

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities)

Date: 14th November 2011

Subject: Dog Control Orders – Phase 2 Project – Scrutiny Comments

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. It was agreed in June 2011 that the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board should play an active part in analysing the proposed options arising from the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project before approval is sought from the Executive Board in December 2011 to implement further Dog Control Orders. In view of the need to conclude this piece of work by November, it was agreed that this would be considered via working group meetings to which all Board Members would be invited to attend.
2. This piece of work has now concluded and the attached draft report summarises the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board in relation to the proposals arising from the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project. Members are asked to consider and formally agree the attached report. Once agreed, this report will be forwarded to the directorate in order to inform the report to Executive Board on this matter in December.

Recommendations

3. Members are asked to consider and agree the attached draft report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board in relation to the proposals arising from the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To present the draft report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board in relation to the proposals arising from the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project.

2 Background information

- 2.1 During 2008/2009, the former Environment and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board conducted a review of dog fouling enforcement. In conclusion, the Board issued a statement in February 2009 setting out its conclusions and recommendations. One of the recommendations stipulated exploring the use of additional Dog Control Orders in Leeds.
- 2.2 A multi-agency Project Board was set up in 2009 to consider the options for adopting Dog Control Orders and develop an action plan for progressing the Orders. It was agreed that the project for delivery would be undertaken via a two stage process. Phase 1 of the project was approved by Executive Board in November 2010.
- 2.3 In June 2011, it was agreed that the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board should play an active part in analysing the proposed options arising from the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project before approval is sought from the Executive Board in December 2011 to implement further Dog Control Orders.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Following public consultation on the proposals in line with the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project, the Scrutiny Board was invited to analyse the consultation results and provide comment on these proposals before formal approval is sought from the Executive Board in December 2011.
- 3.2 The attached draft report provides details of these specific proposals and summarises the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board for Members' consideration and agreement at today's meeting.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 In view of the need to conclude this piece of work by November, it was agreed that this would be considered via working group meetings to which all Board Members would be invited to attend. Lead officers within Environment and Neighbourhoods attended both working group meetings to contribute to the discussions.
- 4.1.2 An initial working group meeting was held on 18th August 2011 to enable Scrutiny Members to gain a better understanding of the aims of the Phase 2 project and who has been targeted as part of the consultation process. A second working group meeting was held on 21st October 2011 to consider the initial findings from the Phase 2 consultation process, which concluded on 14th October 2011.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 An Equality Impact Assessment of Phase 2 of the project has been completed.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The proposed new Orders will contribute to the City Priority Plan of Best City for Communities by helping to effectively tackle anti-social behaviour and ensuring neighbourhoods are clean.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 The attached draft report makes specific reference to issues surrounding the enforcement of Dog Control Orders.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 The process of making and amending, advertising and enforcing Dog Control Orders is undertaken in a manner compliant with regulations made under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 1990 to ensure the orders are legally enforceable.

4.5.2 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 The views of the Scrutiny Board will need to be agreed at today's meeting in order to inform the report to Executive Board in December.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board was asked to play an active part in analysing the proposed options arising from the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project before approval is sought from the Executive Board in December 2011 to implement further Dog Control Orders.

5.2 This piece of work has now concluded and the attached draft report summarises the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board for Members consideration and agreement. Once agreed, this report will be forwarded to the directorate in order to inform the report to Executive Board on this matter in December.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Members are asked to consider and agree the attached draft report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board in relation to the proposals arising from the Phase 2 Dog Control Orders project.

7 Background documents

7.1 None used.