

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Communities, Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING DATE:	14 November 2016	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	Urban gull strategy- an update	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
A presentation will be provided to the Panel at the meeting		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report invites the Panel to hear about the work which has been completed during 2016 in support of the Council's urban gull strategy.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Panel receives a presentation outlining the progress which has been made to date.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 In 2016/17 Cabinet allocated £85k to fund recommended actions which included the provision of free egg and nest removal and falconry treatments, dedicated waste enforcement resource in Bath city centre, communications and project support.
- 3.2 To date, no additional resources have been allocated beyond 2016/17 and Cabinet are considering funding options to continue the work.
- 3.3 Another agreed action has been a collaborative partnership with the University of the West of England and Middlesex University. This partnership requires an officer time contribution which is factored into service planning and budgets.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The Council has no statutory duty to act on urban gulls however it remains a high profile issue with local residents, businesses and visitors. The strategy will inform the Council's actions and spending on this issue until 2019.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The urban gull strategy has a 3 pronged approach which in 2016 involved the delivery of:

- A gull treatment programme to remove nests and eggs from roofs in areas of B&NES by a procured contractor. The areas chosen were the wards of Abbey, Kingsmead, Newbridge, Twerton, Widcombe and Westmoreland and a former factory site in Midsomer Norton. These areas were chosen on the basis of large or increasing populations of gulls. Where appropriate, falconry treatments were also provided
- A dedicated enforcement officer resource to work with businesses in Bath city centre, ensuring that trade waste is properly managed and reducing the potential food sources for the gulls
- A collaborative partnership arrangement with University of the West of England and Middlesex University to better understand and map gull behaviour in Bath and North East Somerset.

5.2 The presentation will provide details on the outcomes which have been achieved this year including:

- The free treatments for egg and nest removal and details on how many were delivered in individual wards
- The dedicated waste enforcement in Bath city centre
- The collaborative partnership with the University of the West of England and Middlesex Universities
- The media coverage which has supported the delivery of the strategy
- The feedback which has been received from Councillors and customers

6 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6.1 None.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Divisional Director for Environmental Services has had the opportunity to input to this report and has cleared it for publication. S151 has been given opportunity to review and input into this report.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

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Background papers	<i>None.</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	