

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2015**

REPORT BY: **ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FACILITATOR**

SUBJECT: **DNA RECOGNITION INFORMATION BANK TASK & FINISH GROUP**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To enable the Committee to consider setting up a Task & Finish group to consider the feasibility of dog DNA testing in Flintshire.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 At Flintshire County Council on the 23rd of July 2015 Cllr Arnold Woolley submitted the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council recommends to the Cabinet that they should establish a cross-group working party to examine the process and feasibility of introducing a dog DNA recognition information bank for dog owners within the County, in order to deal effectively with the ongoing most common complaint of ordinary citizens; namely that of the dog faeces fouling of pavements and other locations by that number of irresponsible dog owners who display no social conscience and thereby create a public nuisance and potentially endanger the health and well-being of residents in and visitors to the County”.

Cllr Bernie Attridge, Cabinet Member for Environment suggested that the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to consider setting up a task and finish group to look into the feasibility of introducing a dog DNA registration scheme. Cllr Arnold Wooley welcomed this approach and when put to the vote it was resolved that the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee consider setting up a task and finish group and report the findings back to Cabinet for consideration.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

If established, a draft project plan will be submitted to the first meeting of the Task & Finish group.

Possible enquiry areas include:-

- the outcome of pilot schemes introduced in England
- the financial implications
- the potential savings in terms of the cost and resources required to remove dog faeces and enforcement action

A recent report by the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) 'Park Life, Street Life: Managing demand in the public realm' urges councils to adopt innovative approaches to keep their areas 'clean and green'.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the Committee agree to establish a Task & Finish group.

4.02 That the Committee nominate the Members of the Task & Finish group.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None as a direct result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None as a direct result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None as a direct result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None as a direct result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None as a direct result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) has been consulted.

12.00 APPENDICES

None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Minutes of Flintshire County Council 23 July 2015

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