Controls (as detailed in Appendix Two) for a three year period be agreed.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no Urgent Business.

COUNCILLOR SANDRA HAMBLETON
Chair

Meeting concluded at 8.05 pm

