Isle of Wight Council

From
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Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Clerk,

I am writing regarding consideration of membership of the Enhanced Public Realm Officer Service for the 2027/28 and 2028/29 financial years.

Unlike previous arrangements, we are proposing a two-year Service Level Agreement, with contributions for 2028/29 increasing automatically in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The Isle of Wight Council remains committed to enhancing and protecting our public spaces. Whilst local authority budgets continue to face significant pressures, we are keen to work collaboratively with Town and Parish Councils to understand your priorities and aspirations for your local area. Any additional contribution made through the Enhanced Public Realm Officer Service is invested directly into your community, helping to maintain clean, safe, and welcoming public spaces for residents and visitors alike.

The Enhanced Service allows the Public Realm Officer Team to dedicate additional officer time beyond our statutory responsibilities, which include duties such as playground inspections and coastal safety patrols. A key element of the enhanced service is the education and enforcement of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs), particularly in relation to dog fouling and dogs being exercised off lead in restricted areas. The service also provides proactive patrols targeting environmental offences, including littering, fly-tipping, and other forms of anti-social environmental crime.

This area of work has expanded significantly in 2026 through **Operation Clean & Safe**, a joint initiative between the Public Realm Officer Team and local Neighbourhood Policing Teams. The partnership has delivered increased educational engagement, targeted enforcement patrols, temporary signage campaigns, and a range of enforcement outcomes, including warnings, Fixed Penalty Notices, and, where appropriate, prosecution.

Enforcement activity remains a core component of the Enhanced Public Realm Officer Service. In addition to enforcement, we are happy to discuss other services that may be of benefit to your community. Examples include routine inspections of Town and Parish Council-operated playgrounds, public toilets, and other community assets.

The rates for the **2027/28 financial year** will be:

- **Day Rate:** £210.31
- **Half Day Rate:** £105.15
- **Hourly Rate:** £28.42

We recognise that consideration of an enhanced service contribution may require budget planning and prioritisation. However, we firmly believe that the additional officer presence, educational engagement,

enforcement activity, and community support provided through the scheme offer significant value to local communities and contribute positively to the quality of life within your parish.

Should you require any further information to assist your council in making an informed decision, please contact us at **PublicRealmOfficers@iow.gov.uk**

We would also be pleased to arrange a meeting, or Microsoft Teams call to discuss your requirements and explore how the service can best support your community.

I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing what contribution, if any, your council wishes to make towards the Enhanced Public Realm Officer Service by **31 January 2027**.

Yours sincerely,



Stu Brown
Public Realm Officer Team Leader