

CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL

Report to:- **Carlisle City Council**

Date of Meeting:- **Tuesday 17th July 2012**

Agenda Item No:-

Public

Title:- **CLEAN UP CARLISLE**

Report of:- **The Director of Local Environment**

Report reference:- **LE 22/12**

Summary:-

A clean local environment makes a difference to the quality of life for our communities in Carlisle and also makes a contribution to our local economy by encouraging investment into the City and by supporting local tourism. It is clear that whilst significant resources are spent in cleaning up Carlisle's streets, parks and open spaces, the local environment can quickly deteriorate due to high levels of litter being dropped, fly tipping at hot spots and the continuing dog fouling prevalent in some areas of the city. Carlisle City Council is therefore adopting a broader approach to cleaning up Carlisle and keeping it clean through a three strand approach of education, enforcement and improved clean up. This report sets out how additional funding will jump start the initiative for a cleaner Carlisle that we can all be proud of.

Recommendation:- That Council:-

- note the action plan set out at Appendix 2 and the proposals for budget allocation at Appendix 1;
- approve the bringing forward of £20,000 from year 2013/14 of the project to 2012/13 to achieve maximum benefit from the investment in additional street cleansing equipment and
- note the resultant increase to the Capital Programme in 2012/13 and 2013/14 of £47,000 and £12,000 respectively to be funded from the existing revenue budget.

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

The budget proposed to Council on the 7th February included £70,000 per annum for two years to fund a “Community Clean up Team”. Following amendments at Full Council additional funding for two years of £85,000 was approved to address community cleaning issues, in particular dog fouling. In total this additional £155,000 for two years will improve the cleanliness of Carlisle, targeting dog fouling, littering and staining and to support the transition to a more programmed approach to the street cleansing operations.

The additional funding compliments improvements already identified during the review of the service last year, which highlighted the following areas for improvement;

- Increased mechanisation
- Sticking to new programmes of street cleansing
- Closer alignment between street cleaning and waste and recycling collections
- Reduced reliance on reactive work
- Improved enforcement and education
- Building capacity and flexibility across the team and voluntary groups
- Improved management of information and customer requests

It is proposed to use the additional funding in a three strand approach of education, enforcement and improved clean up so that there will be a sustained outcome at the end of the 2 year period.

1.1 Improved Cleansing

New street cleaning machines are on order, however, the fleet would benefit from the addition of machines for pavement cleaning and to target dog fouling. This capital funding should be spent in the first year to maximise benefit of the investment and as such funding from year two will need to be brought forward to year one. A response team will be set up to provide a street cleaning service for requests so that the core street cleaning resources can concentrate and focus on delivering the planned programme of work. In this way, all the streets and pavements will be cleaned on a regular basis and over time the need to request street cleansing will reduce.

1.2 Education

A new team is being set up within Environmental Health to provide education and enforcement on environmental crime such as dog fouling and littering and the more serious offences of fly-tipping. It is recognised that to have maximum impact that this work will focus on education and raising awareness and as such regular campaign work will be delivered to encourage people to pick up after their dogs and not to drop litter. The new team will work cross directorate to address issues that may contribute to littering and fly tipping in terms of helping residents to access the

excellent recycling and waste collection services and to identify and target locations and times for education opportunities.

1.3 Enforcement

The education work will be followed up with hard hitting enforcement activity such as the issue of warning letters, fixed penalty notices, other legal notices and ultimately prosecution. Successful enforcement will be publicised to act as a deterrent to others and to get the message across that this behaviour will not be tolerated and there will be sanctions. The enforcement policy will be refreshed and strengthened where necessary and will identify innovative ways of dealing with juveniles so that there is a sanction available for enviro-crime that avoids criminalising our young people.

1.4 Proposals for spend

The two year funding will compliment core street cleansing services and will aid in the transition to stronger area working and programmes of work. The funding will be spent on a dedicated response team, more staffing resource for enforcement and education, equipment and operational costs in the following split;

Budget Allocation	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Total Allocation</i>	<i>£155,000</i>	<i>£155,000</i>
<i>Proposed Allocation</i>	<i>£175,000</i>	<i>£135,000</i>
Additional Clean up Resources	£85,335	£85,300
Tools and equipment	£38,000	£0
Education and Enforcement	£31,665	£31,700
City Centre Improvements	£20,000	£18,000
Total Spend	£175,000	£135,000

The spend will be split into capital and revenue spend with £61,000 capital spend in 2012/13 and £14,000 capital spend in 2013/14.

2. CONSULTATION

2.1 Consultation to Date.

2.2 Consultation proposed.

Economy and environment Overview and scrutiny

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:-

- note the action plan set out at Appendix 2 and the proposals for budget allocation at Appendix 1;
- approve the bringing forward of £20,000 from year 2013/14 of the project to 2012/13 to achieve maximum benefit from the investment in additional street cleansing equipment and
- note the resultant increase to the Capital Programme in 2012/13 and 2013/14 of £47,000 and £12,000 respectively to be funded from the existing revenue budget

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The additional funding will enable improved cleaning of the local environment but will also seek to change the behaviour of the minority of some of our residents who spoil the local environment for everyone and to promote more responsibility for keeping our communities clean and free of litter and dog fouling.

4 IMPLICATIONS

- Staffing/Resources – Additional staff resource will be required to deliver the two year programme and is included in the additional funding as set out in Appendix 1.
- Financial – The 2012/13 budget agreed in February 2012 included funding of £155,000 per year, for two years for a Community Clean Up Team. The report identifies how this is to be spent over the coming two year period. Some of the expenditure is to be used to purchase equipment which will be classified as capital expenditure. These purchases will therefore need to be added to the capital programme in 2012/13 and 2013/14 and funded from this revenue budget. It is requested that in order to purchase the equipment up front to enable the service to deliver its targets, that £20,000 of the allocation from 2013/14 be brought forward to 2012/13. Although this has no overall impact on Council resources over the two year period, it will increase the agreed budget requirement for 2012/13 by £20,000 with a corresponding decrease in 2013/14. Financial Procedure Rules dictate that this is classed as a supplementary estimate for 2012/13 and as such will require Council approval.

- Legal – Any purchase is subject to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and should be subject to appropriate terms and conditions.
- Corporate –
- Risk Management –
- Environmental – There will be a positive impact on the local environmental quality due to the improved clean up and by supporting the local community to keep Carlisle clean and tidy
- Crime and Disorder – Enviro-crime is anti-social behaviour. Education and enforcement strategies will be employed to reduce enviro-crime such as littering, fly tipping and dog fouling
- Impact on Customers – There will be a positive impact on customers through the enhanced quality of the local environment.
- Equality and Diversity –

Impact assessments

Does the change have an impact on the following?

Equality Impact Screening	Impact Yes/No?	Is the impact positive or negative?
Does the policy/service impact on the following?		
Age	N	
Disability	N	
Race	N	
Gender/ Transgender	N	
Sexual Orientation	N	
Religion or belief	N	
Human Rights	N	Positive
Health inequalities	N	
Rurality	Y	Positive

If you consider there is either no impact or no negative impact, please give reasons:

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If an equality Impact is necessary, please contact the P&P team.

Clean Up Carlisle Appendix 1
Budget Allocation for 2012/13 2013/14

		Yr 1	Yr 2
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ALLOCATION 2 YEARS	Allocated	155,000.00	155,000.00
Additional Resources	Proposal	175,000.00	135,000.00
Dog Doo Rapid Response			
Fuel		4,000.00	4,000.00
Maintenance		2,000.00	2,000.00
Consumables		4,000.00	4,000.00
Total		10,000.00	10,000.00
Rapid Response Team			
Driver + Operative		46,100.00	46,100.00
Overhead and Expenses		20,435.00	20,400.00
Transport cost		8,800.00	8,800.00
		75,335.00	75,300.00
Total Additional Resources		85,335.00	85,300.00
Education & Enforcement			
Increase CNEO to 2 FTE		17,721.00	18,165.00
Overtime		1,744.00	1,335.00
Survey Benchmark Survey		1,700.00	1,700.00
Media and Publicity			
	Posters/ stickers	2,000.00	2,000.00
	additional media	4,000.00	4,000.00
Training and Enforcement Resources		4,500.00	4,500.00
Total Education & Enforcement		31,665.00	31,700.00
Tools and Equipment			
Motorcycle Purchase in 1st Year	Capital	13,000.00	
Street cleansing machine	Capital	20,000.00	
Blowers		2,000.00	
Strimmers		1,500.00	
Hedge cutters		1,500.00	
Total Tools & Equipment		38,000.00	0.00
City Centre Improvements			
New Bins	Capital	4,000.00	4,000.00
Deep clean		6,000.00	6,000.00
Street Furniture	Capital	10,000.00	8,000.00
Total City Centre Improvements		20,000.00	18,000.00
Capital cost		14,000.00	12,000.00
Revenue costs		6,000.00	6,000.00
Total City Centre Improvements Rev/Cap Split		20,000.00	18,000.00
Total Spend		175,000.00	135,000.00
Total Spend			
Additional Resources		85,335.00	85,300.00
Tools & Equipment		38,000.00	0.00
Enforcement and Education		31,665.00	31,700.00
City Centre Improvements		20,000.00	18,000.00
Total Spend		175,000.00	135,000.00

Cleaner Carlisle Action Plan 2012/13, Year 1 First Quarter

Appendix 2

	Action	How	When	Who
Education and Enforcement	Review Enviro-Crime Enforcement Policy including dog fouling, littering and fly tipping offences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Devise a new enforcement strategy, working with partners such as the Police, the CDRP and 	May to June 2012	Environmental Health
Education and Enforcement	Increase the Officer time spent on dog fouling, littering and fly tipping education and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use temporary funding to Increase the hours available to CNEO work in 2012 /13 ➤ Establish Education and Enforcement Team ➤ Employ two Education and Enforcement Officers 	April - June 2012	Environmental Health
Education	Targeted Educational campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ City wide poster and media campaign ➤ Stagecoach publicity ➤ Poster drops at vets 	Summer 2012	Environmental Services Environmental Health
Education	Door knocking and leaflet dropping following targeted enforcement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leaflet produced to back up face to face resident contact. 	From March 2012	Environmental Health
Education	Identify opportunities to educate and work with partners to improve responsible dog ownership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cooperate and initiate Media releases ➤ Continue to work with the PCT on educational initiatives ➤ Participate in educational activities (love Parks, Micro chipping) ➤ School and community group talks. ➤ Street walks and engagement exercises with dog walkers. 	From March 2012 –	Environmental Health
Enforcement	Targeted Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dog fouling and littering complaints to Environmental Health administration. 	From March 2012	Environmental Health

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Targeted times and areas for inspection decided each week. ➤ Two officers to spend a minimum of 2 hours policing the allocated area. ➤ 8 priority areas identified for increase surveillance ➤ Highly visible priority Surveillance signs purchased to be used in the 8 areas. 		
	Extend the numbers of officers able to serve fixed penalty notices (FPN).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Training extended to allow Officers in Local Environment to serve FPNs ➤ Training extended to allow Riverside Officers and PCSOs to serve FPNs. 	March 2012 tba	Local Environment
Enforcement	Collect stray dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue to collect and detain stray dogs via the Animal Refuge contract 	From April 2012	Environmental Health
Clean up City Centre	Cleanse the back line of footpaths to shop frontages	Dig out all backlines and clean thoroughly, prior to the removal of chewing gum	April 2012	Environmental Services
Clean up City Centre Deep clean	Clean all surfaces including the use of specialist equipment to remove the chewing gum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Carry out the work before and after the city centre is open for business and on Sundays 	April – June 2012	Environmental Services
Clean up Rapid Response	Respond to urgent response work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implement a rapid response team to respond to urgent response work. The team will be employed for 2 years whilst a programme of works is implemented 	April 2012 to March 2014	Environmental Services
Clean up Street Cleaning	Removal of dog fouling from public places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Purchase of new equipment specifically for removing dog fouling on streets ➤ Improve liaison between CNEO and Street Cleaning to target areas for speedy clean up. 	April 2012	Environmental Services
			From March 2012	Environmental Services and Environmental Health