



Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Thursday, 06 June 2019	Matter for Information
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Report Title: **Environmental Health Update (Q4 2018/19)**

Report Author(s): **Tony Cawthorne (Regulatory Services Manager)**

Purpose of Report:	To update Committee on the work undertaken by the Environmental Health Section during quarter 4 of 2018/19.
Report Summary:	This report provides information on the progress of routine work and projects within the current Project Plan relevant to Environmental Health. Matters for discussion expand on the themes and subjects previously reported to the Committee.
Recommendation(s):	That the content of the report and appendix be noted.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	David Gill (Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Tony Cawthorne (Regulatory Services Manager) (0116) 257 2670 tony.cawthorne@oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Corporate Objectives:	Providing Excellent Services (CO3)
Vision and Values:	Accountability (V1) Teamwork (V3) Customer Focus (V5)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Financial:	The implications are as set out at paragraphs 2.5 of this report.
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. Click to select EA screening.
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	None.

Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	1. Copy of Report entitled 'Review of the Pest Control and Dog Warden Services (June 2019)' to Service Delivery Committee on 4 June 2019

1. Environmental Health Staffing

- 1.1 A new Regulatory Services Manager has been appointed to manage the Licensing and Environmental Health Departments. This appointment was an internal appointment and no replacement has been made to backfill this position.
- 1.2 A highly competent Agency member of staff is covering a maternity leave position in the team leading to work being undertaken in several areas, which has previously not been able to be undertaken due to staffing levels.
- 1.3 A Student from Wolverhampton University has a placement with the Environmental Health team and attends on a bi-weekly basis and is being taken on visits and exposed to matters relating to environmental health to supplement their training at university and as they become competent will be undertaking service requests.

2. Dog Kennelling and Dog Warden Service

- 2.1 The Council's dog kennelling and dog warden service was put out to tender following a review of the pest control service, dog kennelling and dog warden services. This was as a result of a request by the Service Delivery Committee on the 27 June 2017, to undertake the review.
 - 2.2 As a result of the review, a full financial report was sent to Service Delivery Committee on the 4 June 2019. A copy of this report is attached at **Appendix 1**.
 - 2.3 The awarding of the contract to College Garth Ltd who undertake the service for Leicestershire Police, Leicestershire Social Services, Leicester City Council and all other Leicestershire Authorities except Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, brings all the dog warden services under a single operator.
- 3.** College Garth will undertake proactive patrols of parks and controlled spaces under the Council's Public Space Protection Order, which was brought into force on 24 September 2018. All members of staff employed by the company wear body cams for the purposes of evidence gathering and are authorised to issue Fixed Penalty Notices on behalf of the Council. Non-payment of a FPN will lead to a prosecution.
- 3.1 The financial projection for this service is that it will reduce the costs of this statutory duty on the Council and is expected to make a saving of approximately £15,000.

4. Abandoned Vehicles

- 4.1 The Council has received 33 notifications of abandoned vehicles this quarter. Following investigation by Officers, involving contacting registered keepers and informal notices placed on vehicles, of the 33 vehicles reported, only 1 case required formal Officer Intervention and firm enforcement, resulting in the vehicle being towed and destroyed.

5. Pest Control

- 5.1 The table below compares the cases in quarter 4 for 2017/18 and 2018/19 and shows the

decline in activity due to the inclement weather in the rat population and the increase in Bedbug activity

Pest Type	Q4 Cases 2017/18 (1/1/18 to 31/3/18)	Q4 Cases 2018/19 (1/1/19 to 31/3/19)
Rats	28	24
Mice	7	9
Fleas	2	1
Cockroaches	0	0
Wasps	1	2
Bedbugs	1	4
Squirrels	1	2

- 5.2 The Pest Control Service now operates 6 Contracts across the Borough including catering premises, residential homes and a hostel.
- 5.3 Following a review of the pest control service as a result of a request by the Service Delivery Committee on the 27 June 2017.
- 5.4 As a result of the review, a full financial report was sent to Service Delivery Committee on the 4 June 2019.

6. Fly-Tipping and Littering

- 6.1 During this last quarter, there have been 20 reports of fly-tipping and following investigation by Officers only 3 were actually Fly Tips, no formal action was taken, due to any identifiable material within the fly tip being found. There were 3 littering cases. No FPN's were issued in quarter 4.

7. Food Hygiene Inspections

- 7.1 The acquisition of additional resources to tackle the back-log of inspections was identified and sourced to ensure that we were compliant with Food Standard Agency expectations by March 2019. Performance against projected outturns are regularly reviewed and adjusted to ensure the timely completion of the current inspection programme.
- 7.2 86 visits were undertaken in Q4 leaving four premises outstanding due to access issues. These will be completed in the first quarter of 2019/20.
- 7.3 The results are summarised below and can also be found on the Council's website and a full list of premises within Oadby and Wigston Borough Council and their Food Hygiene Ratings (FHR) can be found on the [Food Standard Agency's webpage](#).
- 7.4 To date, the total number of food premises in the Food Hygiene Rating (FHR) Scheme is 350. This number fluctuates due to closures and new businesses.
- 7.5 Those with a Food Hygiene Rating of three or above are broadly compliant. The remaining 7 properties are receiving increased visits from Environmental Health Officers one premise has been voluntary closed and new owners are refurbishing the venue.

FHR	No. of Businesses attaining Score
5	263
4	36
3	18
2	3
1	3
0	1

8. Other Enforcement Matters

- 8.1 The Department has been involved in the investigation of two illegal Houses in Multiple occupation and these have resulted in working with the Police and unearthing Modern Day slavery issues. Prosecution cases are being prepared
- 8.2 There are two further prosecution files being completed, one for a breach of a Court order for keeping dog muzzled in a public place and one for the breach of a Community Protection Notice cases. Both cases are ongoing.