



## **Cabinet Member Report for Environment**

**Northampton Borough Council**

**20th January 2014**

### **Environmental Services**

The green sack scheme that started in September 2013 has now been running for three months. The Neighbourhood Wardens are reporting back to the Council that the majority of residents are now complying with the green sack scheme. Areas where there are still issues with the wrong colour sacks being presented are being targeted by the Neighbourhood Wardens through the delivery of educational leaflets or Section 46 Notices.

The Partnership Unit, Housing and Enterprise are continuing to identify properties that could be transferred from green sacks to containers. The project aims to get at least 7,500 properties transferred from sacks to containers by the end of June 2014; either on to eurobins or wheelie bins. During December, the Partnership Unit and Housing transferred Overslade House (66 flats) over to eurobins and also installed recycling containers.

### **Allotments**

The Partnership Unit has visited fifteen out of the seventeen council owned allotments throughout the town. Each allotment was asked to submit a "Wish List" of what they would like to improve their field, such as security fencing, road planings, new or additional water tanks, etc. All this information has been collated and the Partnership Unit is now assessing their requests and sourcing quotations for priorities affordable within this year's capital budget allocation.

### **Environmental Health**

During the Autumn term the Junior Warden scheme has been delivered at Ecton Brook Primary School and at Lings Primary School. Plans are in hand to present the programme at Blackthorn and Lumbertubs Primary schools supported by funding from the Growing Together Programme.

### **Licensing**

Since my last report, two multi-agency school contract vehicle checks have been undertaken to ensure vehicles used as school taxis are safe.

One VOSA operation (Vehicle safety) has been conducted. Seventeen vehicles were checked, one of which was immediately taken off the road, and three were subject of delayed prohibition.

The towns Hackney Tariffs have now been increased following a request from drivers and a review by the Licencing committee.

**Councillor Mike Hallam**  
**Cabinet Member for Environment**