

North Yorkshire County Council

Business and Environmental Services

Executive Members

14 December 2022

Trading Standards Tasking Filter and Matrix

Report of the Assistant Director - Growth, Planning and Trading Standards

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To report to the Corporate Director Business and Environmental Service (BES) and the Executive Member for Open for Business, on the use of the trading standards filter and matrix from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022.
- 1.2 To seek approval for a 'cost of living weighting' and the continued use of the filter and matrix.

2.0 Background to the report

- 2.1 The Corporate Director (BES) and BES Executive Members approved the filter and matrix on 27 February 2015, and it was implemented from 1 April 2015. It has been subject to minor amendments on a number of occasions. The last report was made on 17 December 2021. The current filter and matrix is produced as Appendix A to this report.
- 2.2 The filter and matrix was introduced to enable the Trading Standards Service (TSS) to manage and allocate reduced resources. The reduction in core budget since 2015 has been mitigated by successes the Service has had in obtaining income and in securing corporate and external funding to run specific delivery programmes and projects. However, the impact on core work is such that there are fewer resources to provide investigative and inspection work outside those service delivery programmes and projects. TSS uses the filter and matrix mechanism to manage the volume of complaints and service requests received. It ensures that there is an agreed, consistent and transparent approach to the response provided to all such complaints and service requests.

3.0 Complaints and Service Requests

- 3.1 In recent years, the TSS has received around 7,000 consumer complaints per year via the Citizens Advice Consumer Service helpline, with 2018-19 recording the lowest number at 6,282. Numbers began rising the following year, hitting a peak of 7,297 complaints received between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021. Reporting of covid restrictions breaches and unsafe practices, along with covid-related complaints such as those concerning wedding or holiday bookings, contributed to the rise. 6,893 complaints were received between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022.

- 3.2 The former downward trend was seen nationally over several years. It is believed that the ready availability of online advice for straightforward consumer enquiries, such as someone wanting to know what their statutory rights are before returning goods, and the ability to contact large retailers about complaints easily via their social media accounts is responsible for the reduction. However, it has been noted that there has been an increase in pricing related complaints this year and it can be expected that as the cost of living rises continue to affect residents, complaints about pricing, energy suppliers, accommodation and vehicles are likely to increase.
- 3.3 Charts showing the number of complaints received, filtered, scored through the matrix and tasked for 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 are set out in Appendix B. Charts for the same period in both 2020-21 and 2019-20 are included for comparison purposes. A summary, table 13, shows the total number of complaints received, scored and tasked over the last four reporting periods. Following a peak of 19% of complaints received tasked during the early days of the pandemic, tasking levels have settled at 12% and 13% of complaints received over the last two years. This is slightly higher than the pre-pandemic level which had settled between 8% and 10%.
- 3.4 There are three probable reasons for the increase in percentage of complaints tasked:
- a. The reduction in straightforward complaints as a result of consumers' self-help noted in paragraph 3.2 above means that a higher percentage of complaints received by the service warrant intervention.
 - b. Following the pandemic there was an increase in people undertaking home improvements and this led to an increase in complaints about building and other home maintenance sectors. This type of work inevitably involves a significant cost outlay and so led to a higher proportion of complaints being tasked.
 - c. There has been a noticeable increase in complaints about more minor pricing issues, such as failure to price mark goods or discrepancies between shelf edge prices and prices charged at the till. Such complaints often relate to convenience stores and corner shops and so are likely to have more of an impact on those on a low income or with financial or other vulnerabilities who may not be able to travel to an alternative shop. Where possible, the financial detriment element of the matrix has been used to allow these complaints to be tasked. A proposal is set out in paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 to formalise this for the duration of the cost of living crisis.
- 3.5 Approximately 1,000 service requests are made each year for business advice (including animal health and food), no cold calling zones, weight restriction enforcement, and education work. The number of service requests has been falling year on year with 936 received between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. 1,051 service requests were received between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, and 1,105 between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020. This compares with 1,361 between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019.
- 3.6 The service offered free business advice to all North Yorkshire businesses during the pandemic until 1 October 2021 in order to support businesses through difficult trading conditions. However, the pandemic inevitably led to a reduction in new product launches for established businesses and a reduction in overall trade for many sectors meaning there was a lower demand for proactive advice. Since then, the economic situation has also meant that established businesses are less likely to launch new products or seek to expand.

3.7 The service offers free advice to new businesses based in North Yorkshire and there may be an increase in demand for such advice if people decide to set up their own business in response to redundancy or lack of other employment opportunities. Such new ventures are often in relatively high risk areas such as the manufacture of cosmetics, toys, cakes or dog treats and can require detailed and complex advice. Whilst this can be resource intensive, research has shown that a business which has access to good quality advice when it is set up is twice as likely to grow as if it does not¹. Helping businesses get things right at the beginning also removes unnecessary enforcement costs later on.

4.0 Proposed Amendments to the Filter and Matrix

4.1 Consumers and businesses are being hit hard by the rising cost of living. A House of Commons Library research briefing² published on 20 October 2022 reported that the annual rate of inflation reached 10.1% in September 2022, a 40 year high. The same month, the Office for National Statistics³ found that 79% of adults were 'very' or 'somewhat' worried about the rising cost of living. Even more starkly, the National Trading Standards Strategic Assessment, published on 3 November 2022, reports that losing just £100 to a scam now would tip one in four (24%) UK adults into financial crisis, unable to pay bills, or buy food or other essentials.

4.2 It has been observed that there has been an increase in complaints about issues such as a lack of shelf edge pricing or discrepancies between price markings and prices charged as people become more aware of the cost of their shopping. Such matters would not ordinarily score highly enough on the matrix to be tasked to an officer. In order that resources can be allocated to these areas it is proposed that a 'cost of living' weighting be added temporarily to the 'financial detriment' element of the matrix as below:

FACTOR	NONE Score 0	LOW Score 1	MODERATE Score 6	HIGH Score 10	SCORE	COMMENTS
Financial Detriment (include wider economic impact)	No financial detriment CLW = ADD 10	Total value estimated at less than £1,000 CLW = ADD 10	Total value estimated at £1,000 to £10,000 CLW = ADD 5	Total value estimated at over £10,000 CLW = ADD 5		APPLY COST OF LIVING WEIGHTING (CLW)

4.3 This weighting would be applied in respect of complaints concerning:

- failure to price goods
- misleading price indications or price comparisons
- failure to provide unit pricing information
- single reports of short measure of food, drink or fuel
- overcharging
- unfair practices in connection with the repair of vehicles or white goods

4.4 The continued need for the weighting would be reviewed annually. Worked examples to illustrate the impact of the proposed cost of living weighting can be found at Appendix C.

¹ BIS Small Business Survey cited in [No stone unturned in pursuit of growth \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

² Rising Cost of Living in the UK [CBP-9428.pdf \(parliament.uk\)](https://www.parliament.uk)

³ [Public opinions and social trends, Great Britain - Office for National Statistics](https://www.ons.gov.uk)

5.0 Equalities

- 5.1 It is the view of officers that there are no equalities implications arising from the recommendations. A decision record sheet covering the decision not to complete an equalities impact assessment in relation to the introduction of the filter and matrix is attached as Appendix D.

6.0 Financial

- 6.1 There are no significant financial implications for the County Council arising from the recommendations.

7.0 Legal

- 7.1 The filter and matrix is designed to provide a consistent and transparent process by which to deploy resources and so, applied correctly, would assist with responding to complaints or legal arguments that particular enforcement action should or should not have been taken.

8.0 Climate Change

- 8.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any climate impacts arising from the recommendation. It is the view of officers that the recommendation has a neutral impact on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030 and a copy of the Climate change impact assessment screening form is attached as Appendix E.

9.0 Recommendations

- 9.1 That the Corporate Director (BES) in consultation with the Executive Member for Open to Business, note the contents of this report and approve the proposed addition of a 'cost of living' weighting and the continued use of the filter and matrix.
- 9.2 Subject to such approval, that the TSS reports on the use of the filter and matrix to the Corporate Director (BES) and the Executive Member for Open to Business in December 2023.

DAVID CAULFIELD
Assistant Director Growth, Planning and Trading Standards

Author of report: Jo Bouflower, Head of Business and Consumer Services

Background Documents: None

FILTER AND MATRIX

Criteria	Yes	No	Comments
1. Does the identified problem fit within the NYCC TS remit?		REFER	Refer to other agency if appropriate
2. Would the identified problem be best dealt with by another agency?			Refer to other agency if appropriate
3. Is the complaint anonymous or of poor reliability?	RECORD		Record for intelligence purposes if complaint relates to safety, doorstep crime, animal health & welfare, or underage sales.
4. Does the identified problem link to local priorities?		RECORD INTEL IF APPROPRIATE	Reject if problem is incapable of causing detriment in North Yorkshire
5. Does the problem cause or risk injury or death?	GO TO 12	GO TO 6	
6. Does the problem involve a risk to animal welfare?	GO TO 12	GO TO 7	
7. Does the problem cause an animal disease risk?	GO TO 12	GO TO 8	
8. Does the problem cause or risk significant consumer detriment?	GO TO 12	GO TO 9	
9. Does the problem affect a vulnerable consumer even where detriment is low?	GO TO 12	GO TO 10	
10. Does the commercial practice amount to an aggressive practice?	GO TO 12	GO TO 11	
11. Does the problem provide a suspected offender with significant financial benefit?	GO TO 12	GO TO 12	
12. Does the problem cause or risk significant business detriment?	GO TO 12	RECORD	Record for intelligence purposes if appropriate
13. Is the identified threat/risk happening now, continuing or is it imminent?		EDUCATE & RECORD	Consider proportionate use of education/media and make an intelligence submission as appropriate
14. Does action help to stop the activity taking place?		EDUCATE & RECORD	Consider proportionate use of education/media and make an intelligence submission as appropriate
15. Is there level 2 or 3 offending or a sector-wide issue suitable for a regional or national referral?	REFER or TASK		Refer to regional tasking (for Scambusters or NTG referral) where appropriate
16. Is there a reputational risk to NYCC if no action was undertaken by NYTS?	TASK	TASK	Task in accordance with the tasking matrix

Appendix A

FACTOR	NONE Score 0	LOW Score 1	MODERATE Score 6	HIGH Score 10	SCORE	COMMENTS
Public Safety	<i>No risk of harm/injury</i>	<i>Low risk of harm/injury</i>	<i>Risk or reports of minor harm/injury</i>	<i>Risk or reports of major harm/injury</i>		
Vulnerable Consumer/ Aggressive Practices	<i>No indication of vulnerability/aggression</i>	<i>Low indication of vulnerability/potential aggressive practice</i>	<i>Vulnerable persons affected/aggressive practice used</i>	<i>Vulnerable persons specifically targeted/aggressive practice targeted at vulnerabilities</i>		
Financial Detriment (include wider economic impact)	<i>No financial detriment</i>	<i>Total value estimated at less than £1,000</i>	<i>Total value estimated at £1,000 to £10,000</i>	<i>Total value estimated at over £10,000</i>		
Environmental Impact	<i>Impacts climate change score 5</i>	<i>Impacts ecosystem quality score 5</i>	<i>Impacts resources score 5</i>	<i>Impacts human health score 5</i>		
Animal Welfare	<i>No risk to animal welfare</i>	<i>Low harm/risk score 5</i>	<i>Medium harm/risk score 10</i>	<i>Major harm/risk score 25</i>		APPLY ANIMAL WELFARE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
Animal Disease Risk	<i>No animal disease risk</i>	<i>Low animal disease risk</i>	<i>Risk or reports of minor disease issues</i>	<i>Risk or reports of major disease issues</i>		
Reputational Risk	<i>No media or public interest</i>	<i>Low media or public interest</i>	<i>Corporate priority or some media or public interest</i>	<i>Significant media or public interest</i>		
Trader Profile (divisor of 2 applies for Primary Authorities)	<i>No longer trading</i>	<i>Single outlet or local online presence</i>	<i>Multiple outlets or reach</i>	<i>National or international chain of outlets or trading website</i>		
Trader History	<i>Positive history</i>	<i>No known history</i>	<i>3 or fewer justified complaints in 12 months</i>	<i>Relevant previous convictions, cautions, more than 3 justified complaints in 12 months or on-going investigation</i>		

SCORING 0 - NFA 1-13 - Monitor/NFA 14-22 - Advise 23+ - Investigate

ANIMAL WELFARE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

To determine the matrix score for the 'Animal Welfare' category use the following criteria. If the relevant condition is not listed, professional judgment should be used to match to an equivalent level of severity.

MINOR HARM/RISK	SCORE 5
Uncorroborated reports from walkers of lame animals in fields.	
MEDIUM HARM/RISK	SCORE 10
Abscess (single)	
In-growing horn (no broken skin)	
Lameness (partial weight-bearing)	
Referral from another agency re lameness	
Rupture (single)	
Tail biting	
HIGH HARM/RISK	SCORE 25
Abscess (multiple)	
In-growing horn (broken skin)	
Lameness (severe)	
Rupture (multiple)	
Tail biting (severe, multiple animals)	

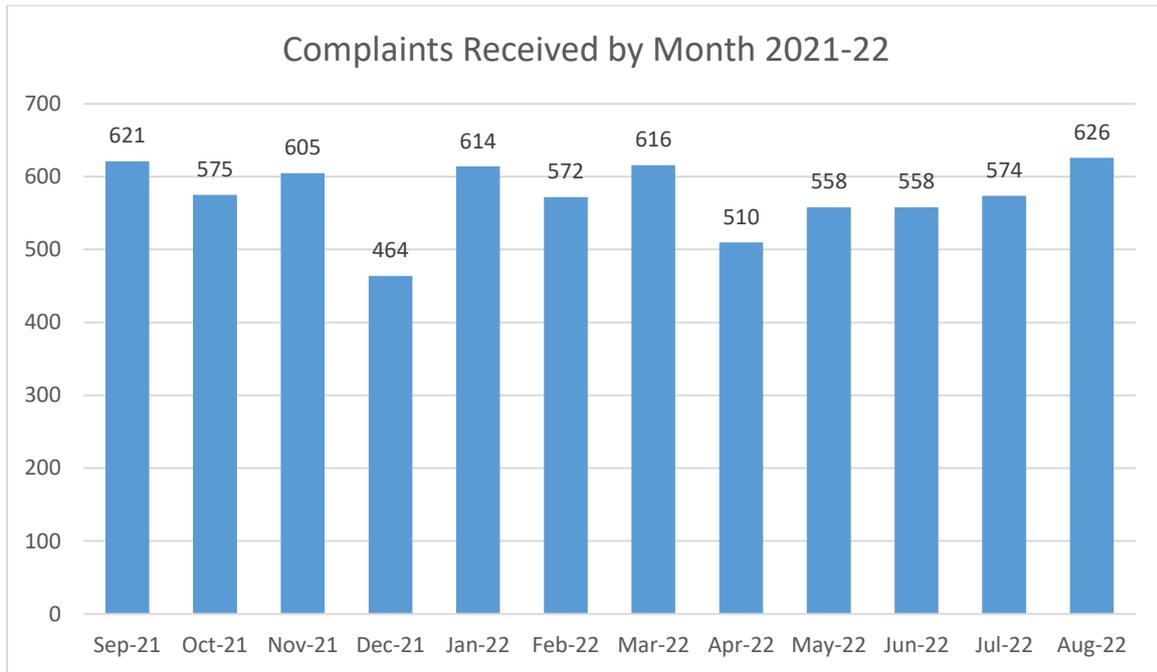
HEALTH & SAFETY EXECUTIVE ENFORCEMENT MANAGEMENT MODEL

SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY/SERIOUS HEALTH EFFECT
It is credible that a fatal injury could occur.
It is credible that an injury could occur that results in a permanent or irreversible disabling condition, or requires immediate treatment in hospital.
It is credible that a health effect could occur that causes a permanent, progressive or irreversible condition.
It is credible that a health effect could occur that causes permanent disabling, leading to a lifelong restriction of work capability or a major reduction in quality of life.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND TASKED

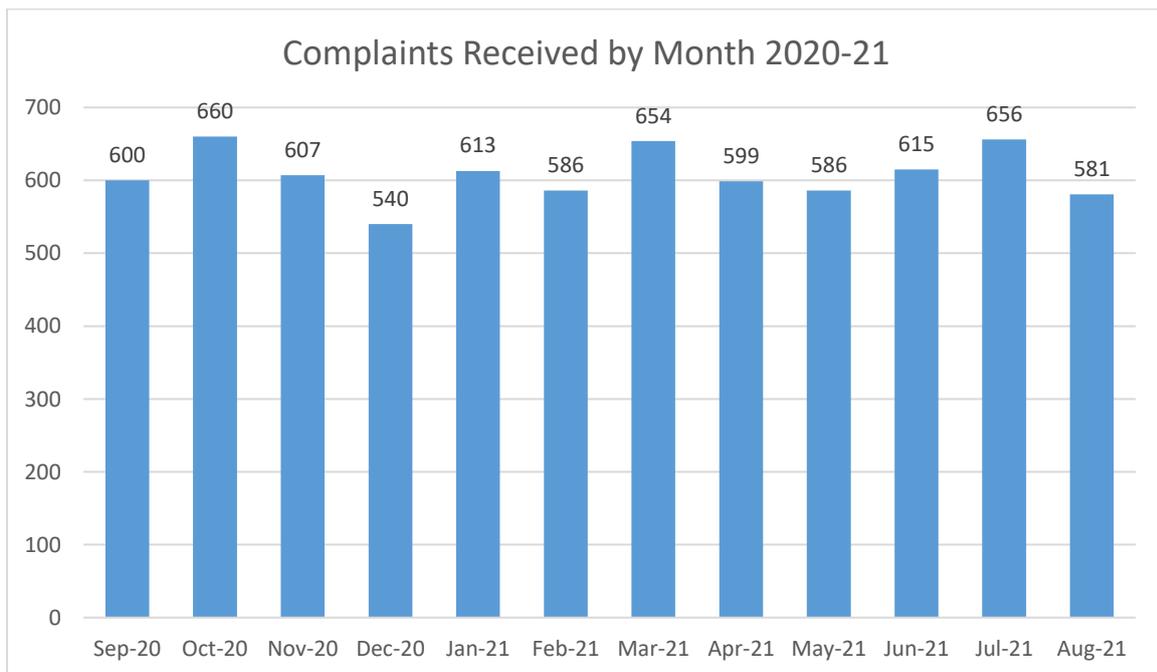
The total complaints received between **1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022** was 6,893, with monthly totals shown in table 1.

Table 1



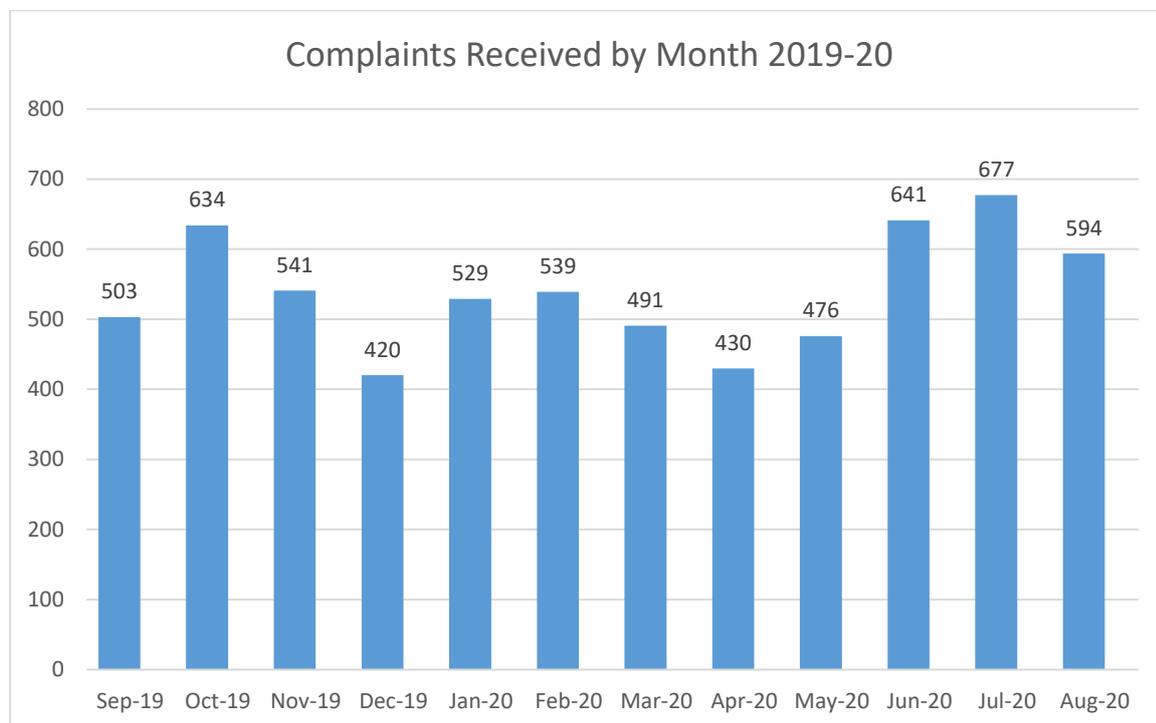
The total complaints received between **1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021** was 7,297, with monthly totals shown in table 2.

Table 2



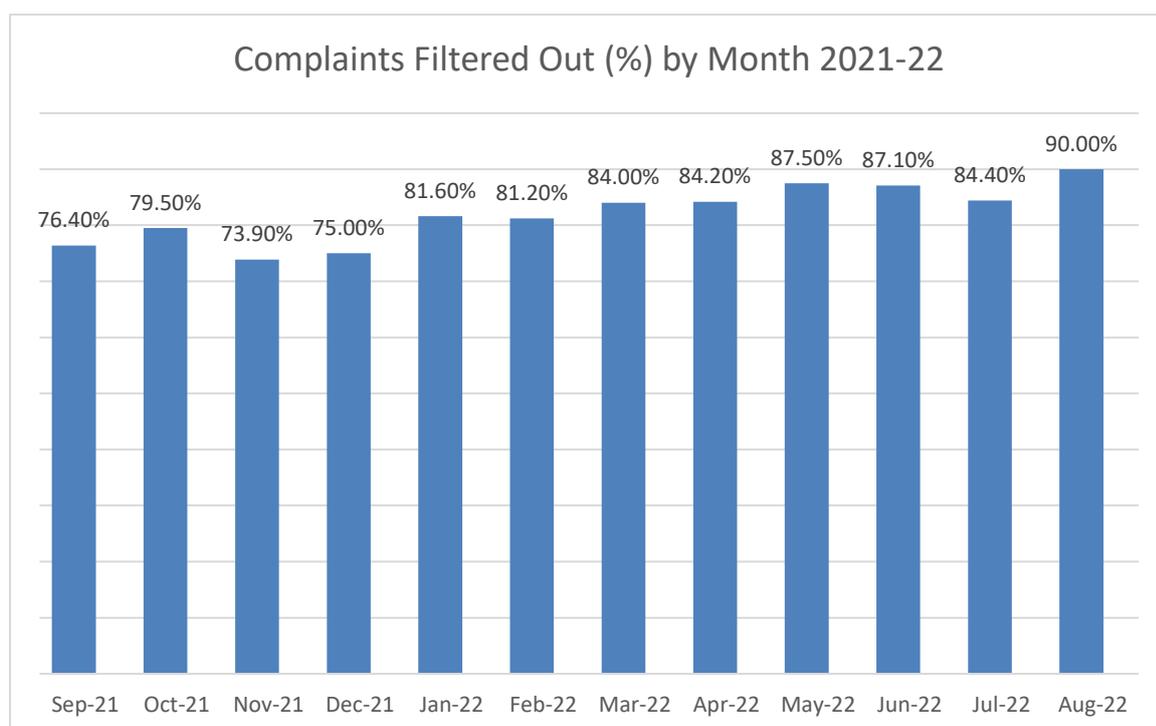
6,475 complaints were received between **1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020**, with monthly totals shown in table 3.

Table 3



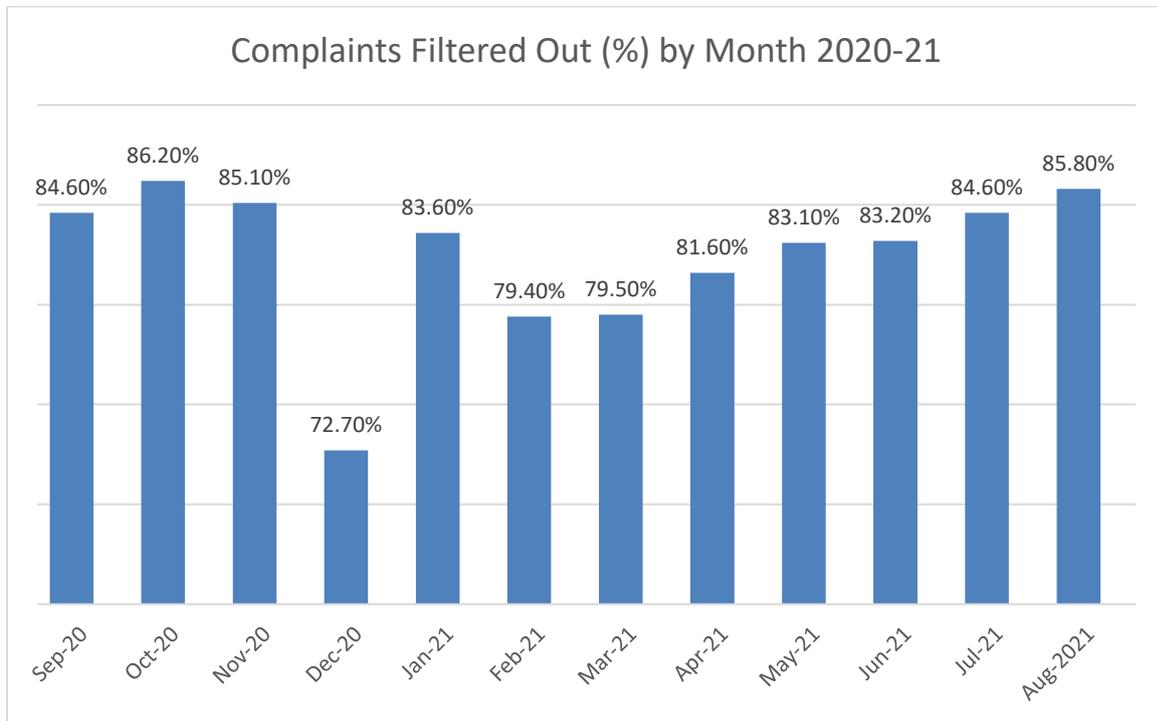
5,670 (82%) of the 6,893 complaints received between **September 2021 and August 2022** were filtered out. The percentage of complaints filtered out by month is shown in table 4.

Table 4



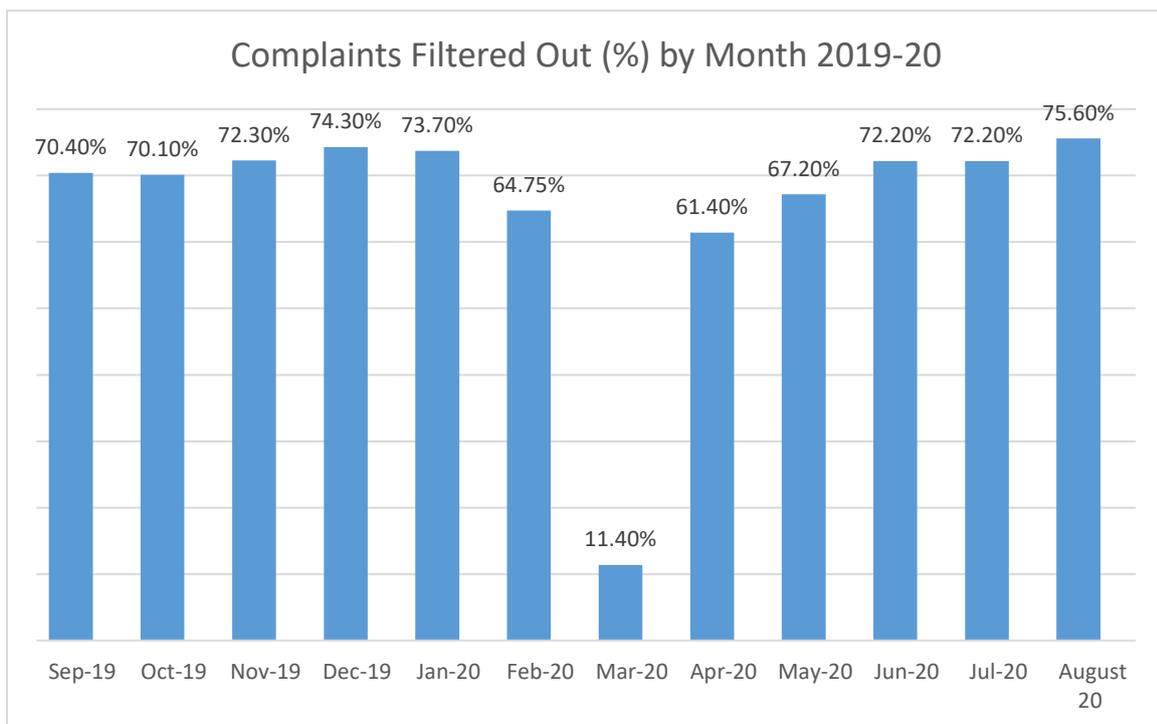
6,020 (82%) of the 7,297 complaints received during **September 2020 and August 2021** were filtered out. The percentage of complaints filtered out by month is shown in table 5.

Table 5



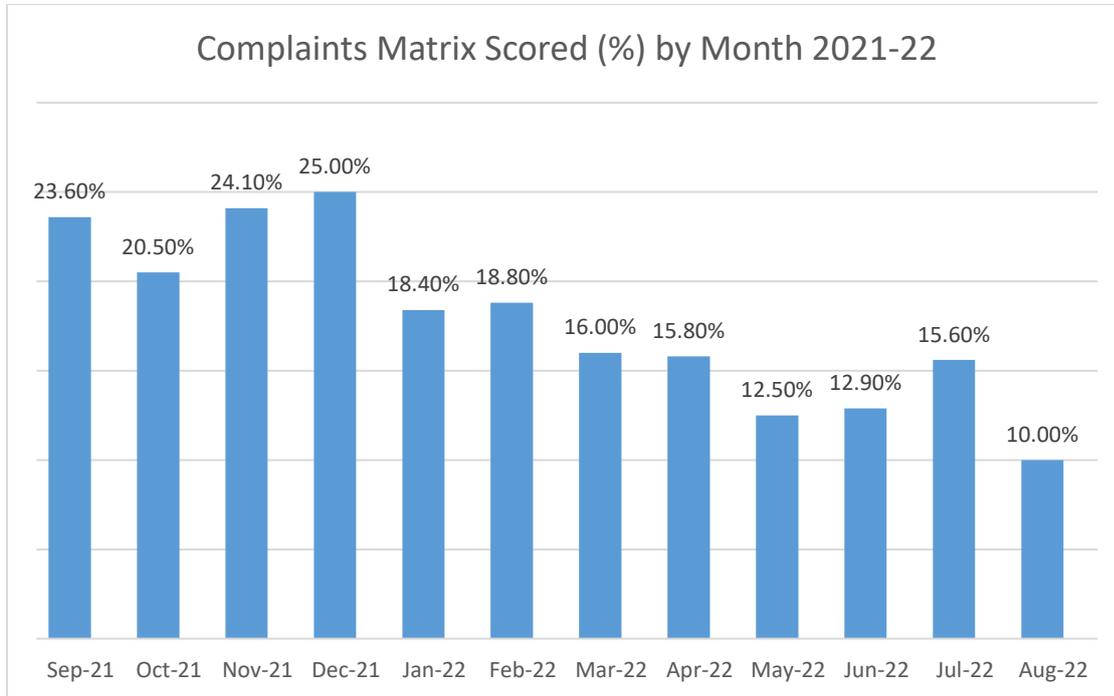
4,606 (71%) of the 6,475 complaints received between **September 2019 and August 2020** were filtered out. The percentage of complaints filtered out by month is shown in table 6.

Table 6



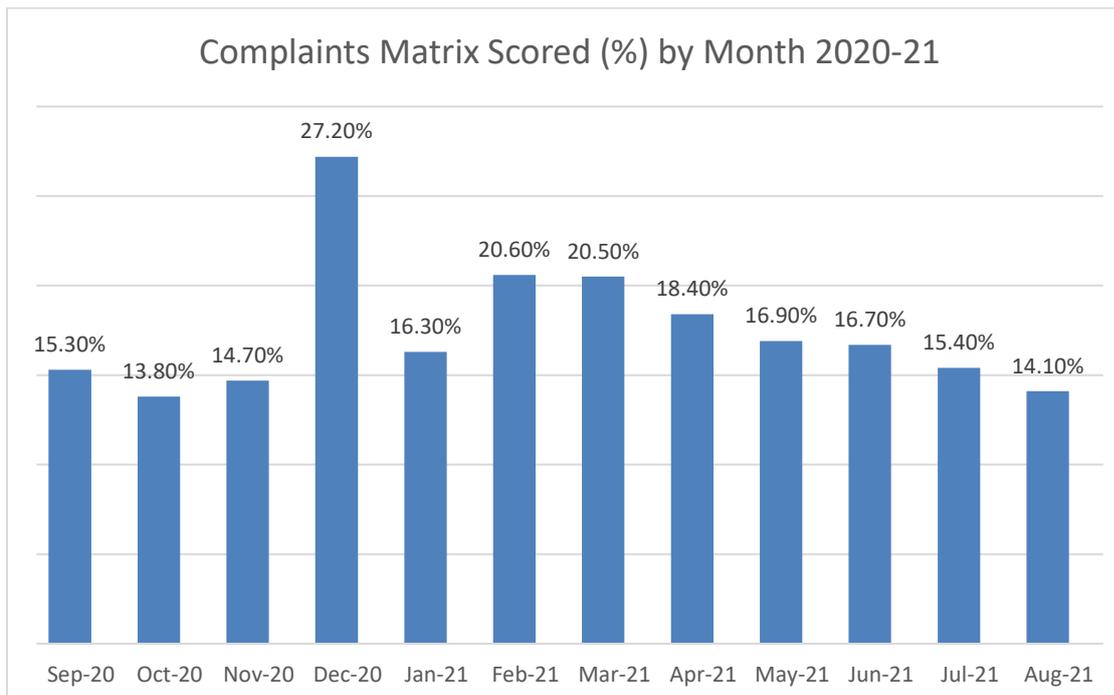
1,223 complaints (18%) passed through the filter and were matrix scored between **September 2021 and August 2022**. The percentage of complaints scored each month is shown in table 7.

Table 7



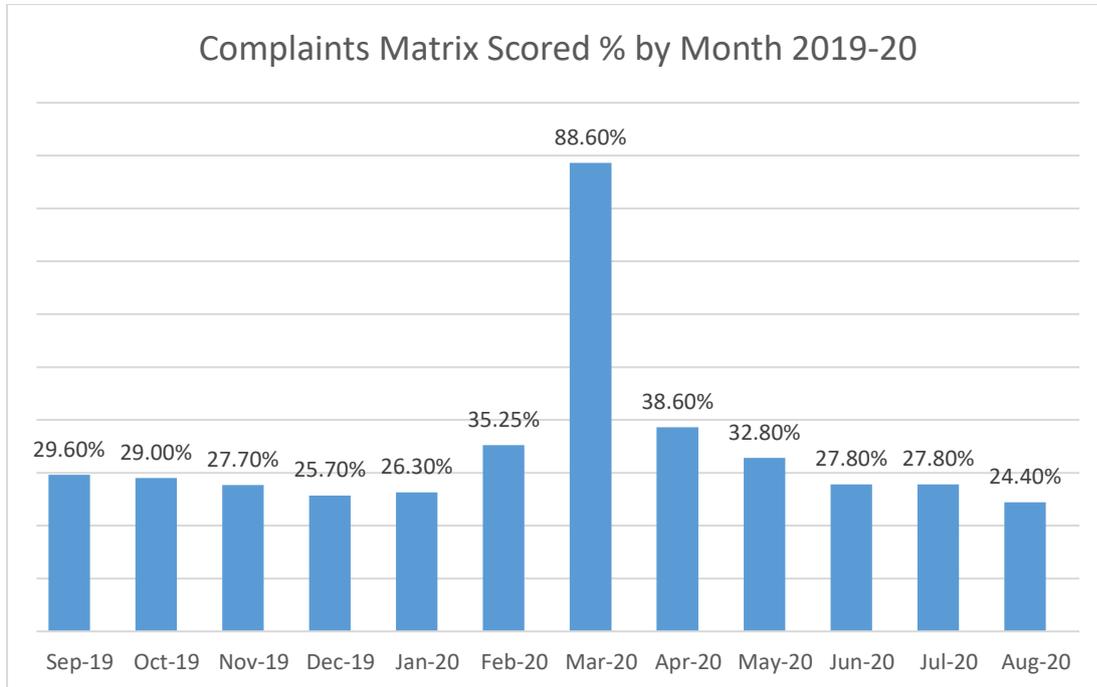
1,277 complaints (18%) passed through the filter and were matrix scored between **September 2020 and August 2021**. The percentage of complaints scored each month is shown in table 8.

Table 8



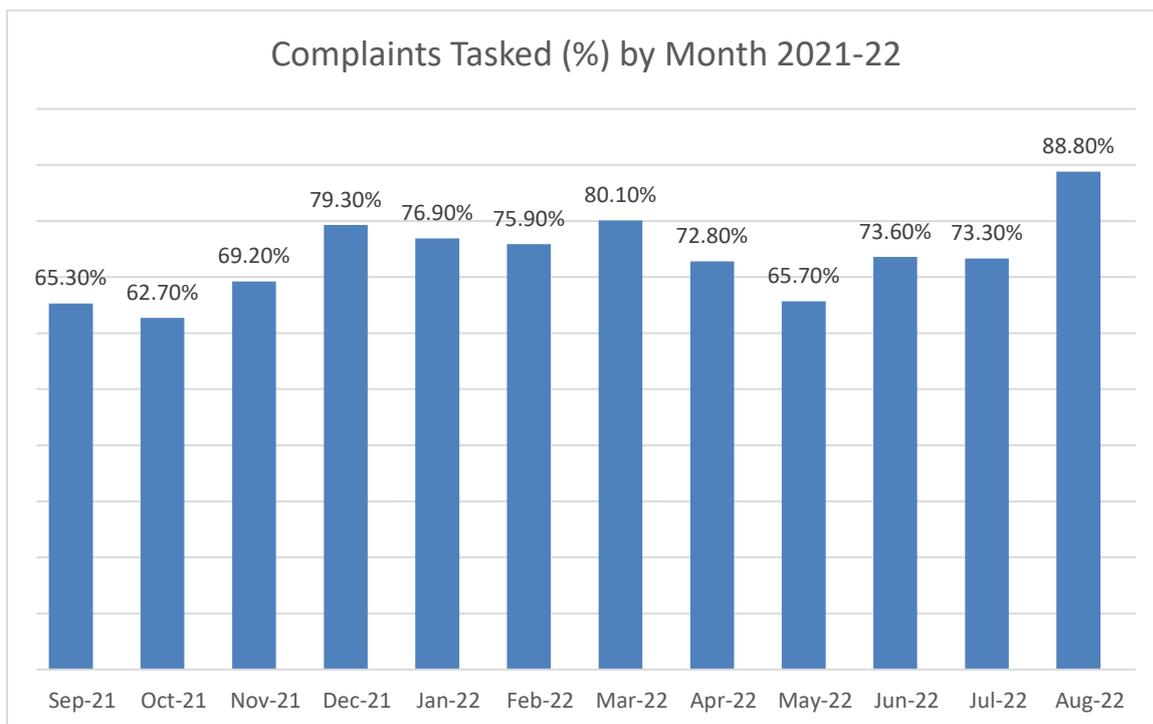
1,869 complaints (29%) passed through the filter and were matrixed scored between **September 2019 and August 2020**. The percentage of complaints scored each month is shown in table 9. The March 2020 figure reflects the introduction of covid restrictions.

Table 9



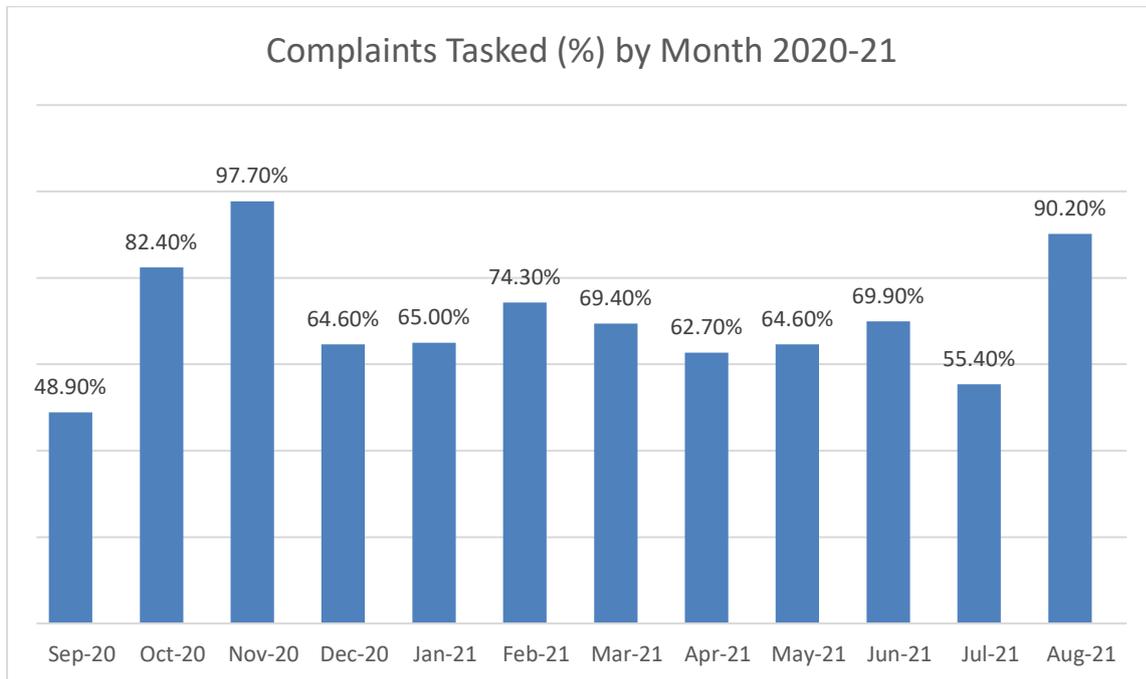
892 (73%) of the 1,223 scored complaints were tasked between **September 2021 and August 2022**. The percentage of scored complaints tasked each month is shown in table 10.

Table 10



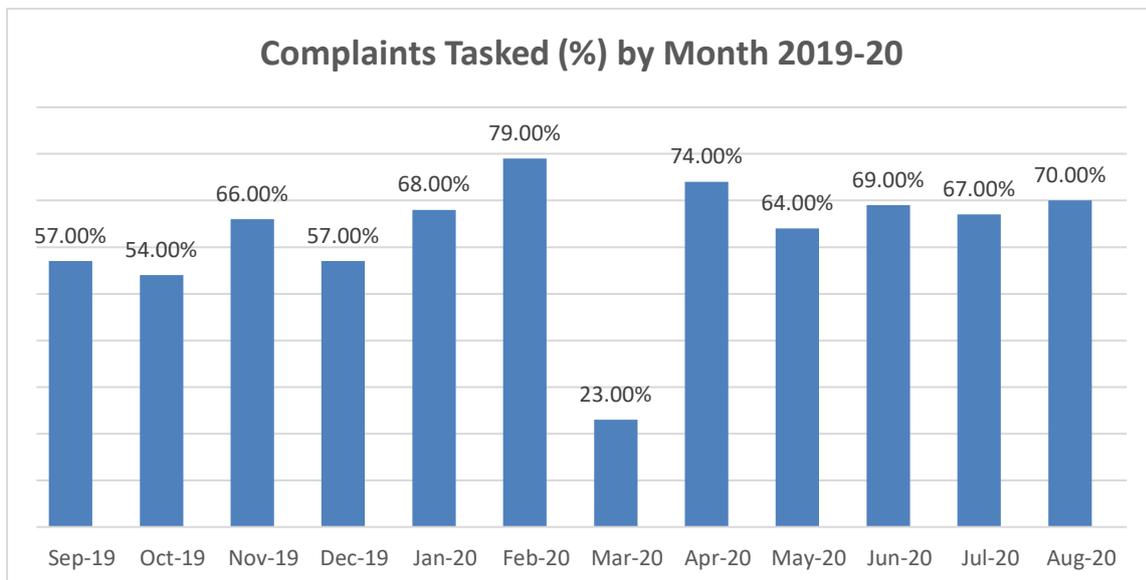
885 (69%) of the 1,277 scored complaints were tasked between **September 2020 and August 2021**. The percentage of scored complaints tasked each month is shown in table 11.

Table 11



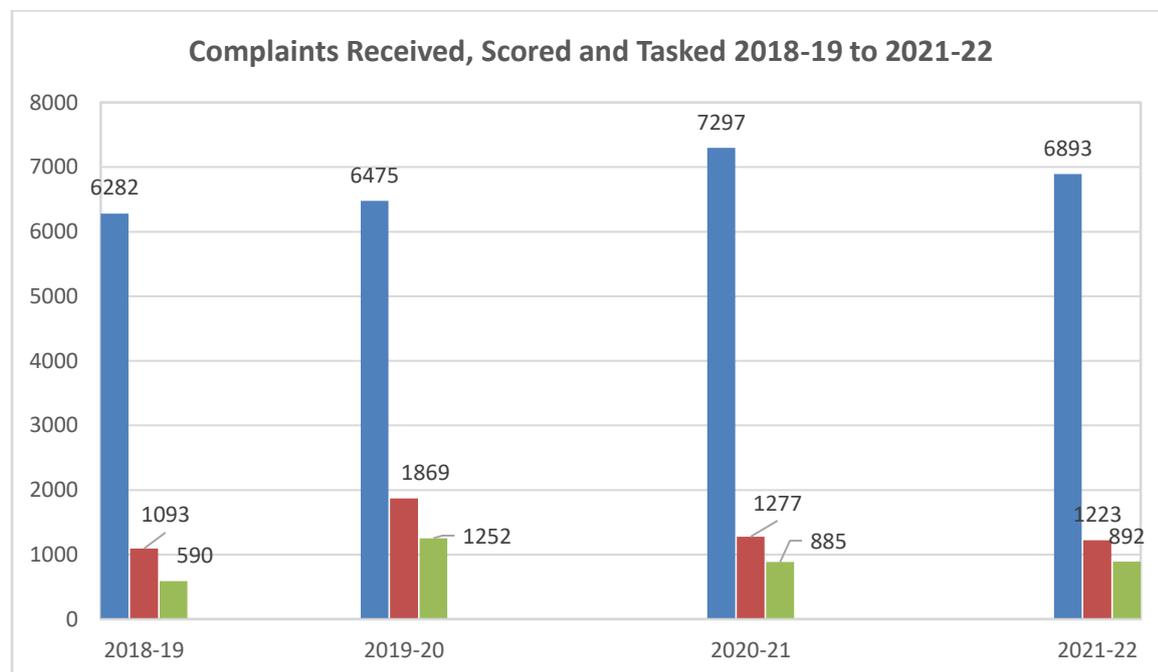
1,252 (67%) of the 1,869 scored complaints were tasked between **September 2019 and August 2020**. The percentage of scored complaints tasked each month is shown in table 12.

Table 12



A comparison of complaints received, scored and tasked over the last four reporting periods is produced as table 13.

Table 13



Key

Blue - complaints received

Rust – complaints scored

Green – complaints tasked

The overall percentage of complaints received that were tasked is shown below.

Year	Number of complaints rec'd	% of complaints tasked
2018-19	6,282	9%
2019-20	6,475	19%
2020-21	7,297	12%
2021-22	6,893	13%

Worked example 1

Two complaints are received from residents who say that their local convenience store does not price mark the majority of its products, and that even when goods are priced, they have been charged more at the till. One complainant says she bought a 500g pack of spreadable butter which was priced at £5.00 but it was rung through the till at £6.50. When she raised it with the assistant she was told; "Wholesale prices are going up so quickly we can't keep on top of them." The second complainant says he has no idea how much individual items have cost as most aren't priced and he is never given a receipt, but his shopping now costs about £20 per week more than it did last month and that seems too much.

Applying the current filter and matrix

These complaints would score:

Public safety = 0

Vulnerable consumer/aggressive practice = 0 (no indication of vulnerability at this stage)

Financial detriment = 1 (less than £1,000)

Environmental impact = 0

Reputational risk = 1 (assumes local media interest)

Trader profile = 1 (single outlet)

Trader history = 6 (after 2nd complaint)

This gives a total of 9, which equates to no further action.

Applying proposed cost of living weighting

This would increase the financial detriment score to 11 and the overall total to 19.

A score of 19 equates to 'advise' which would allow an officer to visit the premises to inspect the pricing, potentially make some test purchases and provide written advice to the trader.

Worked example 2

A complainant reports that her washing machine broke down over the weekend and she arranged to have it repaired by the proprietor of the local second hand shop as she needed to wash her children's school uniforms and her work uniform for the start of the week. The shop owner came to her house, a 2 minute walk from the shop, and 'messed about' with the machine for 10 minutes. He told her it was beyond repair and that he could fix her up with a refurbished model if she came into the shop. He left her with a bill for £200 for a call out fee and repair charge.

Current filter and matrix

Using the current filter and matrix these complaints would score:

Public safety = 0

Vulnerable consumer/aggressive practice = 1 (low indication of vulnerability given urgent need for washing machine)

Financial detriment = 1 (less than £1,000)

Environmental impact = 0

Reputational risk = 1 (assumes local media interest)

Trader profile = 1 (single outlet)

Trader history = 1 (no known history)

This gives a total of 5, which equates to no further action.

Applying proposed cost of living weighting

This would increase the financial detriment score to 11 and the overall total to 16. This would allow an officer to visit the premises and to issue written advice.

In both worked examples, further infringements would lead to a higher score and the written advice issued here would give a foundation on which to base stronger enforcement action.

Initial equality impact assessment screening form (As of October 2015 this form replaces 'Record of decision not to carry out an EIA')			
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.			
Directorate	BES		
Service area	Trading Standards		
Proposal being screened	Trading Standards Tasking Filter and Matrix		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Jo Boutflower		
What are you proposing to do?	To report on the use and effectiveness of the Trading Standards tasking filter and matrix.		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	The filter and matrix was introduced to ensure that as the trading standards budget was reduced resources were properly and consistently allocated. Reporting annually provides oversight and helps to ensure that the filter and matrix is still fit for purpose.		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No. The available resources are unaffected by this decision although it would result in those resources being allocated differently. The purpose of this is to make their deployment more effective and for the benefit of North Yorkshire residents.		
Is there likely to be an adverse impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics?			
As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? • Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? • Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? 			
If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be a significant adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.			
Protected characteristic	Yes	No	Don't know/No info available
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Sex (Gender)		X	
Race		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender reassignment		X	
Religion or belief		X	
Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	

NYCC additional characteristic			
People in rural areas		X	
People on a low income		X	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		X	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	The proposed cost of living weighting would improve the effectiveness of the filter and matrix in respect of those on a low income or with other financial vulnerabilities.		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No.		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	X	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	The revised policy is being put in place to ensure NYCC resources are allocated in a transparent and consistent manner and to the benefit of North Yorkshire residents.		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	David Caulfield		
Date	14/11/22		



Climate change impact assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	Trading Standards Filter and Matrix
Brief description of proposal	Annual report on the use of the filter and matrix
Directorate	BES
Service area	Growth, Planning and Trading Standards
Lead officer	Jo Boufflower
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	N/A
Date impact assessment started	14/11/22

Options appraisal

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

The filter and matrix has been used successfully to manage trading standards resources since 2015. It is amended periodically as required and last year an environmental impact score was added. It is considered that the filter and matrix continues to be fit for purpose and that other options would not be as effective.

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

It is cost neutral as it provides a mechanism for allocating the resources available to the service in a consistent and transparent manner.

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>	
<p>Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.</p>	Emissions from travel		X				
	Emissions from construction		X				
	Emissions from running of buildings		X				
	Other		X				
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>			X				
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>			X				
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>			X				

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Other (please state below)</p>		<p>X</p>				

Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

N/A

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

The filter and matrix has previously been amended to take account of environmental factors to ensure appropriate priority is given to complaints about environmental matters. This appears to be working effectively and there is no proposal to change the scoring in that regard.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Jo Boutflower
Job title	Head of Business and Consumer Services
Service area	Trading Standards (GPTS)
Directorate	BES
Signature	J L Boutflower
Completion date	14/11/22

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): David Caulfield

Date: