

# Report to Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:  
**A.6**

Meeting Date: 20 April 2017  
 Portfolio: Environment and Transport  
 Key Decision: Not Applicable:  
 Within Policy and  
 Budget Framework NO  
 Public / Private Public

Title: UPDATE ON CLEAN CARLISLE  
 Report of: The Deputy Chief Executive  
 Report Number: CS 11/17

**Purpose / Summary:**

This report provides an update on the Clean Carlisle initiative.

**Recommendations:**

Report presented for information and comment.

**Tracking**

Executive:	
Overview and Scrutiny:	
Council:	

## 1.0 Background

1.1 Keep Carlisle Clean has been a local priority since 2012. To reinforce its commitment in this regard the City Council recently approved funding for the initiative as part of its core budget going forward from April 2017.

## 2.0 Revised branding: Keep Carlisle Clean

2.1 The Clean Carlisle initiative has recently been re-branded as Keep Carlisle Clean and Members will now start to see this branding consistently running through our signs and posters as we work to change behaviour and attitudes. The launch of the trial of dog-poo bag dispensers is one such example of the new branding.

## 3.0 Neat Streets

3.1 One year on from the start of the Neat Street initiative, we are pleased to report that the lanes remain largely free of litter and are generally tidy. Officers continue to monitor this and issues are tackled swiftly with residents. Going forward, this approach will be expanded to other areas meeting the criteria and we are aiming to move the project to the next stage to see how we can add further value through engaging further with the community and with local businesses with grants / sponsorship and other support.

## 4.0 Enforcement Action

4.1 The table below shows the number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued:

Offence	2015 - 16	2016-17
Dog fouling	17	9
Dog off lead	9	8
Littering	28	52
Fly-tipping	n/a	7
Waste receptacles	4	0
Vehicles for sale	0	1
Business 'duty of care'	3	2
Micro-chipping (notice)	n/a	35

4.2 The Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced power to issue community protection warnings (CPW) and community protection notices (CPN) to address anti-social behaviour issues in local areas. Warnings are issued as part of an awareness raising / educational approach and hopefully avoid the need to take

formal enforcement action should the desired improvement be made. This has been a beneficial tool when undertaking the Neat Street initiative.

	2016-17
Community Protection Warning	21
Community Protection Notices	1

## 5.0 Fly tipping

- 5.1 Our mobile CCTV continues to be deployed to hot-spot locations and together with the new signage has contributed to a dramatic reduction in fly-tipping in key areas. Success has already been achieved with a successful prosecution for fly-tipping. Further cameras and additional signs are being purchased as part of our new approach to tackling 'enviro-crime'.
- 5.2 To assist in the reduction of fly tipping, the Street Scene team has developed a new partnership with Riverside and supported five, pilot "Clean up days". This has generated income for the Council and had a positive impact on the local environment. It is expected that this partnership approach will be expanded for future, generating further income for the Council.

## 6.0 Enforcement Strategy

- 6.1 Members will be aware that the Street Scene and Enforcement Team formed in August 2016 through the merger of the previously separate Street Cleaning and Enforcement Teams. The team is currently developing an Enforcement Strategy for Carlisle to bring together all of our activities into a single plan as we work to tackle 'enviro-crime'. This will ensure that we:
- work to educate and inform residents and actively engage with our schools and young people
  - are raising awareness through effective campaigns and high profile patrols as we work to change the behaviour of the selfish minority that continue to litter, fly-tip or do not clean up after their dogs
  - make the best use of intelligence and target our resources on key priorities and in hot-spot areas where we can have maximum impact
  - are making the best use of available technology such as CCTV
  - take robust enforcement action and pursue those responsible through the courts when needed
- 6.2 Example actions include the:
- rebranding of the Enforcement Team to increase their presence / profile
  - deployment of CCTV and new signage in key areas to tackle fly-tipping
  - trial of dog-poo bag dispensers in two locations with the aim of rolling this out further
  - development of a dog-fouling campaign including new signs and high profile bus shelter campaign
  - focus on residents' duty of care

- better use of social media to raise awareness of our activity
  - **#keepcarlisleclean**
- Development of links with community groups to reduce reliance on the council
- Establishing partnerships eg with Community Payback, Riverside
- Using our tools and powers eg PSPO

## **7.0 Community Payback**

**7.1** As part of our commitment to Keep Carlisle Clean, we are engaging with ayback to utilise their service users to target clean-up activity in key areas at weekends. Typical activity may include litter-picking, weed removal, back lane clearance and clearing paths / country trails of litter and other waste. This trial will start in May.

## **8.0 Public Space Protection Orders**

**8.1** Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) were introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014. They are designed to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a particular area that is detrimental to the quality of life within the local community. A revised PSPO is currently being developed for Carlisle and is going through consultation with key partners. Subject to the outcome of consultation, its proposed headings include:

- Restricting the feeding of birds in towns and village centres.
- Prohibiting urinating, defecating and spitting in any public place
- Prohibit begging
- No canvassing of services or charities (without approval)
- Use of Skateboards, bicycles and scooters (in designated areas)
- Unauthorised distribution of printed leaflets/materials in the city centre and in our town and village centres as well as distributing leaflets in Council car parks
- The offering and distribution of periodicals for sale (unless authorised)
- Street entertainment and buskers not authorised by the Council.
- Persons who cause a nuisance to legitimate users in of the City Centre, public spaces and the skate park that cause distress, annoyance, harassment through shouting, swearing, anti-social behaviour and by congregating in groups where the behaviour may cause concern or may be seen as intimidating or threatening to others
- Persons in charge of a motor vehicle to cause, permit or allow a nuisance by driving the vehicle in a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment alarm or distress to any person, and behaving in a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment alarm or distress to any person.
- Dogs off a lead in cemeteries, dogs must also be kept under control at all times in designated areas
- No dogs allowed in enclosed play areas (designated areas)
- Failing to go equipped to clean up dog fouling

- Smoking, consuming alcohol, drug taking and solvent abuse in Play Areas
- No pavement advertising boards (“A boards”) unless authorised by the Council
- Restrict commercial waste collections within the City Centre

## **9.0 Clean-up Carlisle budget**

- 9.1** As above, this funding (£91,000) is now part of the Council’s core budget, securing this for future years supporting service planning and stability. The budget continues to support the employment of two street cleaning operatives who operate as the Rapid Response team responding to reports of fly-tipping, offensive graffiti and generally providing an additional flexible resource to meet emerging service demands. The budget also supports a dedicated vehicle and allows for further equipment to be purchased such as the CCTV cameras referred to.
- 9.2** Across the seasons, the budget also supports the hire of extra sweepers and temporary staff to support our response to leaf-fall.

## **10.0 Modernisation of the street cleaning service**

- 10.1** The street cleaning service has recently taken delivery of new, replacement mechanised sweepers that continue to improve the speed and effectiveness of our clean-up operations. A new 15ton road sweeper has recently been delivered with a further 15ton road sweeper expected in May. New sweepers for our city and town centres are also now in service, replacing the older and less reliable sweepers.
- 10.2** The service has also recently added a ‘weed-ripper’ to our arsenal which has already had an instant impact, improving the speed of our response and reducing the manual handling burdens on staff.
- 10.3** The team also operates different shift patterns across the day with teams providing cover later into the afternoon allowing us to respond to issues that emerge later in the day.

## **11.0 Community Clean-up**

- 11.1** We would like to take this opportunity to register our appreciation for the effort of all the volunteers and local community groups that have been so active in carrying out local litter-picks. We are keen to develop our links in this regard to facilitate further community involvement over and above the street cleansing services the council can provide.

## **12.0 Weed spraying programme**

- 12.1** The County Council is responsible for weed spraying in and around Carlisle. This service is contracted out to a private operator. We continue to liaise with the

County to ensure that any weed-spraying supports our Keep Carlisle Clean priority and follows the programme established.

### **13. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

**13.1** Scrutiny Panel is recommended to receive the report for information.

### **14.0 CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES**

**14.1** Continue to improve the quality of our local environment and green spaces so that everyone can enjoy living, working in and visiting Carlisle.

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**Appendices  
attached to report:**

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

### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS/RISKS:**

**Chief Executive's -**

**Deputy Chief Executive –**

**Economic Development –**

**Governance –**

**Local Environment –**

**Resources -**