



## **GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024**

**SUBJECT: REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000**

**REPORT BY: HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND DEPUTY MONITORING  
OFFICER**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise Members of the numbers of covert surveillance operations undertaken by the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 To provide an update on the number of operations undertaken in accordance with RIPA for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 .

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 None. This report is for information only.

### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 To ensure compliance with statutory requirements.

### **5. THE REPORT**

- 5.1 The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) sets out strict controls for public authorities wishing to carry out covert surveillance of individual members of the public as part of their exercise of their statutory functions. In addition to this Act, advice and guidance is found within the Codes of Practice issued by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office.

- 5.2 The Authority has a corporate policy, which provides guidance on how surveillance should be used by the relevant officers.

5.3 Public Authorities undertaking covert surveillance of individual members of the public are subject to inspection by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office.

5.4 Members are advised that for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 one RIPA operation has been undertaken in relation to the sale of alcohol and/or disposable vapes containing nicotine to children under the age of 18 years.

#### 5.5 **Conclusion**

The report advises members that there has been one RIPA operation undertaken for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 in relation to the sale of alcohol and/or disposable vapes containing nicotine to children under the age of 18 years.

### 6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 There are no assumptions contained in this report.

### 7. **SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 As this report is for information there is no requirement for an Integrated Impact Assessment to be completed.

### 8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### 9. **PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

### 10. **CONSULTATIONS**

10.1 There has been no consultation undertaken on this report as it is for information only.

### 11. **STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

Author: Lisa Lane Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer

For information: Robert Tranter Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer