

Foreword

The objective of this Scrutiny Panel was:

- To undertake a review regarding implementing a 'Keep Northampton Tidy' campaign with an accent on preserving wildlife and encouraging children (and adults) to take an interest in their surroundings, to include Community Clean Ups and 'Northampton in Bloom.'
- A review of the problem of littering and fly-tipping, particularly in un-adopted roads and the gateways into the town.
- To explore opportunities to enhance the gateways into the town.

The required outcomes being:

- To substantially raise people's awareness and appreciation of keeping Northampton tidy and their role in this
- To continue to get community groups involved in keeping Northampton tidy
- To ensure that existing limited resources are utilised fully to raising people's awareness and appreciation of keeping Northampton tidy and their role in this
- To identify areas that have a detrimental effect on the image of the town
- To work with other Agencies to minimise fly-tipping and littering and discourage this taking place, as well as enhancing the gateways into the town

The Scrutiny Panel was made up from members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillors Sivaramen Subbarayan (Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Panel), Mick Ford, Phil Larratt, Matt Lynch and Winston Strachan and myself (Chair); together with other non-Executive Councillors Penny Flavell and Dennis Meredith. The Scrutiny Panel benefitted from the expertise of the co optee, Vanessa Kelly of the Northampton Waste Partnership.

The Scrutiny Panel received both written and spoken evidence from a wide variety of expert advisors. Desktop research was carried out by the Scrutiny Officer. Representatives undertook site visits to Northampton, Market Harborough, a market town and Peterborough, a city, making comparisons regarding the cleanliness of the town centre. All of which produced a wealth of information that informed the evidence base of this high profile Scrutiny review.

Following the collation of the evidence, the Scrutiny Panel drew various conclusion and recommendations that are contained in the report.

The Review took place between May 2014 and March 2015.

I would like to thank all those people acknowledged below who gave up their time and contributed to this Review.



Councillor Tony Ansell

Chair, Scrutiny Panel 3 – Keep Northampton Tidy

Acknowledgements to all those who took part in the Review: -

- Councillors Sivaramen Subbarayan (Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Panel), Mick Ford, Phil Larratt and Winston Strachan, Penny Flavell and Dennis Meredith who sat with me on this Review
- Vanessa Kelly, co-optee, for sitting on this Scrutiny Panel
- Councillor Mike Hallam, Cabinet Member for Environment, Northampton Borough Council (NBC), Councillor Tim Hadland, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning, Ruth Austen, Environmental Health Manager (Environmental Protection) NBC, Jonathan Price, Highways Agency, Debbie Ferguson, Community Safety Manager, NBC, for attending a meeting of the Scrutiny Panel and providing information to inform the Review
- Councillor Brandon Eldred, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, (NBC), Neighbourhood Wardens, NBC, Andy Leighton, Highways Authority, Northamptonshire County Council (NCC), John Casserly, Wellingborough Norse, Ed Potter, Head of Environmental Services covering Cherwell District Council and South Northants Council, Ashley Lewis, Northampton BID, Joseph Murphy, Network Rail, Mark Evans, Operations Chief Inspector, Northants Police, and three Parish Councillors from Duston Parish Council for providing a written response to the core questions of the Panel
- Dan Blundell, Developer, ICT Services, LGSS, for giving the Scrutiny Panel a presentation on the Report It app.
- Thomas Appleyard, member of the public, for attending a number of the meetings of the Scrutiny Panel, providing written evidence and addressing the Panel