

## CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 February 2020

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

For the period 24 January to 17 February 2020

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

Preparation for the delivery and mobilisation of the new **Joint Waste Collection Contract** continues. There is excellent cooperation and collaboration between the three Councils working with the Contractor to maximise the available benefits through sharing resources. The first meeting of the new contract Strategic Board is scheduled for 28 February.

This council is in a strong position to make meaningful contributions to the changes in “waste law” which will be enabled by the Environment Bill now before Parliament.

I again raised the issue of the closure of the Wisbech Waste Recycling Facility to West Norfolk residents at the recent Norfolk Waste Partnership Board, but without success as the matter is solely at the discretion of Cambridge County Council. This will cause adverse emissions due to additional mileage to take domestic waste material to the King’s Lynn facilities. Continued vigilance and investigation of **Fly-Tipping** has delivered a further successful prosecution.

Our **Climate Change** Team has completed the Carbon Audit of the BCKLWN Estate which shows the latest estimate of our carbon footprint as 4632 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent for 2018/19. This is a reduction of 25% since the previous estimate for 2014/15 at 6183 tonnes. The Team is now identifying the carbon reduction pathways and mitigation strategies to enable us to achieve “**net zero**” emissions. These will be wide-ranging with challenging timescales dependent on ongoing projects, evolving National and Regional Policies and Funding. We are committed to working with the County Council, District Councils and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership to align and coordinate efforts in order to maximise the benefits across the County.

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

With the Climate Change Programme now well underway, I have commissioned an update of the Borough Council **Environment Statement** last published in 2011. The revision and the underlying policies and strategies

will be baselined on our current arrangements & achievements, our ongoing projects and longer term aspirations together with the challenges involved. It will be aligned with our Corporate Business Plan and the recently published Norfolk County Council Environment Policy and coordinated with evolving National Policies expected over the next couple of years. It will include consideration of:-

1. Integration of the Climate Change programme
2. Tree strategy and the associated Tree planting commitment
3. Habitat Regulations Assessment, Monitoring, Mitigation & Green Infrastructure programme to protect our Special Conservation Areas.
4. Sponsorship and support to the Norfolk Coast Partnership and to the Wash & North Norfolk Marine Partnership
5. Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management through the Shoreline Management Plan, the Wash East Coast Management Strategy, the Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan and Surface Water Management Plans.
6. Membership, support and major investment in Internal Drainage Boards
7. Anglia in Bloom and associated programmes
8. Leadership of the Norfolk SCRAP Fly-tipping enforcement programme
9. Waste Collection and Recycling including Food Collection and Garden Waste initiatives. Active membership of The Norfolk Waste Partnership.
10. Procurement and Management of the environmentally beneficial Joint Waste Collection Contract in conjunction with the Brecklands & North Norfolk District Councils.
11. Support to Communities and Local Groups, including Litter-picks.
12. The Outcomes & Recommendations of the Single-Use-Plastics initiative.
13. The proactive 'environmental/climate change' initiatives of the Local Plan Task Force
14. The Local Plan Housing & Transport provisions for promoting and protecting our Environment
15. Support to the development of Greenways, Cycle-ways and Footpaths.
16. Air Quality improvement: including the outcomes of the King's Lynn Transport Strategy and its programme and projects
17. Land Quality Improvement: including remediation developments at

NORA and Lynnsport.

18. REFIT: The Government sponsored multi-year programme to deploy energy saving measures across the Council Estate.

19. Reduction in the Council Estate Footprint.

20. Investment in Health & Wellbeing through Alive West Norfolk

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

27 Jan -Meeting with Chief Exec & Terry Huggins  
-Accounts Training

28 Jan -Governance Task Group

29 Jan -Norfolk Waste Partnership Board

30 Jan -Norfolk Rivers IDB

03 Feb -Joint Panel Meeting on The Budget

04 Feb -Cabinet

05 Feb -King's Lynn IDB – Opening of Wolferton Pumping Station

06 Feb -Meeting with The Leader and a Visitor on Tree Planting

#### Scheduled

19 Feb -Portfolio Meeting

24 Feb -Planning Training

25 Feb -Portfolio Meeting  
-CPP

26 Feb -Governance Task Group

27 Feb -Single Use Plastic – Informal Working Group  
-Council

28 Feb -Joint Waste Contract Strategic Board