

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC PROTECTION 2016/17 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**MEETING: Strong Communities Select Committee**

**DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All**

**1. PURPOSE:**

- 1.1 To undertake scrutiny of service delivery across Public Protection services in 2016/17, with comparison to previous years. The Public Protection division comprises of Environmental Health, Trading Standards & Animal Health and Licensing.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 To consider and comment on the contents of the attached report – Appendix A - entitled ‘Public Protection Performance report 2016/17’.
- 2.2 Members focus on a limited number of topics at future committees, say two or three, to provide further value to service prioritisation. Officers will be guided by Members as to their particular areas of interest.

**3. KEY ISSUES:**

- 3.1 Cabinet approved a report in March 2014 recommending budget reductions to Public Protection services for 2014/15 and subsequent years. In January 2015 Cabinet asked for Public Protection performance to be reviewed regularly by this Committee to assess any negative impacts. As a consequence six monthly reports have been provided to Strong Communities Select committee, together with annual reports to Licensing & Regulatory committee.
- 3.2 The attached report summarises performance over the twelve months of 2016/17, 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 have been some notable successes in 2016/17, for example improving food safety and animal feed compliance, supporting major developments (A465) and events (Eisteddfod, Abergavenny Food Festival, etc.).
  - As detailed in Appendix A, most proactive and reactive work is being carried out professionally, within prescribed response times. There are only a few exceptions, due

to increased demand, eg. some slippage in housing and private water inspections, which will be improved for 2017/18.

- Annual reports will continue to be made to this Committee to assess performance over time, and help inform future priorities noting the competing demands.
- Services may struggle to take on any new statutory duties that protect the public and the environment, and therefore funding must be sought to support any new work. In addition, where work is onerous on Officer time, funding will be pursued from major developers, etc.
- Future strategies for sustaining Public Protection services will be developed, (to include further income generation and collaboration), locally, regionally and nationally.

#### **4. REASONS:**

- 4.1 The Cabinet decision log from 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015 stated:- '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'. This is supplemented by an annual report to Licensing & Regulatory committee.

#### **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 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2015. This report only serves to update the position in relation to performance two year on, and therefore does not require a further assessment.

#### **7. CONSULTEES:**

Public Protection service managers  
Chief Officer, Social Care & Health

#### **8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

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

#### **9. AUTHOR:**

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