

**PORTFOLIO:**

**ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE**

Report of  
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR  
RAY BLOXHAM**

**PLANNING**

Two Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are closer to adoption following the completion of the Consultation process. The results of the consultations on these two SPDs on Designing out Crime and Trees and Development were considered at the Executive on the 1 September and are available for consideration of the Environment and Economy and Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Final amendments will be reported back to the Executive and if agreed will go to Council for adoption.

The Executive also considered the Draft Local Development Framework – Statement of Community Involvement on the 1 September 2009. The document is also available for consideration by the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel, before going back the Executive and Council for approval to go out to Consultation.

The Council has also been consulted on the Partial Review of the North West Regional Spatial Strategy by 4NW. The Partial Review is very limited and covers Gypsy and Travellers, Travelling Showpeople and Car Parking Standards. The Report was also considered at the Executive on the 1 September and again available for consideration by the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **The Big Tidy Up: St Aidan's Ward**

Attached is a flyer which was distributed in August giving details of activities planned by Carlisle City Council and partners.

### **Cleaner Greener**

DEFRA have listed Carlisle as one of the six improving Cities in the UK (when it comes to recycling rates).

Carlisle residents have a great track record and we are one of the best performing recycling areas in the UK, but we are always striving to increase the amount of waste we recycle.

Since the introduction of a new look waste collection scheme in Carlisle in March 2007, Carlisle City Council has expanded the range of materials that can be recycled. This includes plastic, cardboard, glass, paper and garden waste. Paper; glass bottles and jars; and tins and cans can all be recycled within a green box.

Carlisle is currently the best recycling city in the North West and one of the top 25 performing local authorities in the UK.

Performance information drawn together by Wastedataflow from 47 local authorities in the North West, placed Carlisle as the best performing, with a 48% household recycling rate for 2007/2008. All UK figures audited by the Audit Commission also place Carlisle 24 out of all UK 398 local authorities. Provisional figures for 2008/09 show that our performance last year was just as good.

The figures were the result of City Council's new waste collection scheme that included the expansion of kerbside recycling to thousands of householders. The staggering 48.74% compares to 34.51% in 2006/2007.

The amount of household waste that ends up in landfill has also halved the amount landfilled by the city in 2002. Five years ago, the City Council landfilled 37,500 tonnes of rubbish from Carlisle households. That figure has been cut by 14,000 tonnes as a result of residents supporting Carlisle's 'recycling revolution'.

## **CONSERVATION**

You will have noticed that the Market Cross has had a face lift. The restoration work is now complete and it has had a positive coverage in the local media.

Energy Conservation work is progressing well – including fitting high efficiency boilers, new pipe insulation and heat recovery project.

## **HIGHWAY SERVICES**

### **Connect 2 Cycle Scheme**

The Team is working to develop the route. The first section due to be completed and opened on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The City are seeking partner funding for the remaining elements, some of which are well advanced.

### **Capital Schemes**

There is an extensive programme of schemes. The main one relates to the Industrial Estate roads at Kingstown and Willowholme, to bring them up to adoptable standards. Kingstown's work is due to take place September / October. A programme of Environmental Enhancements is being developed.

### **Highway Maintenance**

Extensive footway surfacing programme is due to take place during September. We are grateful to the County Council for an increased budget for 2009/10 subject to approval of the Local Committee.

### **Lighting**

An extensive programme for lighting column replacement is to be undertaken. Work will shortly start on the erection of festival lights.

## **COMMUNITY**

### **Children's Play Areas**

#### **Moorville Drive**

After extensive consultation with local children and residents, a brief was drawn up for the proposed new play area at Moorville Drive. Tenders were invited for 'design and build' which have now been received and evaluated. The successful tender was submitted by Kompan Ltd, a company which has previously supplied a number of play areas in Carlisle including the well-known one at Bitts Park. Work is expected to start on-site by mid-October with completion in November, weather permitting.

#### **Harraby**

A tender has been prepared for the replacement of outdated play equipment at Edgehill Road, Harraby, based on lengthy consultations and workshops attended by local young people. Once the completed tenders are returned they will be evaluated against the Council's matrix of criteria and at that stage we will be going back to the community to seek their views on the best proposals. We are looking for an exciting and innovative design that takes account of the environment in which the play area is located.

In the meantime we have worked with County Council colleagues to find a site for a BMX track on unused land behind the Community Centre. Once again, local youngsters led the way, providing the detailed design ideas to be incorporated into the final circuit. We are hopeful of a start on site during September and the work will take only 3-4 days.

**Councillor R D Bloxham**  
**Environment & Infrastructure Portfolio Holder**



## **THE BIG TIDY UP: ST AIDAN'S WARD**

**Monday, 7 September - Sunday, 13 September 2009**

Carlisle City Council and partners will be holding a Big Tidy Up week of activities in St Aidan's Ward between Monday, 7 September and Sunday, 13 September 2009.

During this week, there will be additional street cleaning, graffiti removal, gully cleaning and highway repairs.

### **How can I support the Big Tidy Up?**

We are looking for local volunteers to support us during the week by taking part in an organised litter picking event. This event will be held on Saturday, 12 September, starting at 9am. Please meet at Greystone Community Centre, Close Street. If you are interested in taking part, please contact us on 01228 618556 or 01228 817200 for more information. We will provide the equipment including skips to remove rubbish and will be providing a helping hand too.

During the week, the gully cleaning crew will be asking residents to move their vehicles on certain streets, at certain times, so we can clean gullies at difficult locations. At the same time, a mechanical sweeper will sweep the gutters so the locations are left as clean as possible.

### **What else are Carlisle City Council and its partners doing to improve the environment during this week?**

We will be road sweeping, removing fly tipping, litter picking, removing fly posters, removing graffiti, washing bus stops, cleaning gullies, cleaning road signs, shrub bed maintenance, verge maintenance, removing weeds, minor highway repairs, painting bollards and other general maintenance work.

The CDRP (Carlisle and Eden Crime & Disorder Partnership) will also be knocking on doors asking residents to sign indemnity forms to allow us and the Probation Service to remove graffiti from properties, free of charge, during this week.

Enforcement Officers will be checking for fly tipping and dog fouling and advising occupiers of the regulations surrounding these issues.

### **How can I find out more?**

Our area maintenance team and other agencies will have an information display in Greystone Community Centre, Close Street throughout the week and will be on hand to answer residents' questions on local issues and our services.

For further information about the St Aidan's Big Tidy Up, telephone 01228 618556 or 01228 817200

## Sport & Recreation Section

### Portfolio Holder Report

September 2009

- Bitts Park has been identified by the Tennis Foundation as a proposed Beacon Tennis site. Certain criteria have to be met and we are working with the Foundation to meet these. Bitts Park Tennis site is the only site in the North of England to be identified.
- Through support from the Tennis Foundation a Tennis Festival was held in Carlisle on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August in the City Centre and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August at Bitts Park Tennis Courts. The event, despite the bad weather, was a success with new participants registering onto the programme. Our new Tennis Programme will commence on the 8<sup>th</sup> September.
- Our Sport & Physical Activity Alliance programmes have commenced after Sport England accepted all projects. As a result walking programmes have proved a huge success with up to 56 attending each walk delivered. Community Sports sessions are also being delivered and developed in local urban & rural communities.
- Raffles MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) was officially opened on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Great support through United Utilities, Carlisle City Council, Lovell's 106 money and CDRP.
- MUGA programmes were delivered on all sites, Petteril Bank, Hammonds Pond, Botcherby and Raffles over the summer months. We also delivered a programme in Dowbeck Park after a successful Easter community project.
- Our Summer Go 4 It schemes have proved to be a huge success again. Sports activities included Basketball, Tennis, Hockey, Rowing, Canoeing, Rifle Shooting, Cycling, Athletics, Judo, Golf, Boxing, Triathlon and Cricket.
- Work continues to develop the Sheepmount 2012 Training Camp. The Sport & Recreation Section will be developing an annual Mini Olympic event in partnership with Cumbria Leisure Ltd.
- Over the past 6 mths we have supported, through our grant programmes, 25 Coaches, 10 sports clubs and 35 talented sportsmen/women.

- Under our Social Inclusion programme we have successfully started 2 further SAFE clubs in Belah and Morton. Trinity continues to develop and attract at least 60 to 70 young people per week.
- The Golf Foundation has awarded the section £6000 to develop golf in the community through local golf clubs. A golf event was held in the city centre on the 8<sup>th</sup> August and attracted 120 people.
- Work continues to develop opportunities for young people with disabilities. Opportunities have been made available for participation in both Wheelchair Tennis and Basketball. Links with James Rennie School has enabled Tennis opportunities along with Athletics.

Garry Schubert 4/09/09