

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Public Engagement Board
Date: Wednesday 27th January 2021
Report for: Information
Report of: Strategic Manager – Crime and Antisocial Behaviour

Report Title

Enforcement Sub Group

Summary

Following the national lockdown in March 2020, the Council established a multi-agency weekly enforcement group meeting to share information and intelligence, track demand and capacity and co-ordinate our responses. The frequency of these meetings reduced over time but have now been stepped back up to weekly meetings which are held every Monday and are chaired by the Director of Growth and Regulatory Services.

Recommendation(s)

That the update from this meeting be noted.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Helen Grant
Extension:3434

For non-confidential reports add the following:

Background Papers: *Please list*

Background Information

Background information – must include all relevant and explanatory information.

It should also include consideration of the following implications. Please specify what the implications are or if they have been included in the body of the report. If any do not apply, insert 'not applicable' so that it is clear that all implications have been considered.

Implications:

Relationship to Corporate Priorities	
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Relationship to GM Policy or Strategy Framework	
Financial	Managed currently within existing resources
Legal Implications	Adherence to the Coronavirus regulations
Equality/Diversity Implications	
Sustainability Implications	
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	
Risk Management Implications	
Health and Safety Implications	Protection of public health

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The 'Enforcement Sub-Group' was established in March 2020 and comprises members from a range of services and organisations, Principally these are; the council's Director for Growth and Regulatory Services (Chair), Environmental Health, Community Safety, Licensing, Greater Manchester Police, Social Housing, Legal, Communications and Public Health.
- 1.2 The purpose of the group is to be able to understand the current data in relation to the prevalence and transmission of Covid-19 and to co-ordinate any responses that may require enforcement of the regulations.
- 1.3 The group links in with the Community Engagement work-stream, as the main aim is to engage and educate residents and businesses to keep our communities safe.
- 1.4 The group also looks at demand and capacity for services, and works to ensure that actions are co-ordinated and that efforts are not duplicated, reducing opportunities for inefficiency.
- 1.5 The group also plans and executes joined-up operations which are multi-agency in nature.
- 1.6 The council's principal solicitor also attends the meeting to provide legal updates and to answer any queries that any of the attendees may have about the regulations.
- 1.7 A member of the council's communications team also attends so that key messages for the week can be agreed and disseminated through our communication channels.

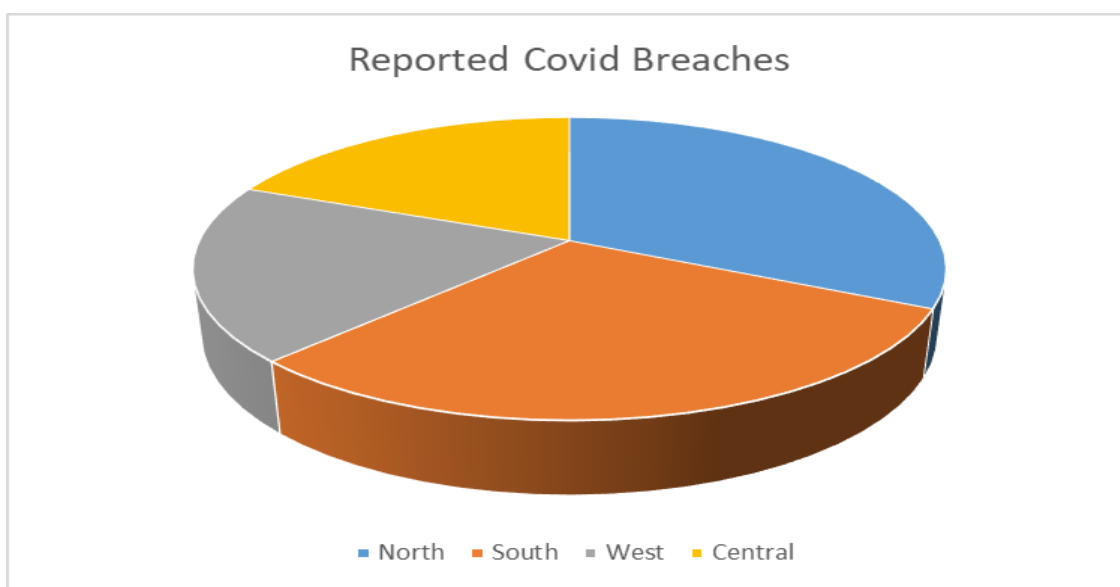
2.0 Updates

2.4.1 Reports of gatherings within residential premises are managed between Greater Manchester Police, and the council's Community Safety Team and our main social housing provider. A proportionate approach is taken, which will involve a stepped process for minor breaches, but where there is flagrant disregard for the regulations, and an excessive number of people when the

police arrive, then fixed penalties can and have been issued, and the parties dispersed from the premises.

2.4.2 Information about Covid breaches is reported via various channels, some reports are being made to Public Health, some directly to Community Safety and some to Greater Manchester Police. A Community Safety Officer has now been tasked with pulling reports together from each source to ensure that responses are neither duplicated nor missed.

2.4.3 There have been reports of breaches across the borough over the last week with the majority occurring in the North and South of the borough,



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2.4.4 The chart above relates to residential premises, the majority of which are about gatherings at people's home.

2.4.5 In addition to the weekly enforcement meeting, our Environmental Health Team are also meeting with Greater Manchester Police to join up work in relation to business premises.

2.4.6 There have been particular concerns around 2 large businesses in the boroughs where there have been outbreaks and an ongoing issue around a location in the North of the borough where large numbers are reportedly attending to play football.

2.4.7 A bulletin was circulated to businesses last week containing updates and advice.

2.4.8 There are also locations which under the regulations are permitted to remain open, for example, for takeaway food and drinks but which can at times attract large numbers of people. Teams are working to ensure social distancing and to encourage people to act with their own safety and that of others in mind.

2.4.9 Trafford Housing Trust have also received reports of breaches and have been issuing advice and warnings to tenants who are failing to comply with the legislation. These types of reports often go hand in hand with reports of anti-social behaviour.

2.4.10 The Council's Youth Workers are also working with the enforcement team to prevent breaches of the legislation involving young people, and to deter antisocial behaviour in parks and open spaces.

2.5 Quarantining

2.5.1 The national approach is embedded and adhered to. There have been some isolated reports from residents reporting others for failing to comply with requirements. Currently significantly less people are travelling due to the restrictions so reports are far fewer than they were at the end of summer 2020.

3.0 Next steps

3.1 The group will continue to meet weekly and share intelligence and information and plan actions as necessary. Some other GM boroughs are meeting more regularly than this, and the frequency of the group meetings will be kept under review.

3.2 The group will also jointly review any changes to the legislation and guidance to ensure that organisations are giving correct and consistent information to businesses and residents.

