

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

17 February 2020



**Consumer Protection - Enforcement and
Intervention Activity**

Report of John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information in advance of a presentation on enforcement and intervention activity by the Council's Consumer Protection Service.

Executive summary

- 2 The presentation attached in appendix 2 will aim to provide Members with an overview for comment on activities of the Business Compliance, Special Investigations, Licensing Enforcement and administration and Intelligence and Information teams within the Consumer Protection Service.

Recommendation

- 3 Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within this report and presentation and comment accordingly.

Background

- 4 At its meeting in June 2019, the Committee agreed its work programme to include a presentation on enforcement activity by the Council's Consumer Protection Team. Information within this presentation will build upon the report and presentation on '*Consumer Protection – Enforcement Activity*' to the Committee's meeting in February 2019.
- 5 The presentation illustrated activity undertaken by the Service in partnership with a number of agencies in relation to activities such as door step crime, counterfeit goods, illicit tobacco and alcohol and fair trading.
- 6 The Consumer Protection team consists of five service teams, Business Compliance and Special Investigations, which makes up what are commonly known as the Trading Standards service and Licensing, which can be separated by enforcement and administration. An Intelligence and Information team also provides an additional functionality and assistance to enhance the service delivery.
- 7 Owen Cleugh, Consumer Protection Manager will attend the Committee's meeting to deliver the presentation that is attached in Appendix 2 provide Members with an update of activity undertaken by the Consumer Protection Team in particular focussing on the key priorities and demands on the service

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

- 8 Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing crime and disorder.

Conclusion

- 9 The attached presentation provides an update and opportunity for Members to comment on enforcement activity undertaken by the Council's Consumer Protection Service.
- 10 Background papers
 - None

Other useful documents

- Consumer Protection Enforcement Activity – Safer and Stronger Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee, February 2019

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None.

Finance

None.

Consultation

None.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Human Rights

None.

Climate Change

None.

Crime and Disorder

Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing crime and disorder.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.