



## Cabinet Member Report for Environment

### Northampton Borough Council

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

#### Environmental Services Contract

At time of writing, we are in week 26 of the contract and the contract is running well.

The new service and collection days are working well, residents and collection staff are settling into the new arrangements. There was one collection day change over the Christmas period but this only affects one collection day (Christmas day collections moving to the Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December).

Street cleansing continues with the scheduled operations working their way around the Borough and the transformation teams are now dealing with leaf fall but will return to 'deep cleaning' early in the new year.

Grass cutting has now ceased and the winter shrub maintenance programme has begun in earnest, the service is receiving a large amount of positive comments.

Tree and woodland service continue to deal with service requests and any priority work plus developing a schedule to inspect and undertake any relevant work in the enhanced tree programme.

Sports pitch bookings continue with some liaison with local teams to fine tune the services to their requirements. Over the summer, meetings have been held with both the local and national Football Associations to investigate how to improve football pitch quality in Northampton and I'm pleased to state that a pilot scheme to improve pitch quality at the Racecourse Park, Lings Playing Fields and Far Cotton recreation ground has been created and that the National Football Association will be investing £26,000 to improve these pitches over the next 12 months.

Along with the day to day running of the contract, the team are currently working on a number of improvement projects including introducing a sacrificial sack trial, 'in it to win it' Northants Waste Partnership project to improve food waste recycling and working on plans for a potential cemetery extension.

#### Parks & Open Spaces

- Improvements to the Dallington Park Car Park and Warren Road have been made to help ease the parking pressures at the weekend when there are football matches taking place.
- A new small children's play area has been installed near Mushroom Field Road, Ecton Brook.
- New play surfaces have been laid at Ladybridge Park and St Crispins Park; replacing the old worn out mats.
- Additional bollards were installed at Southfields Park to stop entry of unauthorised vehicles.
- A new "Welcome" sign has been installed at Rectory Farm Park.

## **Enforcement Contract**

The total number of fixed penalty notices issued by the environmental enforcement team from the start of the service to the end of December 2018 is 7132.

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