



93% of Chichester residents concerned about litter

No cost solution with any surplus returned to the public purse

Chichester District Council

1 Subject: No Cost Litter Enforcement Service Trial

All Councils are under pressure to meet increasing community demands with fewer resources. Yet often the simplest low-level partnering solutions can produce some of the quickest most effective solutions.

We recognise that one of Chichester District Council's top five priorities includes maintaining clean, pleasant and safe public places. East Hampshire District Council has a similar priority and ambition.

Chichester District Council has set ambitious targets to maintain clean, pleasant and safe public places, removing 90% of fly-tips within three working days and graffiti within five working days. The council schedules litter picking of 259 km of footpaths per year, 103 laybys every week, 15,576 km of highways per year, rural areas four times per year, urban areas daily to weekly and residential areas as necessary.

In Chichester District Council's Domestic Waste and Recycling Survey, 93% of respondents were concerned about litter. With 58.2% of respondents supporting the increased use of fixed penalty notices, but only 13.7% wanted an increase in spend to improve street cleanliness.

2 The Challenge

The challenge for both councils is, "How do we improve and maintain clean, pleasant and safe public places without increasing the cost?"

3 No Cost Service

Aimed at providing a "no cost" service to the council, returning any surplus back to the public purse, not into the pockets of shareholders, East Hampshire District Council has been running a litter enforcement trial.

The trial has been running successfully now for six months. During this period, we have learnt that as community behaviours change for the better, we need to expand the reach of the trial for it to be able to deliver the desired results.

At no cost to Chichester District Council, the council is invited to join this low risk litter enforcement service trial.

4 Benefits

The benefits of joining the trial include:

- No cost to Chichester District Council
- Low risk approach
- Tangible evidence of delivery on council priorities
- A cleaner and more pleasant environment for communities
- Potential for a low level of sustainable income
- No cost or time spent on procurement

- Jointly agreed trial success criteria
- Transparent approach
- Public sector values and ethos

5 Easy to Join

Joining the trial is quick, simple and carries no cost. Utilising the Discharge of Functions by Other Authorities powers granted under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1997. For convenience purposes, we can provide a draft "Discharge of Functions" letter.

It is proposed that the trial would run for a further twelve months, to September 2017 after which, working together and based on the results of the trial, the Councils could decide how they wish to proceed.

6 End-to-End Service Delivery

Delivered by fully trained staff with the latest technology

Using an experienced and fully qualified team, the trial service is delivered through EH Commercial Services Ltd, an EHDC wholly owned Teckal trading company.

Chichester District Council will have a direct line of communication with Operations Manager, Michelle Green.

Working together with Michelle, Chichester District Council will maintain oversight of all operations. The team will use shared intelligence to inform geographical targeting and schedule patrols across the week.

Ex-police trainers have trained all of the operatives. Training includes, evidence gathering, interview techniques and legislation including PACE.

The team has an average 87% payment rate and a 99% success rate for prosecutions. Income from the fixed penalty notices (FPN's) funds the trial.

Recognising that court prosecutions may be of interest to the media and therefore councillors, the decision to prosecute will remain with Chichester District Council. This is a small number of cases and the cost of prosecution is covered by claiming costs from the court. However, in the unlikely event that numbers of prosecutions rise significantly, the cost may need to be covered by Chichester District Council. In these rare cases, costs will be discussed on a case by case basis and the decision to proceed will remain with Chichester District Council.

Working together, with oversight and direct communications to operations

Using the latest handheld technology and body worn cameras, with system driven escalation process, reminders and reports, the team will provide an end-to-end Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) service for litter enforcement to include:

- Overt and plain clothed, street patrols
- Issuance of Fixed Penalty Notice
- Complaints management
- Payment collection
- Prosecution of non-payment (as directed)

*Transparency and
control through weekly
reporting*

The Operations Manager, Michelle Green, will provide a weekly report detailing:

- Hours patrolled
- Geographical areas
- Number of FPN's issued
- Trends
- Cases taken to court
- Complaints

Summary

*Joining is quick and
simple*

All councils are under pressure to deliver with fewer resources. The Litter Enforcement trial offers a no cost, low risk opportunity for Chichester District Council to try a new way of working and deliver a strategic priority for its community. Well-equipped, experienced professionals will deliver the service, with council oversight maintained through transparency, working together, direct communications and weekly reporting. Joining is quick and simple and after 12 months, the Council will be able to review its approach.

Next Steps – email or phone

If you would like to explore this opportunity further please just call Michelle Green on 01730 234 028 or email her at michelle.green@easthants.gov.uk and we would be delighted to come and talk to you in person.