

## **Kettering Borough Council Wardens**

### **Background**

Kettering Borough Council employs 8 full time wardens, who operate 7 days a week between 8am to 8pm. The warden team also provides an 'out of hours' service for stray dogs which covers evenings and weekends. (Currently there is one vacant post in the team).

The main functions wardens perform include:

#### **1) Parking**

- Wardens operate, patrol and manage 6 pay and display car parks, along with other controlled car parks such as Chesham House and Northampton Road.
- The wardens will also patrol 40 streets which are within residential parking zones in Kettering.

#### **2) Enviro Crime**

- Wardens investigate environmental crimes such as fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, and abandoned vehicles.
- In 2016/2017 there were 1787 Fly tipping incidents and last year (17/18) there were 1441 incidents. Wardens investigated 246 of these individual incidents where evidence was available.
- In the last financial year, there have been 4 fly tipping prosecutions resulting in fines totalling over £4,000.
- Since April 2017, 52 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued for littering offences together with 4 littering prosecutions. There are currently 8 pending prosecutions for littering offences.
- In the last financial year wardens assisted in removing 283 abandoned vehicles.
- Last year the wardens collected 79 stray dogs and dealt with 126 separate dog fouling related incidents. The team also microchipped 43 dogs.

#### **3) Pest Control**

- Wardens operate a pest control service which offers a service to both domestic and commercial customers.
- Last year (17/18) wardens treated 455 pest issues. This year (to October 1<sup>st</sup>) wardens have already treated more than 470 incidents.

#### 4) Anti-Social Behaviour

- With their statutory partners, wardens deal with a multitude of anti-social behaviours including street drinking, and begging.
- Since 2016 the wardens have successfully pursued 17 prosecutions and obtained the same number of Criminal Behaviour Orders. 13 of these prosecutions relate to begging, drinking, and foul and abusive behaviour.
- The wardens recorded 192 ASB complaints between 01/04/17- 31/3/18.
- In the last 12 months, the warden team has issued over 30 Community Protection Warning Notices, issued over 17 Community Protection Notices, and issued 11 Fixed Penalty Notices for breach of Public Space Protection Orders.
- Many of the individuals wardens deal with have very complex backgrounds and as such officers will always work very closely with the support services, for example the homelessness team to try to resolve any identified issues.
- The wardens and police can now operate from shared accommodation in order to work much more closely and share relevant intelligence. On average wardens and police undertake around 5 hours of joint patrols each week.