

NOTES FROM THE ENFORCEMENT PERFORMANCE SUB GROUP OF 6TH AUGUST 2007

Present: Cllr E Eastwood (in the Chair); G Garrity; J Jackson
Cllr G Clements (Deputy Leader – Promoting Prosperity)

Officers: T Magean; S Bishop; N White

Enforcement Services Performance

The Sub Group considered the performance of the Environmental Services Unit across all its services so far in 2007.

The Sub Group noted that the collection rate for the payment of off street and on street fines was currently at 62.29%. Whilst the national average was 60% the aim was to achieve 70%.

It was noted that 1,100 DPE tickets had been issued so far this year and this was on target with last year's performance. However the recovery rate for the tickets had decreased over the last three years. Officers were requested to continue to monitor this figure and ascertain how it compared with the other authorities in Cumbria.

The Sub Group considered the number of section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 notices for Inadequate Domestic Waste Provision that had been issued. It was felt that consistent refuse collection times would help to reduce these incidences.

The Sub Group further noted the level of staff sickness that still remained but that issuing of on street tickets was getting back to the levels that were targeted.

The Sub Group considered the expected deadlines for the car parking and markets tendering exercise. It felt that it would be useful to have a detailed explanation of the stall holders in Whitehaven market at its next meeting.

Financial Reporting

The Sub Group considered the 2007-08 budgets for Enforcement Services. It noted that the Council contributed £93,516 from its base budgets towards the operation of the unit. The Unit had though to receive £453,615 in income to meet this figure. If it did not meet this target the council had to meet any shortfall.

The Sub Group considered in detail how each of the service budgets worked and the respective service level agreements each service had with other departments

in the council. It noted that more information on the detail of these budgets would be submitted to future meetings.

The Sub Group noted that there may be scope for some services to be shared with other authorities although it was unclear at this stage which services would be involved.

The Sub Group further noted that changes in the Road Traffic Act would create a new two tier parking fine system that could significantly affect the income that local authorities would be able to get from parking fines.

Next Meeting

The Sub Group agreed that its next meeting will be on Monday 24 September 2007 at 2.00pm in the Council's offices.