



Cabinet Member Report for Environment

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 6 June 2016

Environmental Health

The 3GS enforcement officers have got off to a successful start, serving over 200 fixed penalty notices for littering in their first three weeks.

Local authorities have been provided with new powers to issue fixed penalty notices for fly tipping. It is hoped that these notices will act as an effective deterrent to reduce the amount of fly tipping in Northampton.

Environmental Services

Work is now underway to decide how environmental services should be provided in the future, after our current contract with Enterprise/Amey comes to an end in June 2018. A detailed options appraisal process is currently underway and robust project governance arrangements have been put in place to ensure the project is effectively managed. We have appointed a specialist with expertise and considerable experience around waste procurements to lead this options appraisal.

A key part of the process will be to understand the views of the community and lots of activity is currently underway to engage them in the process. A community engagement framework has been established to ensure an ongoing systematic approach to community engagement throughout the entire process. The framework consists of three focus groups – drawn from residents associations, parish councils, park management committees, friends groups and staff. There will also be an extensive market research exercise and a number of public meetings throughout the process.

Environmental Services (Direct Services)

Enterprise has recently revised their Town Centre cleansing methods, which has resulted in an improvement in the standard of cleanliness. The Council is also going to provide a pedestrian sweeper with an operative to mechanically sweep the core streets of the Town Centre that will further enhance the standard of cleanliness.

Northampton in Bloom 2016 was launched on Monday 16th May at All Saints Memorial Garden. The theme for this year's contest is 'Fun in the Garden'. The Borough Council and other partners will also be preparing the town to enter the East Midlands in Bloom 2016 contest, where Northampton scooped a Silver-gilt medal last year.

In our bid to increase the number of Green Flag awards in Northampton to three, we are going all out to this year achieve an award for Bradlaugh fields, as well as maintaining Green Flag status for Abington Park and Delapre Abbey. Inspections recently took place in Bradlaugh Fields and Abington Park and Delapre Abbey will be 'mystery shopped' by judges on an unknown date.

Councillor Alan Bottwood
Cabinet Member for Environment