

Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council

ACTIVE & COHESIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY  
MONDAY 6 OCTOBER 2014 @ 7.00pm, CR1

**Title: Allotments Review Update Report**

**Submitted by: Head of Operations – Roger Tait**

**Portfolio: Environment and Recycling**

**Background**

At Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, the draft Allotments Strategy 2014-2020 was approved for consultation.

It was resolved that a report is brought to a future meeting of the Cabinet detailing the outcome of the consultation and recommending that the strategy is formally adopted, subject to any changes arising from the consultation process.

Subsequent to this resolution, officers prepared a consultation plan for approval by the members of the Allotments Review Task and Finish Group, and commenced the consultation process in summer 2014.

The deadline for receipt of comments was 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014.

**Issues**

The deadline for receipt of comments has now passed and officers are currently collating the feedback into a summary report to be presented to Cabinet in November 2014.

Concurrently, officers in conjunction with the portfolio holder for Environment and Recycling, have been negotiating with Silverdale Parish Council in relation to the proposed transfer of the 2 allotment sites in Silverdale (Park Road and The Acre). The transfer of the Park Road site has been successfully concluded, and the tenants have formed an association to self-manage the site under the stewardship of Silverdale Parish Council, in line with the aims of the draft strategy.

Negotiations are ongoing with the parish council in relation to the Acre to seek to achieve a similar outcome.

Furthermore, other work is in progress to update and rationalise waiting lists, measure plots and prepare for new billing arrangements and tenancy agreements, should the strategy be approved and adopted in November 2014.