

UPDATE FROM CABINET TO FINANCE, ASSETS & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
27th JUNE 2019

Submitted by: Cabinet

Portfolio: All

Wards affected: All

Purpose of the Report

To provide a response to the Scrutiny Committee on items previously raised by Committee Members at the last meeting on 11th April 2019.

Recommendation

That the responses from Cabinet be received and noted.

1. Quarterly Performance Report

- 1.1 In opening, the Chair of the Committee requested that the Leader advises the Deputy Leader of the Council that a question which had been raised at Full Council by the Chair was not fully answered and was covered in the Quarterly Performance Report and could the Leader ask the Deputy Leader to take note of it.

Response from Cabinet:

This was passed on to Councillor Sweeney.

2. Priority 1: Local Services for Local People – Green Waste

- 2.1 Members were concerned that semi-composted waste could harm the wellbeing of grazing animals and wished to explore how to convey this message to the general public through education, enforcement and Borough social media.

Take up of the green waste service may be a slow build, if recycling targets failed to be achieved it was suggested that a special offer could be posted later in the summer.

Response from Cabinet:

Garden waste collected by the Council is taken to the accredited composting facility at Acton and is fully composted. Therefore any subsequent material that is used as soil conditioner on farmland poses no hazard to animals.

3. **Priority 2: A Healthy, Active and Safe Borough – ASB Cases**

- 3.1 Members asked for a breakdown of the quarterly figures from the Staffordshire Commissioner.

Response from Cabinet:

ASB figures for the Borough are collated by the Borough Council's Partnerships Team and reported to Cabinet and Scrutiny each quarter. The figures for Q1 19/20 are currently outstanding and will be available early July.

The figures from Q4 18/19 – are as follows:

- **New cases opened during the quarter – 162 – of these 105 were categorised as general nuisance, 5 as threats or harassment, 11 as neighbour nuisance, 3 for motorbikes, 6 for drugs, 13 for noise, 1 for parking and 18 for other nuisances.**
- **Open cases at the end of the quarter – 14.**
- **Cases closed during the quarter – 156.**

The number of cases reported/opened for Quarter 4 have increased by 56% compared to the same period for the previous year (17/18). A total of 455 cases have been received during 2018-19 and a total of 448 cases have been closed. Cases coming into the Partnerships Team are responded to within 5 working days and a Policy with accompanying Procedure is in place to manage complaints received.

4. **Priority 3: A Town Centre for All**

- 4.1 A proactive communications strategy would be a useful tool to inform traders and the public of anticipated works around the market area. In this respect lines of communication with utilities and Staffordshire County Council were important.

Response from Cabinet:

This will be picked up in the newly formed Town Centre Group and Councillor Stephen Sweeney will duly note as County Councillor for the Town Centre.