



**Policy Finance and
Development
Committee**

22 July 2014

**Matter
for
Decision**

Title: **Corporate Enforcement and Prosecution Policy**

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1 Introduction

Corporate Enforcement is applicable to all regulatory matters within each service area of Oadby & Wigston Borough Council. To ensure a fair, efficient and consistent approach to enforcement and prosecution, a Corporate Enforcement and Prosecution Policy has been drafted.

2 Recommendations

That the policy attached is approved and adopted by the Policy, Finance and Development Committee for use across all the Council's regulatory services.

3 Information

A Corporate Enforcement Update was presented to the Service Delivery Committee on 8 July 2014 for information, which made mention of the draft Corporate Enforcement and Prosecution Policy.

Corporate enforcement is a vital aspect of the work of the Council and the Policy is necessary to ensure that there is a consistent approach taken by the Officers who make up the Council's Corporate Enforcement Team in dealing with the investigation, enforcement and subsequent prosecution of offences committed.

The policy provides an effective way of ensuring that residents, businesses and visitors to the Borough of Oadby & Wigston are protected where there has been a breach of regulation. The types of regulated activities covered under this policy are far reaching and include protection of residents from Anti-Social Behaviour, enforcement of breaches of Planning Control, regulation of private Landlord and Tenant relationships, prosecution of offences that may be committed under Food Safety legislation as well as prosecution of fraud offences and breaches of Social Security legislation. Environmental concerns, including littering offences and graffiti within the Borough are also regulated and encompassed within the ambit of the Policy. These activities are clearly relevant and of importance and go towards satisfying the Council's priorities namely enhancing the green environment of the Borough in pursuit of the Greening of the Borough strategy and working with the Police to create a safer Borough.

The Policy sets out the processes, aims and objectives of the Corporate Enforcement Team and details the way in which each case should be progressed. Through the Corporate Enforcement Team, the Council has in place a cohesive complaint handling and recording system with a Council wide unity in the way formal enforcement action is considered and actioned. This in turn ensures that there is no discrimination or bias in the way in which enforcement of regulatory activities is approached. Compliance with the Policy will ensure that economic interests of residents and businesses are best served by Oadby & Wigston Borough Council as well as an individual's health and safety and general wellbeing, be they a resident of the Borough or a visitor.

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Implications	
Equalities (CA)	An EIA assessment has been undertaken on the policy
Financial (PL)	The issue of FPN's will give rise to an increase in revenue income
Legal (CA)	A policy to assist the uniform investigation, enforcement and prosecution of regulatory offences
Risk (CA)	CR4 – reputation damage, CR6 – Regulatory Governance