

Licensing Committee – 14 June 2011

## 5. The Public Fundraising Regulatory Association (PFRA) and SSDC

*Executive Portfolio Holder:* Peter Seib, Regulatory and Democratic Services  
*Group Manager:* Laurence Willis, Assistant Director - Environment  
*Lead Officer:* Nigel Marston, Licensing Manager  
*Contact Details:* nigel.marston@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01935) 462150

### Purpose of the Report

To update members on the monitoring and performance of the site management agreement with the Public Fundraising Regulatory Association (PFRA) in relation to face-to-face fundraising.

### Recommendations

That:

- (1) members note the report;
- (2) members recommend to District Executive that the agreement should continue;
- (3) an annual monitoring report be brought to Licensing Committee.

### Background

In April 2009 District Executive approved a proposal for joint working between South Somerset District Council and the PFRA for an initial 12-month period. Following this initial 12-month period, it was requested that a monitoring report be brought to Licensing Committee prior to a decision by District Executive on whether to extend the agreement.

### Report Detail

The aim of the site management agreement (SMA) is to monitor and facilitate charity fundraising in agreed locations within the South Somerset area (excluding Yeovil town) and provide a balance between the right of the charity to fund raise and the right of the public to go about their business with the least impression of inconvenience.

The SMA for SSDC was agreed and signed in March 2010 with the PFRA managing allocations for collections from May 2010. The agreement specifies a number of areas in which street collections will be permitted and the frequency of those collections. Town Councils within those areas were consulted on local requirements for the designated areas. A copy of this agreement is included as Appendix A to this report.

The SMA provides a mechanism for reporting apparent instances of inappropriate activity / behaviour and for receiving feedback on how any issues have been resolved.

### The Last 12 months

Over the last 12 months the PFRA have administered 68 face-to-face fund raising collections on behalf of the district council.

In this period 2 complaints were received in relation to these fund raising activities, one on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2010 and another on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

In both cases the complaints were investigated by the PFRA, the fundraisers were spoken to, and the relevant disciplinary procedures were followed. The complaints were investigated in a very timely manner and the outcome of the complaint was notified to the Licensing Manager within 48 hrs.

There was no cost to SSDC in administering these collections.

### **Yeovil Town**

Over the last 12 months Yeovil Town Council have administered 89 face-to-face fund raising collections on behalf of the district council.

In this period no complaints have been received in relation to these fund raising activities.

There was no cost to SSDC in relation to administering these collections.

### **Financial Implications**

None to the Council.

### **Implications for Corporate Priorities**

There will be a positive impact on Corporate Theme 4, ensuring safe, sustainable and cohesive communities.

### **Other Implications**

None

**Background Papers:** *Site Management Agreement*  
*DX Minutes 02.04.09*

---