

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

*At a meeting of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board on
Wednesday, 16 November 2016 at the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall*

Present: Councillors Woolfall (Chair), Fry (Vice-Chair), V. Hill, Howard,
Joe Roberts, Sinnott, J. Stockton, Wall and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Morley and Nolan

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Noone, G. Ferguson, S. Rimmer and J. Unsworth

Also in attendance: Councillors J. Bradshaw, M. Bradshaw and Inspector B.
Brown

ITEM DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

Action

EUR10 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2016,
having been circulated were signed as a correct record.

EUR11 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was confirmed that no public questions had been
received.

EUR12 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The Board considered the Minutes of the meetings of
the Executive Board relevant to the Environment and Urban
Renewal Policy and Performance Board.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be received.

EUR13 WASTE MANAGEMENT MATTERS

The Board received an update from the Divisional
Manager, Waste and Improvement, which provided
information on Garden Waste collections, fly tipping in the
Borough and the introduction of the pilot Food Waste

collection service.

In respect of the pilot Food Waste collection service, since its introduction in the summer, the Pilot Food Waste collection service had been extended on two occasions. The service now covered 2,347 homes in the Hale, Ditton, Heath and Beechwood Wards.

It was reported that there had been a positive response to the service with participation in some areas reaching upwards of 85%. Officers would be carrying out direct engagement with householders to gather feedback on the scheme and to help further increase participation levels.

The pilot service was subject to scrutiny by the Waste Topic Group and a report on the scheme would be presented to Members in the new year which may contain recommendations to the Executive Board in respect of its potential expansion to other areas.

With regard to garden waste:

- the chargeable collection service had 16,872 households subscribed to date; this number was up by 1,600 compared to 2015/16;
- take-up of the service had risen from 37% in 2015/16 to 40% this year; and
- income so far this year was £448,000, which had increased by £40,000 compared to the previous year. Income received was sufficient to cover all service operating costs.

In respect of Green and Blue bins, it was noted that Members of the Topic Group have been asked to review the Council's Policy on charging for green and blue bins.

Members of the Board were also advised on efforts to reduce incidents of fly-tipping and tackle those responsible, which included:

- On-going investigations into all reported incidents of fly-tipping;
- Working closely with Housing Associations and delivering joint initiatives;
- Targeted campaigns in areas identified as experiencing high levels of fly-tipping and other forms of environmental nuisance;
- The planned delivery of a campaign to remind householders of their legal responsibilities when paying individuals to remove rubbish from their

homes;

- Joint patrols with Police Officers in areas were causing unacceptable levels of nuisance due to fly-tipping rubbish and not complying with the Council's Waste Collection Policy; and
- The issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices for fly-tipping offences. Members of the Waste Topic Group were asked to consider the Council's approach to the use of Fixed Penalty Notices for the fly-tipping offences, such as suggested Penalty Notice levels; with a report to be presented to the next meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the update report be noted.

EUR14 ANNUAL ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISION & CASUALTY REPORT

The Board was advised that Appendix A to the report set out full details of the numbers of road traffic collision and casualty numbers in the year 2015, and compared these figures with those from previous years. These results were very encouraging, with significant decreases in the numbers of people being slightly injured (SLI) and those killed/seriously injured (KSI) compared to the figures for recent years. Within the KSI total, both the number of adults and children decreased but the latter figure was known to be volatile in Halton and could fluctuate from year to year.

A summary for 2015 was set out in the report. It was noted that whilst nationally, road casualties decreased by 4% in 2015, as set out in the Department for Transport 2015 Comprehensive Annual Report on Road Casualties, it remained to be seen if the decreases seen locally were a result of a downward trend or a temporary drop. However, in terms of casualty reduction in 2015 Halton was one of the best performing Local Authorities, both regionally and nationally.

RESOLVED: That the overall progress made on casualty reduction in Halton over the past decade be noted and welcomed.

EUR15 INTRODUCTION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS TO PREVENT PARKING ADJACENT TO MOORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, which advised on the consultation process with regard to the

proposal to introduce waiting restrictions on Lindfield Close, Runcorn Road and Beechmoore near to Moore Primary School, in order to address parking congestion.

It was noted that in March 2014, a resident had raised the issue of parking congestion in the area of Moore Primary School, associated with parents'/carers' vehicles being parked on nearby junctions and Runcorn Road, blocking both sightlines and desire lines for drivers and pedestrians alike. Subsequently, in July 2015, Cheshire Police requested the introduction of waiting restrictions in the same areas to help resolve these problems.

Consequently, in November 2015, a consultation process on waiting restrictions was carried out which included Ward Councillors, Moore Parish Council and the frontage properties. This proposal included leaving the existing double white line system in place in order to prevent overtaking on a length of road where forward visibility is limited because of the railway bridge parapet. Objections to the proposal were received from a resident whose property did not directly front onto the proposed restriction, Moore Primary School and Moore Parish Council, details of those objections and Officer responses were outlined in the report. In addition, it was reported that an Officer from the Council and representatives from Cheshire Police had attended Moore Parish Council meetings to discuss the proposals.

On behalf of local residents, Councillor J Bradshaw addressed the Board and made the following comments:

- The existing problem occurs in this area for a short period during school drop off and pick up;
- It is a similar situation outside other schools in the Borough and similar waiting restrictions were not proposed;
- Waiting restrictions will transfer parking onto nearby streets;
- The impact on residents where the waiting restrictions were proposed, in particular parking for visitors;
- The proposals were in response to a complaint from one resident; and
- Moore Primary School currently put cones in this area during drop off and pick up times and a decision on waiting restrictions should be delayed to assess its effectiveness.

In response, Inspector Brown addressed the Board on behalf of Cheshire Police. He commented that:

- Cheshire Police had issued parking tickets but this had not deterred people from parking cars on the existing double white lines. Also PCSO's cannot be outside Moore Primary School each day;
- The Police could not support the proposal to put out cones as these should only be used for short term solutions, use should not exceed seven days and it is not an enforceable option; and
- The main concern of Cheshire Police is the safety of the school children.

RESOLVED: That the proposal to make an Order to introduce "At Any Time" waiting restrictions on parts of Lindfield Close, Runcorn Road and Beechmoore in Moore as shown in Appendix 'A' and defined in Appendix 'C' be supported and that the report be submitted to the Executive Board for its consideration.

Strategic Director
Enterprise
Communities
and Resources

Meeting ended at 7.30 p.m.