

<b>Board/Committee:</b>	Community Board
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2019
<b>Title:</b>	Abandoned Shopping Trolley Policy
<b>Author:</b>	Head of Streetscene
<b>Status:</b>	FOR DECISION

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to advise Members on the outcome of the consultation exercise as authorised by the Chief Executive in August 2018, and to recommend the implementation of the Abandoned Shopping Trolley Policy (Appendix A) and set the appropriate fees.

## **Recommendation**

The Board recommends to Full Council:

The Council adopts Schedule 4 (Abandoned Shopping and Luggage Trolleys) Environmental Protection Act 1990 (“Schedule 4”) for its area and the Abandoned Shopping Trolley Policy with effect from a date no later than 3 months following such a resolution in full Council.

The Monitoring Officer to have the authority to take the steps required by the legislation to adopt Schedule 4 and implement the Policy.

### **1 Background**

- 1.1 Gosport has suffered from high numbers of abandoned and dumped shopping trolleys. Gosport Borough Council has been working with local supermarkets on how best to deal with the problem, including ways to prevent trolleys from leaving their premises and the quick collection of abandoned and dumped trolleys. However, the problem has remained constant.
- 1.2 On 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018 therefore, the Chief Executive approved the content of a draft Policy to be the subject of statutory consultation.
- 1.3 A consultation exercise was conducted between 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 with various public and trade bodies, as well as the public themselves. A summary of those comments as well as the list of consultees is listed as Appendix B.
- 1.4 An example of the letter sent is attached Appendix B together with a list of the bodies to which it was sent.
- 1.5 Additionally letters were sent by Gosport Borough Council housing

department to 45 households who had previously given their consent to a participation in surveys. 21 replies were received with the overwhelming majority of in favour of the adoption of the policy.

- 1.6 A notice was also placed on the Gosport Borough Council web site inviting responses from the public regarding the adoption of the policy. This generated several responses to Streetscene. Of these and the housing responses, twenty three were in favour, six against and eleven were neutral. Eight of the responses felt action should be taken against the public rather than retailers. All responses are attached at Appendix B
- 1.7 No reply was received from the retailers to whom the letter was sent or from the trade bodies representing them.

## **2 Report**

- 2.1 In order to adopt Schedule 4 for its area and implement the Policy Full Council must make a resolution. The legislation then requires the Council to publish a notice in the local press that the resolution has been made, its general effect and the date Schedule 4 and the Policy will come into force; which must not be before the expiration of a three month period beginning on the day on which the resolution is passed.

## **3 Risk Assessment**

- 3.1 If the Council does not effectively deal with abandoned shopping trolleys there is a risk to the Council's reputation.

## **4 Conclusion**

- 4.1 The result of the consultation is in favour of the draft policy. Following the consultation exercise the draft Policy has been amended as follows for clarification, and to ensure that the Council covers the costs of removing, storage, and disposing of such trolleys.

8.1 amended to £5 per day storage, and £50 for collection and disposal and return of Trolleys

8.2 amended total costs to £310 for collection storage and disposal and return of Trolleys for 42 days (6 weeks)

The Policy has also taken into account minor typographical amendments.

<b>Financial Services comments:</b>	No adverse comments
<b>Legal Services comments:</b>	Contained within the report
<b>Crime and Disorder:</b>	From a Crime and Disorder Perspective –

	abandoned shopping trolleys can have a negative impact on community safety so a proactive policy is positive
<b>Equality and Diversity:</b>	To promote a consistent approach to the problem of abandoned shopping trolleys being left on the public highways causing obstructions. The purpose of this Policy is to reduce the amount of abandoned trolleys throughout the Borough and try to promote the importance of a cleaner, safer neighbourhood. An Equality Impact assessment has been completed for this Policy.
<b>Service Improvement Plan implications:</b>	Existing activities identified within the Service Improvement Plan support the desired outcomes of the Policy.
<b>Corporate Plan:</b>	<p><b>Deliver effective services:</b> Use a commercial approach to ensure our services deliver what they need to in the most effective way possible, providing value for money.</p> <p><b>Enhance the environment:</b> Enhance the unique character, environment and assets of the borough and make it a great place to live and work.</p>
<b>Risk Assessment:</b>	This is contained within Section 3 of the report.
<b>Background papers:</b>	None.
<b>Appendices/Enclosures:</b>	
Appendix 'A'	Abandoned Shopping Trolley Policy
Appendix 'B'	Summary of consultation exercise
<b>Report author/ Lead Officer:</b>	Graeme Mudge (5569)