

Policy Panel

September 2021

Item

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Report of	Assistant Director for Environment	Author	Rosa Tanfield
Title	Graffiti Policy review		☎ 538047
Wards affected	All Wards		

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Policy Panel have been asked to review a refreshed Graffiti Policy and set out recommendations to Cabinet.

2. Action Required

- 2.1 That the proposed Policy document is reviewed
- 2.2 Recommendations for changes are made to Cabinet

3. Reason for Review

- 3.1 To formalise the Council's approach to Graffiti removal in a sustainable way with minimal impact to the environment.

4. Background Information

- 4.1 The Council has in place a Graffiti Policy. It was last reviewed in 2014. A review of the existing Policy has been undertaken and formalises the Council's approach to the removal of graffiti.
- 4.2 Due consideration has been given to operational and public impact of both the impact of graffiti in communities and the approach by Officers.
- 4.3 The Policy document sets out the Councils approach dependent on the location of the graffiti and prioritisation should graffiti be on Council land, along with methods of cleaning and monitoring. It sets out the process should graffiti be on private or third party land or buildings, and enforcement action should cleansing not be undertaken by the owner.
- 4.4 It further sets out its approach to education and enforcement.
- 4.5 The proposed Policy is set out in Appendix A.
- 4.6 Policy Panel are asked to review and make recommendations to Cabinet.

5. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

- 5.1 All new policies and any major changes to a policy need an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA). This can be found [here](#).

6. Strategic Plan References

- 6.1 The proposed Policy and work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Services Team to maintain clean and safe neighbourhoods, directly links to the strategic objective "creating safe, healthy and active communities: [Strategic Plan 2020-23](#).

7. Consultation

- 7.1 Consultation has not been undertaken on the proposed Policy.

8. Publicity Considerations

- 8.1 The Policy document will be publicly accessible to give assurance of the Council's approach to graffiti cleansing and enforcement.

9. Financial implications

- 9.1 The work to deliver the Policy will be undertaken within the Neighbourhood Service's existing revenue budget.

10. Health, Wellbeing and Community Safety Implications

- 10.1 As set out within the Policy document, the Council aims to reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime, to ensure residents and visitors feel safe and able to access their communities, by ensuring local areas are maintained.

11. Health and Safety Implications

- 11.1 The approved Policy document will be supported by Standard Operational Procedures, Risk Assessments and training provided to those involved in the activities proposed.

12. Risk Management Implications

- 12.1 Clarity of the Council's approach in a publicly accessible document will set out clear expectation and assurance for the public on the Council's policy to tackle graffiti.

13. Environmental and Sustainability Implications

- 13.1 The Council only use a select and approved few chemicals to remove graffiti in order to mitigate the potential impact on the environment and carbon footprint. Wherever possible the Council will also use the wipe on and off or paint out methods rather than machinery and chemicals in the first instance to reduce any sustainability impact.