

REMOVAL OF FLY POSTERS

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Members with details of the areas of responsibility, in relation to the removal of fly posters and in particular the role of the Council's Contract Monitoring Officers.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Rayleigh Town Centre Sub Committee on 26 July 2002, concern was raised regarding the removal of fly posters and the resources of the Council's Contract Monitoring Officers to undertake this task.
- 2.2 It was agreed at the meeting for a report to come to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to discuss this issue and the responsibilities and procedures that are currently in place.

3 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- 3.1 The responsibility for the removal of fly posters is dependent on where the fly posters are situated and in particular, who owns the property. The following points detail the situation as it is at present.
- 3.2 Where fly posters are put on shop windows, it is the responsibility of the shop owner to remove them. Where the shop is occupied this is not normally an issue, as they would remove it immediately being "open for business."
- 3.3 Where fly posters are found on the front of empty shops, the responsibility for removal remains with the landlord. The Council's Planning Division instructs the landlord to remove the posters under their enforcement powers and if necessary, bring in a contractor to remove the posters and then recharge the landlord.
- 3.4 Where fly posters are found on highway land / property, it is the responsibility of the County Council's Highways Department for their removal. This includes railings, lamp posts, pedestrian crossings, street lighting etc. and fly posters on these areas are currently removed by County Council staff.

- 3.5 Where fly posters are found on Rochford District Council property, it is our responsibility for removal. This includes benches, litter bins, noticeboards etc. and they are removed by the Council's Contract Monitoring Officers. In carrying out their general inspection duties, these Officers also take note of any fly posters on highways property and either notify them direct or actually remove them if they are easy to remove and obviously put up without permission. They will also liaise with the Planning Department and any other appropriate organisation to assist in ensuring the fly posters are removed as quickly as possible.
- 3.6 Finally, where fly posters are found on bus shelters, these are dealt with by "Adshel" who have an advertising and maintenance contract for the shelters. However there are a small number of shelters that are under the control of the Parish Councils and therefore in these instances, the removal of fly posters would be their responsibility.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no specific financial costs incurred by the Contracted Services Department in removing fly posters but there is an element of staff time of the Council's Contract Monitoring Officers. The available time that they have for this purpose is dependent on primarily the extent of their contract monitoring work and also their other duties, such as the transportation of the mobile exhibition unit. There have been no costs incurred by the Council's Planning Division in relation to removal of fly posters.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The effective removal of fly posters makes a positive contribution to the overall environmental standards that exist throughout the District.

6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is proposed that Members note the content of this report and in particular the areas of responsibility that exist for the removal of fly posters. (CD(F&ES))

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Background Papers:

None

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