



Cabinet Member Report for Environment

Northampton Borough Council

18th April, 2016

Environmental Health

The pilot provision of fixed penalty enforcement carried out by our partners 3GS has commenced. The staff have been educating businesses and visitors to the town centre about their role and have now begun to issue fixed penalty notices. More information will be provided about the progress of their work at the next meeting.

Officers from the Environmental Health team have recently executed a warrant under the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 to seize equipment from an unregistered tattooist who has been operating from a house and presenting a risk to public health.

Environmental Services

Grass cutting started in the middle of March.

The long process to ensure re-provision for our environmental services once our current contract comes to an end in June 2018 is now underway. A key part of this process is stakeholder engagement, which will include parish councils, resident associations, park management committees, staff and councillors.

Environmental Services (Direct Services)

1. Clean for the Queen – 4/5/6 March 2016 - The “Clean for the Queen” litter picking campaign was a big success with over 40 volunteer groups participating across the town. Over six tonnes of litter was collected during the campaign.
2. Litter picking Industrial Estates - There are a number of businesses on industrial estates that are adjacent to grass verges and hedges that are covered in litter. Most of this land is private and it is also difficult to find out who owns it. This land does not come under the Environmental Services Contract, so it does not get litter pick and the rubbish is allowed to accumulate. We are looking at ways to try and encourage volunteers from business on these industrial estates to have their own litter picking events to tidy up their estates. Their Local Neighbourhood Wardens will assist them with such events and provide them with litter pickers and sacks.
3. Northampton In Bloom - Preparations are well on the way for staging the Northampton in Bloom 2016. The judging route this year will be in the southern part of the town, such as St James, Far Cotton, Hunsbury, Upton and Duston; and the All Saints part of the Town Centre.
4. The Green Flag Judges are going to visit and inspect Abington Park and Bradlaugh Fields on 13 May 2016.
5. New welcome signs have been erected at the entrances in the lower part of Abington Park. Also, a new planter has been installed at the entrance to the park near the old Police Box to make that entrance more inviting to park users. These were recommendations of the Green Flag Judges on one of their previous visits.
6. The footpath that leads up to the Barn in Bradlaugh Fields has been resurfaced, as the old footpath had become a tripping hazard.
7. Harlestone Road and St. David's Allotments have had new fencing erected to help improve security at both sites.

8. Bollards have been fitted around The Green in Farmfield Close, to stop vehicles driving over it and keeping users of The Green safe.

Councillor Alan Bottwood
Cabinet Member for Environment