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**Bromsgrove Environmental Crime Enforcement Policy**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kit Taylor Councillor Peter Whittaker
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Assistant Director	Simon Wilkes, Director Worcestershire Regulatory Services
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Wards Affected	All
Ward Councillor(s) consulted	N/A
Relevant Council Priority	Environment
Non-Key Decision	
If you have any questions about this report, please contact the report author in advance of the meeting.	

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Cabinet Committee RECOMMEND that:-**

- 1.1 **The Bromsgrove and Redditch Enforcement Policy be adopted and replace the current Joint Environmental Enforcement.**

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Currently WRS's enforcement activities are being undertaken using the Joint Environmental Enforcement Strategy as in appendix 2.
- 2.2 The revised document in appendix 1 will only seek to cover activities that are enforced by Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS).

For the avoidance of doubt this **includes**:

- Fly tipping
- Littering
- Failure to dispose of waste appropriately
- Dog fouling

This revised enforcement policy **will not include**:

- Abandoned and nuisance vehicles and
- the enforcement of graffiti and fly posting

- 2.2 Officers are seeking to implement an enforcement document that reflects the current working strategies of enforcement practices and tools available to WRS.

**3. OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

- 3.1 Officers at WRS are required when undertaking enforcement activities to have due regard to the current enforcement strategy. This document (appendix 2) does not include the enforcement options available to them.
- 3.2 An updated and current enforcement policy is required to enable Officers to make use of intelligence and use all suitable tools.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications. The proposed enforcement policy will align with WRS's approach to enforcement which covers the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices as an enforcement tool. This is used in lower-level offending to discharge the liability of the offence. Fines generate an income which is put back into the service

**5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 As set out at paragraph 1.2 of the new policy (Appendix 2), legislation provides for local authorities to be able to take enforcement action in relation to enviro crime incidents such as littering and fly tipping which are harmful to the environment. Action can be in the form of issuing civil penalty notices, use of community protection notices or bringing formal prosecutions through the courts. The main pieces of legislation under which these powers can be exercised are the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (sections 43-58), the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 and the Control of Pollution (Amendment) Act 1989.
- 5.2 Alongside the legislative powers listed above, in order for successful enforcement action to be taken, it is necessary for the Council to have an up to date enforcement policy to set out the framework of rules it will adhere to when it investigates breaches of the legislation.

**6. OTHER - IMPLICATIONS**

**Local Government Reorganisation**

- 6.1 The implementation of this enforcement policy will strengthen the enforcement process now and in the future.

**Relevant Council Priority**

- 6.2 The proposal detailed within this report directly compliments Bromsgrove's Council Plan. The new strategy will assist the Council with addressing litter and dog mess and the impact of fly tipping and antisocial behaviour as part of the key objectives of the priority.

**Climate Change Implications**

- 6.3 This updated enforcement policy creates no material change to climate change implications but may offer minor environmental co-benefits to the district.

**Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 6.4 The proposed enforcement policy will apply to all scenarios. However, due consideration will be given to public interest tests throughout the investigations that are undertaken.
- 6.5 The proposed policy will have a positive equality implication through the protection of public health and safety, which will support vulnerable members of the community who may be at greater risk from health implications due to dog fouling or improper disposal of waste.
- 6.6 The policy also explicitly recognises the importance of fair, independent and objective decisions that do not treat people differently because of any protected characteristic.
- 6.7 Accessible communication and guidance is a key part of this policy, ensuring that everyone can access information and support.
- 6.8 A wider Equality Impact Assessment is being undertaken with assistance from the Policy Team at Bromsgrove District Council to support how this policy can be implemented.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 There is a risk that the Council, if the policy is not adopted, will be failing to make use of the most efficient tools to enable Environmental Enforcement and this could undermine the efficacy of the service.

**8. APPENDICES and BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix 1 – New Joint Environmental Enforcement Strategy.  
Appendix 2 – Bromsgrove and Redditch Environmental Crime  
Enforcement Policy.

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Cabinet**  
2026

20<sup>th</sup> April

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**9. REPORT SIGN OFF**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Name and Job Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Portfolio Holder	Peter Whittaker PFH Env Services	03.02.2026 Notified.
Lead Director / Assistant Director	Simon Wilkes	24.02.2026.
Financial Services	Debra Goodall, AD Financial Services	13.02.2026 Consulted.
Legal Services	Nicola Cummings, Principal Solicitor - Governance	18/02/26
Policy Team (if equalities implications apply)	Rebecca Green, Policy Manager	06.03.2026
Climate Change Team (if climate change implications apply)	Matt Eccles, Climate Change Manager	23.02.2026 Consulted