

# No cost litter and dog fouling enforcement

## 1 Background

All Councils are under pressure to meet increasing community demands with fewer resources. Yet often the simplest low-level partnering approaches can produce some of the quickest most effective solutions.

Waverley is a beautiful place to live and work, and we want to work with you to help make it even better. Championing local issues, improving street cleanliness and providing high quality, value for money services are things that we at East Hampshire share with Waverley Borough Council.

Litter is the biggest countryside concern according to the CPRE 2015 survey. About 2.25 million pieces of litter are dropped on the streets of the UK every day. Thirty million tons of rubbish are collected from England's streets each year. That's enough to fill Wembley Stadium four times over.

## 2 The Challenge

The challenge is; how to the keeping the streets clean, without increasing costs, while enhancing the reputation of Waverley Borough Council.

## 3 No Cost Service

Aimed at providing a "no cost" service to the council, sharing revenue and returning any surplus back to the public purse, not into the pockets of shareholders, East Hampshire District Council has been running a litter enforcement trial.

The trial has been running successfully now for over a year. During this period, we have learnt that as community behaviours change for the better, we need to expand the reach of the trial for it to be able to deliver the desired results.

At no cost to Waverley Borough Council, the council are invited to join this low risk litter enforcement service trial.

## 4 Benefits

The benefits of joining the trial include:

- Cleaner streets
- Zero cost to Waverley Borough Council
- A high quality, agile & responsive service
- An outcome focussed partner with public sector values
- Minimal complaints
- Low risk approach
- Tangible evidence of delivery on council priorities
- Transparent approach

*Litter is the biggest countryside concern (CPRE Survey Jun 15)*

*No cost solution with any surplus returned to the public purse*

## 5 Easy to Join

Joining the trial is quick and simple. Utilising the “Discharge of Functions by Other Authorities” powers granted under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1997.

It is proposed that the trial would commence on 1 April 2018 and run for a period of 12 months after which, working together and based on the results of the trial, the Councils can decide how they wish to proceed.

For your consideration, a copy of the Agency Agreement dated 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 is attached.

## 6 Service Delivery

*Delivered by fully trained staff with the latest technology*

Using an experienced and fully qualified team, the service is delivered through EH Commercial Services Ltd, an EHDC wholly owned trading company: promoting innovation, commercial efficiencies and agility.

Waverley Borough Council will have a direct line of communication with Operations Manager, Michelle Green.

Working together with Michelle, Waverley Borough Council will maintain oversight of all operations. The team will use shared intelligence to inform geographical targeting and schedule patrols across the week.

Former police trainers are used to train all of the operatives. Training includes, evidence gathering, interview techniques and legislation including PACE.

The team have an average 87% payment rate and a 99% success rate for prosecutions. Income from Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) is shared and funds the trial.

Recognising that court prosecutions may be of interest to the media and therefore Councillors, the decision to prosecute will remain with Waverley Borough Council.

*Working together, with oversight and direct communications to operations*

Using the latest handheld technology and body worn cameras, with system driven escalation process, reminders and reports. The team provides a full Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) service for litter enforcement and dog fouling. This includes:

- Uniform and civilian clothed street patrols
- Issuing Fixed Penalty Notices
- Evidence capture
- Complaints management
- Preparation of witness statements
- Liaison with local businesses and owners
- Targeted enforcement for Council ‘hot spots’

Enforcement of other Public Space Protection Orders may also be considered.

Waverley Borough Council will be responsible for:

- Communications with the Public
- Any notices or signs
- Designation of hot spots and no go areas
- Collection of payments
- Summons and Court attendance

*Transparency and control through monthly reporting*

The Operations Manager, Michelle Green, will provide a monthly report detailing:

- Hours patrolled
- Number of FPN's issued (to include areas and roads issued in)
- Trends
- Complaints

It is also recommended that we conduct face to face quarterly reviews at Waverley Borough Council for coordination, communication and performance purposes.

### **Summary**

*Joining is quick and simple*

All Councils are under pressure to deliver with fewer resources. The Litter Enforcement trial offers a no cost, low risk opportunity for Waverley Borough Council to try a new way of working and deliver a strategic priority for its community.

Well-equipped, experienced professionals will deliver the service, with Council oversight maintained through transparency, working together, direct communications and monthly reporting. Joining is quick and simple and after 12 months, the Council will be able to review its approach.