

Committee(s): Environment, Enforcement and Housing Committee	Date: 8 December 2020
Subject: Corporate Enforcement Annual Report	Wards Affected: All
Report of: Tracey Lilley, Director of Enforcement & Housing	Public
Report Author/s: Name: Daniel Cannon Telephone: 01277 312692 E-mail: daniel.cannon@brentwood.gov.uk	For Decision

Summary

This report is the second Annual Report on the activities and operations of the Corporate Enforcement team and focuses on the period from 1st October 2019 to 31st September 2020.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- R1. Members approve and note the contents of the Annual Report contained in Appendix A and authorise the Director of Housing and Enforcement to make the report publicly available to increase the visibility and knowledge of enforcement activities**
- R2. Members instruct officers to continue to review and measure the quantity and effectiveness of enforcement activities carried out within the various services and report annually on outcomes**

Main Report

Introduction and Background

1. Brentwood Borough Council established a Corporate Enforcement team in October 2017 with the aim of improving the effectiveness and integrated partnership working between Council services and outside organisations undertaking a range of enforcement activities.
2. The core team comprises four officers already working in various services within the Council who received additional training, including obtaining the Community Safety Accreditation (CSAS), TruCam Speed Camera Training and Civil Enforcement Officer (CEO) training to provide additional powers so that a wider range of enforcement activities can be carried out.

3. The second Annual Report is attached as Appendix A and provides information on the performance and activity of the team over the last year.
4. The Enforcement Officers have focused on providing an effective and integrated approach to enforcement, ensuring that we maximise opportunities to collaborate with in-house and external colleagues.
5. The principles of the Regulators Code apply to the enforcement activities carried out by the Council. Under the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006, the Council has a duty to carry out regulatory activities in a way which is transparent, accountable, proportionate and consistent, and for them to be targeted only at cases in which action is needed. In no circumstances should enforcement be used as a means to generate income.

Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

6. Local authorities have various duties to carry out, enforcement is sometimes necessary to ensure compliance with legal requirements.
7. The Council has chosen to establish a Corporate Enforcement team to try to improve the effectiveness of enforcement and encourage inter-agency co-operation.
8. The publication of an annual report will enable Members to comment on the activities of the Enforcement team and provide wider public awareness of enforcement action taken.

Reasons for Recommendation

9. The report is principally for information purposes and to improve the transparency of the activities carried out.

Consultation

10. None

References to Corporate Plan

11. Community and Health
Provide advice, support, guidance and enforcement
Work with partners to reduce anti-social behaviour and ensure that Brentwood is a safe place to live
Support our most vulnerable residents to feel safe

Encourage thriving and engaged communities

Make Brentwood a Borough where people feel safe, healthy and supported

Implications

Financial Implications

Name/Title: Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Director of Corporate Resources

Tel/Email: 01277 312500/jacqueline.vanmellaerts@brentwood.gov.uk

No direct financial implications are contained within this report. The resources of the Enforcement team are managed through the Council's existing Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Amanda Julian, Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

Tel & Email: 01277 312500/amanda.julian@brentwood.gov.uk

The Council has statutory powers and obligations within an existing legal framework to conduct a range of enforcement activities. The recommendations will support the Council in securing compliance with those statutory duties and managing risk.

Economic Implications

Name/Title: Phil Drane, Director of Planning and Economy

Tel/Email: 01277 312500/philip.drane@brentwood.gov.uk

There are no economic implications.

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

Background Papers

None

Appendices to this report

Appendix A: Corporate Enforcement Annual Report