



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot  
Neath Port Talbot Council

## **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Streetscene and Engineering Scrutiny Committee**  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**Report of the Head of Streetcare – Mike Roberts**

### **Matter for Information**

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

### **Pest Control Monitoring Report**

#### **Purpose of the Report:**

To provide an update on the Pest Control Service as requested.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Pest Control Service is a non-statutory function which was previously significantly subsidised and as such has been subject to savings strategies under previous forward financial plans.

Changes to staff levels, responsibilities, fees and charges have now reduced the subsidy and the service is expected to break even in 2020/21. There is no cost increase proposed for next year.

#### **Background:**

In 2016, the Pest Control Service transferred from Environmental Health to Streetcare Services.

The Authority has certain statutory duties in relation to the handling of stray dogs whilst the Pest Control Service is an entirely non-statutory service. Both services were heavily subsidised for many years.

There have been several changes introduced to reduce the subsidy of the service, the first being the amalgamation of Pest Control with the Dog Warden Service, which followed the transfer to Streetcare in 2016. Furthermore, as part of subsequent forward financial plans, fees and charges were increased including a significant rise last year.

Comparative figures for service requests and income for the first six months of 2018 and 2019 are given below.

Period	No of service requests for pest control	Income
1/4/2018-30/9/2018	704	£31,600.80
1/4/2019-30/9/2019	348	£29,587.40

Whilst the income level has remained on a par, staff resources allocated to delivering the service has been reduced commensurate with demand and consequently the service is expected to financially break even in 2020/21 with no increase in fees and charges next year. The previous saving strategies have therefore resulted, as intended, in the subsidy reducing to zero and securing the service going forward.

It is noted the Pest Control Officers also carry out enforcement of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949s4. In relation to overgrown gardens/waste in gardens.

**Financial Impacts:**

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

**Equality Impact Assessment:**

There are no equality impacts associated with this report; for information only.

**Workforce Impact:**

There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

**Legal Impact:**

There are no legal impacts associated with this report; for information only.

**Risk Management:**

There are no risk management issues associated with this report; for information only.

**Consultation:**

There is no requirement as the report is for information only.

**Appendices**

Nil

**List of Background Papers**

Nil

**Appendices:**

Nil

**List of Background Papers:**

None.

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