

**ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL
NO BALL GAMES
– ACTION PLAN**

APPENDIX II

DATE: 5 SEPTEMBER 2017

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	POST TITLE	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
<p>1. That the Council ceases to process any new requests for 'No Ball Games' signs, based on the following reasons:-</p> <p>a) The Panel considers the current process for dealing with No Ball Games signs to be confusing and resource-intensive.</p> <p>b) The current process is outdated and the introduction of legislation since 1997, the last time that the No Ball Games policy was reviewed, has enabled the Council to establish robust mechanisms for addressing complaints relating to all aspects of anti-social behaviour, including ball games nuisance, which meets the needs of the local community. The Panel feels confident that any such complaints will be dealt with appropriately.</p>	<p>Cease to process any new requests for "No Ball Game Signs". This action has been implemented as a direct result of the findings of the Scrutiny Investigation.</p>	<p>Environment Services Manager</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Done</p>

<p>2. As the Panel is keen to avoid any unnecessary reports of anti-social behaviour arising from ball games, the decision to cease processing any new requests for No Ball Games signs should be monitored by Environment Services.</p>	<p>Monitor decision to cease processing new requests for 12 months. This action has been implemented as a direct result of the findings of the Scrutiny Investigation.</p>	<p>Environment Services Manager</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Monitor for 12 months.</p>
<p>3. The Panel recognises that, in some locations, the signs may act as a deterrent and, as such, considers that existing signs should remain in-situ and that any requests for signs to be removed should be dealt with on an area by area basis with the involvement of the Neighbourhood Safety Officer and the local community. The Panel feels it is important for Ward Councillors and Community Councils to convey this message at a local level.</p>	<p>Draft a briefing note to all Ward Councillor and Community Council Chairs outlining the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel. This action has been implemented as a direct result of the findings of the Scrutiny Investigation.</p>	<p>Environment Services Manager</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>3 Weeks</p>
<p>4. Government Guidance on tackling childhood obesity includes encouraging increased physical activity outside of school to be supported by parents and carers. The Panel acknowledges this and welcomes the opportunity for children to be able to exercise and play safely within their own communities near to their own homes providing that they are respectful of other people and their property. The Panel considers that the Community Safety Team's leaflet 'Guidance on Football Nuisance' is a useful tool to assist in resolving disputes</p>	<p>Ensure that the Community Safety Team's leaflet 'Guidance on Football Nuisance' is posted on the Council's Website, Intranet and posted to all Ward Councillors. This action has been implemented as a direct result of the findings of the Scrutiny Investigation.</p>	<p>Environment Services Manager</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>3 Weeks</p>

<p>regarding ball games nuisance and offers advice on how all parties can compromise and live together peacefully. Therefore, the Panel recommends that the leaflet should be made more widely available, including being placed prominently on the Council's website and distributed to all Community Councils and Ward Councillors.</p>				
<p>5. The Panel has concerns regarding the 31 requests for No Ball Games signs that are currently outstanding since September 2015. The Panel, therefore, requests that the Service Area revisits each outstanding request to check whether the details have been passed to the Community Safety Team for assessment and whether the residents/applicants making the request have been contacted and made fully aware of the process. The Panel also requests that the Service Area provides a report to the Environment Scrutiny Panel, at the earliest opportunity, including the following information:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How the 31 outstanding requests have been dealt with. b) What stage of the process each request has reached. 	<p>Environment Services revisits the outstanding 31 "No Ball Game" sign requests and ensure that the details have been passed to the Community Safety Team for assessment and whether the residents/applicants making the request have been contacted and made fully aware of the process. Environment Services also provides a report to the Environment Scrutiny Panel detailing the following information:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How the 31 outstanding requests have been dealt with. b) What stage of the process each request has reached. c) The reasons why the request has not been progressed. This action has been implemented as a direct result of the findings of the Scrutiny Investigation 	<p>Environment Services Manager</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>8 weeks</p>

c) The reasons why the request has not been progressed.				
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