



**Haringey** Council

# **Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel**

**7<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

**Strategic Enforcement  
Evidence Gathering (Session 1)**

# Enforcement Survey - respondents



- **Anti Social Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT)**
- **Audit & Risk Management – Fraud Investigation**
- **Building Control**
- **Commercial Environmental Health**
- **Licensing**
- **Neighbourhood Action Team**
- **Noise (Enforcement Response)**
- **Parks & Open Spaces**
- **Planning Enforcement**
- **Pollution**
- **Private Sector Housing**
- **Revenues, Benefits and Customer Services**
- **Trading Standards**
- **Traffic Management**

# Key aims of the survey



- Identify the nature and scope of enforcement services (what is enforced and how it is enforced)
- To understand how enforcement services currently work together
- To ascertain how enforcement data is collected, stored and shared across the organisation
- To identify examples of good practice that can be replicated elsewhere that could further support effective enforcement
- To assess the challenges that services face in delivering effective enforcement outcomes
- To assess how services interface with the public and identify ways in which further involvement may assist enforcement action
- To identify what practical actions the council should take to support more effective enforcement outcomes

# Organisational challenges for enforcement:



- Information Technology: incompatible systems (software, viewing platforms, training)
- Data rich organisation - but not effectively shared and the need to develop shared intelligence
- Perception that joint enforcement partnerships based on *informal relationships* – institutional risk that this may be lost
- Risk averse (data protection)
- Resources – especially site visits

# Other challenges for enforcement



- **Volume enforcement requests**
  - Can result in competing priorities
  - Can make services reactive and limit opportunities for proactive enforcement
- **Legislation**
  - Supporting legislation to support enforcement is often complex or inadequate
- **Evidence (information/ intelligence)**
  - Evidence gathering enforcement can be a time consuming and lengthy process
- **Nature of perpetrators**
  - Transience, mental health, language
- **Often difficult to establish conclusive enforcement outcomes**

# More effective enforcement...emerging themes



- **Strategic framework for enforcement**
  - Further guidance on priorities and principles that underpin enforcement
- **Improved information sharing - shared intelligence**
  - More formalised processes for partnerships (protocols)
  - Core council database (events and location)
  - Improved compatibility of existing data management systems
- **Improved IT infrastructure**
  - Mobile technologies to support field officers
  - Making more use of new technologies e.g. GIS
- **Improved publicity and communications to support enforcement**
- **Clearer public understanding of what enforcement action the council can and will take**

# Key themes for the evidence gathering sessions.....



- **What is effective enforcement (characteristics, examples) and how can this be replicated?**
- **What are the challenges for effective enforcement action and how can these be overcome?**
- **What should be priorities and actions of the council to support effective enforcement?**