## Environmental and Development Services Performance Action Plan - Quarter 3, 2016



## Appendix C



Reduce the amount of fly tipping

Target < 507

Theme - Place. Action - PL3.1 Reduce the amount of fly tipping

Target: Fewer than 507 recorded incidents of fly tipping from the start of quarter 1 to the end of quarter 3. Performance: 536 recorded incidents.

Trend (compared to last quarter) – Until September the general trend was downward. Since September there has been a general increase in recorded fly-tipping incidents. Whilst the year to date performance is not decreasing as defined by the methodology (i.e. 5% reduction compared to last year) the number of incidents is lower (559). The Clean Team has not identified any specific increase in particular types of waste.

Key actions underway -

- The proactive activity of South Derbyshire featured in a BBC East Midlands Inside Out programme in October 2016.
- In order to achieve efficiencies in fly-tip investigations, Clean Team staff have been trained in how to collect and retain evidence to a criminal investigation standard.
- Recycling centres, particularly in Hatton, seem to act as areas where large quantities of household waste are dumped. Safer Neighbourhood Wardens are now routinely issuing littering fines to individuals caught leaving household waste at recycling centres. From 2013-15 inclusive the Wardens issued 11 littering fixed penalty notices. In 2016 they gave out 43, with a further 14 issued in January 2017 alone.
- Safer Neighbourhood Wardens are investing more time into fly-tip investigations than ever before. Eleven people were interviewed under caution in 2016.
- We have invested in additional motion capture surveillance equipment to monitor for potential offences at known fly-tipping hot-spots.

Opportunities: Enhanced co-operation between separate departments. Opportunity to show that we are well ahead of other local authorities in our use of relevant powers and interventions. We are considering opportunities to re-invest the income from the fixed penalty notices back into providing more support and expertise for the team.

Risks: Fly-tipping investigations are time-consuming and therefore the more time officers spend investigating these offences the less time we have to spend on other matters such as dog control and noise nuisance. Performance may slip in these areas.

Our high press profile in this area could give the incorrect perception that South Derbyshire has a significant fly tipping problem.



Review and update the Infrastructure Delivery Plan

Target 1

Theme - Progress. Action - Review and update the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)

Performance: An initial review has been completed, but changes to sites following the draft consultation on the Local Plan Part 2 mean further review work needs to be undertaken. Draft still being considered.

Trend (compared to last quarter) – Quarter one was achieved, but unforeseen changes have influenced the outcomes of quarters two and three.

Key actions underway – The review is continuing as the Local Plan Part 2 progresses. However, the submission date has moved forward one quarter and linked to this will be the publishing of the IDP. Due to this timetable change the target for quarter three, which is to publish the plan, will not be met.

Due to the relatively small levels of infrastructure required in order to deliver the Local Plan Part 2 sites, there has been a delay in reviewing the IDP. This will now only be updated should the Local Plan Inspector require the information. If not, the review will take place after the adoption of the Plan and will be included in next year's monitoring.

Risks: Will be required by the Local Plan Inspector.





Noise complaints per 1,000 people

Target 4.8

Theme - Place. Action - PL4.1 Reduce the number of noise complaints

Target: 4.8 complaints per 1,000 heads of population. Performance: 6.1 complaints per head of population. Despite the increase in complaints over the monitoring period, noise complaints in South Derbyshire are still roughly 25% below the national average.

Trend (compared to last quarter) - Noise complaints are very seasonal, therefore it is more appropriate to compare the figures to the same period last year.

The number of people who complained about noise up to Q3 in 2016/17 is 462 compared to a profiled target of 349. We are therefore already nearly above the profiled annual number of complaints of 465.

There is no single underlying cause. The increases have been seen in complaints about construction noise, music from domestic properties, barking dogs, noise from pubs and clubs and noise from sports and leisure activities.

Other local authorities have anecdotally told us that they too have observed increasing numbers of noise complaints.

The biggest single underlying factor is that since early 2016 noise complaints from SDDC tenants are now received by and investigated by the Environmental Health team. This category of complaint was not recorded prior to 2016 and has accounted for 37 (8% of total) complaints so far this year.

Based on anecdotal evidence from investigating officers, the increase in complaints about construction noise seems to be at least partially motivated by the complainant's discontent with the outcome of planning approvals, rather than due to the impact of noise from construction per se. Complaining about noise from the development seems to be a means of objectors continuing to express their objection to a planning approval.

We also suspect that the increase in complaints could be due to the higher accessibility and visibility of the service rather than an increase in noise. We intend to investigate this further by analysing how many of these allegations result in objective evidence of confirmed noise nuisance and provide a briefing report.

Key actions underway -

Construction Noise - We suspect that increased profile about reporting construction noise as a result of publicity could have led to an increased understanding of how to complain and contributed to the overall increase.

SDDC Tenant Noise – New tenancy conditions have been introduced which will provide officers with a more robust process for addressing noise problems. An article on noise control has been produced for the Housing News.

Dog Noise – 30% of noise complaints relate to noise from dogs. We have published a comprehensive self-help guide, which is sent to dog owners who have been complained about. We will make this more widely available to dog owners through vets, kennels and pet shops in an attempt to raise the awareness of the problem.

Opportunities/risks - This is the first year that this performance indicator has been introduced, meaning the evidence base is small. Until there is more clarity about trends and underlying causes we do not consider that it is appropriate to implement significant change. We will continue to monitor trends to determine other appropriate intervention methods as the volume of data increases.

SDDC tenant noise complaints generate disproportionate amounts of work for the investigating officers because they are now dealt with as criminal investigations, whereas they were previously treated on a more informal basis by Housing Officers as tenancy breaches.

We have initiated a countywide work stream through the Derbyshire Environmental Protection Group to identify aspects of best practice, both in Derbyshire and beyond, for reducing noise exposure.





## **4.27**% increase

Annual improvements in the energy consumption of public buildings

Target 3% reduction

Theme – Outcomes. Action – Annual improvements in the energy consumption of public buildings

Target vs performance - Target: 3% reduction. Actual: 4.27% increase.

Failure to meet target influenced by outlying gas consumption at Green Bank Leisure Centre; a 25% increase on quarter three in 2015/16. Contributory factors are currently being investigated, but are likely to be a result of additional heat demand from the recently opened Apex Climbing Centre and operational issues with the swimming pool. It should be noted that a milder quarter three in 2015 resulted in a lower benchmark for this year. We have also experienced a 10% increase in visitors over the period.

\* Provisional performance data from Rosliston Forestry Centre remains unverified. This is likely to impact the outcome as a result of heating methods and fuel types at the site changing over quarter three.

Trend (compared to last quarter) - Q2 Target: 3% reduction. Actual: 2.78% increase.

Background – Long-term trends indicate a steady reduction in energy consumption from the Council's operational buildings, evident from quarter four 2013/14 - an approximate 8.8% decrease from the now 4.8k MWh/year estate. Gas consumption is down 30% at the Green Bank since 2013. These numbers are affected by several external factors; the weather, usage/participation, etc. Analysis indicates the reduction in electricity at the Civic Offices has been significant (8.5%), a result of lighting scheme upgrades and IT hardware changes to more energy efficiency products.

The most significant activity affecting energy reductions has been as a result of the refurbishment work at both leisure centre sites. Green Bank and Etwall Leisure Centres have undergone significant improvement work, which has included the replacement of large energy intensive equipment, gym equipment and building fabric improvements to deliver better thermal performance.

Key actions underway – Complete investigations into gas increase at the Green Bank and respond accordingly. Any corrective actions will be reported and managed via the Active Nation contract management framework. We will continue to develop energy efficient improvement activities across the operational buildings. The current focus at Green Bank Leisure Centre is feasibility work into combined heat and power technology to recover heat from onsite electrical energy, potentially realising savings.

Opportunities/risks: As the decarbonisation of the electricity market continues, subsidies for green/renewable energy continue to be passed on to consumers. As a result we are likely to see energy prices continue to rise. Climate change projections highlight likely increases in cooling demand for public buildings.

Despite positive performance in quarter one, trends of service delivery/participation and energy consumption associated make it likely that the 3% annual reduction target will not be achieved. Reflecting this and other relevant process changes into 2017/18 energy management targets allows the performance indicator to more effectively support energy efficiency activity.



Consider the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy

Target 1

Theme - Place. Action - Consider the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy

Target vs performance - Target: Conclusion of final report and submission to E&DS Committee. Performance: Delayed as we are awaiting a Government white paper which could change policy on developer contributions and planning obligations.

Trend (compared to last quarter) – Quarter one was achieved, but unforeseen changes have influenced the outcomes of quarter two and three.

Key actions underway – The drafting of the report has been put on hold whilst Government announcements are awaited.

Risks: The risks are unknown without the information about Government policy.





43.4%

Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill

Target >48%

Theme - People. Action - Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill

Target vs performance - Target: >48%. Performance: 43.4%

Trend (compared to last quarter) – Quarter two outturn was 53.70% - above target. Quarter three figure is estimated and based on last year's performance. Whilst cumulative is on track, quarter three is significantly under target. If we meet our quarter four target, annual outturn will be 49% - below the 50% target.

Key actions underway – We have explored with our recycling contractor the possibility of extending the range of materials collected. However, this is not financially viable. We are currently analysing data and tonnage trends both locally and nationally to better inform any potential actions. Typically it takes around six months for any direct actions to deliver improved performance figures. Plans will be developed to improve performance on compost waste collections and behaviours of new residents.

Opportunities/risks - National trends are showing a reduction in materials being recycled and composted. The recycling market is depressed and material processing companies are becoming increasingly reluctant to accept any levels of contamination due to the volume of high quality material available.



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Produce and circulate for consultation a draft climate change mitigation and adaptation plan.

Target 1

Theme – Outcomes. Action – Improve resilience to the local impacts of climate change and emergency responses

Target vs performance – Target: Produce and circulate for consultation a draft climate change mitigation and adaptation plan. Performance: A draft climate change adaptation strategy (climate ready) has been produced based on a comprehensive climate change risk assessment specific to the services and operations of the Council. However the consultation and development of this strategy document has been deferred due to operational demands until February.

Trend (compared to last quarter) – Q2 Target: A programme of flood risk management mitigation and adaptation activities across at-risk communities in the District was under development, achieving the target.

Background – The action/strategy development reflects the significant and progressive Corporate Plan commitment to climate change through the aim 'be aware of and plan for financial, legal and environmental risks'. It is building upon a long history of managing the environmental impact of SDDC and aspects of the environment we can influence.

The aim of climate change adaptation strategy 'Climate Ready' is to critically assess how projected climate change will impact on the activities and public service provision of SDDC, then simply provide the framework and strategic direction for improving resilience and reducing the climate risk. This has been achieved with a comprehensive climate change risk assessment specific to SDDC services and activities; utilising our established risk management framework and historic Defra national indicator NI188 adaptation risk assessment methodology.

Key actions underway – Role out consultation process and develop draft strategy accordingly. Prepare committee report for consideration and approval for quarter four.

Opportunities/risks – The successful implementation of a focused and effective climate change adaptation strategy builds resilience and reduces liability to key climate risks. Establishing an SDDC wide policy position with regards to climate change adaptation not only supports the authority in mitigating the meteorological impacts of climate change (a warmer, wetter, more unpredictable South Derbyshire) but also takes into account a changing regulatory landscape and the UK policy response to climate change. As the decarbonisation of the electricity market continues, subsidies for green/renewable energy continue to be passed on to consumers. This means we are likely to see energy prices continue to rise.





Start enhancement of Diana Memorial Garden

Target 1

Theme - Progress

Action - Enhancement of Diana Memorial Garden, in Swadlincote.

Target: Start enhancement works.

Performance: Work on the plans continues, with some changes needed. Tenders from contractors to undertake work have been received but a further board meeting is required to seek approval for the changes required to the scheme.

Risks: Unable to get board agreement for the changes.

## There are eight actions for Environmental and Development Services