

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY SELECT COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 6 August 2013

Time: 18.00 hrs.

Place: Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage SG1 1HN

Present: Councillors: J Hollywell (Chair), L Bell, P Bibby, J Brown, P Stuart and B Underwood.

Start/End Time Start Time: 6.00 p.m.
Ended: 7.37 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Mead and R Parker CC.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES – 10 JULY 2013

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment & Economy Select Committee held on 10 July 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. PRESENTATION – REFUSE AND RECYCLING

The Committee received a presentation from the Head of Environmental Services and his team which detailed the services provided by the Council under the heading of 'Recycling and Waste Management'.

Members asked a number of detailed questions about the presentation which were answered by the officers.

Potential subject areas identified for the Scrutiny Review were:

- Cardboard recycling, charges and challenges
- The future of 'on street' recycling in the New Town given the level of vandalism meted out to recycling bins in the town centre
- The cost of replacement of waste and recycling receptacles for residential properties
- Developing a policy for missed bin collections and the use of Customer Relations Management (CRM) data
- The future and options for the Nappy Collection Service, including the promotion of alternatives to the use of disposables.

- Complaints management
- Communication to customers about service disruptions

It was **RESOLVED** that the presentation be noted.

The Chair thanked the officers for their comprehensive presentation.

4. REFUSE AND RECYCLING REVIEW

Following on from the presentation Members identified a number of strands of the topic that they wished to review and lead roles for questioning were agreed and allocated as possible.

- Issues facing residents of flats and tower blocks – Councillor B Underwood
- Waste re-use and reduction – Councillor J Brown
- Nappies – Councillor P Bibby
- Recycling campaigns – Councillor P Stuart
- Complaints handling – Councillor L Bell
- Service Disruption – Councillor R Parker CC
- Cardboard and recycling away from home – Councillor J Mead
- Equality and Diversity issues – Councillor J Hollywell

The Chair suggested that Members could meet informally to prepare for the review sessions and the Scrutiny Officer requested that where possible Members advise him of questions in advance of the review meetings in order to allow for interviewees to be prepared for the review sessions.

The Committee was advised by the Head of Environmental Services that representatives from 'Waste Aware', a Direct Services Organisation (DSO) in Hertfordshire and a DSO from outside the county should be available as 'critical friends' to attend a review session. It was noted that not all representatives would attend the same meeting.

The Scrutiny Officer undertook to circulate an updated project plan and proposed meeting dates for the review sessions.

It was **RESOLVED** that the scoping document, along with the amendments identified above, be noted.

5. URGENT PART I BUSINESS

None.

6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Not required.

PART II

7. URGENT PART II BUSINESS

None.

CHAIR