



Report to

# Council

Meeting Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Environment & Transport Portfolio Holder's Report –**

**Councillor Nigel Christian**

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## **REFUSE AND RECYCLING**

We have had some exceptionally hot days recently. Thanks are extended to the Council's refuse and recycling crews, street cleaning teams, garage mechanics and to our team of gardeners and ground maintenance staff for their fantastic effort during some very challenging hot conditions. I am pleased to report that collections for residents were largely unaffected during this time, despite a number of vehicle breakdowns due to the extreme weather conditions.

## **PARKING AND ENFORCEMENT**

The City's Parking and Enforcement Team have also stepped up their activity in relation to tackling anti-social behaviour with some excellent partnership working with the Police targeting those committing ASB around the City, including misuse of E-Scooters and engaging with those begging or drinking in the street, providing advice and sign-posting to other support services. The team have actively patrolled the City Centre on a number of occasions and continue to engage with visitors, businesses and residents.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

PEP Energy Ltd have been working with the Health & Safety Team and Property Services to install energy monitoring meters to allow us to track and monitor our energy usage in "real time". This will enable us to not only create a better carbon footprint picture but also allow us to gauge future effectiveness of any new environmental equipment we install within the Civic Centre.

The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (Phase 3b) was announced in early August, the scheme enables public sector organisations to apply for funds so they can install low carbon heating, such as heat pumps, and energy efficiency measures including double glazing and loft insulation. Members of Property Services have attended a seminar on the scheme, which opens for applications in September 2022.

## **GREEN SPACES AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

The **Bitts Park Pollinator** raised bed competition attracted four local schools and five classes (in total 155 children in all) who took part in the competition. The successful winner was St Bedes Year 4. This means that they will be planting the raised bed with wildflowers, bug homes and mini bucket pond during mid-September.

### **Conservation Grassland**

A further seven sites have been identified as conservation grassland areas and a two further sites for wildflower meadows. These are:

- Chances Park – improving current wildflower meadow and conservation grassland
- Hammonds Park – creating a wildflower meadow and six hectares conservation grassland
- Heysham Park –conservation grassland
- St James Park –conservation grassland
- Parkside – conservation grassland
- Briar Bank –conservation grassland
- Willowholme –conservation grassland

Interpretation boards are currently being designed in order to provide useful information to the general public using the sites.

### **Throwlines for water safety**

Three new throw line stations were installed at Hammond's Pond, Currock & Upperby, in early August, replacing the former life ring stations. The throw lines are stored in locked cabinets at strategic locations around the pond. The accompanying signage features easily followed instructions to call the emergency services and be issued with the combination code to unlock the cabinet. This new equipment has been commissioned in partnership with Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service and aims to ensure that water rescue equipment is available to anyone in need of assistance whenever it may be required. Rickerby Park has also benefitted from the installation of a 'Throwline' – replacing the previous life ring stations. A promotional event was held on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August in Rickerby to make people aware of the changes. Carlisle City Council has funded the new water safety and throwline boards with the technical support of Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service.

The water safety and throwline boards provide advice on how to help in an emergency and pinpoints an accurate location for the Fire and Rescue Service to get to. The Bay at Denton Holme will also receive a throwline in September.