

## COUNCIL

15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2013

### CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	COUNCILLOR BRIAN KENNY
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
CO-ORINDATING CHIEF OFFICER	MARK SMITH

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to Members of the Council on matters relevant to his/her portfolio.

#### 1. SCALING BACK THE STREET CLEANSING SERVICE

Changes have been made to the resources available to Biffa in association with a one million pound saving which comes into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013. Extensive negotiations with Biffa have resulted in the changes below, including amendments to certain frequencies of cleanse across Wirral (table 1).

It has been agreed that some locations (“zone 1s” or primary retail and “gateways”) will remain output based. This is to say that Biffa will retain responsibility to maintain said locations in line with the existing contract specification. This agreement was paramount and has meant that existing permanent presence (or “barrow-men”) resources will remain in place. There will also be a designated “Gateways” team to ensure compliance with Wirral’s local environmental quality indicator (*To maintain local environmental quality (LEQ) of litter, detritus, dog fouling in main gateways and shopping areas*).

There will be a realignment of resources inline with Wirral’s new Neighbourhood working approach. The Contractor will provide four teams comprising:

- Driver plus one operative
- 3.5 tonne Caged Tipper
- 6 hours per day Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays

These teams, whilst managed, supervised and employed by the Contractor, will have their workload determined by the Council. This work will be specifically related to street cleansing services and will include, but not be limited to:

- Inter-frequency cleansing
- Clearance of fly tips, road traffic accidents etc.
- Emergency response
- Emptying litter bins in between frequency cleansing

Table 1

<b>Zone Classification</b>	<b>Current Performance/Frequency</b>	<b>Proposed Performance/Frequency</b>
Zone 1 (Primary Retail)	Output based	Output based
Gateways	Output based	Output based
Shopping Streets	Currently Monday to Friday	Twice Weekly
Zones 2/3 (high to medium obstruction housing e.g. urban areas and terraced streets)	Weekly	Every 4 weeks
Zones 3/4 (medium to low obstruction housing e.g. suburban housing estates or areas of rural housing)	Every 4 weeks	Every 12 weeks
Entries	Every 4 weeks	Every 12 weeks

## 2. GARDEN WASTE CHARGING

Wirral Council's new opt-in garden waste service has reached and surpassed its target for sign ups. More than 30,000 households have now signed up for the paid service which is now self-funding and will achieve a saving of over £1M p.a. for the Council.

When people subscribe their details are entered into a database which is uploaded onto on-board computers in the collection vehicles. Any households not subscribing to the service will be able to return their bin to the Council via scheduled 'pick-ups' from August 2013.

Based upon the current sign up rate it is estimated that there will be 35,000 households signed up to the service by year 2 and Wirral joins more than 100 other Councils around the UK which currently charge for garden waste collections.