

Report of the Chief Executive

DOG FOULING1. Purpose of report

To provide members with further information in respect of dog fouling in parks and open spaces and to seek a decision on relevant signage.

2. Detail

At its meeting on 6 June 2019, the Committee received a report on dog fouling and the relevant controls which are in place. A request was made to ascertain details of signage and numbers of bins, along with exploring the possibility of offering free “poo bags”.

The Business and Projects Manager in the Environment Division organised the survey work and the results of his findings, along with relevant proposals, are contained in the appendix.

In respect of the issue of free “poo bags”, officers have advised that this has been undertaken in the past with dispensers located in some of the parks and open spaces. However, at many locations, this resulted in vandals taking out large numbers of bags and throwing them about on the site, as well as the bags being removed and taken “in bulk” by some individuals. The Neighbourhood Wardens also issue free bags on appropriate occasions as part of their education and enforcement role.

3. Financial implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

There is no provision within the 2019/20 General Fund revenue budget to meet the proposed cost of alternative signage arrangements as set out in the appendix. Finance and Resources Committee could be requested to allocate funding for the preferred alternatives from 2019/20 revenue contingencies of which there is presently £25,000 available.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to NOTE the report, and RESOLVE if the signage should:

- a) Be renewed in a single style in all parks and open spaces**
- b) Be provided in parks and open spaces where none currently exists and replace signs as and when necessary**
- c) Remain unaltered**

Background papers

Nil