

## **HEALTH & COMMUNITY PROTECTION**

### **Portfolio Holder Statement Half-Year Update for 2014/15**

#### **1. What have the measures in the Portfolio Holder Statement told you about how things are going in the service during 2014/15?**

1.1 As indicated in last years' statement, measures were revised following the Service Area restructure. Whilst some measures remained the same, others were changed and will not be directly comparable with previous years' data.

1.2 Overall the service is performing well and last years' restructure has proved successful in delivering outcomes as well as meeting performance targets.

1.3 It should be noted that on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Employment Committee agreed a further change to the structure of the department. The impact of this is that the Community Partnership Team joins the service and the Bereavement Services section transfer to Neighbourhood Services, as from the Committee date.

1.4 The new service structures have enabled improved cross function working in areas such as licensing, safer communities and noise nuisance/anti-social behaviour.

They have also enabled good progress to be made on the main strategic priorities for which the service is responsible for; Health & Wellbeing, Safer Communities and Sustainability.

#### **2. Which measures were of particular interest or concern during the period and what have you learnt about your systems from these measures?**

2.1 The level of compliance with food safety standards remains high, with the percentage of food businesses which are 'broadly compliant' remaining above 90%. The percentage of food businesses with a '5' score for Food Hygiene has remained above 67% for each month, which is an improvement on last year.

2.2 We have carried out the first of a new programme of taxi inspections. This was a very successful joint venture with the Police, vehicle inspectors etc. The results, with 60% compliance, give us a good baseline for future assessment.

2.3 The level of violent crime is falling overall although it should be noted that the way in which it is recorded this year has changed.

2.4 The percentage of licensed premises which are compliant with their conditions has increased through the year.

2.5 Our performance for response and completion times to service requests has been slightly down on previous years. This was anticipated as a result of the restructure.

- 2.6 The number of exceedances of air quality standards emphasises that air quality remains a high profile issue within the district.

**3. What have you done to date as a result of learning from these measures?**

- 3.1 A programme of service improvement through use of new 'mobile' technology has been planned.
- 3.2 Improved systems are being introduced within the Licensing Section e.g. scanning of file records to enable more flexible working.
- 3.3 The new arrangements for premises and taxi inspection proved successful and these will be continued with.
- 3.4 We have been working with WCC Transport Planners, Public Health and our own Planning Policy on the Warwick & Leamington Area Transport Strategy to address air quality issues. The Council adopted new air quality planning guidance in April and we are currently awaiting the outcome of grant applications to DEFRA to take forward further projects.

**4. What has been the impact of what you have done to date?**

- 4.1 New systems for checking compliance with licensed premises conditions are beginning to deliver good results. This is to the benefit of customers and helps to drive up standards across the licensing sector.
- 4.2 A good relationship has developed with Public Health at Wark CC towards health improvement. Roll out of the health & wellbeing for staff.
- 4.3 Joint working of our new team, the Police and Housing Tenancy Officers has proved effective in dealing with anti-social behaviour and alcohol misuse.
- 4.4 Good progress has been made with regard to the sustainability agenda. We have been successful with a match-funded grant from the Dept for Energy & Climate Change to investigate the potential in the area for district heating networks.

**5. What else do you plan to do as a result of learning from these measures?**

- 5.1 The ability to report trend data has been limited by the availability of staff resource. We have attempted to recruit to a vacant part time role but this has been unsuccessful to date. The post is being advertised again. Part of the duties for this job would be the collection and reporting of performance data.

**6. Of your key projects (as identified in your portfolio holder statement) how many were completed and how many are not? Of those that were not completed please indicate what the revised dates are.**

Project	Progress	Original milestones	Revised milestones
Develop Climate Change/ Sustainability Strategic Approach	An officer has been in post for 6 months. Good progress is being made on reviewing systems and supporting current work, including planning.	Report in October 2014	A report to SMT is planned for 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov. A report is on the Forward Plan for Executive for December 2014
FFF Project – Review of energy consumption at Council buildings	Included within the strategic approach to sustainability	Oct 2014	Report to December Exec 2014
Investigate feasibility of 'Purple Flag' scheme for Leamington, including undertaking a Peer review of our community safety services	In hand	Report in March 2015	
Improvement of Oakley Wood Crematorium continuation of works	<p>Works to improve the Lodge have been completed and the new offices are in use.</p> <p>Signing contracts for North Chapel and car park expected by the end of October 2014.</p> <p>Changes to car park layout caused some delay and need to seek further funding</p>	<p>Commence construction of car park and improvements to offices by March 2013.</p> <p>Completion of North Chapel extension and South Chapel waiting room by March 2015</p>	<p>Commencement of next phase of works expected in November 2014.</p> <p>Completion mid 2015</p> <p><b>NB. This project transfers to Neighbourhood Services from November 2014</b></p>
Completion of flood alleviation scheme at Cubbington	Project on target for completion within budget.	<p>Planning Permission July 12</p> <p>On Site August 2013</p> <p>Finish July 2014</p>	<p>Major site works completed during the summer</p> <p>Completion of</p>

			land easements and compensation for loss of crops by end of financial year.
Work with Environment Agency to assess further flood alleviation schemes	With Environment Agency St John's, Warwick has been identified as a potential scheme.  Assessment work in progress.	Report on assessment by June 2014.	Completion of assessment work by Mar 2015.  Further deadlines yet to be agreed with EA
Implementation of service improvements following service re-design – changes to 'out of hours'	Completed		

**7. Does your Service Area Plan/Portfolio Holder Statement need to be amended? If so, please describe the changes.**

Yes. The plan will need to be updated to take account of the changed responsibilities, i.e. with Bereavement Service moving out and Community Partnership team moving in.