

DD number: 008

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision (if necessary)

Kerry Bowley – Health and Safety and Business Engagement Manager

Officer Making the Decision

Rob Mitchell – Chief Executive

Recommendation

To delete the vacant 37 hours M100 Senior Pest Control Officer post (1FTE) and increase the hours of post L222 Pest Control Officer post by 37 hours.

To delete the vacant 7.4 hours L222 Pest Control Officer. Post L222 will now be 74 hours.

Both posts come under the F210 cost centre and the savings (£11,500 (£11,700 2025/26)) will be corporate savings. As this is a service review there will also be several other savings as detailed in the financial implications below.

Reason

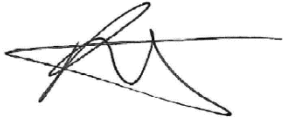
To allow the Council to continue to offer the residents of Charnwood assistance in dealing with pests, in particular rodents. Whether this be a charged service or free or to those in receipt of a specified income related benefit.

This is a discretionary service that the Council provides the residents of Charnwood. A pest control service review was carried out and approved by SLT, to ensure that an appropriate service could be offered to residents of Charnwood. This reduction of 0.2 FTE and the change of a Senior Pest Control Officer post to a Pest Control Officer will allow the Council to continue to offer this service to residents of the borough which represents good value for money.

Authority for Decision

Under Section 8.2 of the Constitution, the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) has delegated authority to agree changes to the establishment, within budget and without major operational disruption or interruption of services or involving a change from direct to indirect provision or vice-versa or other policy implications.

Decision and Date



Rob Mitchell 15/01/2025

Background

Currently the pest control team have two vacant positions. A 0.2 FTE Pest Control Officer (L222) and a Senior Pest Control Officer (M100). There is only 1 FTE Pest Control Officer (L222) currently in post and we have had to reduce the level of pest control service offered, whilst these posts are vacant.

The pest control service is considered to be an important service for the residents of Charnwood, where it is offered as a chargeable service, or free service to those in receipt of specified benefits.

To continue to offer this valued service, the decision was made to reduce the pest control staffing from 2.2 FTE to 2 FTE and change the Senior Pest Control Officer (M100) to a Pest Control Officer (L222) post. This would be a saving of £11,500 each year, with minimal impact on the number of service requests that can be carried out by the pest control team.

There is no longer a need for a Senior Pest Control Officer, as the number of pest control officers have reduced from 3 to 2 since 2020, and this role can be carried out by the Health and Safety and Business Manager, as they are the direct line manager for these posts.

Comments from HR

HR Advisor: S Choudhury (13/01/25)

Summary of Comments from HR: As the post that is being deleted is vacant no consultation will be required.

Once the DD is approved management will need to follow the standard recruitment process when recruiting to the vacant Pest Control Officer post.

Financial Implications

Based on 2024/25 budget figures - there would be savings of £11,500 in the deletion of the 0.2 FTE Pest Control Officer post (£7,500) and changing the Senior Pest Control Officer (M100) post to a Pest Control Officer (L222) post (£4,000) to F210 A0101. (£11,700 2025/26)

Following the pest control review there are further corporate savings in **2024/25** and the following need to be amended from F210 and moved to C200 D1016.

D0301 Clothing and Uniforms	£500 to £300	£200 savings
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D0114 Baits and Poisons	£2700 to £2500	£200 savings
D0141 Small Equipment and Tools	£2,100 to £1,500	£600 savings
C0101 Fuel	£3,100 to £00	£3,100 savings
C0309 Leasing (servicing)	£8,200 to £5,100	£3,100 saving

This is due to the vehicles being bought outright in 2023/24.

From **2025/26 onwards** there will be a further saving with an increase in fees and charges.

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D0114 Baits and Poisons	£2700 to £2,500	£200 savings
D0141 Small Equipment and Tools	£2,100 to £1,500	£600 savings
C0101 Fuel	£3,100 to £00	£3,100 savings
J0501 Fees and Charges	£27,200 to £29,400.	£2,200 savings

Is a virement (budget transfer) required to fund this decision? NO

LB 08/01/25

Risk Management

There are no specific risks associated with this decision

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Service level remains the same - None identified

Climate Change and Carbon Impact

No change to vehicles or scheduling of appointments - None identified

Crime and Disorder

None identified

Wards Affected

All Wards will continue to receive the service

Publicity Arrangements

Not applicable.

Consultations

SLT

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Effective and Efficient Council	Yes
Environment and Climate Change	No
Homes and Communities	Yes
Economy and Growth	No

Key Decision: No

If yes

Date included on Forward Plan dd/mm/yy

Background Papers: *None/list as appropriate*