

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 July 2017

COUNCILLOR IAN DEVEREUX- CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

For the period 5 June to 17 July 2017

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

As part of the Norfolk Waste Partnership we have agreed a County wide, centrally funded promotional campaign to improve the quality & consistency of recycling – “**Clean, Dry and Loose in the Green Bin**”!

As part of the **National Local Green Points Scheme**, they have just finished a campaign visiting over 9600 households in our Borough and signing up more than 2500 new Members with the aim of reducing food waste in Black Bins through the use of the Food Caddy. This will be underpinned by my decision, aided by the E&C Panel, to improve food waste collection by allowing the use of any bag, or caddy liner, to simplify a wholesome food waste collection process for everyone. We are following this up by employing a new Team to go out and look at how people are recycling and to help them to recycle better and/or more easily. This will include providing better information and offering practical help, such as baskets to keep recycling material tidy so that it can go into the Green Bin “clean, dry and loose”!

The **Good News** is that the level of contamination in our Green recycling bins has reduced in the first quarter, but we still have a long way to go. We have also **exceeded the Sales Target for Brown Bins** for the first quarter to a current total of 24,624 and have recycled more garden waste in the first three months of the year than we did last year. Good Results for us All!

On Air Quality, Officers are closely engaged with others in investigating the reported odours and concerns over possible emissions from the British Sugar Facility at Wissington. The complexity of the diverse factors involved, implies that this could take some months to identify and resolve.

The Habitat Regulations Mitigation & Green Infrastructure Group was set up in response to the recommendations the LDF Inspector for a £50 levy on new dwellings to protect our Ecological and Environmental assets. This Multi-Agency group, led by the Borough Council, is now progressing to the implementation phase and has agreed to work with the Norfolk Coast (AONB) Project. They already do similar work and will, on our behalf, operate the administrative process for inviting & assessing Projects and recommending Awards from our Fund, which currently stands at over £30K.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Following a tendering process for the preparation of a Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan we expect to appoint a consultant to carry out this work to commence in September and conclude early 2018.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

East of Ouse, Nar & Polver IDB
Civic Service
Cabinet sifting meetings
Cabinet
KLFM Interviews
Hunstanton Flood Protection
Council
Audit Committee - Accounts Training
Norfolk Waste Partnership Board
R&D
Portfolio Meetings – including:- Food waste caddy liners; Refuse Collection;
Hunstanton waterfront matters; Waste Contracting arrangements
North Lynn community visits
E&C
Marsham Compost Processing Facility visit

Scheduled

NEWS AGM on 25th July
Portfolio & Related meetings