

GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
11 MARCH 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Steve Cox - Executive Director Place and Economy, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Marco Cereste - Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and Environment	
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SIX MONTHLY REVIEW – OUTCOMES OF TASK AND FINISH GROUP TO REVIEW FLY-TIPPING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and Environment	Deadline date: N/A
It is requested that the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee note the contents of this report.	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is provided to update the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee on the progress of items arising from the report of the Fly Tipping and Waste Management Task and Finish working group.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The report is being presented by Cllr Cereste at the request of the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee. The report will provide an update on progress of items arising from the report of the Fly Tipping and Waste Management Task and Finish working group.

2.2 This report is for Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 2.1, Functions determined by the Council:

- 6. Environmental Capital
- 7. Waste Strategy and Management

2.3 The subject matter of this report is closely aligned to the Environment Capital aspirations part of which includes the reduction of litter and waste being dumped to improve the visual aspect of the City as well as to reduce the impact on nature of this waste.

2.4 The management and recovery of value from these discarded materials in a more sustainable manner, by capturing materials in bulk collections and through the HRC at Fengate, is a key component of improving the management of waste for the City.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Leader of the Council set up a cross party Task and Finish working group in June 2018, to examine the issue of Fly Tipping in Peterborough alongside making recommendations on how Council waste policy may evolve to assist in tackling the problem.
- 4.2 Following an interim report in January 2019, the recommendations in which were accepted by Cabinet, additional work was required to hone policy change recommendations into detailed proposals. This further stage of work was presented to Cabinet, following Scrutiny recommendation, in July 2019 and the report was received and several actions were agreed. This report covers the actions requested for development into outline business cases as well as other progress made in related business areas.
- 4.3 Fly tipping continues to be an issue across the city, Aragon Direct Services (ADS) are working hard to clear it within the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) timeframe of 24 hours for hazardous and 48 hours for non-hazardous once this is reported to them. ADS have also been providing information to the cross-party working group on fly tipping and the current areas they find to be Hot Spots. ADS are also working with the PES team to look at the possibility to have in most case a single visit resolution, a substantial amount of fly tip's require an enforcement officer to attend before it can be removed.

The following table demonstrates the fly tip numbers for 2017 /18 and 2018 /19 this shows we have seen a small decrease in numbers: -

	Flytip incidents	Difference	Tonnes of waste	Difference
April - Nov 18	4,126		1,519	
April - Nov 19	3,116	-1,010	965	-554

- 4.4 ADS continue to work with several Parish Councils across Peterborough to offer Bulky Freighter days, these involve a refuse freighter and a 7.5tonne vehicle parking up at a communal location. Residents can then bring their waste to be either disposed or recycled, this has been successful but has not resulted in a reduction in fly tip.

5 Progress Update

5.1 RECAP Fly Tipping Group

- 5.1.1 SCRAP It Fly Tipping Campaign is a toolset developed by Hertfordshire County Council and provided free of charge for interested Councils to improve the management of the response to Fly Tipping, either individually or as a collective.

An arrangement with all Councils within the RECAP area, Cambridgeshire County Council and its constituent District Councils and Peterborough, to tackle fly tipping together is gathering pace, with recent press launches being undertaken in several the partner authority areas.

- 5.1.2 SCRAP Campaign launched, in stages for maximum effect, across Cambridgeshire Partner Councils looking to educate residents about Duty of Care, checking carrier's registrations, how to report fly tipping, common recording and reporting mechanisms between councils, NFU, EA, Police etc. taking part as well.

Peterborough specific event aiming to be held in April or May 2020 with a view to dealing with the urban fringe issues which are common in Peterborough but less so around the partnership.

- 5.1.3 Development of an event for Peterborough in the coming months is underway to highlight the specific issues within Peterborough which are different from the scheme's implementation in Fenland, as is the case for all the RECAP partners involved.

5.2 Prevention and Enforcement Service (PES)

- 5.2.1 Development of training and appropriate procedures to allow Aragon staff to gather evidence for

possible follow up by enforcement so as to allow more small scale incidents of fly tipping to be dealt with in a more pragmatic manner to make the best use of resources available to the Council and its partner organisations.

5.2.2 Crime Scene' tape purchased, and procedures have been developed for use by Aragon collection crews and enforcement officers, for implementation following the launch of the SCRAP it campaign as mentioned in 5.1.2 above.

5.2.3 The PES team are currently developing a CMDN to implement the Householder Duty of Care, including the appropriate fixed penalty system for residents. Publicising and clear communication of penalties arising from enforcement of the Householder Duty of Care is important as it allows authorities to implement this legislation. The duty of care requires occupiers of domestic property to take all reasonable measures available to them in the circumstances to ensure that they only transfer household waste produced on that property to an authorised person. This reduces the chance of waste ending up in the hands of those who would fly-tip it.

5.2.4 There are several key criteria that domestic waste producers are required to comply with before arranging to dispose of their waste.

- Beware of rogue waste collectors - remember your duty of care
- As a householder, you have a legal obligation (duty of care) to take all reasonable measures to ensure that your waste is disposed of properly.
- The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations require all householders to make sure their waste is only removed from their premises by registered waste carriers.

5.2.5 Facebook interventions and communications by PES team on various issues including Duty of Care and how such social media may be used to pass helpful information to enforcement to allow investigations of possible crimes.

Instances where members of the public are actively reaching out on Facebook looking for a tradesman to remove some waste are contacted by PES to ensure that the resident is aware of the rules before arranging to pass their waste onto someone. This aims to stop a potential fly tip even before it happens and is an example of an effective low-cost intervention.

5.3 CCTV purchase progressing.

5.3.1 Six overt/covert dual-purpose cameras have been acquired alongside one top of range covert unit with low light capabilities.

5.3.2 Examining options to deploy including data impact assessment implications and impacts on RIPA, also purchased signs identifying CCTV in use as part of the three-pronged approach. The enforcement team hope to commence utilising the cameras from March 2020.

5.4 Householders Recycling Centre (HRC)

5.4.1 In February 2019 the Fengate HRC was opened to replace the Dogsthorpe site which had served the City since before it gained Unitary status in 1998. During the period that the Fengate HRC has been open there has been a noticeable drop in the quantity of fly tipping collected in the City.

5.4.2 At this stage it is not possible to attribute such a fall in fly tipping collected to the HRC alone as other factors such as the work of the PES team, SCRAP it campaign may all have impacted on figures.

5.4.3 The first anniversary of the Fengate HRC is approaching and a customer survey is being undertaken to seek views of service users on the facility and to help inform any improvements we might consider making following receipt of feedback.

5.5 Business Plan Elements

5.5.1 Outline business cases for each of the 4 key recommendations of the Task and Finish group were developed as requested and presented to Director and Cabinet member however due to the unprecedented financial situation the Council is in no funds are available to undertake any of the proposals in the 2019-20 or 2020-21 period.

5.5.2 Details of the four recommended business plan elements are shown in appendix A.

6. CONSULTATION

6.1 Consultation through the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

7.1 It is anticipated that the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee will note the content of this report and any comments will be fed back to aid in future improvements to the services delivered.

8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

8.1 To allow scrutiny of the progress made following the report of the Task and Finish group.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 The alternative option was to not present this report to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee, this option was not taken forwards as it would be in direct contravention of the request from the Scrutiny Committee.

10. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

10.1 This report is to give an overview / progress update as such there are no financial implications beyond spending and processes already approved.

Legal Implications

10.2 This report is to give an overview / progress update as such there are direct legal implications. As regards specific projects, legal advice has/will be sought on a case by case basis.

Equalities Implications

10.3 This report is to give an overview / progress update as such there are no anticipated equality implications.

Rural Implications

10.4 This report is to give an overview / progress update as such there are no rural implications.

Carbon Impact Assessment

10.5 This report does not contain any decisions that will have an impact on Carbon it allows for an update on the Fly Tipping and Waste Management Task and Finish Group.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

11.1 *None*

12. APPENDICES

12.1 Appendix A – Recommended Business Plan Elements

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