

### **Environmental Services Contract**

The environmental services contract with Veolia continues to work well, recycling rates are up and street cleansing standards are improving. We continue to work with Veolia and Idverde to look at performance and seek to build on the work undertaken since the start of the contract to further improve and generate efficiencies.

The partnership unit has been working hard on a number of projects, from implementing the chargeable garden waste project, replacing street trees in Far Cotton, working with stakeholders to win national funding to refurbish the Racecourse basketball courts and planning capital works at Westbridge & Towcester Road Cemetery.

We're also working with Idverde, Veolia's grounds maintenance contractors on winding down the winter maintenance works and gearing up for the mowing season and are also having a wide input into the unitary authority preparations, looking at aligning services whilst maintaining the high standards that residents of Northampton now receive.

Customer Feedback in relation to the cleanliness of the Town Centre and surrounding areas has been exceptionally positive.

Several areas of the A45 were cleared using overnight closures during February with plans in place to expand the cleansing during March.

### **Environmental Services**

The Park Rangers have installed 10 specially carved mushrooms at Bradlaugh Fields, as part of their work towards achieving the Green Flag 2020. Also, at Bradlaugh Fields a new Trim Trail has been installed adjacent to the existing play area for the older children.

Within the Racecourse the sudden drop near the Zip Wire has been levelled out for health and safety reasons.

Abington Park has had new safety railings installed near the ice cream plaza and has had the addition of a pelican crossing to make the area safer for pedestrians.

The old broken fibreglass litterbins at the Lings Shops have been replaced with the new metal Black & Gold Broxap type.

The Bollards at Lings Wood have been installed along the internal road to help eradicate the problem with fly tipping from cars.

The hazardous footpath into Becketts Park from St Johns Car Park has been repaired.

We have entered three parks into the Green Flag Awards this year

- Abington Park – Full assessment by Judges
- Delapre Park - Mistry Shopper by Judges
- Bradlaugh Fields – New entry, full assessment by Judges

## **Enforcement**

Below are January and February (to date of writing) environmental enforcement statistics:

- 180 Investigations
- 81 Fixed Penalty Notices
- 3055 Notices (108, S46, S47, S16)
- 117 Vehicle investigations
- 40 Vehicle removal
- 26 Community protection Warnings

## **The Climate Emergency**

Work is progressing on the preparation of installation of the electric vehicle charging points in town centre car parks. Installation works are due to take place in during March and a press launch for the new units is planned for 26 March. In conjunction with this launch the Council is working with the taxi and private hire community to provide assessments of vehicle usage and potential savings that drivers could make by changing to electric vehicles.

The number of electric vehicle charging points publicly available in the Northampton area continues to increase with nearly 20 points available across the Borough.

In addition, officers from the team are continuing to work with colleagues from the county council who have been consulting on potential locations for on street electric vehicle charging points.

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