REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENTAL AND AGENDA ITEM: 10

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

COMMITTEE

DATE OF 31ST MAY 2018 CATEGORY:
DELEGATED/

MEETING: RECOMMENDED

REPORT FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OPEN/EXEMPT

PARAGRAPH NO:

MEMBERS' DOC:

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SUBJECT: CHARITABLE COLLECTIONS REF:

POLICY - REQUEST FOR

EXCEPTION

WARD(S) TERMS OF AFFECTED: ALL REFERENCE:

1. Recommendations

1.1 That Members consider a request for an exception to the Charitable Collections Policy (attached at **Appendix 1**) by allowing Phoenix Children's Foundation to have Shetland ponies accompanying their collectors during a street collection.

2. Purpose of Report

2.1 To provide Members with the necessary information to be able to give full consideration to the recommendation contained in paragraph 1 of this report.

3. <u>Detail</u>

- 3.1 Street collections are governed by the Police, Factories, Etc (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916 and require permits to be in place which are issued by the Licensing Authority for any charitable collection held in any street or public place.
- 3.2 A Charitable Collections Policy was approved by this Committee on 14th April 2016 and ratified by Full Council on 19th May 2016 following an 8 weeks consultation with all persons who have been granted a permit previously, any relevant organisations and members of the public via the Council's website. Phoenix Children's Foundation were consulted as a body who had held a permit previously. No response was received from Phoenix Children's Foundation during the consultation period.
- 3.3 Paragraph 5.6 of the Charitable Collections Policy states 'No animals are permitted to accompany collectors during the collection without prior written approval of the Licensing Authority.' This was introduced at the request of Cultural Services, prior to the consultation exercise, due to the number of negative comments received by

the Town Centre Manager, Cultural Services and the Licensing Section from members of the public when animals have accompanied collectors during street collections.

- 3.3 On 7th February 2018, an application was received from Phoenix Children's Foundation for a street collection to be held in Swadlincote and Melbourne. The application form requested permission that Shetland ponies accompany the street collectors. In line with current Policy, written approval was not provided for the Shetland ponies to accompany the street collectors after consultation with the Cultural Services. As the street collection was permitted without the Shetland ponies, Phoenix Children's Foundation made an official complaint.
- 3.4 As the Policy was approved by this Committee, Members are asked whether they wish to allow Shetland ponies to accompany street collections carried out by Phoenix Children's Foundation.
- 3.5 Phoenix Children's Foundation have submitted a letter with supporting documentation in relation their request (attached at **Appendix 2**).
- 3.6 Members are reminded; allowing an exception to the Policy may invite applications from other organisations requesting permission to have animals accompany their collectors.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications to the Council.

5. <u>Corporate Implications</u>

5.1 There are no corporate implications to the Council.