AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence, Substitutions, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

2. Minutes of Last Meeting  *(Pages 3 - 6)*

To submit the Minutes of the meeting of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11th September 2018 for approval as a correct record.

Recommended - That the Minutes be received and approved as a correct record.

3. Fly Tipping, Littering and Graffiti in Hyndburn  *(Pages 7 - 14)*

To update the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the latest developments of Fly Tipping, Littering and Graffiti in Hyndburn.

Recommended - That the Committee notes the update within the report and makes comments.
4. **Corporate Support Business Plan Update**

The Corporate Support Business Plan is included in the Legal and Democratic Services Business Plan and will therefore be considered as part of the wider report next year.

**Recommended** - That Members note the update.
RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 11th September, 2018

Present: Councillor Noordad Aziz (in the Chair), Councillors Stephen Button, Stuart Eaves, Marlene Haworth, Bernadette Parkinson, Kath Pratt and Tim O’Kane.

In Attendance: County Councillor Bernard Dawson, Co-optee One member of the media.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lisa Allen, Jean Battle, Terry Hurn, Jenny Molineux and Paddy Short.

2 Substitutions

Councillors Stuart Eaves, Marlene Haworth, Bernadette Parkinson and Kath Pratt attended the meeting as substitute representatives for Councillors Battle, Allen, Jenny Molineux and Hurn respectively.

3 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

4 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 12th July 2018 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

Resolved - That the Minutes be received and approved as a correct record.

5. People Strategy Update

The Head of HR, Kirsten Burnett informed the Committee of progress made against actions in the People Strategy and general updates connected to the HR service.

The committee were provided with details on learning and development and budget reductions of 11.3% for training in the next year.

Information was provided on: Employee relations, the employee survey, public sector apprenticeship target and policy reviews

Attached to the agenda in appendix 1 was the people strategy containing a number of actions and targets along with the workforce report as of the 31st March and gender pay gap statement.

No advance questions had been submitted and a number of Councillors clarified information contained in the reports.
The Chair thanked the Head of HR for the additional information on sickness absence which was circulated as a separate report at the meeting as the information was requested and received after the briefing meeting last week.

Resolved
- (1) That progress and proposed actions were noted and any suggestions for additional actions would be given to the Head of HR; and
- (2) That the What Team look at the feasibility of providing free flu vaccinations for all HBC staff who may not qualify for one via the NHS vaccination programme.

6. Apprenticeship and Employment Event

The Portfolio Holder for Education, Leisure and Arts submitted a report for the Committee to consider the outcomes from the 2018 Apprenticeship and Employment Event and consider the future delivery of the event to maximise success.

Councillor Haworth asked for clarification on the number of apprenticeships that were available and the Overview and Scrutiny Officer would investigate this figure.

Councillor Button commented on the event and reported that the turnout was much busier than others he had attended in the region.

No advanced questions had been submitted for this agenda item.

Resolved
- (1) That the Committee thanked those involved at Accrington and Rossendale College for their lead role in this year’s event, and welcomes the partnership established with the Council to deliver a future event; and
- (2) That the Committee asks Cabinet to continue with the event via the college and make a budget available; and
- (3) That information was provided on the number of apprenticeships taken up as a result of the event; and
- (4) That an appropriate time for the event to be held during the course of year was researched and the event was extended to include graduate opportunities as well.

7. Hyndburn Green Review

A report was submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Resources Committee to establish a Task and Finish Scrutiny Panel to complete a review of the green agenda in Hyndburn.

A green review was added onto the scrutiny work programme for this year to cover green activities associated with the Council and also those from the wider borough in general.

Resolved
- (1) That the Committee establishes a panel of
between 4-5 members to conduct the review, these included: Councillors Jenny Molineux, Stephen Button, Tim O’Kane, Noordad Aziz and Marlene Haworth would confirm at a later date; and

- (2) That the panel be responsible for appointing its own Chair, setting its own terms of reference and review plan; and

- (3) That the Panel reports back to the Committee upon competition of the review.

Signed: ……………………………………………

Date: ……………………………………………

Chair of the meeting
At which the minutes were confirmed
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1. **Purpose of Report**

1.1 To update Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the latest developments of Fly Tipping, Littering and Graffiti in Hyndburn.

2. **Recommendations**

2.1 The Committee note the updates within the report and makes comments.

3. **Reasons for Recommendations and Background**

3.1 **Fly-tipping**

This is defined as the illegal deposit of waste on land, contrary to Section 33(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Local authorities and the Environment Agency both have a responsibility in respect of illegally deposited waste. This includes local authorities and the Environment Agency collecting and reporting the waste.

3.1.1 Everyone who handles waste, including householders, has a 'duty of care' to do so responsibly. According to the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), household waste, including leftover DIY material and abandoned electrical goods such as fridges, account for half of all fly-tipped rubbish in England. As well as uninformed householders, and a 'man and van' services, organised criminal gangs carry out fly-tipping and operate illegal waste disposal services for money.

3.1.2 DEFRA’s most recent statistics, (2016-17) estimates there were more than 1 million incidents of fly-tipped waste, costing local Councils just under £60 million per annum to clear. The key points highlighted by DEFRA in their report are shown below:
• Local authorities in England dealt with around 1 million, (1,002,000) fly-tipping incidents, a 7% increase from the previous year.
• Two thirds, (67%) of fly-tips involved household waste. Total incidents involving household waste increased by 8% from the previous year.
• Consistent with previous years, the most common place for fly-tipping to occur was on the highway, which accounted for almost half, (49%) of total incidents. The number of highway incidents has increased by 4% from the previous year.
• As in the last few years, the most common size category for fly-tipping incidents was a ‘small van’ load, (33% of total incidents) followed by a ‘car boot’ load, (27%).
• The estimated cost of clearance for fly-tipping to local authorities in England was £57.7 million.
• Local authorities carried out approx. 474,000 enforcement actions costing around £16 million, a decrease of approx. 20,000 actions and £0.9 million in cost from the previous year.
• The number of fixed penalty notices issued increased by 56% to approx. 56,000. This is now the second most common enforcement action.

3.1.3 The Council aims to remove fly-tipped waste from back streets on the day of the grey bin collection day. However, this timescale may be longer if:

• The incident is being investigated by the Council’s enforcement team or the Environment Agency.
• The waste is such a weight that it requires removing by mechanical means. This may mean a delay in its removal until the Council can hire in suitable machinery and provide sufficient work for the minimum daily hire rate.
• The waste requires specialist trained personnel to collect and pre-book the waste into the appropriate licenced hazardous waste disposal facility.

For waste fly-tipped on other open spaces / Council owned land, the Council aims to remove this within 10 working days.

3.1.4 Reported number of incidents for fly-tipping for the period 1st September 2017 to 31 August 2018 was 2,397, with the majority, 47% occurring on back streets. Of the waste, 51% was household/domestic type and almost 49% was a small van / transit van size load. Details of HBC’s percentage split between areas, waste types and quantities are provided in Appendix 1.

3.1.5 Previously, the Council had a number of dedicated collection crews to remove fly-tipped waste from locations within the Borough. However, continued budget pressures and the drive for efficiencies have led to the removal of these resources, with the front-line domestic collection crews now collecting fly-tipped waste located within their daily collection round. There is one remaining mobile crew that clears waste outside of the normal collection crew's routes but they are mainly responsible for clearing the main outer and inner gateway routes across the Borough.
3.1.6 A project to provide a fully mobile platform for our Waste Services enforcement team went live in August 2018. The ‘in-house’ designed system has streamlined the production of FPN’s, leading to a more efficient and effective enforcement process.

3.2 Littering and Dog Fouling

3.2.1 The Council has provided over 650 litter bins across the Borough and those located on hand sweeping routes are emptied as the hand sweeper goes past. The litter bins not on a hand sweeper’s route are emptied twice a week on Monday and Thursday by a mobile collection team. Litter bins in parks are emptied by staff in the park as required.

3.2.2 There are almost 350 dog bins emptied once per week, either a Tuesday or Friday spread across the Borough. Dog bins in parks are emptied by staff in the park as required. The Council has made a commitment to continue providing dog bags free of charge for residents to pick-up and dispose of their dog's waste.

3.2.3 Following a review of the Council’s litter and dog fouling enforcement action, Cabinet requested officers submit a proposal to tackle the small minority of irresponsible residents whose actions blemish the local environment as the Council does not have sufficient resources in-house to undertake a major drive to tackle litter and dog fouling within the town centres, parks and open spaces.

3.2.4 There are a limited number of environmental enforcement contractors within the industry and one of the market leaders, Kingdom Services Group, has undertaken successful pilots for Burnley Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and other local authorities in the North West.

3.2.5 At its meeting in July 2018, Cabinet gave approval for the Head of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Executive Director, (Legal & Democratic Services) to enter into a 12 month pilot agreement with Kingdom Services Group Limited. A further report as to the success of the pilot will be provided to Cabinet before any decision is taken as to the continuation of the litter and dog fouling enforcement programme.

3.2.6 The company will deliver specialist environmental enforcement action to Accrington Town Centre, and other high priority areas identified by Cabinet members. Cabinet has authorised their staff to issue ‘on the spot fines’ through the use of Fixed Penalty Notices, (FPN’s) for littering and dog fouling.

3.2.7 Cabinet requested that the Council and Kingdom undertake a period of public education for 2 weeks prior to the first FPN’s being issued. This is to raise resident awareness of the need to dispose of litter responsibly and clean up after their dog.

3.2.8 The pilot agreement is to enhance and not to replace the important work the Council’s Dog Warden or Waste Services Enforcement Officers already undertake.
3.3 Graffiti / Fly-posting

3.3.1 The Council's policy is to try and remove all offensive graffiti or fly-posting within 24 hours of it being reported to the Council from the next working day. Non offensive incidents are programmed as and when resources become available.

3.3.2 The Council no longer has a dedicated jetting/power washing unit, so the hand lance, (jet washer) on the Council’s mechanical sweepers is used. If this is not suitable, dedicated high pressure units can be ‘hired in’. However, this may take a little longer depending upon their availability.

3.3.2 There is no separate work ticket dedicated to graffiti complaints, as the number of reported incidents to the Council is very, very low. Officers cannot recall more than half a dozen or so a year and therefore there has been no drive to set up a separate work ticket.

3.3.3 Whilst enforcement officers witness advertising banners/fly-posters on a daily basis, there is also no dedicated work ticket to monitor the number of complaints as again the number of reported complaints to the Council is very, very low. However, the Council has sought and received permission from the Highways Authority, (Lancashire County Council) for Hyndburn’s Waste Services Enforcement Officers to remove these on behalf of the County Council where permission for them to be erected has not been sought or granted from LCC.

4. Alternative Options considered and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 The Council does not have sufficient financial resources to employ enforcement officers dedicated to litter, dog fouling and graffiti, which is why it has entered into a 12 month pilot agreement with an external environmental enforcement contractor.

4.2 There are 2 full time enforcement officers within Waste Services that investigate and issue FPN’s in relation to any waste related incidents. They work alongside the waste collection crews and other Council’s enforcement officers to reduce the number of incidents of small fly-tipped waste / side waste on back streets and open spaces.

5. Consultations

5.1 Portfolio Holder

6. Implications

| Financial implications (including any future financial commitments for the Council) | N/A |
| Legal and human rights implications | N/A |

7.1 The most recent fly-tipping statistics for England published by the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, (DEFRA) is 2016/17


7.2 At the Cabinet meeting in October 2015, Cabinet approved the introduction of an Enforcement Policy for Waste Services Enforcement Officers. This policy gave approval for officers and enforcement contractors working on behalf of the Council a range of options which included FPN's

https://democracy.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MId=168&Ver=4

7.3 At its July 2018, meeting Cabinet gave approval for the Head of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services), to enter into a 12 month pilot agreement with Kingdom Services Group Limited

https://democracy.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MId=2304&Ver=4
### Percentage split of fly tipping from 01/09/2017 to 31/08/2018

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<tr>
<th>Land Type</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Back Alleyway</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial/Industrial</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Land</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Footpath/Bridleway</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front Street</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highway</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Unidentified)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private/Residential</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watercourse/Bank</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size Type</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car boot load or less</td>
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<tr>
<td>Item size</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Significant/Multiple loads</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single black bag</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single other item</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small van load</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tipper lorry load</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit van load</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Waste Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waste Type</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal carcass</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asbestos</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black bags/Commercial</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black bags/Household</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical drums/Oil/Fuel</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction/Demolition/Excavation</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas bottles</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Unidentified)</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other commercial waste</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other electrical</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other household waste</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyres</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle parts</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White goods</td>
<td>1</td>
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