

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

1. ATTRACTIVE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

We have two strategies to underpin the pursuit of the attractive local environment, one for the management of our waste and one for promoting and protecting our environment.

LOVING OUR ENVIRONMENT

The Loving our Environment strategy sets out the journey we have embarked on working with partners and residents to drive behaviour change and tackle key issues.

Highlights this quarter include the following:

- The 'Stop Mucking About' campaign has moved on to focus on dog fouling at sports grounds and journeys to school.
- 4 dog fouling offenders have prosecuted by the courts, each receiving fines of approximately £400.
- 60 fixed penalty notices have been served for dog fouling since May; however enforcement officers have observed a high level of responsible behaviour from dog owners.
- Over 200 fixed penalty notices have been served for alleyway dumping offences, the first alleyway dumping prosecutions are also starting to come through from the courts.
- Work on previously identified grot spot locations from across Wirral is due to start in December.
- Street cleansing quality measures during July, August and September have again scored above the 93% target (acceptable standard at time of cleanse).

MANAGING OUR WASTE STRATEGY

This year we have put in a lot of work to determine the best option for domestic refuse collection arrangements in the future. The Managing our Waste Strategy sets out the transformation in recycling required to achieve the target of 50% by 2020. Since the strategy's approval a year ago, we have been preparing a detailed appraisal of options to deliver the transformation and ultimately determine the preferred option. We will soon be in a position to present the full business case to Cabinet for a final decision.

Other waste management highlights from this quarter include the following:

- Our Eco Schools programme goes from strength to strength; we now have over 100 Eco schools in Wirral, 56 of which have the prestigious Green Flag status. I am very proud of the important work we do in our schools, equipping the future generation to be Wirral's environmental ambassadors.
- I am delighted to inform Council that the Echo Schools programme has been shortlisted in the 'Environment' category at the Local Government Chronicle Awards. This is testament to the hard work of the officers involved and I would like to pay tribute to them and everyone associated with this programme.
- The 'Good to Know' recycling promotion campaign has been in place for a year now and has helped clarify what can be recycled and provides support to residents to recycle more.
- Our free bin repair service has worked particularly well with the officers involved carrying out over 1000 repairs in the past year, keeping bins in use, protecting the bin collection operatives and savings residents' money through not having to purchase new bins.