

Shaping the Council 2015-16 and beyond: Savings Business Case

Business Case Title	Stop inspection of commercial and industrial processes under the Local Authority Pollution Permitting scheme including		
Revision No:	1	Date:	16th July 2014
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Critical friend/Exec Bd			
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Section 1: Summary

Savings Proposal

Stop inspection of commercial and industrial processes under the Local Authority Pollution Permitting scheme including

- Stop inspection of environmental permitted processes;
- Stop work to enforce permit conditions.

Strategic rationale

The Council has statutory duties under the Pollution Prevention Control ((Part 1 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990)) and the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2014. This work contributes to the Council priority to protect and promote our clean and green environment

Approximate Cost Savings

26k from loss of 0.6 FTE

Timescales

Activity	Timescale
Consultation on changes to officer contracts required to adjust officer hours.	As per HR procedures applicable to Thurrock Staff.

Risks /Consequences

Breach of statutory duty

The EP Team operates a comprehensive industrial / commercial environmental permit inspection regime that ensures the safe operation of large companies and assists in the reduction of their pollution of the environment. This function would cease.

This is likely to lead to intervention on the part of DEFRA if they conclude that this breach of the Council's statutory duties is significant. There is some prospect of large local companies raising concerns if they are no longer able to consult with pollution officers due to the lack of inspection visits.

This would have a detrimental impact on resident's quality of life and health, due to loss of permit condition enforcement and appropriate regulatory controls of industrial / commercial premises and their impact on the local environment / residents.

Mitigation

None

Section 2: Finance, savings and costs

Financial summary

General Fund budget 2014-15

	Staff £000s	Premises / Transport £000s	Supplies/ Services £000s	Direct Payments £000s	Third Party Payments £000s	Total Expenditure Gross £000s	Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s
2014/15								

Staff Related savings

Current number of posts (FTE and headcount)	1
Number of posts to be deleted (FTE and headcount)	0.6
Amount of salary saving (inc on-costs)	26k

Non- Staff Related savings

Premises and buildings (inc utilities)	
Transport	
Supplies and services	
Other (please specify)	

Third Party Related savings/income

Commissioning/contracts	
Charges to the HRA/DSG/PHG <i>(NB can be negative)</i>	
Increase fees & charges	
Grants/additional funding streams	
Other (please specify)	

Benefits – non financial

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Costs & Resources to deliver the savings

Direct costs	
Redundancy costs	Not quantified
Accommodation costs	
Procurement and/or Legal costs	
Other HR costs	
Other (please specify)	

Section 3: Impact/Consequences of proposal – not covered in financial section

Impact on Corporate Priorities/objectives/ performance targets/standards

Priority 1. Create a great place for learning and opportunity	
Priority 2. Encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity	
Priority 3. Build pride, responsibility and respect to create safer communities	
Priority 4. Improve health and well-being	
Priority 5. Protect and promote our clean and green environment	The work of the Pollution team with industrial/commercial processes contributes to pollution control and therefore maintenance of a clean environment.
Well-run organisation - financial & governance; staff; customers	

Impacts on partners

Negative impacts on businesses if advice on pollution control is not available due to no inspection visits being made.

Impacts on customers / community and equality/diversity implications

Customers will potentially be exposed to increased levels of pollution.

Has an EqlA been undertaken?

NO Date: N/A

Other impacts/implications

Section 4: Risks and Mitigation

Delivery risks				
Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Rating	Management or Mitigating Action
Failure to negotiate changes in staff contracts required in time to implement for full savings to be realised in 14/15	1	4	4	Commence HR processes promptly when decision to implement agreed.

Service risks				
Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Rating	Management or Mitigating Action
Intervention by Government due to Council not meeting its statutory obligations	2	4	8	Review decision to implement should circumstances require this.

For information on the ratings criteria guide, please see <\\Thurdata01\data\THURROCK\EXCHANGE\ROM>

Likelihood	4	8	12	16
	3	6	9	12
	2	4	6	8
	1	2	3	4
	Impact			

Section 5: Assumptions, Dependencies & Exclusions

Timeframes Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	HR support available in a timely fashion to implement staff changes.
Benefits Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	
Costs Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	
Other/ General Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	

Section 6: Stakeholder Engagement Requirements

		Approximate timelines
Staff/Unions NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with staff in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Jackie Hinchliffe	<input type="checkbox"/>	As per HR procedures commencing as soon as decision to implement the proposal is agreed.
Portfolio Holders/Members NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with staff in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Directors Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Via Directors Board
Partners NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with partners in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Directors Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Residents/Public NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with staff in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Directors Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other – please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Section 7: Any other comments to support savings proposals