

Environmental Enforcement at Knowsley Council

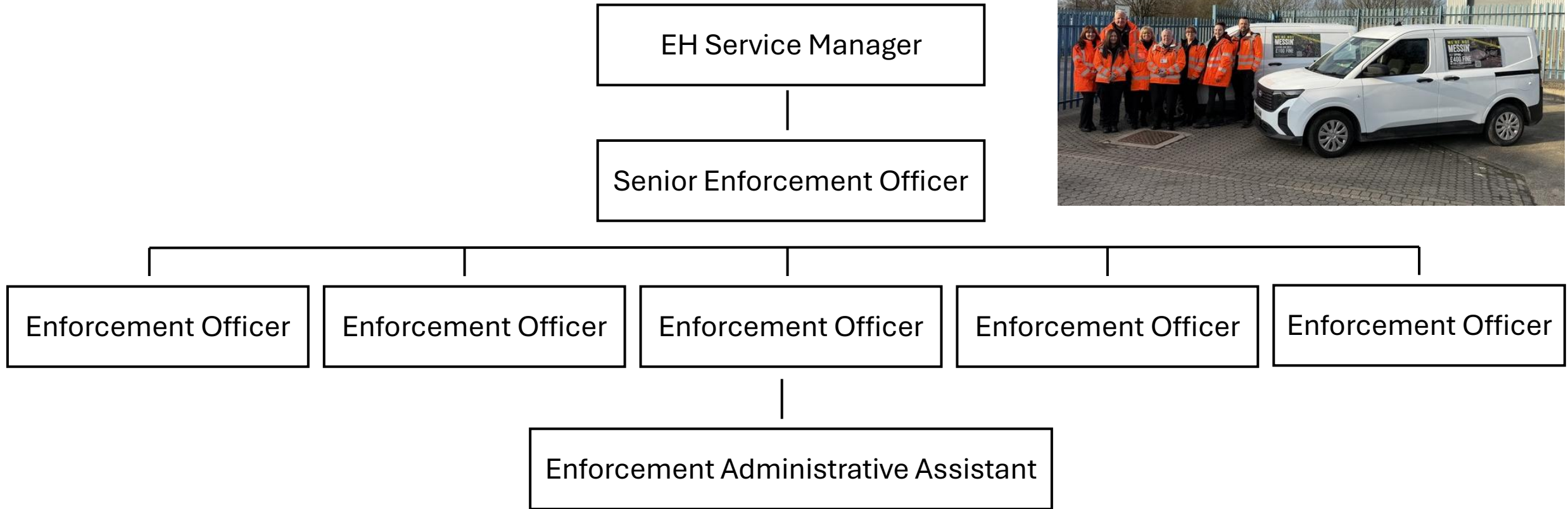
Background

- External enforcement contractors previously used in Knowsley since 2012.
- Number of issues with the delivery of the contractors as unable to fulfil their obligations.
- Due to lack of market interest and suitable alternative options, decision was taken to in-source the service.

Funding and Resource

- EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) grant from DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs) given in 2025
- Total £2.214m received in 2025/2026.
- Establishment of seven permanent FTE staff members at a cost of £330,000 per annum.
 - One Senior Environmental Enforcement Officer
 - Five Environmental Enforcement Officers
 - One Environmental Enforcement Assistant

Team Structure



Roles & Responsibilities

- Investigate complaints concerning environmental crime issues such as fly tipping, littering, accumulation of waste, dog fouling and control.
- Assist in delivering targeted campaigns and utilising local intelligence to raise awareness and change behaviours.
- Carry out a range of enforcement activities including evidence gathering, service of legal notices and issuing fixed penalty notices.
- Carry out proactive patrols to identify and respond to nuisance and environmental concerns.

Stages to bring in house

- Recruitment
- Implementation
- Monitor and support
- Review and Improve



Benefits for the organisation

- Providing new employment opportunities.
- Increased council capacity, resulting in stronger enforcement and deterrence.
- Increased partnership with external organisations.
- Improved environmental outcomes.
- Collaboration with the waste and recycling team on the roll out of food waste collection and bin bring back scheme.

Benefits for the community

- Cleaner and safer communities.
- Greater enforcement engagement
- Better resident satisfaction.
- Providing the residents of Knowsley with education and support surrounding environmental crime issues.



Real world impact

- Dog fouling campaign: March – June 2026
- Campaign formed a wider environmental enforcement approach to tackling dog fouling under the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).
- Overall reduction of 87.6%, decreasing from 252 incidents at baseline to 23 post-interventions.
- Educational enforcement patrols were well received, with no Fixed Penalty Notices issued, reflecting a strong emphasis on engagement.



Thank you for listening



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