

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 7th OCTOBER, 2014

Present – Councillors Spencer (Chairman), Silvester (Vice-Chairman), Allen, L. Byrne, Evans, Haslam, Hayes (as deputy for Councillor Martin), Kellett, Mistry, Pickup, Richardson, A. S. Walsh, J. Walsh and Watters.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Peel	Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services
Councillor Bashir-Ismail	Cabinet Member for Community Services
Councillor Chadwick	Cabinet Member, Highways and Transport
Councillor D. Burrows	Cabinet Member for Police and Community Services.
Mr. M. Cox	Director of Environmental Services
Mr. S. Young	Assistant Director Highways and Business Development
Ms. J. Pollard	Head of Strategic Finance and Accountancy
Miss. S. Johnson	Borough Treasurer and Committee Chief Officer Support
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Principal Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Bury, G. Harkin and Martin.

Councillor Spencer, Chairman.

13. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19th August, 2014 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be received and signed as a correct record.

14. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME, 2014/15

The Committee received the proposed work programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

Resolved – That the work programme as submitted be approved.

15. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES QUARTER ONE FINANCE REPORT

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which set out details of the projected final outturn position for quarter one of 2014/15 for the Environmental Services Department.

Members in their deliberations referred to the current underspend in relation to Highways Programmes.

Resolved – That the position be noted.

16. PARKING ENFORCEMENT AND THE GUIDELINES

Mr. Stephen Young, Assistant Director Highways and Business Development gave a presentation which informed members on matters regarding parking enforcement and the guidelines.

By way of background information Mr Young explained that Bolton Council had been responsible for decriminalised parking enforcement since September, 2000. Moving traffic offences and some limited stationary offences still sat with the Police.

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Members were advised that the Council enforced against a diverse range of parking controls and restrictions such as : -

- yellow lines;
- loading restrictions;
- residents only parking areas;
- school keep clear markings;
- bus stop clearways;
- disabled parking bays; and
- taxi ranks.

The meeting was advised that to ensure that parking controls were implemented fairly and consistently the range of duties included –

- parking enforcement;
- logging all their activities for the day to ensure transparency and consistency;
- inspecting parking equipment;
- reporting defective traffic signs and road markings;
- appear as a witness when necessary;
- putting in place and removing notices about parking suspensions; and
- support joint operations with the Police around abuse of the Blue Badge Scheme.

Mr Young went onto refer to observation and grace periods in terms of contraventions.

The meeting was also notified that parking operations in Bolton covered the whole of the Borough and the responsibilities were –

- 26 pay and display on-street parking sites;
- 31 free car parks;
- 3 residential parking schemes;
- The management of the Council's enforcement contractor;
- The management of the agreement with NCP; and
- The management of the Council's bailiff service for civil parking enforcement.

In conclusion Mr Young apprised the Committee with statistical information relating to parking enforcement issues in the Borough.

Members in their discussions referred to the following –

- the area of interaction with the contractor and feedback from them;
- parking grace periods and policy issues;
- appeals matters;
- the main reason for tickets being issued; and
- the parking arrangements in Bolton.

Resolved – That Mr Young be thanked for his informative presentation.

17. STREET LIGHTING MODIFICATIONS UPDATE

Mr. Stephen Young, Assistant Director Highways and Business Development gave a presentation on matters concerning the modification of street lighting and in particular the use of LED lighting.

By way of background information the Committee was informed that the current spend on energy and maintenance in Bolton was £2.1 million a year. Furthermore, CO2 emissions costed the Council around £100,000 a year and a standard street light only provided 15, 000 hours of light. An LED light lasted 20 to 25 years and significant savings could be made by switching to low energy street lighting.

Mr Young went onto inform the members of the business case for the replacement of the remaining lanterns with efficient LED lanterns over a three year investment period.

In terms of the journey so far it was explained that the introduction of a central management system was 90% complete on the strategic network. Phase two was to convert to LED lighting with a dimming capability and this project was in

progress. It was envisaged that the completion date would be in 2017.

In conclusion matters around the central management system, technical issues around the tender and the envisaged savings were highlighted.

Members in their deliberations referred to the following –

- the lumens of light in the future compared to the position now;
- it being a worthwhile project; and
- the change in terms of a move towards the spot light effect and bright white lighting.

Resolved – That Mr Young be thanked for his informative presentation.

18. MEMBERS' BUSINESS

The Committee received the minutes of other meetings of the Council relevant to the remit of this Committee, viz :-

- Executive Cabinet Member for Environment Services held on 18th August and 22nd September, 2014; and
- Environment Services and Waste Policy Development Group held on 10th September, 2014.

Further to the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services held on 22nd September, 2014 relating to Clarence Street / All Saints Street – Waiting Restrictions / prohibition of Driving – Objections members discussed matters around the effect on small businesses.

Resolved – That the minutes of the various meetings be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 6.55pm)

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NOTES