

## CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

24 January 2019

**COUNCILLOR IAN DEVEREUX-CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

For the period 29 November 2018 to 14 January 2019

### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

The Government Waste & Resource Strategy was published late December in support of its 25 Year Environment Plan. Comprising two substantial volumes, it sets out a 30+ year programme laying out Government ambitions and milestones to preserve material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular, reuse & recycling economy. The Strategy will significantly affect our BCKLWN Waste policy and operations over coming years.

It invokes the **'polluter pays' principle** to ensure that packaging producers pay the full cost of disposal for the packaging they place in the market, through better design, materials and taxation: and may include specific solutions such as a plastic bottle deposit system. It will be interesting to see how such funds will reach us to pay for our Waste collection service!

Also **Key for BCKLWN** will be the drive to improve recycling rates through ensuring **a consistent set of dry recyclable materials** is collected nationally. This should simplify and standardise the guidance on what should be put into our Green Bins! Similarly, greenhouse gas emissions from landfill will be reduced by **universal weekly separate food waste collection** and more efficient 'Energy from Waste' plant.

We have ensured that the future Waste Collection Procurement arrangements make provision to accommodate the practical consequences of the new Strategy and related evolving legislation.

Another key theme of the Strategy is **'Tackling Waste Crime'** across a broad spectrum from International fraud through to local fly-tipping. This will create a supportive context for our current endeavours which are delivering hard-won prosecutions, also accelerate the new Norfolk wide **'SCRAP' Fly Tipping** campaign that will be launched on 31<sup>st</sup> January...so, watch out for the publicity and guidance on what Householders need to know to help prevent illegal dumping of waste!

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

Over the last year I have been working with Officers to improve the way we can help members of our Communities use our Website to care for their environment by telling us about incidents requiring Council 'Clean-Up' Services. And in a way that they can see if the problem has already been reported and eventually, to provide confirmation that appropriate action has been completed.

Such incidents range from dead seals on the beach, to road kill of both domestic pets and wild animals, through to graffiti and fly-tipping. Reporting has often involved significant CIC interactions and time across several reporting channels. A new web-based 'Occurrence Reporting System' is now undergoing final testing ready for roll out and will support the SCRAP Fly Tipping campaign in due course. It will enable Users to pinpoint the location on a digital map over their smart-phone, to describe the occurrence and append supporting photographs. With some types of issue, this will enable automated emails to be sent directly to the appropriate clean-up team for action and close-out.

## **3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled**

### E&C Panel

Local Government Association-Coastal Special Interest Group in London  
Norfolk Coastal Partnership Core Management Group at Sculthorpe  
Norfolk Waste Partnership Board at Brecklands DC

### R&D Panel

Cabinet and Sifting Meetings

Portfolio Meetings (Waste collection, Flood&Coastal Planning, CSNN)

Launch of NWP Christmas 'Scrunch' Campaign in Norwich

HRAMMGI Panel.

Alive Leisure Trust Board

Visit by A(C)RFCC Secretariat

Environment Agency-East Anglia Coastal Group in Norwich

### Scheduled

Cabinet Sifting (16 Jan)

Anglian (Central) Regional Flood & Coastal Committee at Brampton (17 Jan)

East of Ouse, Nar and Polver Internal Drainage Board (22 Jan)

Alive Leisure Trust – Business Continuity Group (25 Jan)