

Minutes



INNER EAST ENVIRONMENT SUB GROUP
DATE/ TIME: 17th July 2013, Reginald Centre
CHAIR: Cllr Graham Hyde

Present: Councillor Graham Hyde, Chair (CGH), Councillor Asghar Khan (CAK),

In attendance: Hayley Thackwray (HT), John Woolmer (JW), Steve Vowles (SV), Simon Frosdick (SF), Laura Eagle (LE), Andrew Birkbeck (AB)

Apologies: Councillor Arif Hussain, Ben Grabham and Nicholas Bartrum

ITEM DISCUSSED	ACTION
1.0 <u>Minutes of previous meeting and apologies</u>	
1.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.	
1.2 Members expressed their disappointment that representatives from the Refuse Service were not present. Members raised issues around refuse collection in Bailey's Hill (Seacroft), the Dawlish's and Dorsets (East End Park) and the Nowell's and Bellbrookes (Burmantofts). CGH also reported that there were issues with litter opposite Harehills Labour Club - Details were passed on to JW to pass on to colleagues in the Refuse Service.	JW
1.3 CGH said that he had heard reports of mechanical problems with the refuse lorries that was adversely affecting collections.	
1.4 Members also expressed concerns of the potential for increased fly tipping as a result of the closure of the Stanley Street Recycling Facility in Harehills.	
2.1 <u>New 'One Environmental Service' Update – Phase 1 update</u>	
2.1.1 LE explained that the 'Grot Spot' team had been appointed and was now up-and-running. The team had begun its eight week deep-cleanse of the identified hot-spots in Harehills, Cross Green, Richmond Hill, the Nowells, the Bellbrookes and Lincoln Green. On completion of the deep-cleanse, the team will maintain the hot-spots on half-day visits.	
2.1.2 CGH said that the work of the Grot Spot team would need to be monitored effectively. JW said the work of the team would be reported back at six monthly intervals.	
2.1.3 LE said she would provide hardcopies of the maps covered by the Grot Spot Teams to Elected Members – to be distributed by AB.	LE & AB

2.2	<u>New 'One Environmental Service' Update – Phase 2 consultation with Sub Group</u>	
2.2.1	JW opened up a discussion amongst the group about a future model of working that would involve a localised, multi-skilled team working to a specific patch rather than a broad geographical area. CGH said this approach was similar to that used in parts of Germany.	
2.2.2	JW said that he needed feedback from the Sub Group in terms of what Elected Members considered as essential functions or 'red lines' for the current service and what Elected Members thought could be looked at as part of the remodelling exercise.	
2.2.3	<p>Elected Members fed back to JW and SV that they considered the following sacrosanct in both the current EAT and ALMO services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven day-a-week service • Estate Caretakers • Litter picking • Bulky Waste Service • Maintenance of overgrown hedges, gardens and footpaths • Enforcement 	
2.2.4	CAK said that any re-modelled service should be accountable and monitored effectively.	
2.2.5	CGH said an ideal scenario would be a combination of the best bits of the two existing services. JW said he would do his best to address Members concerns with a reduced budget.	
2.2.6	JW said he would work up a model for mid-October 2013, with an anticipated implementation date of April 2014. JW added that the Trade Unions would be consulted on any plans and he would seek to address any concerns over job descriptions and pay-scale anomalies.	JW
2.2.7	JW said he would also be re-visiting the seasonal working arrangements with colleagues in the Parks & Countryside department to better utilise staff during the Winter months.	
2.2.8	Elected Members agreed to reconvene the Sub Group in the second week of October to allow JW time to work-up some proposals. JW said he would look at doing some consultation with Elected Members in the interim period.	AB
3.0	<u>Environmental Improvement Zones (EIZs) including latest perception reports and legal actions</u>	
3.1	JW said that his team were putting the finishing touches to the EIZ perception reports. JW reported that, broadly speaking, the EIZs had seen a mixed range of results which was to be expected during the initial bedding-in stage.	
3.2	JW said that his team was now fully staffed after a recruitment exercise. JW furthered that the EIZs need to become a main focus for his team and working practices need adjusting to reflect this.	
3.3	CAK asked how often the EIZs were specifically targeted for action. JW said it varied from EIZ to EIZ.	

3.4	JW said that the Sub Group should primarily remain concerned with strategic matters and that any local intelligence regarding environmental or refuse issues should be fed through to him via email, phone or via the monthly Ward Member meetings – AB to ensure that JW is put on Ward Member meeting agendas were possible.	AB
4.0	<u>Any other business</u>	
4.1	SF said that if Elected Members had any small-scale maintenance issues relating to Parks or Greenspaces in their area they should get in contact with him via email at: Simon.Frostdick@leeds.gov.uk or via telephone on: (0113) 3957445.	
5.0	TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
5.1	Wednesday 9 th October at 2pm – AB to book venue	AB