

ENVIRONMENT PDG
14 MARCH 2023

Environment Enforcement: Quarterly performance update

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr Barry Warren, Cabinet Member for the Environment
Responsible Officer: Luke Howard, Environment and Enforcement Manager

Reason for Report: This report provides update on the quarter three performance in relation to Environment and Enforcement service.

Recommendation:

No recommendation required. This report is solely for note only.

Financial Implications: There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report.

Budget and Policy Framework: No additional budgetary requirements in relation to this report.

Legal Implications: The Authority has a statutory responsibility to fulfil investigation and enforcement into environmental crimes such as abandoned vehicles, littering, fly tipping and public space protection orders.

Risk Assessment: Risk assessments in relation to the role of district officer in place. No further risk assessment required

Equality Impact Assessment: There are no equality issues identified in this report.

Relationship to Corporate Plan: The service development is designed to align with corporate plan on reducing environmental crime issues within the district.

Impact on Climate Change: The report is focussed on advising how the service is actively working to reducing environmental crime. This will have a positive impact on climate and the corporate strategy relating to this.

1.0 Introduction and Education

- 1.1 Quarter 3 has seen the team continue the consistent performance from quarter 2. There has been a particular focus on supporting the launch of Bin It 1-2-3, providing education to residents on presentation of waste. Procedural changes and application toward fly tipping earlier in the year are now coming to fruition. The team are much more confident in their approach to tackling these issues and Q3 has seen a rise in individuals invited to interview under caution for the offence of fly tipping.
- 1.2 During Q3 the service has actively engaged and participated in community groups and third partner agency working, these include the local Policing teams, DVLA, NHS and MDH. Inclusion onto Operation Filename was a success. This is a multi-agency working group, set up by Devon and Cornwall Police to engage with hard to reach community groups. A particular focus of this operation is accessing communities, which all agencies predominantly

struggle to engage with. The service, along with waste and recycling representatives attended a forum at Two Sisters factory, Willand in an attempt to engage with individuals in relation to environmental crime and waste.

- 1.3 The service has also been engaging with local primary schools to highlight the impacts of littering, fly tipping and the benefits of recycling. During December 2022, the service attended Castle Primary school, Tiverton for an assembly with year groups 4, 5 and 6. The session was really engaging and it was pleasing to see plenty of questions asked. The service will be looking to expand this to other schools in the district throughout 2023.

2.0 Quarter Three Performance

- 2.1 The team continue to apply a consistent approach to car parking and this is reflected in the statistics. Overall the team have been proactive in tackling contraventions and non-payment. A particular focus on issues for out of hours parking took place in October and November. The main focus being on areas which are known to be frequented regularly post 6pm.

- 2.2 Revenue from pay and display machines is consistently around the £65k (see below table for monthly breakdown) region in Q3, this includes card and Ringo payments. This has generated an income via pay and display of £205,473.25 for the quarter. The team have experienced issues with battery life on the machines but all faults have been rectified in an expedient manner.

2.3 PCN Statistics Q3

PCN Statistics Q3 2019-2022				
	Q3 2019	Q3 2020	Q3 2021	Q3 2022
PCN's Issued	420	387	399	738
Recovery (paid before Warrant)	295	271	303	457
Written Off	76	64	56	89
Outstanding	49	52	40	192
Appeals	No Data	No Data	No Data	95

2.4 Machine Income Q3

Machine Income Q3 2022			
	Machine	Ringo	Total
October 22	£55,716,20	£15,593,55	£71,309,75
November 22	£53,033,65	£15,375,05	£68,408,70
December 22	£49,915.65	£15,839.15	£65,754.80

3.0 Abandoned Vehicles

- 3.1 The team continue to tackle issues relating to abandoned vehicles. Our proactivity in tackling issues is steadily seeing numbers of reported abandoned vehicles lessen. During Q3 a total of 80 abandoned vehicles were reported, with 63 not being present upon our attendance and 17 vehicles required action by the authority. Of these 17, 10 vehicles were moved by owners after receiving a 7 day removal notice and 7 vehicles were removed by MDDC contractors.
- 3.2 Four Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) have been issued in Q3 relating to abandonment of vehicles.

4.0 Littering and PSPO

- 4.1 During Q3 the team have conducted 80 patrols related to littering and Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO). These patrols have provided a great opportunity for engagement with members of the public, aiding in the service's desire to educate. Many members of the public have praised the team when they see them out and about within towns and known dog walking areas.
- 4.2 There were 7 FPNs issued for offences during Q3. These comprised of 4 relating to PSPO breaches and 3 for littering offences.

5.0 Fly tipping

- 5.1 A new found confidence within the team regarding fly tipping has seen 8 people invited to interview for fly tipping incidents. This resulted in 2 FPNs being issued, with the remainder providing sufficient explanation to account for the evidence relating to them.

6.0 Staffing Resource

- 6.1 The service is currently fully staffed. The District Officer team are now well established, with a good knowledge and understanding of legislation and process. The business support team are knowledgeable and have excellent understanding when dealing with appeals.
- 6.2 Ensuring the team are sufficiently equipped for their roles is always on going. The service is investigating training towards The Police and Criminal Evidence Act in relation to interviews under caution. Additional training to support knowledge and understanding is ongoing, with individual needs reviewed and addressed at regular one to one meetings.

Contact for more Information:

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Circulation of the Report:

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