

Minutes of the Enforcement Action in Torbay Review Panel

23 February 2021

-: Present :-

Councillor Kennedy (Chairwoman)

Councillors Atiya-Alla, Barnby, Mandy Darling and Loxton

(Also in attendance: Councillors Brooks, Bye, Steve Darling, Douglas-Dunbar, Barbara Lewis, Chris Lewis, Manning and Morey)

5. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Thomas (D). In accordance with the wishes of the Independent Group, Councillor Brown was substituted by Councillor Loxton.

6. Enforcement - Natural Environment

The Review Panel received a verbal presentation from the Principal Natural Environment Officer. Members noted that the Natural Environment Team do not have specific enforcement powers, however they work alongside team which do, for example rough sleepers and by-laws which are enforced by the Police. The Park Rangers do not serve fixed penalty notices. The roles and responsibility of the Rangers was clarified to members, which included their involvement in public park areas.

Clarification was sought on promenades and Harbour assets and where areas of responsibility fall. It was noted dog fouling was a particular concern with residents and visitors to the Bay and measures are going to be put in place to address this with cleansing and the input of apprentices for the team.

Recommendation:

- (i) The provision of more signage to enable enforcement of by-laws to be undertaken, this would in areas such as promenades;
- (ii) the Council continues to work with partners who do have enforcement powers and incorporate the regulations of the new Enforcement Agency;
- (iii) Environment Protection Act and powers of the Council to be enforced; and
- (iv) as part of the new services of SWISCo and the Natural Environment Team to promote apprenticeship schemes to allow for greater enforcement.

Chairwoman
