

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

14 June 2018

COUNCILLOR IAN DEVEREUX- CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

For the period 13 April to 14 June 2018

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Brown Bin sales have continued strongly early in the year with an increase to 27,353 bins, an increase of 708 since last December. Without a formal marketing campaign, this achievement is a tribute to the quality and perceived benefit of this very cost-effective service.

I was delighted to be able to join the Mayor last month in making a presentation to Marshland and District Community Centre of a cheque for £3,000 for winning the Community Chest Challenge as part of our final phase of community awards under our West Norfolk Green Points Scheme. The two runners-up Dersingham Village Hall and Wereham Village Hall received awards of £1,500 each. The awards recognized their superb efforts to increase recycling and food waste collection, and to reduce residual waste levels collected. We also benefitted from the teamwork and leadership of the National Project Manager for the Green Points scheme who has just won the accolade of the most Influential “under 35 year old” in the Waste & Recycling Industry!

Last year we achieved our overall target for waste recycling. With more than 25,000 tonnes of material recycled we have helped to reduce carbon emissions and depletion of resources. Receipt of the associated recycling credits has generated more than £1.4 million of effective income for the Council, to help keep down Council Tax, with similar benefits for Norfolk County Council. But for the poor early spring weather which reduced garden waste levels by 300 tonnes compared to last year, this income would have been even higher!

I have asked officers to keep me informed on progress made by Norwich City Council, who are using money from the national charity WRAP to run a campaign to increase the use of their food waste collection service.

The public consultations on the Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan were successfully concluded so that the various options can now be refined and costed as part of our long-term investment programme.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

I will be attending the Norfolk Waste Partnership Board in early June. This will also provide the opportunity for an informal meeting with colleagues from North Norfolk District Council and Breckland District Council to review our progress on our joint procurement of the next waste collection contract. The contract will start in April 2021 but, due to the scale and importance of the service, work is already well underway for this to go to market this summer for tender submissions.

The Team and I will be actively contributing to the June Environment & Community Panel which will be addressing the vexed question of Plastics!

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Cabinet and associated Briefing and Sifting meetings
King's Lynn for Climate Change Earth Day Event
Norfolk Coast Partnership Core Management Group
Local Green Points Awards Event
Environment & Community Panel
Mayor Making & Annual Council
Corporate Performance Panel
Appointments Board
Various Portfolio Meetings

Scheduled key Meetings

Norfolk Waste Partnership Board
East of Ouse, Nar and Polver Internal Drainage Board
MoD Panel Discussion at the Norfolk Show