

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Bernie Mooney
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	Environment
CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER	Mark Smith, Head of Environment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

1. ATTRACTIVE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FOR WIRRAL RESIDENTS

The Wirral Residents' Survey 2015 demonstrated how important an attractive local environment is to local people. Thousands of residents are extremely proud of where they live and that the local environment contributes to this. Issues such as litter and dog fouling remain issues of great concern for residents the Council is continuing to take strong action to reduce this behaviour.

To support the 'Attractive Local Environment' Pledge we have put in place new arrangements to tackle the key environmental issues and concerns which residents have told us are most important to them. I have established a partner steering group to drive the delivery of the actions committed to in the 'Loving our Environment' and 'Managing our Waste' strategies.

Loving Our Environment Strategy

The Council is taking a long term view towards achieving behaviour change to improve the local environment. The Loving our Environment strategy makes clear the long term journey we have embarked on and the initiatives we will establish along the way. The strategy was established at the start of the year and highlights since then includes the following:

- High profile 'Stop Mucking About' dog fouling promotion campaign launched in May.
- Kingdom's enforcement operation expanded to include dog fouling and alleyway dumping to compliment littering enforcement, as part of a variation to their contract.

- 40 fixed penalty notices served for dog fouling since May and over a 100 for alleyway dumping offences. 4 people have been subsequently prosecuted in the courts for dog fouling offences; each fined at least £400 each.
- Grot spot action plan launched to tackle untidy land causing detriment to the amenity in each of the 4 constituencies.
- Street cleansing local environmental quality measures during April, May and June have consistently scored above 93% (acceptable standard).

Managing our Waste Strategy

This year we have been working hard to determine the best option for the Council's future domestic refuse collection arrangements. The Managing our Waste Strategy was approved last December and since then we have been preparing a detailed options appraisal exercise to set out the case for change and to determine the preferred option.

Part of the appraisal exercise has involved a 6 week public consultation exercise which attracted over 9000 responses. The responses to the consultation are still being evaluated and will be fully considered as part of the business case development and decision making process.

I am due to present the full detail of the appraisal exercise and the recommended solution for domestic refuse collection arrangements to Cabinet in November.

If approved, the intention would be to start rolling out the new refuse collection arrangements from spring 2017. Residents will receive support in the build up to the new arrangements being put into place, during the changeover and then as the new arrangements become embedded.