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Supplementary Information for 8th March 2010 Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)

Item 8 Dog Fouling Enforcement – Dog Control Orders Update

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Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)

Date: 8th March 2010

Subject: Dog Fouling Enforcement – Dog Control Orders Update

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Background

- 1.1 During 2008/2009, the Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods) conducted a review on Streetscene in the City. Arising from this review the board issued a Statement in February 2009 setting out conclusions and recommendations with regard to dog fouling and dog control.
- 1.2 At Scrutiny Board meeting on Monday 8th February 2010, Members made specific reference to the Multi Agency Project Board that was set up to consider the options for adopting Dog Control Orders and it was agreed a further update regarding the Projects Board's proposals/action plan for progressing with the Dog Control Orders would be provided at March Scrutiny Board Meeting.
- 1.3 A progress report is now detailed below.

Activity Undertaken

- 1.4 Members will be aware that the Project Board have reviewed the original Project Timeline and concluded that due to resource constraints faced by all Project Board Members, Dog Control Orders will be implemented in a two stage process, to facilitate early delivery of the overall project. Phase 1 of the project will include a walking Multiple Dogs Orders, Dogs on Leads By Direction Order (applying to all LCC Land and Highways) and Exclusion Orders (schedule of land to be confirmed).
- 1.5 The Dog Control Order (DCO) Project Board met on Tuesday 2nd March 2010. In attendance were officers from Health and Environmental Action Service, Legal Services, Environmental Services (Streetscene) and Strategic Landlord (on behalf of the ALMO's).

- 1.6 Education Leeds were also in attendance at the meeting. Due to other commitments, Education Leeds had not been previously represented at meetings. It was proposed by the Board to include school playing fields within the Exclusion Order under Phase 1 of the Project.
- 1.7 With regards to exclusion zones, further consideration is needed to determine the consultation mechanism for Education Leeds land, whether this can be conducted centrally or whether individual school governing committees would need to be approached. In addition, there are other schools governing bodies, such as Faith Schools and PFI run schools, who may also need approaching separately. The Education Leeds representative on the Board is seeking clarification on this before the next board meeting.
- 1.8 Though the board is keen to include school land in Phase 1 of the project, it is mindful that a prolonged consultation process could impact on the timetable for implementing Phase 1 dog control orders city wide. Once clarification has been received from Education Leeds, the board will consider options for progressing on school land.
- 1.9 Education Leeds have agreed to supply the locations and maps for all schools affected.
- 1.10 Parks and Countryside are currently finalising the details and maps for Exclusion Areas in parks to be included in Phase 1 of the project. Parks and Countryside have proposed that any sites currently under development to be included, as they will be operational by the time the orders are enacted.
- 1.11 The DCO Board also discussed the consultation plan for the Orders. The Council's consultation portal "Talking Point" will be used as an online forum for collating responses to the project, in addition to other methods. The draft wording is complete and will be considered by the Board before the next meeting. It is proposed that an email and dedicated web address will also be available.

Conclusions

- 1.12 The DCO Project Timescale is on schedule and the Advertisement of Intent is due to be published in the media early May 2010, following which full consultation will commence.