

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 08.06.2023
title: Environmental Health – Pest Control Update
submitted by: Chief Executive
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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide committee an update of the expansion of the services offered by pest control.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - Corporate Priorities - To ensure a well-managed council providing efficient services based on identified customer needs.
 - Community Objectives – To seek to continually improve, ensuring that Council services are fit for purpose and customer focused.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 For the last five years, the Council's pest control officer has only carried out treatments for rats, mice and wasps. Any requests for the treatment of cockroaches, fleas, flies, beetles, moles, squirrels etc were declined. Advice was given where appropriate, but public members were advised to seek assistance from private contractors for such requests.

The reasons for previously restricting treatments were linked to competency requirements and resources.

However, the Council is currently in a privileged position to have a competent, enthusiastic officer with 10 years' worth of experience working in both the private and public sector in pest control, who is eager to diversify.

3 PEST CONTROL – ADDITIONAL TREATMENTS

- 3.1 Solely undertaking treatments for rats, mice and wasps not only restricted the Council's pest control service but also presented a missed opportunity to gain income.
- 3.2 As of April 2023, the Head of Environmental Health has decided to expand the types of treatments undertaken by the Council pest control officer with their full support. The wider range of treatments will provide a better service to the public and should hopefully bring in more revenue.

3.3 The Councils pest contractor will now undertake treatments for:

- Rats
- Mice
- Wasps
- Moles
- Squirrels
- Fleas
- Flies
- Beetles
- Cockroaches

3.4 The Councils website has been updated to include the relevant information and fees and charges, this can be viewed via the following link <https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/pest-control/pest-control-1>

3.6 A press release has also been issued to make residents and businesses in the area aware of the pest control services the Council now offer.



ANDREW DENT
HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Andrew Dent, extension 4470.

REF: Author/typist/committee/date