
REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	AGENDA ITEM: 14
DATE OF MEETING:	11 th July 2002	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGER	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	Carl Jacobs 595717	DOC:
SUBJECT:	SCHEME OF DELEGATION AND AUTHORISATION OF OFFICERS FOR ABANDONED VEHICLES	REF: c:\myfiles\ES\ Abandtransfer
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All	TERMS OF REFERENCE: ES13

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Committee approves that the Head of Environmental Health Under the delegated authority contained within Minutes No PR/5 of the Policy and Resources Committee dated the 10th July 1997 and of Council dated 28th January, 1990 is authorised to act on behalf of South Derbyshire District Council under the provisions of the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978 and subsequently delegate officers the authority to serve notices under Section 3 of the Act.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 The present authorisation for the service of notices for abandoned vehicles lies with the Chief Executive. This Report proposes to transfer those powers to the Head of Environmental Health and the service of Statutory Notices under the Act to field officers in order to improve the speed and efficiency of the service.

4.0 Detail

4.1 The power to serve notices on abandoned vehicles presently lies with the Chief Executive and the service of notice requires the signature facsimile stamp of the Chief Executive. The present system is slow and cumbersome and reduces the efficiency of dealing with abandoned vehicles.

4.2 We request that those powers be transferred to the Head of Environmental Health and authorise Environmental Health Officers, Technical Officers the Licensing Enforcement Officer the ability to serve statutory notices directly on abandoned vehicles.

4.3 In June 2000 'The Housing and Environment Committee' approved a Committee Report called the 'Scheme of Delegation and Authorisation of Officers' in the Environmental Health Section. That report indicated all legislation enforced by the section and the level of authorisation of each officer. Below is an addition to that report.

Section or Reg.	Statute & Summary of Powers	Officers Empowered:
	REFUSE DISPOSAL (AMENITY) ACT 1978	
3	Removal of Abandoned Vehicles	H.O.E.H.. [E.H.O.s, Technicians & Licensing Enforcement officer]
4	Disposal of removed Vehicles	H.O.E.H.
5	Recovery of expenses connected with removed vehicles	H.O.E.H

Improved Efficiency

- 4.4 Carbonated Abandoned Vehicle Notice pads are being produced which delegated officers will carry. Notices can then be affixed to abandoned vehicles, in a similar manner to that of a parking ticket, following complaint from a member of the public or during their normal duties. The notices are carbonated and therefore an exact copy can be kept of the original notice on file.
- 4.5 Amended legislation now gives Local Authorities the power to deal with Abandoned Vehicles that have no intrinsic value within 24Hrs. We propose to trial these new notices on this type of vehicle prior to extending the scheme to other vehicles that do have a some value and require a 7 days notice.
- 4.6 As many unlicensed vehicles become tomorrows abandoned vehicle we have obtained from the Drivers and Vehicle Licensing Agency warning Notices for vehicles that are parked on the highway but do not possess a current Tax Disc. These can be affixed to the vehicle by officers and the information forwarded to the local DVLA office who will then take the appropriate action.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 None

6.0 Background Papers

6.1 None