

Report to: Council

Agenda
Item

11(iii)(b)

Meeting Date: 28 April 2015

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel-Chairman's Report–
Councillor Nedved**

The Panel met on the 12th March and were provided with; a Clean Up Carlisle update, Section 106 Agreements and Planning Obligations Update, Quarter Three Performance Report 2014-15, the Draft Final Report of the Litter Bin Task Group and details of the evidence gathering of the Business Support Task Group (to report in Autumn 2015).

Some initial questioning relating to the Notice of Executive Key Decisions published on the 9th March under this Panel's remit was undertaken:

- Release of capital of Vehicle Replacement 2015/16
- Public Realm
- Durrhill Industrial Estate
- Carlisle Old Town Hall Phase 2 Contract Variations and Emergency Repairs

Clean Up Carlisle Update.

A report was provided by the Environmental Health Manager summarising the work carried out since 2012. This covered both the impact of the "Clean Up Carlisle" and "Love Where You Live" campaigns of cleaning, enforcement, educational activities, and the use of the allocation of temporary additional funding. Information was provided as to levels of enforcement in relation to dog fouling, littering, waste receptacles, dogs off leads, flyposting, flytipping, and prosecutions undertaken. Improved mechanisation and the Rapid Response Team were quoted as examples of improved quality in street cleansing, and represented 80% of the clean up money. The role of the Education and Enforcement teams were analysed. Introduction of gull sacks and their effectiveness and some initial problems and solutions were outlined.

Key queries related to customer perception of the service, legacy, partnership working and customer satisfaction. A wide-ranging and lively discussion was undertaken by the Panel and is contained in the Minute Book.

Litter Bin Task Group.

The Lead Member presented the Draft Final Report which provided a series of recommendations to the Executive. The report accompanied a separate audit undertaken by Officers. Task Group Members had joined street cleaning operatives both in Carlisle and Longtown gathering evidence on the number, location, type and usage of public litter bins in the district. They also looked at best practice and new technology in the field e.g. "Big Belly solar bins, complaints information, budget, and cost of service. The Technical Officer was requested to circulate details of the audit in respect to the usage of litter bins to Members. A series of six recommendations followed as contained in the report provided to the Panel. Thanks were expressed to the Waste Services Team, Customer Services staff and Task Group members.

Section 106 Agreements and Planning Obligations Update.

A report was presented by the Director of Economic Development providing Members with information on current legislation relating to 106 agreements and the community infrastructure levy (CIL), future options and approach. Information was supplied on 106 money held, or expected to be received, by the City Council, as well as providing the value of financial contributions secured through 106 agreements.

Questions were asked by Members on; how monies were used within wards, Affordable Housing contributions, smaller developments, involvement of Councillors in the request and usage of 106 monies and the application of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Business Support Task Group.

The work of this Task Group continues and has recently conducted a visit to the Growth Hub arranged at the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce. This formed part of the scoping evidence gathering of this review which will extend into the next civic year.

Full details of all the discussions to be found within the Minute Book.

Cllr Paul Nedved.

Chairman