

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet **DATE:** 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016  
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**PORTFOLIO:** Cllr Munawar –  
Commissioner for Social and Economic Inclusion

### **PART I** **NON-KEY DECISION**

#### **REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – LITTERING PROJECT**

##### **1. Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to ask Cabinet to note the recommendations of the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel (23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016).

##### **2. Matters contained in report**

The Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel discussed the potential extension of the littering enforcement project. This has been run by the Neighbourhood Manager Resilience & Enforcement Team, with Phase 1 of the project due for imminent completion.

The NCS Scrutiny Panel was asked to offer its support for one of two options:

- Termination of the project.
- Supporting the extension of the pilot in to Phase 2 for a further 6 months from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 16.

The Panel decided, by majority vote, to support the extension of the pilot. The decision will now be made by officers, and Cabinet is requested to note the Panel's support.

##### **3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

###### **3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

These recommendations relate to the following priority:

- Regeneration and Environment

###### **3b. Five Year Plan Outcomes**

These recommendations relate to the following outcomes:

1. Slough will be the premier location in the south east for businesses of all sizes to locate, start, grow and stay.

3. The centre of Slough will be vibrant, providing business, living and cultural opportunities.
4. Slough will be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley

#### 4 **Other Implications**

##### (a) Financial

This area of work is currently being resourced from self generated funds and from within existing budgets. Resources have not been agreed, nor has permission been given to fund the ongoing pilot. Therefore the current project is under notice to terminate at the end of March 2016.

Longer term we are considering service models that could income generate or support costings for further service delivery for Slough Borough Council, whilst providing an improved service for the community and a greater positive impact in line with our priorities and the 5 Year Plan.

##### (b) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no human rights act or other legal implications arising as a direct result of this report.

#### 5 **Supporting Information**

- 5.1 The pilot had failed to be self-financing but had provided successes in terms of environmental improvement. Phase 1 of the project involved patrols (mainly on Slough High Street) and the sharing of penalties paid between SBC and the contractor. Phase 2 (should it proceed) would see the contractor take full ownership of the process from beginning to end. However, the number of fines received had reduced as Phase 1 of the project progressed which led to its failure to self-finance.
- 5.2 The enforcement team had consulted with the Legal Department. In cases where the matter progressed to court, SBC would win the vast majority but the costs involved and the problems in recovering them made such an approach unviable.
- 5.3 No precise analysis of the environmental benefits of the project could be provided; any detailed investigation into litter levels on Slough High Street would be labour intensive. However, some preliminary investigations could be conducted. The Panel signalled their desire to see some research into the environmental benefits of the pilot undertaken.
- 5.4 SBC could not guarantee that the project would become self-financing.

#### 6 **Conclusion**

- 6.1 The Cabinet is asked to note the NCS Scrutiny Panel's decision and the rationale behind it.

#### 7 **Appendices**

None