
REPORT TO:	OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 6
DATE OF MEETING:	18th JANUARY 2017	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	DIRECTOR of HOUSING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	MIKE HAYNES (01283 595775) mike.haynes@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S RECYCLING and BULKY WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES and REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S STREET SCENE SERVICES	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: HC 01

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Members requested to note the content of the report, and to support the proposed recommendations to the Environmental & Development Services Committee, and detailed at 3.1.1 to 3.1.6 within this report.

2.0 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Members with details of how services are provided, and the proposals to address any areas of concern

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 At the meeting of this Committee on 19th October 2016, Members were presented with a scoping document (attached to this report as Appendix A and B), which recommended the service areas to be reviewed. Following debate at the above meeting, these were clarified as being:

Recycling and Bulky Waste Collection Services

- 3.1.1 To review the charges made and costs incurred in providing the services. The aim will be to investigate if the services are economical and/or if they deter residents and businesses from disposing of waste correctly.

- 3.1.2 To review the type of bulky waste and recyclables collected, including what is accepted and refused. The aim will be to investigate if the service can be improved in order to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.
- 3.1.3 To review the provision at Civic Amenity sites. The aim will be to investigate if these sites are value for money for the Council, and if the provision of such sites has an impact on the amount of waste going to landfill.

Street Scene Services

- 3.1.4 To review the services provided to ensure these economical to deliver, and meet the objective of keeping the District clean.
- 3.1.5 To consider the adoption of a zero tolerance policy to littering.
- 3.1.6 To review the provisions made to prevent fly tipping, and the standards adopted to ensure prosecution activities have the desired outcomes.

4.0 Background

4.1 Recycling

Recycling services within South Derbyshire are provided as free at the point of collection for all domestic residents within the District.

The costs of providing the service are met from the Council's General Fund, and are in the region of £650,000 for the financial year 2016/17. The contract was procured under EU regulations, and awarded to the most competitive tender. This therefore demonstrates that the Council let the contract to the contractor offering the most economical solution to the collection of recyclable waste.

As a Council, we empty over 3.25 million bins every year, collecting around 40,000 tonnes of waste. Of this, approximately 20% is recycled and 30% composted.

4.2 Bulky Waste and Commercial Collections

Bulky waste and commercial collection services within South Derbyshire are chargeable, and generate an income of c£100,000 per annum.

Bulky waste collections account for around 140 tonnes per year. Charges for are £30 per collection with a maximum of six items per collection.

South Derbyshire District Council collects commercial waste from approximately 450 businesses, amounting to c1500 tonnes of waste per year. Charges are based on cost of collection (£0.84 per lift) and disposal (£13.2 per lift), and based on an 1100 litre bin. The disposal charge is set by Derbyshire County Council.

4.3 Street Scene

Street scene services include the Council's clean team (covering fly tips, litter collection, dog fouling, and emptying the Council's street waste bins), gully cleansing, cleaning bus shelters and public toilets, and highway weed control.

The clean team respond to around 1300 requests each year of which 750 are for removing fly tips, 360 for clearing litter, and 120 for dealing with dog fouling.

On an annual basis, the team litter pick and sweep around 3000 km of footpaths and roadside verges, sweep 3500 km of roadside channels and apply weed control chemicals to around 3500 km of highway. They also undertake around 30,000 litter and dog bin empties per year; arrange for the cleaning of 140 bus shelters; and clean over 10,000 highway gullies. As a Council we also maintain and service 4 public toilets on a daily basis.

In addition to the above, the grounds maintenance team cut over 25 million square metres of grass each year, and maintain the three urban parks with staff in attendance on every day of the year, including public and bank holidays.

4.4 Fly Tipping

South Derbyshire District Council is not alone in seeing an increase in fly tipping in recent years. In the first six months of 2017/18, the number of incidents recorded was 349, with the trend showing an increase in Q2 over and above Q1.

As a Council, South Derbyshire have always taken a proactive approach to dealing with incidents of fly tipping, with a recent case becoming high profile following a successful prosecution. Evidence of this is demonstrated by the fact that, in the financial year to date, the Council's Safer Neighbourhoods team have issued in excess of 20 fixed penalty notices, and have succeeded in 4 prosecutions during the previous 12 months. In addition, a major investigation has led to the seizure of a 40 tonne HGV, whilst motion capture surveillance equipment is regularly deployed in fly tipping 'hot spots' to collect evidence.

5.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications for delivering the current services other than those reported in the service budgets to the Finance & Management Committee.

6.0 Corporate Implications

South Derbyshire District Council has within its Corporate Plan the following aims:

- *Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill*
- *Use existing tools and powers to take appropriate enforcement action*
- *Enhance environmental standards*
- *Deliver services that keep the District clean and healthy*

7.0 Community Implications

Were this Council not to deliver successful services, views and comments from communities within the District could cause damage to the Council's reputation and its aim to deliver Corporate objectives.