

SUBJECT:	PUBLIC PROTECTION 2015/16 PERFORMANCE REPORT
MEETING:	Strong Communities Select Committee
DATE:	21st July 2016
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To undertake scrutiny of service delivery and performance across Public Protection in 2015/16. The Public Protection division comprises of Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Licensing.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To consider and comment on the contents of the attached report – Appendix A - entitled ‘Public Protection Performance report for the year 2015/16.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 Cabinet approved a report in March 2014 recommending budget reductions to Public Protection services for 2014/15 and the coming years. The reduction amounted to £140,000, representing a 7.2% staff decrease. The impact of this reduction was scrutinised by this Committee in November 2014, prior to a report going to Cabinet on 7th January 2015. At this time, Cabinet requested regular six month reports to Strong Communities committee to monitor performance and assess any negative impacts. The intention was to review progress and take any action deemed necessary.
- 3.2 The last performance report was submitted to this Committee on 14th September 2015.
- 3.3 The attached report summarises performance over the last financial year, 2015/16, and highlights the following -
- The four service teams, for the vast majority of the services they deliver, meet the Authority’s legal obligations in relation to Public Protection services.
 - There has been some decline in closing complaints within Public Health, for example concerning noise and other statutory nuisance cases.
 - Six monthly reports will continue to be made to this Committee to assess the impact of budget reductions on Public Protection performance.
 - Recent audits, by Wales Audit Office and Food Standards Agency Wales, indicate current performance is satisfactory within Environmental Health, but the service would

struggle to take on any new statutory duties that protect the public and the environment.

4. REASONS:

- 4.1 The Cabinet decision log from 7th January 2015 states:- 'Noting the continually changing legislative landscape in the future, it was decided Strong Communities Select Committee would receive six monthly performance reports on Public Protection services'.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

None as a consequence of this report.

6. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

Assessments were previously completed for the Cabinet report 7th January, 2015. This report only serves to update the position in relation to performance, and therefore does not require a further assessment.

7. CONSULTEES:

SLT
Cabinet Members
Chairs of Select committees

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Report to Cabinet, 7th January 2015, entitled 'Review of Service Delivery in Public Protection Department'.

9. AUTHOR:

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