

## Report of the Chief Executive

**CORPORATE ENFORCEMENT POLICY**1. Purpose of report

To seek approval of a revised Corporate Enforcement Policy.

2. Detail

The main purpose of local government enforcement activity is to protect the public, the environment, consumers and legitimate businesses by ensuring that legal requirements are met and that everyone acts/operates within the law. It does not just mean taking formal action, such as prosecution, but includes a wide range of actions and measures, including giving help or advice to make sure that things are as they should be. Broxtowe Borough Council generally endeavours to support both businesses and individuals to meet their legal obligations before considering any kind of enforcement action.

The intention of the Policy is to ensure that any enforcement action is compliant with the relevant legislation, codes of practice and government guidance. Also that any such action is transparent and accountable, proportionate, targeted, consistent in approach, and appropriate.

The policy starts from the premise that most businesses and individuals want to comply with the law. Help and support will be provided to enable them to meet their legal obligations without unnecessary expense, while more formal action will be considered against those who flout the law or act irresponsibly. It seeks to assist officers in the decision making process, and to ensure a consistent approach when using the range of enforcement tools available to them. It will ensure that there is a transparently fair process adopted with regard to decision making and to the selection and application of enforcement options, as well as to the consideration of circumstances relevant to those options.

The main changes in the revised policy are the references to the use of civil penalties for breaches of private sector housing legislation. A copy of the revised policy is shown in the appendix.

**Recommendation**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the revised Enforcement Policy be APPROVED.**

Background papers

Nil