

Minutes



INNER EAST ENVIRONMENT SUB GROUP
DATE/ TIME: Monday 31st March 2014 at 2pm, Reginald Centre
CHAIR: Cllr Graham Hyde

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

In attendance: Hayley Thackwray (HT), John Woolmer (JW), Steve Vowles (SV), Andrew Birkbeck (AB), Jessica Hodgson (JH), Clare Wiggins (CW)

Apologies: Ben Grabham (BG), Simon Frosdick (SF)

ITEM DISCUSSED	ACTION
1.0 <u>Minutes of previous meeting and issues arising</u>	
1.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.	
1.2 CAK reported that, despite raising this at the last meeting, there were still on-going refuse issues in the Kitson's, Dent's, Nowell's and Clark's. Elected Members expressed their frustration that no representatives of the Refuse service were present.	BG
2.0 <u>New 'One Environmental Service' Update</u>	
2.1 Regarding the new One Environmental Service, JW said that talks were ongoing with both staff and the Trade Unions. The resource allocated to each Ward in Inner East was still to be worked through via the Sub Group.	
2.2 JW said he was in the process of collating information about the Grounds Maintenance contract but was finding some information hard to come by. CGH said if it would help JW, he could help chase down this information.	
2.3 CGH said that he would like a paper coming to next meeting that would firm up the detail of the new service, which should include proposals for a community engagement strategy. CGH said that community engagement activity should be led by dedicated community development officers, separate to both the Locality and Area Support Teams. CGH asked that a scoping exercise be undertaken and fed back to next meeting highlighting the potential resources needed.	JW/AB
2.4 CAK asked about the potential for council officers outside of the Locality Team to issue FPNs. HT explained that whilst anyone can provide information that	

	could lead to a prosecution, only certain council officers had both the delegated powers and training to issue FPNs legally. JW said that in future the Locality Team would feed through the number of FPNs issued to CLT meetings in a bid to improve community confidence.	
2.5	SV said that void clearance jobs were looking at being commissioned out to social enterprises in the future as part of the new service.	
2.6	CAH said that three streets in Harehills – Bayswater Crescent, Trafford Avenue and Ellers Road – were in a poor state. JW said that resources were limited but he was confident that the new service would be introduce a more effective way of working but the culture of residents had to change in order for improvements to be sustainable.	
2.7	CAK asked if private landlords could be made to ensure that their tenants were looking after their properties appropriately. HT said that there currently very little legislation to enforce against private tenants or private landlords, but she was currently sitting on a working group around ASB legislation that could help in this regard. CAK said he would pick up this issue with Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP.	CAK
3.0	<u>Environmental Improvement Zones (EIZs) including latest perception reports and legal actions</u>	
3.1	CAK said that he was satisfied that the EIZs were working well in his area. CAH said that the EIZs need to be expanded to incorporate busy thoroughfares such as Harehills Lane and Roundhay Road.	
4.0	<u>Any other business</u>	
4.1	SV announced that he was leaving his post under the council's ELI scheme. Elected Members and officers passed on their thanks to SV for all his hard work.	
5.0	TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
5.1	Tuesday 3 rd June at 2.30pm – Reginald Centre (Room 1)	