



Community Safety Proposals

In all team areas the proposals are a combination of reductions in the overall revenue budget and an overall reduction in staff numbers.

Commercial Team (Food Safety, Health and Safety, Trading Standards and Licensing)

Food Safety, Health and Safety, Trading Standards

Overall, 2.2 FTE Professionally qualified, specialist officers will be lost from this team. We will focus on our minimum statutory requirements as a priority. There will be an overall reduction in the amount of proactive work capable of being undertaken by this team, particularly in the areas of food safety and health and safety.

With regard to proactive inspections, we need to strictly adhere to the regulators compliance code and ensure that officers do not inspect low or medium risk properties unless there is a clear reason for doing so i.e. there is intelligence to suggest that a visit may be appropriate. The intelligence must exist and be assessed to ensure that we are targeting our efforts at the areas of highest risk.

For example, in health and safety, we will limit our activities to proactive inspections of our high risk premises and only investigate accidents or complaints when they present a significant risk.

Licensing

Overall reduction of 0.4FTE due to a flexible retirement, with a reduction in our overall resilience within the team.

Community Protection (Pollution Control, Environmental Crime, Antisocial Behaviour, Street Wardens, Dog Wardens, Private Sector Housing Standards)

Pollution Control and Environmental Crime

Overall we will reduce the amount of investigation work we are able to undertake and give priority to statutory duties of the council. This will require a reduction in 2.5 posts.

We will need to reduce demand to this team by at least 20% and where possible resolve issues at first contact (not necessarily phone calls, other media channels etc). We intend to move toward intelligence based interventions. Data/evidence will be used to drive activity and focus will be on issues where threat, risk and harm are high and decisions will be made on high quality, robust evidence. This means that not all those who request a service will receive a bespoke investigation.

We intend to implement a new complaints/service request prioritisation process from 1st April 2013. This will screen complaints at point of entry, as well as the vulnerability of the person making the complaint. Only if the issue or individual

meets our threshold will they be offered a service. Otherwise the complainant will be advised to take their own civil action or redirected/signposted to additional information on our website. We will still record all the details of the complaint but use it to inform the wider intelligence of the business unit, rather than to launch a bespoke investigation.

The amount of scientific work relating to contaminated land and air quality will be reduced by 50%.

Street Wardens

Two vacant Street Warden posts will be deleted and the wardens will rearrange their working time to ensure an even distribution of their time across all the current street warden areas. This still gives us a dedicated street warden in each area, but limited resilience to cover for absence or to support large concurrent community activities.

Private Sector Housing

There are no substantial changes to the private sector housing team as part of the proposal; this will allow us the flexibility to continue to deliver the Mayoral priority of tackling so called rogue landlords.

To date, we have undertaken detailed analysis across a number of agencies, to identify those landlords which we have the most interest in. A member of staff has been dedicated to the project, and his post back filled with a part time building control officer and fire officer, to provide a broader skills base to the team.

We are now proactively inspecting properties of landlords of concern.

Community Development

Overall reduction of 1.4 FTE posts.

£30k reduction in grant to the community partnerships.

The three members of staff who form LINKs will transfer to the new Healthwatch arrangements from 1st April 2013.

We are working to support the sector in the creation of a Community Development Trust for Torbay. This will enable the sector to become more independent and apply for funding which it would not otherwise be able to.

Safer Communities

Family Intervention Project (FIP) and Intensive Family Support Service (IFSS) will transfer to Children's Services.

There is an additional loss of one project manager within the team.

Safer Communities will continue to focus on the four priority areas as identified in the strategic assessment of:

- domestic abuse
- offending/reoffending
- antisocial behaviour

- evening and night time economy issues.

Our ability to coordinate and support events may be limited.

Health and Safety and Community Planning

Reductions in administrative support 0.4 FTE and changes to the overall management arrangements.

Operational Support

Where possible administrative support services and data analysis will be centralised. All calls will be handled by the council call centre. There is an overall reduction of 2.6 FTE and 2 FTE will transfer to the call centre.

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