

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN

MEETING: **Environment and Economy Select Committee**
Monday 30 September 2013 Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors: J Hollywell (Chair), L Bell, P Bibby and R Parker CC.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	ACTION/LEAD
<p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Brown, J Mead, P Stuart and B Underwood.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interests.</p>	<p>O Adeoye Ext 2013</p>
2. MINUTES – 6 AUGUST 2013	ACTION/LEAD
<p>It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment & Economy Select Committee held on 6 August 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.</p>	<p>O Adeoye Ext 2013</p>
3. REFUSE AND RECYCLING REVIEW	ACTION/LEAD
<p>Members were invited by the Chair to consider a report which included responses received from SBC Officers around the review exercise on refuse and recycling and welcomed any additional questions or clarification on the responses received in the report.</p> <p>Members were advised that when the new complaints system is in place complaints will be logged under various categories thereby enabling Management to address the issues raised.</p> <p>As regards the different response times to the complaints logged by residents and Members, The Head of</p>	<p>S Weaver Ext 2332</p> <p>C Dorow Ext 2727</p> <p>L Myers</p>

<p>Environmental Services advised that Officers do not distinguish between sources of complaints but he would look into this matter.</p>	<p>Ext 8710</p>
<p>Members were informed that on the issue of collection times for bins, information to residents was very widely publicised on the council website on flyers and publications such as Comet.</p>	<p>L Moring Ext 6036</p>
<p>Members were advised that during inclement weather, the Council had a duty of care to its drivers and that staff do endeavour to undertake tasks that would not comprise health and safety issues. The meeting was informed that in no circumstances would a driver/staff be forced to carry out collections during severe weather periods.</p>	
<p>A suggestion that a consistent policy be developed on managing missed collections especially during long periods of snowfall was noted.</p>	<p>L Myers Ext 8710</p>
<p>As regards the question on the causes for the drop in numbers for residents who had signed up originally for the nappy collection service, Members were advised that in most instances the service was no longer required.</p>	<p>L Moring Ext 6036</p>
<p>Members were informed that since cardboard was not compostable, it could no longer be sent down to the South Mimms recycling unit as there was now a high cost associated because of the contamination of the end product but will be sold to the market as mixed papers.</p>	
<p>On the issue of recycling for residents in flats and tower blocks, the meeting was informed that Officers are presently undertaking a survey to establish recycling requirements. Members were advised any modification to the properties to accommodate any recycling facilities would require investments which will fall on the Housing Revenue Account.</p>	<p>T Fitzsimons Ext 2782</p>
<p>Members were informed that Environmental Services are consulted by Planning Officers as part of the planning process where new build homes or blocks of apartments are being proposed in the town.</p>	

4. INTERVIEW WITH “CRITICAL FRIEND” FOR THE REVIEW INTO REFUSE AND RECYCLING	
The Chair informed Members that this item has been deferred to a future meeting. The interview of the ‘Critical Friend’ will be scheduled alongside the Executive Portfolio holder for Environment and Regeneration.	L Myers Ext 8710
5. URGENT BUSINESS	
None	
6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	
Not required.	O Adeoye Ext 2013
PART II	
7. URGENT PART II BUSINESS	
None.	O Adeoye Ext 2013