

CLEANER GREENER AND SAFER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

31 August 2011

Present:- Councillor Williams – in the Chair

Councillors Becket, Miss Cooper, Hailstones, KEaron, Matthews, Tagg S J and Wemyss

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Johnson and Robinson

271. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None reported.

272. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 16 June 2011 be agreed as a correct record.

273. CDRP PRESENTATION

Members received a presentation on the Crime and Disorder Resolution Partnership from the Council's Community Safety Partnership Manager. The presentation explained what a Community Safety partnership was, the responsible authorities and priorities for 2011/12. It also looked at harm caused by alcohol and safer nights in the town centre.

Discussion took place and Members queried whether Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) were on the increase because they were seen as a 'medal of honour'! Newcastle had not had this issue yet but ASBOs were being replaced by a different name at some point in the future.

A question was raised as to why parish town councils were not involved. Not every area had a town or parish council and therefore in those areas the Locality Action Partnerships was essential.

Schools were being liaised with regarding anti-social behaviour of their pupils outside of school hours.

Resolved:- That the information be received.

274. RECYCLING SERVICE

The Council's Head of Recycling and Fleet Services updated Members on the current position of the Council's recycling services. There were six key areas being worked on:

- Special (formerly Clinical) Waste

Residents who had previously been issued with bright yellow bags, which highlighted to members of the public that it was clinical waste, had now been issued with additional bins.

- Flats

Progress was still being made to ensure that all blocks of flats received the recycling service. Currently there were 17 blocks still receiving a weekly residual collection. The Council was working with Aspire to overcome difficulties.

- Missed Bins

The target for missed bins had been beaten through the use of tracking devices and on-vehicle cameras.

- Targets

In 2010, the Council's recycling rate had been 48.1% and in quarter one of this year it was 52.1% (a rise of 2% on the same quarter last year).

- Schools

Thirty schools were now on the recycling service with some using the full service and some using part.

- Partnership Working

The Council was working with Aspire Housing and the Furniture Mine.

Discussion took place and Members stated that there were still problems with green bags blowing about once they had been emptied. Where this had been reported, the bags had been replaced with the weighted ones.

The collection of street sweepings would increase the Council's recycling figures by 4%.

Members agreed that recycling matters should continue to come to this Committee on a quarterly basis.

Resolved:- That the information be received.

275. **COVERING REPORT DRAFT BRIEFS FOR SCRUTINY**

(i) Crime and Disorder Reduction partnership (CRDP)

Members were asked how they wished to approach scrutiny of the CDRP.

Members requested that the Council's Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer be invited to the next meeting of this Committee to advise Members of the problems caused by the misuse of alcohol.

Resolved:- (a) That the information be received.

(b) That the Council's Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer be invited to the next meeting of this Committee.

(ii) Carbon Management Plan

Consideration was given to a report in connection with the Council's Carbon Management Plan. The aim was to reduce the amount of carbon produced by 30% by 2015.

A number of projects covering the near and long term were explained to Members for possible scrutiny over the current municipal year.

Members queried the safety of the Midway Car Park and how much of it closed overnight. The Council's Head of Housing would check on this and report back to a future meeting.

The Committee could ensure that implementation of the projects was completed by the dates specified in the report. In addition, the annual savings could be measured. Officers could therefore report back on these every quarter.

Members requested that the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling be invited to attend the next meeting of this Committee.

Resolved:- (a) That the information be received and the comments noted.

(b) That the extent to which the Midway Car Park is open overnight be reported back to a future meeting.

(c) That the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling be invited to attend the next meeting.

276. **FORWARD PLAN - CLEANER, GREENER AND SAFER COMMUNITIES
EXTRACTS FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2011**

Consideration was given to the Forward Plan for the period September to December 2011, on items relating to this Committee.

The volunteers staffing the CCTV control room was discussed and Members agreed that a meeting be arranged between the Chair, Vice-Chair and the Council's Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer for consideration. Should it be felt necessary, the matter would be brought to a meeting of this Committee.

Members also discussed the Primary Authority Scheme. It was agreed that a meeting be arranged with the Chair, Vice-Chair and the Council's Head of Environmental Health Services and again, should it be felt necessary, be brought to a meeting of this Committee.

Resolved:- (a) That the information be received.

(b) That a meeting be arranged between the Chair, Vice-Chair and with the Council's Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer to discuss CCTV and the Head of Environmental Health Services to discuss the Primary Authority Scheme.

J WILLIAMS
Chair