

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**25<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

### **COUNCILLOR NIGEL LLOYD - CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

For the period June 2019 to July 2019

#### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

##### General

James Wilson has left the council to take up a role as Head of Environmental Health at Great Yarmouth Borough Council – we wish him well in his new role. Recruitment has already completed an Emily Capps will start as Environmental Protection Manager on the 5<sup>th</sup> August.

Work associated with the IT implementation will be picked up with staff in the department with some backfill undertaken to ensure that front line services are maintained.

Work on the waste procurement continues, the bids are due back in for evaluation in early August.

The department has hosted a work experience student for a week, with work shadowing of officers from all of the teams and arrears of work being made available.

##### Environmental Services

Letters have been sent to all those garden bin customers who were not on direct debit. The letter included a paper direct debit mandate and we have seen good number of customers sign up for direct debit as a result.

We have provided additional support to a number of businesses in Sheringham affected by the sinkhole where their normal waste contractor have not been able to gain access.

The team have been supporting the waste procurement process by answering clarification questions submitted by the bidders.

Officers in the team have been working closely with Kier to ensure high standards of cleanliness are maintained with the influx of visitors at the start of the school holidays.

##### Civil Contingencies

The team have been running the debrief from the IT outage which affected services in order to identify lessons learned and an actions which may need to be taken.

The sinkhole in Sheringham continues to be an area of work for the team with the coordination of information between agencies and the public as required.

In conjunction with the Public Protection Team the Safety Advisory group has

been looking at public access events across the district to make sure they run safely. Alison Sayer attended the successful Tamil pilgrimage in Walsingham to provide advice and support to the event management and to inform the Safety Advisory Groups approach to other events at Walsingham.

#### Environmental Protection

An injunction has been obtained to control antisocial behaviour of an individual by limiting their access to certain locations and restricting certain behaviours.

Signs for the Public Space Protection Orders around dog control outside of the beaches and promenades have been erected. These have, despite being subject to previous consultation and reflecting what was requested by the communities, received adverse press coverage and in a few locations negative public reactions.

In addition to the successful return of goats to the coastal slope in Cromer for the Summer, a number of goats are involved in a pilot with the National Trust for conservation grazing on Inckleburgh Hill in West Runton.

The annual Air Quality report has been submitted to DEFRA.

#### Combined Enforcement

The Business Process Review activity, looking at the data flows for Council Tax visits and Long Term Empty Properties, is continuing

The team are supporting several significant planning cases which are progressing to enforcement action in addition to the normal workload of existing and new cases.

#### Public Protection and Commercial

Al Haaq's takeaway in North Walsham has been prosecuted for food hygiene and health and safety offences. The company pleaded guilty and was fined a total of £6,600, ordered to pay £1,500 costs and a £170 victim surcharge.

The team is busy with advice to the Safety Advisory Group on public events as well as preparing a number of cases for prosecution.

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

Following the IT outage debriefs the Civil Contingencies Team will be assisting service areas across the to review and update their continuity plans

Following several changes of staff recently there will be several recruitment processes undertaken to backfill essential posts. Following changes in staff a number of new officers will be trained to take part in the out of hours service provided by the Council

The remainder of signs PSPO's will be erected. An information and education campaign for each area will begin in the near future.

The merchandising for Goats on a Slope will be rolling out shortly and

officers are looking at attending local events to promote sales and raise awareness of the project.

### **3 Meetings attended**

I attend Portfolio Holder briefing meetings with the Head of Environmental Health on regular basis

I attended with the Head of Environmental Health an APSE conference on Climate Emergencies which was both useful and thought provoking.

I have undertaken a number of meetings with interested parties around the Climate Emergency and planning for the Environmental Forum

I attended the Norfolk Waste Partnership meeting, held at the Materials Recycling Facility in Costessy and, as well as discussing the future work of the Partnership, was able to tour the plant and see how the material collected in our recycling bins is sorted and separated so that it can be sold for recycling.