

Item 8 –

Covid-19 and Recovery - Service Impact update

Environment, Planning and Enforcement (EPE) - Staff

- Delivering the services (Business As Usual but also projects and continues improvement) remotely
- Impacts from the pandemic including sickness, isolation, anxiety, home schooling and caring challenges
- Community expectation for swift responses
- Reduction in income across projects

Country Parks, Public Rights of Way and Gypsy & Travellers - frontline

- Individual sites 50 – 220% busier
- Car parks, play areas, toilets still open (Subject To Review)
- Extensive wear and tear owing to usage and weather...
- ... especially around pinch points, and overflow surfacing
- Site managers invaluable role supporting vulnerable residents
- Staff and volunteers

EPE - COVID specific responses (1)

- Additional Planning enforcement
- Community Wardens - supporting those most in need
- Coroners – much higher number of referrals
- Coroners – Aylesford, Inquests, Community Deaths – new clinical/administrative hub established
- Kent Scientific Services – supporting high demand on coroners, but also new business

EPE - COVID specific responses (2)

- Cross-Authority daily Situation Reports, Common Operating Picture and Tactical representation
- Public Protection 'Ask the Experts' seminar
- Public Protection – tackling vast number of COVID scams
- Sport - Everyday Active Small Grants – 72% additional reach
- 3 fold increase Explore Kent downloads, 24 Days of Kent

Trading Standards and COVID

- Enforcement – 1018 complaints about businesses
- Kent Resilience Forum Enforcement Cell
- Intelligence led targeted operations
- Business advice via Growth Hub
- Not losing focus on serious criminal activity

Trading Standards and EU Exit

- Trading Standards Brexit Campaign – 345k reach
- Kent.gov plus press editorial
- Direct business advice (limited by COVID) incl. Growth Hub
- Animal health and welfare
- Import work