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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> 8
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2002</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED/ RECOMMENDED OPEN</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>	
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>JOHN HANSED (5770)</b>	<b>DOC:</b> s:\cent_serv\committee reports\community scrutiny\9 sept 2002\cleansing the environment bvr.doc
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>CLEANSING THE ENVIRONMENT BEST VALUE REVIEW</b>	<b>REF: JRH/SAC</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE:</b>

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### **1.0 Recommendations**

1.1 That Members note the progress made on delivering the Action Plan arising out of the Cleansing the Environment Best Value Review.

### **2.0 Purpose of Report**

2.1 To advise Members of the progress being made on delivering the Action Plan arising out of the Cleansing the Environment Best Value Review.

### **3.0 Detail**

3.1 By the date of the meeting some 38 of the actions in the plan were due to have been completed. Of these 14 are complete, 10 are in progress and 11 will need to be rescheduled. Three cannot be undertaken as they were subject to service development proposals which have not been funded.

3.2 The reason why less progress has been made than programmed is the absence of key staff members. The Recycling Officer was absent for several months on sick leave. Subsequently the Senior Engineer (Refuse and Cleansing) post has been vacant since March.

3.3 The latter post is being re-advertised in the new form of Senior Waste Development Officer. In addition the newly created post of Waste Development Assistant was filled in August. This post was created specifically, on a three-year contract basis, to help deliver the action plan.

3.4 When the senior post is filled staffing will be at full compliment, giving more confidence that the plan can be delivered without further slippage.

- 3.5 One of the most significant actions that has been completed was the creation of the Clean Team Hit Squad which commenced operations at the beginning of last December.
- 3.6 In the nine months of operation the team have dealt with nearly 1200 cleansing incidents, mainly flytipping but also removing dog dirt, dead animals, graffiti, hypodermic needles and leaf fall. The average time to remove fly tipping is now less than one day.

#### **4.0 Conclusions**

- 4.1 The Action Plan arising from the Cleansing the Environment Best Value Review is providing the required framework to continually improve services.
- 4.2 The increased resources available to the service from the newly created Clean Team Hit Squad have made a substantial impact on street cleanliness and on flytipping in particular.
- 4.3 The absence of key staff has meant that there has been some inevitable slippage in delivering other items in the Action Plan. However, when the Senior Waste Development Officer post is filled there will then be confidence that the required staff resource is available to deliver the remainder of the Plan to the agreed timetable.