

COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERSHIPS)

LITTER MINIMISATION REPORT

- 3.2 The Panel discussed the Litter Minimisation Strategy at its meeting on 2nd December 2021.
- 3.3 Following a question from Councillor Gardener, the Panel heard that there were plans to roll out bin sensors in bins beyond town centres and that it was hopeful that grants would be available to fund this. The Panel also heard that the Council were working together with National Highways to find a solution to littering in laybys along major routes across the district.
- 3.4 Having heard concern from Councillor Alban regarding the low number of prosecutions for fly tipping offences despite the hard work from the Enforcement Team, the Panel were assured that the team continues to work diligently to ensure fly-tippers are held to account. Members also heard that intelligence was shared with neighbouring authorities and that a revised enforcement policy would be developed next year.
- 3.5 Following a comment from Councillor Gardener regarding human waste being thrown from HGVs into residential land, the Panel were advised that such acts could be reported on the Council's website.
- 3.6 Councillor Banks enquired if there were known littering hotspots across the district and the Panel heard that the team were aware of hotspots and continued to share intelligence to monitor this situation.
- 3.7 Councillor Wilson observed that education and changing behaviours would be key to successfully reducing waste across the district. The Panel heard that the team currently work with schools to help educate young people but that this needs to extend to adults and that several schemes are being developed to assist with the implementation of this. Members heard that plans to reduce litter bins were being developed with the onus on the public to take rubbish home with them and allow for more efficient recycling due to a reduction in contamination of recyclable waste.
- 3.8 Councillor Tysoe praised the hard work of Officers and the associated teams for all their efforts in minimising litter across the district.
- 3.9 The Panel welcomed the report and encourage the Cabinet to endorse the recommendations contained within the report.