

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

20 February 2018

Consumer Protection – Enforcement Activity



Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Committee with background information in advance of a presentation by Owen Cleugh, Consumer Protection Manager on enforcement and intervention activity undertaken by the Consumer Protection Team of Adults and Health Services.

Background

- 2 At its meeting in June 2017, 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 2017.
- 3 The comprehensive presentation illustrated activity undertaken by the Team in partnership with a number of agencies in relation to reducing door step crime, rogue traders, licensing and supply of illicit, counterfeit and age restricted products. The presentation also provided Members with awareness to how the Team's work contributes to tackling organised crime.
- 4 The Consumer Protection team is now made up 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. A new team of Intelligence and Information has been created to provide an additional functionality and assistance to enhance the service delivery.
- 5 Owen Cleugh, Consumer Protection Manager will be in attendance at the Committee's meeting to provide Members with an update of activity undertaken by the Consumer Protection Team in particular focussing on information relating to areas of concern and demand as well as outlining to key activities in relation to Prevention, Intelligence and Enforcement. Mr Cleugh will respond to questions from the Committee.

Recommendation

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

Background Papers

None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder –The report and presentation includes information on reducing re-offending within the Altogether Safer element of the Council and Safe Durham Partnership Plans.

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None