

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

IMPLICATIONS/CONSULTATIONS

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives	Place – Safe and Clean This priority focuses on sustainability, the built environment and ensuring our towns and villages are safe and clean.
Consultation:	Internal departments and officers affected by the Environmental Crime Policy changes have been consulted. The updated policy will be made available on the Councils website and public consultation invited. Consultation will be required for Public Spaces Protection Orders with residents, partners and appropriate community representatives.
Legal:	No statutory requirements but certain parts of existing legislation have been repealed and new powers have been brought in to replace them. Any public consultation carried out will be as per the legal guidelines.
Financial:	It is not anticipated to increase resource levels on enforcement as policy changes relate only to new powers for existing offences. The new offences proposed for PSPOs should help officers carry out enforcement more effectively rather than generate increased workload. However if members wish to extend enforcement on litter and dog fouling enforcement then additional options and costs could be investigated. The income level from fines and fixed penalty notices are not anticipated to be large as the majority of people respond to informal action (typically under £500 per annum). Any income is used to support the street cleansing service.
Human Resource:	The updated policy impacts primarily upon the work of the Environmental Inspection Team.

	<p>The new legislation places an emphasis on the police, councils and social landlords to work together to deal with problems more quickly. Partnership working, information sharing and early and informal interventions are key to successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>The policy promotes greater partnership working particularly with the police, housing associations and Town and Parish Councils. It is proposed that these partnerships should help support the work of the Council's Inspection Team particularly regarding dog issues, litter and dog fouling.</p>
<p>Risk Management:</p>	<p>The updated policy provided officers with clear guidance on dealing with Environmental Crime to minimise risks and ensure that officer decisions are fair and proportionate.</p> <p>Failure to implement new powers removes an important tool and seriously limits the opportunity to improve public satisfaction with these services.</p>
<p>Health and wellbeing – issues and impacts:</p>	<p>The revised policy provides some additional tools to help local authorities address problems with the local environment and persistent offenders to improve quality of life.</p>