

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

**Environment & Housing Management Committee**

**Street Inspector**

**Report of:** Roy Ormsby – Head of Street Scene

**Wards Affected:** All wards

**This report is:** Public

**1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 At Ordinary Council on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 a revised budget was approved, which included the addition of a Street Inspector for the Borough. The additional funding shows a clear intention to make the street scene across the Borough a priority for the Administration.
- 1.2 The Street Inspector will work with Members, and have a clear remit to use the resources of the Neighbourhood Action Team, and when appropriate the Highway rangers. This will provide the resources to identify issues and ensure that they are addressed.
- 1.3 The Inspector will play a community engagement role for the Council, and work with residents and businesses to identify ways of improving the public realm. This will mean liaising with key partners, and working with them to identify ways of enhancing the environment.
- 1.4 The Inspector will play a proactive role in keeping our streets clean and well maintained, and will liaise with Officers across the Council to improve the public realm around the Borough.

**2. Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 That Members agree to the appointment of a Street Inspector for the Borough.**

**3. Introduction and Background**

- 3.1 There is a clear commitment from the Administration to enhance the cleanliness of the Borough. This will be delivered through the appointment of the Street Inspector, who will have a clear remit to direct

resources from the Neighbourhood Action Team to deliver priorities across the Borough.

- 3.2 The post holder will develop working relationships with key partners, and try to identify how public realm issues can be enhanced and delivered in partnership with others.
- 3.3 There is a need to work with local residents regarding two current challenges for the Council. This is the increase in flytipping, and the need to work with residents on the early presentation of household waste at the curbside.
- 3.4 There has been a substantial increase in flytipping across the Borough, but particularly in the rural areas. The Inspector will work with Officers from Street Scene and Environmental Health to take a more proactive role in reducing this problem. There will be a focus on enforcement, and taking a stance against those that are abusing our environment.
- 3.5 Litter on some of our streets is an issue, especially after bin collections. It has been identified that a number of residents present their waste the night before collection, which is leading to vermin splitting bags to access the contents, and meaning waste is being spread along our streets.
- 3.6 Although the report highlights two key issues there are others that need to be addressed. The public realm is the main focus of this role, which is the key issue that impacts on our residents and visitors to the area. The role will evolve over time, and priorities will change as challenges are addressed, and the focus move to other areas.
- 3.7 This will see a change in the role of the Neighbourhood Action Team, who will focus on the key issues of the Borough, which may see them move away from the programmed work they currently do. This will however, make better use of the resources available, and focus on Borough priorities that make a real difference to local people.
- 3.8 Although the Borough is generally clean and well presented, this is an important role to ensure this continues, and shows that the Council are taking a proactive role in keeping our streets clean, and are committed to continually improving our public realm.

#### **4. Issue, Options and Analysis of Options**

- 4.1 This will be a liaison role, which will communicate with a wide range of stakeholders, and will need to develop relationships with Officers from other organisations to improve our Borough. It provides an opportunity for the Council to take proactive role in improving the environment.

#### **5. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 5.1 To enable the Head of Street Scene to commence the recruitment process.

#### **6. Consultation**

- 6.1 This will be a continuous process through the post, providing feedback to residents and Members.

#### **7. References to Corporate Plan**

- 7.1 This will ensure the Council improve the environment, and engage with our residents.

#### **8. Implications**

##### **Financial Implications**

**Name & Title: Chris Leslie, Finance Director (Section 151)**

**Tel & Email 01277 312542 / christopher.leslie@brentwood.gov.uk**

- 8.1 The cost of the Street Inspector is included in the existing budget.

##### **Legal Implications**

**Name & Title: Christopher Potter, Monitoring Officer and Head of Support Services**

**Tel & Email: 01277 312860 / christopher.potter@brentwood.gov.uk**

- 8.2 None directly arising from this report.

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

- 8.2 None

- 9. Background Papers** (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright)

9.1 None

**10. Appendices to this report**

None

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