Agenda Item No: **XX**

Cabinet

23 October 2013

Report Title	Phase 1 - Planned Removal of Vacant Posts - Regulatory Services
Classification	Open
Cabinet Member with Lead Responsibility	John Reynolds City Services
Accountable Strategic Director	Tim Johnson
Originating service	Education & Enterprise
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1.0 Description of Savings Proposal

Details of proposal:
Undertake an initial review of the service with planned removal of vacant posts to be delivered by April 2014.

How will savings be delivered
Through a net reduction in employee resources through either VR applications and/or deletion of vacant posts.

Service Impacts:

Environmental Health (Commercial)
• Significantly reduced managerial, specialist and project management capacity
• Inability to complete lower risk (but statutorily required) food hygiene and food standards interventions
• Increased response times to requests for service and all responses to be based on risk, including Councillors enquiries.
• Specific areas of non-statutory service may cease e.g. elements of highways enforcement
• No funded Student EHO posts to be retained within the service

Environmental Health (Public Protection)

• Marginally reduced managerial, specialist and project management capacity
• Significant reduction in Out of Hours provision and reduced flexibility of service delivery due to lone working limitations. The evenings on which the service operates will be permanently reduced.
• Increased response times to requests for service and all responses to be based on risk, including Councillors enquiries.
• Significant areas of non-statutory service provision would cease e.g. investigation of fly posting, graffiti
etc.
• Reduction would remove the ability of the service to deliver proactive campaigns to reduce the incidence of environmental damage.

Trading Standards
• The Service elects not to pursue approx. 50% of criminal complaints on the basis of low/medium detrimental impact to consumers in order to focus on those of significant detriment. Reduction would significantly impair the ability to deal with priority matters and intelligence based enforcement.
• Reduction would further erode the ability to have a critical investigative mass to deal with doorstep crime matters, bogus builders etc. which produce the most significant cases of consumer detriment.
• Complete cessation of proactive inspection work (e.g. testing shop scales, pub measures and trade advice) which both supports reputable business and reduces consumer detriment at source
• Consumer Advice has 3.6 FTE's and secures approximately £200,000 redress for consumers each year. They have no spare capacity. Reduction would result in a loss of about £35,000 redress to consumers.

Licensing
• Marginal reduction in response times for applications, renewals etc.
• NB Any reduction in staff resource in this service would require a corresponding reduction in licence fees and would not therefore produce savings.

2.0 Table Setting out Financial Proposal

2.1 **Total base budget savings**

	Year 2014-2015 £000	**Year 2015-2016 £000**	**Year 2016-2017 £000**	**Year 2017-2018 £000**	**Year 2018-2019 £000**	**5 year total £000's**
Total base budget savings	320	0	0	0	0	320

2.2 **Staffing Implication**

	Year 2014-2015 £000	Year 2015-2016 £000	Year 2016-2017 £000	Year 2017-2018 £000	Year 2018-2019 £000	5 year total £000's
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	6	0	0	0	0	6

3.0 Communications Strategy Implications

3.1 The Communications strategy Implications of this proposal are minimal.

4.0 Corporate Landlord Implication

4.1 The Corporate Landlord Implications of this proposal are none or minimal.

5.0 Customer Implications

5.1 The implications for customers of this proposal are reasonably significant as it will see a reduction in the delivery of any responses on matters that fall outside of our statutory obligations Communication strategy to advice customers required

6.0 Economic Implications

6.1 Reasonably significant as it will limit or stop the provision of advice to business on compliance matters

7.0 Environmental Implications

7.1 The Environmental Implications are similar to the Customer impact as service responses will be prioritised and in some cases some existing delivery will stop; there is therefore an associated environmental risk which is currently unquanitified.

8.0 Equality Implications

8.1 An equalities analysis screening has been completed, there are no or minimal equality implications; a full analysis is not required.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 The Financial Implications in terms of savings and investments are as described in the proposal above.

10.0 Health Implications

10.1 The Health Implications of this proposal are minimal but it will prevent or limit the ability of the service to contribute to actions relating to the broader Health agenda

11.0 Legal Implications

11.1 The Legal Implications of this proposal are minimal.

12.0 Policy Implications

12.1 The Policy Implications on agreed Council policy are minimal. There is a small risk to the delivery of the corporate priority ‘Delivering a Confident Capable Council’. Environmental Health also contributes to the 'Reinvigorating the City' priority.

13.0 Procurement Implications

13.1 The Procurement Implications of this proposal are minimal

14.0 Staffing Implications

14.1 The HR Implications of this proposal are minimal.

15.0 Trade Union Implications

15.1 No Implications Recorded.