

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 24th NOVEMBER, 2015

Present – Councillors Spencer (Chairman), Silvester (Vice-Chairman), L. Byrne, Evans, Harkin, Haslam, Hayes, Pickup, Richardson, Shaikh, J. Walsh and Watters.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Peel	Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services
Councillor Chadwick	Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Community Services
Councillor D. Burrows	Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services Police and Community Safety
Mr. M. Cox	Director of Environmental Services
Ms. J. Pollard	Head of Strategic Finance and Accountancy and Deputy Committee Chief Officer Support
Mr. J. Kelly	Head of Service Highways and Engineering
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Principal Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Allen, Kellett and A.S. Walsh.

Councillor Spencer, Chairman.

18. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6th October, 2015 were submitted.

Further to minute 14, Environmental Services –Finance Report, Quarter One relating to the position regarding Bow Street Car Park, members asked for details of the updated position.

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

(ii) That members of this Committee be apprised of the current position regarding Bow Street Car Park.

19. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Borough Solicitor submitted the updated work programme report for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

The Committee discussed matters around the recent United Utilities water supply issue and also matters around water management issues should there be a major incident and the supply disrupted.

Resolved – (i) That the updated work programme be noted.

(ii) That the Director of Environmental Services be asked to write to United Utilities to ask them asking them when it would be suitable for them to attend this Committee to explain matters around the recent supply issue and also to advise members on issues around major incident planning and supply disruption.

20. DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE UPDATE, QUARTER ONE, 2015/16

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which set out the performance outturn for quarter one of 2015/16 for the Environmental Services Department. The report summarised delivery against both qualitative and quantitative indicators, recognising the balance between hard

and soft outputs taking into account the current financial pressures facing the organisation.

The report highlighted that the Department remained on track to deliver its strategic and operational priorities for the Council.

Members in their discussions referred to matters around the excellent work of the litter clearance teams in the Borough.

Resolved – That the position be noted.

21. A REVIEW OF CAR PARK USAGE IN BOLTON

Mr John Kelly, Head of Highways and Engineering gave a presentation which reviewed car park usage in Bolton. The data provided related to Bolton Council and NCP Car Parks.

The presentation set out details in terms of -

- the anchor points in Bolton where parking was needed;
- statistics were provided regarding the occupancy levels over a two week period at key times during the day, i.e 10am, 2pm and 6pm;
- reference was made to other parking providers and closed car parks but no data was gathered in this regard;
- the Parking Study of 2006 was referenced; and
- matters around contract parking.

Members in their deliberations referred to –

- available occupancy disregarding the contract places;
- how contract parking works in practice;
- car parking for a prosperous town centre including by the interchange;
- electric car spaces;
- the town centre metro shuttle linking the car parks;
- car park capacity signage; and
- encouraging park and ride.

Resolved – That Mr Kelly be thanked for his comprehensive and detailed presentation and that members of this Committee be apprised of details of the NCP contract parking scheme in Bolton.

22. MEMBERS' BUSINESS

In accordance with Standing Order 36, Councillor Hayes submitted the following questions and the answers were provide by the Director of Environmental Services in consultation with the Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services.

- Q. Given the purchasing power of the Council when bulk buying, how much did it cost to buy each 140 litre grey bin?**
- A.** The current cost of each standard 140 litre grey bin was £12.85, this was subject to market fluctuation.
- Q. What was the true costing of delivery (including administration) of a grey bin to a resident, bearing in mind that more than one bin would be on each delivery vehicle?**
- A.** Bearing in mind bulk delivery costs, the true cost of delivering each 140 litre Grey bin at the present time was £14.26.
- Q. Did the provisions of the Provision of Services Regulations 2009 apply to charging of residents for delivery of bins?**
- A.** The Environmental Protection Act 1990 governed the provision of receptacles for household waste and stated:

Receptacles for household waste.

- (1) Where a waste collection authority had a duty by virtue of section 45(1)(a) above to arrange for the collection of household waste from any premises, the authority may, by notice served on him, require the occupier to place the waste for collection in receptacles of a kind and number specified.
- (3) In making requirements under subsection (1) above the authority may, as respects the provision of the receptacles—
 - (a) determine that they be provided by the authority free of charge;
 - (b) propose that they be provided, if the occupier agreed, by the authority on payment by him of such a single payment or such periodical payments as he agreed with the authority;
 - (c) require the occupier to provide them if he did not enter into an agreement under paragraph (b) above within a specified period; or
 - (d) require the occupier to provide them.

Members in their discussions referred to matters around the Provision of Service Regulations 2009 and specifically matters around the charges for the supply of bins.

The minutes of various meetings relevant to the remit of this Committee were also submitted, viz –

- Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services held on 19th October and 16th November, 2015; and

- Environment and Waste Policy Development Group held on 8th October and 4th November, 2015.

Resolved – (i) That the Members Questions and the answers provided be noted and that in relation to the question regarding the provision of Services Regulations 2009 members be informed of whether this would affect what the Council could charge for the delivery of bins.

(ii) That the minutes of the various meetings be noted.

23. MR MALCOLM COX, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – RETIREMENT

The Committee, led by the Chairman, thanked and paid tribute to Malcolm Cox who would soon be retiring from the Council after many years of service, latterly as Director of Environmental Services.

Mr Cox received a round of applause and members wished him well for a long and happy retirement.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 6.51pm)