

**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2007/08
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>ANIMAL WELFARE SERVICE</p> <p>Provision of 24/7 collection service for stray dogs Dog Fouling Enforcement Disposal of Stray Dogs – kennelling facilities and non destruction policy Animal Welfare Act 2007 Prosecution Publicity and Advice</p>
<p align="center">NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification: Environmental Health receive about 2,000 requests for service each year regarding dogs and 300 regarding other animals.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area: Enforcement includes stray dogs, dog fouling, dangerous animals, welfare and cruelty, inspection of animal establishments, neutering and micro chipping services, advice and education all of which are aimed at restricting the adverse impact of pets on the local environment.</p>
<p>Council performance in this area if known: Environmental Health investigate complaints and carry out investigations and inspections. Enforcement action is taken including provision of advice, warning letters, fixed penalty notices and prosecution.</p>
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?): The Animal Welfare Service incorporates dog fouling enforcement which has also been proposed for inclusion in the scrutiny process.</p> <p>From April 2008 dealing with stray dogs will be the sole responsibility of the Council as was previously a shared responsibility with the Police. Provision of a 24/7 service for receiving stray dogs is currently being developed and the structure of the Animal Welfare team is being reviewed to incorporate these duties which will include increased staffing.</p> <p>This review will include development of an Animal Welfare Service Plan for 2008/9 to address these new responsibilities as well as those in the Animal Welfare Act 2007 and Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.</p> <p>The Pest Control Service which works alongside the Animal Welfare Service is currently going through scrutiny.</p>

Signed: Environment Select Committee Date: February 2008

Office Use:

Pick score:

Considered by SLF:

15

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Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

DOG FOULING

Number of prosecutions, warning letters sent out, unaccompanied dogs that have been impounded.

Siting and provision of dog litter bins and signs.

Vandalism of dog litter bins.

Reluctance of neighbours to have dog litter bins near to their property.

Adoption of provisions in Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS.

PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Public interest justification:

Number of complaints to ward councillors from irate residents who have trodden in or narrowly missed treading in piles of dog mess.

Dog fouling of SBC owned green spaces.

Environmental Health receive about 350 Complaints a year about dogs fouling in public places. Dog fouling is regularly identified as one of the main concerns of the residents of Stockton.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

We now know that dog mess is devoured by rats.

Children are deterred from playing on open green spaces because of dog fouling.

Dog waste carries disease

Council performance in this area if known:

Data is produced. Environmental Health investigate complaints and carry out patrols of areas (6-800 a year) leading to issuing 100+ warning letters and fixed penalty notices (about 20 a year).

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

Enforcement of dog fouling is mainly carried out by Animal Enforcement Officers working in the Animal Welfare team of Environmental Health. Other duties of the officers include dealing with stray dogs and from April 2008 this will be the sole responsibility of the Council as was previously a shared responsibility with the Police. Provision of a 24/7 service for receiving stray dogs is currently being developed and the structure of the Animal Welfare team is being reviewed to incorporate these duties which will include increased staffing. Dog fouling enforcement will be retained

as a function of these officers.

The Pest Control Service which works alongside the Animal Welfare Service is currently going through scrutiny.

Signed: R Cains

Date: 28.02.08

Office Use:

Pick score:

Considered by SLF: