
Decision Session – Cabinet Member for Homes & Safer Communities

7 July 2014

Report of the Assistant Director for Housing and Community Safety

Housing and Community Safety Legal Actions

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to enable the Cabinet Member for Homes & Safer Communities to review the results of legal actions (prosecutions, cautions and fixed penalties) undertaken by Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Licensing, the Regional Scambuster Team, and the National Trading Standards eCrime Centre as well as action taken by Housing Services for the period 1 October 2013 to 31 March 2014.

Background

2. In February 2012 the Cabinet Member for Crime and Stronger Communities approved an updated enforcement policy for Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Licensing, Street Environment and Enforcement Services.
3. This report details the results of legal action taken in the period 1 October 2013 to 31 March 2014. Each case is considered on its merits before legal proceedings are instituted.
4. Annexes A and B summarise the prosecutions completed, fixed penalty notices and simple cautions that have been issued. A simple caution is a Home Office approved procedure which is an alternative to prosecution. It involves a written acceptance that an offence has been committed and may be drawn to the attention of a court if any subsequent offence is committed within two years of issue. The Annexes also give details of the legal action taken by Housing Services.

Consultation

5. Not applicable.

Options

6. Not applicable as the Cabinet Member is being asked to note the content of the report.

Analysis

7. Not applicable.

Council Priorities

8. Three council priorities are “Protect jobs and grow the economy”, “Protect vulnerable people” and “Protect the environment”. Many legal actions are taken in support of these priorities.

Implications

9. The implications arising from this report are:

- **Financial:** There are no financial implications associated with this report.
- **Human Resources:** There are no Human Resources implications associated with this report.
- **Equalities:** There are no equalities implications associated with this report.
- **Legal:** There are no legal implications associated with this report
- **Crime and Disorder:** Formal enforcement action contributes to reducing anti social behaviour and dishonest trading.
- **Information Technology (IT):** There are no IT implications associated with this report.
- **Other:** There are no other implications associated with this report.

Risk Management

10. There are no known risks associated with this report.

Recommendations

11. That the Cabinet Member notes this report.

Reason: So that the Cabinet Member reviews formal enforcement activity undertaken by Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Licensing Services, the Regional Scambuster Team, the National Trading Standards eCrime Centre and Housing Services.

Contact Details

Authors:

Colin Rumford

Head of Public Protection
Phone: 551502

Matt Boxall

Trading
Standards Manager
Phone: 01904 551528

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Steve Waddington

Assistant Director (Housing and Community
Safety)

**Report
Approved**



Date 1st July 2014

Specialist Officer Implications: None

Wards Affected:

All



Background Papers:

Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Licensing, Street Environment and Enforcement Services Enforcement Policy (February 2012)

Annexes

Annex A: Housing and Community Safety Formal Enforcement Action between 1 October 2013 to 31 December 2013.

Annex B: Housing and Community Safety Formal Enforcement Action between 1 January 2014 to 31 March 2014.