

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

IMPLICATIONS/CONSULTATIONS

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives:	<p>Priority 1 – Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities</p> <p>Priority 2 – Enhance the quality of people's lives</p>
Consultation:	East Herts Chief Inspector has provided feedback regarding the scheme.
Legal:	<p>The Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990 sets standards for keeping publically maintained land and relevant highways clear of litter.</p> <p>The Council has powers under the EPA1990 to issue FPN's to anyone dropping litter. The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 allowed local councils to set the financial penalties for these FPNs within specified parameters. The Council has already set these fees at the meeting in 2006.</p> <p>A Court date has been set for the first batch of 30 unpaid FPNs that are over 3 months old.</p>
Financial:	<p>There are no financial implications for the Council as the costs have been offset by the income from the paid fixed penalty notices.</p> <p>There is a small amount of income from the scheme. Ceasing the project will lead to no payment to the Council for such activity.</p> <p>There will be some pressure in respect of court costs for unpaid FPNs (as referenced in the legal section) but this will be minimal and met from existing budgets / income from the scheme.</p>
Human Resource:	The majority of administration and enquiries are dealt by the contractor therefore the scheme has minimal impact on existing staff resources except for some day to day contract management. There will however be some legal officer time required to send out the court summons and

	attend court for non-payment. Approximately 10% of the FPNs issued could potentially be taken to court – this equates to about 30-35 a month.
Risk Management:	There has been some negative press about the contractor used and this type of enforcement. Risk that continuing the pilot may result in some further negative press, tensions with traders in the town centres and with the Police who are unable to support the initiative.
Health and wellbeing – issues and impacts:	Cleaner streets make East Herts a better place to live and so improves the health and wellbeing of its residents.