



Cabinet Member Report for the Environment

Northampton Borough Council

8th December 2014

Environmental Services

Winter pruning is now underway with some areas being given to large scale cut backs of long term growth of shrubs and trees, which will improve the appearance of the areas next spring and help to reduce community safety and/or nuisance issues.

The arrangements for Christmas refuse and recycling collections have been made with our contractor, Enterprise, and have been communicated to just the residents who will be directly affected. Only those residents whose collections would normally fall on Christmas Day will be subject to change, with their collection day moving to the following Sunday.

Environmental Health

The service for the collection of fly tipped materials from shared alleyways is now running. To date, a total of 38 requests have been received.

The Neighbourhood Wardens and Park Rangers have recently completed a programme of training at the University of Northampton to enhance their skills in evidence collection and enforcement procedures.

Park Management Committees

The Park Management Committees for Delapre Park, Abington Park, The Racecourse, Eastfield Park, Bradlaugh Fields and Swanhaven parks have been established and are making progress in developing and implementing action plans. Work is progressing to start committees for other parks in the New Year. This is part of this Administration's commitment to greater community involvement in the management of our town's parks and open spaces.

Licensing

Multi Agency Taxi and Private Hire checks were undertaken on 17th October 2014. 22 vehicles were checked, of which eleven were found to be non-compliant.

Four premises licences have been reviewed, with two further scheduled. Objections to potential transfer of premises licences and designation of Premises Supervisors have led to applications being refused following licensing sub-committee determinations. Key issues within objections and reviews continue to be illicit tobacco and alcohol sales, sales to underage persons, sales to those intoxicated and unauthorised usage of premises.

Carbon Management

Plans are being progressed to install low energy lighting in more of the Borough Council's car parks. This will result in better lighting and a significant reduction in energy costs and to the authority's carbon footprint.

Councillor Mike Hallam

Cabinet Member for the Environment