



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITY**

**to
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
10 JULY 2018**

STRAY DOGS POLICY

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To seek members approval of the Stray Dogs Policy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) That the contents of this report are noted and the Stray Dogs Policy is approved.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Council has a duty under s.149(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA) to appoint an officer "for the purpose of discharging the functions of dealing with stray dogs found in the area of the authority". Maldon District Council currently employs eleven full time Community Protection Officers (CPO), who are tasked with the duty of handling of stray dogs.
- 3.2 The policy attached at **APPENDIX 1** outlines the process for dealing with stray dogs and will be put on the web site for the public to view.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 That the Stray Dogs Policy outlines how the council will comply with the EPA 1990 and will deal with stray dogs and thus ensures the councils compliance with the legislation.

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

- 5.1 This Policy contributes towards the Corporate Goals of :
 - Helping communities to be safe active and healthy;
 - Protecting and shaping the district.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – The policy clarifies to residents the process which will be undertaken if a stray dog is reported or found.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – This proposal unlikely to impact on any protected characteristic group.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – there are no operational, organisational or Partnership risks.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – The cost of the service is recovered from the owner when the dog is retrieved. If the dog is not retrieved then the cost is covered by the council. There is an approved budget.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – the resources are currently in place, Community Protection Team and dealing with the stray dogs.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – the policy outlines the method in which stray dogs will be dealt with which should result in public places being safer.

Background Papers: None

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