Council Direction:

The 2007 Operational Review of the (former) Standards and Licensing Section, approved by City Council on February 28, 2007, included a number of recommendations about communications with staff and stakeholders including the need to keep Councillors better informed about enforcement activity.

Information:

In order to provide greater information to members of Council concerning By-law Enforcement activity in the City of Hamilton, staff is creating a quarterly Information Report commencing in 2012.

The intent of this quarterly report is to provide Councillors with detailed information about By-law Enforcement activity in their Wards to give them better information about activity in their respective Wards and possibly for sharing with their constituents via their websites, newsletters and public meetings. Staff will provide a report in April, July, October and a final year end review which they may wish to share with their constituents. The information will also assist management in the trending of complaints and assist with resource and enforcement planning.
The report will initially provide an outline of the type and number of complaints received in each Ward, and hopefully can be expanded in the future to include outcomes (i.e. violations, warnings, etc.). Initially, the following by-law complaints have been considered for inclusion in the report:

- Property standards
- Long grass/weeds
- Garbage and debris
- Illegal dumping
- Inoperable vehicles
- Graffiti
- Snow and ice
- Vacant buildings
- Noise
- Heat
- Vital services

A map will be included in the report in order to show the location of various complaints across each Ward. The complaints highlighted in the maps will vary between each report in accordance with seasonal highs and lows. For example, the first quarter report would include a map showing all snow and ice, vital services and heat complaints, while the Spring/Summer report would include long grass/weeds.

JX/dt