

MICROCHIP READER FOR CATS	6th November 2018
TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE	
FOR DECISION	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient Healthy & Engaged Communities
Outcome	To enable the owners of microchipped cats to establish if they have been found by Council staff
Lead Officer	Director of Environmental Services
Cost: (If applicable)	£600

Background

At Environmental Services Committee of September 2018 a motion was brought to establish the costs and requirements for the purchase of microchip readers for cats. This would enable Council staff at depots to scan cats found on roadways throughout the Borough during the course of their duties. If chipped, then the cats owners could be contacted and informed that their cat had been found.

Costs

The cost to purchase 4 Microchip readers, which would be held in each of the 4 main depots, would be £150 each. Training for staff would be completed inhouse by staff already using this device for scanning dogs.

There is no statutory requirement to chip cats and therefore there are no records available to determine the number of cats who are likely to be found with a chip. Therefore, it is proposed to monitor the usage of the microchip readers for 1 year to establish the cost benefit analysis of continuing with this service.

Recommendation

It is recommended that 4 no. Microchip readers are purchased and placed in the 4 main Council depots. Usage of the scheme will be monitored for 1 year to establish the benefit of the service.