



## Cabinet Member Report for Environment

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 23 April 2018

### Environmental Services Re-Provision

The mobilisation of the services continues with adequate project governance and control structures in place.

The relevant work streams are progressing with no critical risks or issues to report:

- The legal and commercial elements of the contract are being finalised
- The operations work stream is progressing according to the plan and Veolia and idverde are currently developing the detailed schedules for the commencement date
- The depot work stream is well underway to ensure that the operation of the service is not affected on day one
- The arrangements for the procurement of the vehicles are being finalised between the parties
- The TUPE work stream is progressing according to the plan and engagement with the workforce and the unions is now planned
- The communication work stream is progressing according to the plan and the branding and messaging are being developed
- The setting up of the ICT system is underway

### Environmental Enforcement Contract

The environmental enforcement team are extending their operations across the town. From the beginning to the end of March the team have issued a total of 1097 fixed penalty notices. From the start of the contract to the end of March, the total number of issued fixed penalty notices is 2473.

### Environmental Services (Direct Services)

The Park Ranger and the Friends of Dallington Park have cutback hedges near the Warren Road end of the park to open up that whole area. This has removed annoying litter pockets that collect windblown rubbish, it has helped reduce the fear of crime, and has helped make that end of the park look a whole lot better.

As part of our ongoing efforts to make our parks safer from unauthorised vehicles, bollards have been installed at:

- Victoria Park
- Thornton Park – Final stage near cottages
- Racecourse – Height restrictors have also been installed at this location

There was an Open Day at Ryehill open space for the newly installed play equipment that was jointly funded by NBC and NPH. The event was opened by the Mayor of Northampton.

### Park Management Committees

All PMCs/Friends Groups in support of Love Parks Week – week commencing 13 July.

Activity update from the Parks include:

Hunsbury:

- Lottery Bid (HLF) for the Hillfort was successful, the project will start 21 March 2018.. The first part of the project will focus on the trees, a tree survey will be completed.
- Some of the funding will be used to upgrade the website. This is how the community will be kept up to date. New member who has some expertise around marketing.
- University are doing a litter pick in the coming weeks.
- Litter Pick arranged for March with Friends.
- Have secured £3k through the Tesco Bag funding for Interpretation Boards.

Eastfield:

- Easter @ Eastfield to take place this year on Easter Saturday – well attended family event.
- Theme for this year's Bloom is Remembrance. Exploring the creation of a remembrance garden in the park.

Abington:

- National Gardens Trust have been in contact with the Friends re a heritage lottery funding application they are putting forward, involving three counties, Northampton being one of them. The project is focused on training for young people and getting them involved in conservation.

Dallington Park:

- Sensory garden completed
- Children's play area has been fenced off
- Seating in the Park has been improved
- Planning underway for a fun day to be held on 9 June

Swanshaven:

- Lakes to be dredged, planning meeting to take place imminently, approx. 50% of the overall funds have now been raised.

Racecourse:

- Monthly litter picks going well
- Daffodil planting taken place
- Wildflower meadow being explored
- Programme of events for the parks, including smaller and larger events being compiled.

Victoria:

- Some drug issues have been raised in and around the park. Friends working with the police to encourage community reporting.

Delapre:

- Visitor guide produced for the park – promoting partners and the services they provide
- 1st cut has been done on the wildflower meadow

**Councillor Mike Hallam**  
**Cabinet Member for Environment**