



**Resources and Public Realm
Scrutiny Committee
8 March 2016**

**Report from Strategic Director
Regeneration and Environment**

For Information

**Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny of Proposals Relating to Tackling
Illegal Rubbish Dumping and Litter with Uniformed
Street Patrols**

The Appendix to this report is Not for Publication

This paper has been prepared at the request of the Lead Member for Environment, Cllr Southwood. Cllr Southwood has asked that the formal report recommending options for the on-going deployment of litter enforcement patrols, and which is intended for decision at the April Cabinet, is offered first for pre-scrutiny.

This follows from the Committee's scrutiny of the trial proposals at its meeting on the 5th March 2016, and Cabinet's decision at that time to enter into a pilot contract with Kingdom Security Limited for the delivery of a payment-by-results, cost-neutral uniformed service for the enforcement of street scene and environmental offences in the borough for a period of 12 months. It also enacts the commitment made by Cllr Southwood to undertake a 6-month review that could then inform the long-term solution.

The Lead Member seeks the views and opinions of the Scrutiny Committee so the Cabinet report can be further refined to ensure the recommendations are clear, offer good value and can be the basis of a sound and effective operation going forward.

This report also addresses the views of the Scrutiny Committee expressed at its meeting in April 2016. Specifically, it describes the value of the trial in addressing litter and illegal rubbish dumping, the benefits of deploying a private contractor to establish a baseline over a time-limited period in Brent, the debate around in-house or contracted options and the relative benefits of both, and the need to engage fully with the Scrutiny Committee so that a helpful consensus is agreed on the best way forward.

The report presents a review of the trial's performance over the first 6 months, covering the period June – November 2016. This is used to substantiate recommendations around future, long-term deployment. It also presents the risks and issues associated with all the options.

It specifically addresses previously-raised concerns around the terms and conditions offered to enforcement officers, the consistency of the approach and how it aligns with other enforcement activities undertaken by the council. It also addresses the general approach to the procurement and commissioning of this type of service, and the scope, style and responsiveness of the proposed long-term option.

Officers are available ahead of the meeting and would welcome advance notice of further areas of interest in order that as much information as possible can be provided on the night.