



Title of Report:	Public App for reporting dog fouling and litter
Committee Report Submitted To:	Environmental Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	13th December 2022
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Improvement and Innovation
Outcome	Increased use of technology to maximise efficiency and improve service user experience
Lead Officer	Head of Health & Built Environment

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£486 set up fee £972 annual subscription
Included in Current Year Estimates	N/A
Capital/Revenue	N/A
Code	21451 2457
Staffing Costs	N/A

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	N/A	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the purchase of a reporting app for the public to report any instances of dog fouling, littering or fly tipping to Environmental Health.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Members of the WISE Elected Member Working Group previously expressed a desire to make the reporting of environmental crime such as dog fouling, littering and fly tipping more accessible to the public and Officers were asked to investigate the use of “apps” for this purpose.
- 2.2 Following a review of relevant apps and a 4 week trial of one reporting app Council recently subscribed to the Reportable App from RHE Global for a period of 12 months.
- 2.3 The Reportable App enables anyone to easily report environmental crime to Council. The app allows photographs of the issue and comments to be submitted to the Enforcement Team for investigation. The location of the litter or dog fouling will automatically be given a Global Positioning Systems grid reference (GPS) to exactly and accurately provide the location of the material. This will be of benefit to investigating officers and will also be of use for referrals to Operations or Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) for clean up of the locations. This will be especially useful in remote locations where no specific address can be provided.
- 2.4 The app will be available to download for free at Google Play and Apple App Store. Further information on the app and how to download it will shortly be provided on Councils website. Council will also issue a press release to highlight the launch of the app.
- 2.5 Further information on the Reportable App can be found at the video link below which provides a walkthrough of the app.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lhc2XW7NnRA>

- 2.6 It is anticipated that the effectiveness of this app including rates of use will be re-evaluated in 12 months’ time to decide if the licence should be renewed or not.

3.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee notes the above information.