

Cabinet Lead Reports

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL
23 JULY 2014

Dear Councillor

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next 23 JULY 2014 meeting of the Council, the following cabinet lead reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No	Item
7a	<u>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Lead Report for Environment and Neighbourhood Quality and Cabinet Advice</u> (Pages 1 - 4)
7b	<u>Cabinet Lead Report for Governance and Logistics and Human Resources</u> (Pages 5 - 6)
7d	<u>Cabinet Lead Report for Planning and Built Environment</u> (Pages 7 - 10)

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Cabinet Lead Report – Council 17 July 2014

By Cllr Briggs – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Lead for Environment and Neighbourhood Quality and Cabinet Advice

Garden Waste Collection

As of 09 July we have had an increase of 892 customers signing up to our Garden Waste collection service compared to the same period last year, an increase of 1.9%.

Street Cleansing

The 'gumwand' machines have been a positive addition to the front line services, They are currently being used in Leigh Park precinct and have been active on single day's through the week and week ends. This service is carried out by frontline team members and the work is programmed on a weekly basis. Although we have had teething problems at the beginning we only have a small area left to cleanse in Leigh Park and will then move onto Waterlooville precinct.

The street cleansing teams have made a good start to the year, all scheduled work has been completed. Cleanliness, at weekends, within the 3 town centres has been greatly improved since the introduction of '5 over 7' working.

The small mechanical sweepers have currently been withdrawn from use within the pedestrian precincts and on pavements. This may have a short term detrimental effect i.e. build up of detritus, but we are implementing alternative working methods in an effort to deal with this.

Highway Verge Cutting

Whilst the target was to deliver 9 cuts this will not be achieved because of the delays experienced so far. It is more likely that the team will achieve 8 cuts, although this cannot be guaranteed. This service is dependant upon being able to recruit and retain sufficient seasonal Staff, Temporary Agency Workers (TAW) and them attending work, appropriate Machinery being available and the Weather. The team had experienced challenges with each of these.

The 4th cut of the season commenced on Saturday 5th July. The team aim to complete cut 4 by 01 August and will continue to work on Saturdays in an effort to avoid getting any further behind.

In order to improve the standards the team have increased the level of supervision and are using the small mechanical sweepers, working them alongside the grass cutting teams.

Engineering Works Team

The team have now finished outstanding jobs from flooding earlier in the year on Hayling Island which included moving on beach huts, hard landscaping and protection works along sea front and car parks.

Vehicle Maintenance Workshop

Fleet procurement - a replacement Large Grass Roller and a Cut and Collect grass cutting machine for Parks and Open Spaces. A new Fork lift will also be purchased for day to day depot operations and emergency works thorough out the borough.

Paul Stanley is currently investigating the use of electric bins lifts on Refuse Collection Vehicles with a demonstration machine coming in August or September.

Training - by September this year all of our Large Goods Vehicle drivers must have obtained a "Certificate of Professional Competence" (CPC). 50 of our staff will have completed the necessary training which has been provided during the last 5 years, this covers the latest rules and guidance of Professional driving. Without a valid 'CPC' drivers will be unable to drive any vehicle which is over 3.5 tonnes.

Transport & Implementation

An update on current schemes is as follows: Park Road North and South projects are now complete. A further phase to complete the missing cycle link along Park Road North between Park Lane and the railway bridge is being worked on. Works are likely to start February 2015 following consultation with stakeholders .

The Hayling Billy Trail project has been extended as extra funding has been acquired through Veolia Environmental Trust and Lottery Fund. A road link from Stoke Village via Northney to Landstone Bridge will be completed as part of these works. The A259 cycle lane Emsworth resurfacing works will be completed by April 2015.

Dunsbury Way Bus Interchange and Environmental Improvements will be completed before Christmas. The Hambledon Parade Environmental Enhancement project will be completed by September 2014 with tree and shrub planting programmed for October 2014.

Parking & Traffic Management

An Experimental Traffic Regulation Order went live in July in Langstone. The aim of this is to address parking issues in the area and assess the impact the restrictions may have over a period of up to 18 months. New restrictions include Woodbury Ave, Southbrook Close, Langstone Avenue / Road, Langbrook Road, Brookmead Way. Consultation with stakeholders will continue throughout the process including workshops to be held in October for interested parties.

Community Safety

Supporting Troubled Families - Over 130 Havant families have now received support from the scheme. There have been some notable successes in improving the lives of these families and this in turn has resulted in real reductions in demand on services and a reduction in cost to the public purse. We are currently seeking a further 30 families to support by the end of September 2014. The Government has undertaken to extend the programme for a further period and works currently being undertaken to look at the future criteria and number of families to be funded.

Litter enforcement - The litter enforcement campaign which was launched on the 1st May has now seen in excess of 970 Fixed Penalty Notices issued by "Kingdom" on behalf of HBC. The Environmental Rangers are to be the subject of a BBC programme in September which is focused on the "paint poo pink" campaign. The team were filmed at work on Friday 11th July in Emsworth during which time a FPN was issued to a resident for failing to clear up after his dog!

Public Space CCTV - The team at the CCTV control room have had a productive six months in supporting the Police in making some 50 arrests for a range of offences including serious assaults, shoplifting and anti-social behaviour. The team has also provided a co-ordinating role for the four town centre stopwatch schemes in the town centres. Looking ahead Cllr Michael Cheshire has recently written to Simon Hayes the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner to bring to his attention the cost locally of providing this service and seeking his views on the future funding arrangements.

Hayling Community Alcohol Project (CAP) - On the 9th July the second stage of the successful Hayling Island CAP was launched at Hayling College - the event co-ordinated by Susan Dabbs of the Community Safety Team featured a range of statutory and non statutory partners as well as representatives from Tesco's, Sainsbury and Southern Co-op. The focus of this project involves a community panel including young people from the school working together to reduce the negative impact of alcohol on young people and the community as a whole. The Hayling CAP is the only one of its kind in Hampshire and is recognised as best practice in the field.

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Cabinet Lead Report – Council 23 July 2014

By Cllr Jackie Branson – Cabinet Lead for Governance and Logistics and Human Resources

Democratic Services

The Councillors' Training Programme is ongoing and all members were asked to complete a training needs assessment earlier this year to support a targeted approach to training. Sessions on Human Resources, Overview & Scrutiny and Presentations & Public Speaking and have been held recently and specialist training/conferences arranged for individual Councillors as required. Additionally, we held the first 'seminar day' focusing on many different areas of council business. These subjects included: Supporting Troubled Families; Housing/Welfare Reform; Equipped Play Strategy and a Planning Policy and CIL Overview. The day was well attended with 16 councillors in attendance and evaluation forms have been circulated in order to collect some feedback from on the quality and usefulness of the workshops. The next seminar day is currently set for the 23 September and will include Social Media training, unlawful encampments and an overview of CCTV in the Borough.

Good training is crucial in enabling Councillors to develop and carry out their roles effectively and I would encourage all Councillors to make every effort to attend training sessions. Your feedback is very important in helping to assess the effectiveness of training and I would also ask that evaluation forms are completed and returned at the end of each training session.

Human Resources

The Employee Assistance Programme is now available to Councillors. This is a great benefit as it provides support for lots of different 'life' issues covering areas such as money, relationships, family matters, health & wellbeing, citizen rights, retirement etc. It is a 24/7 service to call for information, advice and support and it is completely confidential.

There is a continued focus on sickness absence with a number of actions taking place to support the reduction of sickness absence levels. These actions include training for managers, provision of detailed sickness absence information, increased awareness of mental health issues in the workplace and a triage system to be trialled at the Depot where an employee will be required to speak to a medical advisor when they ring in sick.

HR work continues to build on organisational development to prepare the Council for the challenges over the coming years. This programme of activity is captured in the 'People Plan' (accessible on the intranet) and the Service Futures programme. This will ensure we can attract, retain and motivate the right talent in future years.

IT Operations

New Desktop – arriving in Autumn

We are now deep into the new desktop testing and about to start signing off applications as "testing complete". All services are helping with the testing and the team are receiving positive feedback from the users around the speed and responsiveness of the new

service. The new features introduced as part of the new desktop are also receiving positive feedback such as the latest versions of Microsoft products.

Good For Enterprise – rollout underway

This is the new solution we will use to access email and calendars on mobile devices. There are online guides on how to use and install the application, which will be explained as part of the rollout. Whilst there will be change in the way that emails are viewed to ensure the security is of the level required for local government, the functionality of being able to access emails on mobile devices will remain.

Cllrs Passport Tokens

All councillors should now have their passport tokens along with a guide on how to use them. If anyone is having difficulties access the passport solution please contact Hampshire IT helpdesk for support on 01962 847000.

Havant is PSN Compliant!

As of the start of this month Havant Borough Council is now PSN (Public Service Network) compliant. This is a hugely complex piece of work, which takes much time and effort. Thanks to the team for ensuring we can continue to get the most out of IT.

This means we continue our communication with central government agencies in a secure and safe manner. The compliance lasts one year so the team will work through another compliance check between March and June 2015.

Council Theme Lead Report – Council July 2014

By Cllr David Guest – Planning and Built Environment

Development Services

Major Developments – Progress update

Land to west of London Road, Purbrook (part of MDA)

A Reserved Matters application for 246 dwellings which comprise phase 2 of the Berewood development within the West of Waterlooville MDA development, (within HBC boundaries) was considered and approved at the inaugural meeting of the Joint West of Waterlooville Major Development Area Planning Committee held on 17 June.

Goldring Close, Hayling Island

A Reserved Matters application for 131 houses has been submitted by Bellway Homes and will be considered at a meeting of the Development Management Committee in the near future.

Market Parade, Havant

A Development Consultation Forum was held on 3 July which presented proposals for a mixed use redevelopment (including residential, retail, & food outlets) of the north-eastern quarter of the Market Parade area. The ideas tabled also included indicative proposals for the wider Market Parade area. The owner/developer heard comments and answered questions from stakeholders and councillors and will now carry out further consultation before refining any proposals prior to the submission of a formal planning application.

Allocated sites

A number of sites identified in the Allocations Plan are now the subject of formal planning applications:

Land at Portsdown Hill, Bedhampton

An application for 46 houses on Site Allocation UE5 was considered at the meeting of the DMC held on 17 July 2014.

Coldharbour Farm, Emsworth

An application for 53 dwellings with associated surface water attenuation proposals on allocation site UE37 was also considered at the 17 July DMC.

Land west of Horndean Road, Emsworth

Site allocation UE13 in Emsworth is the subject of a planning application for 125 dwellings and associated surface water management proposals. This is likely to be considered by the DMC in the autumn.

Sainsbury's site, Waterloo

Work is now well underway on construction of the new retail store and associated highway junction works.

Planning workloads

The Development Management team are continuing to receive a high workload, particularly of major planning applications and pre-application enquiries. Planning application fee income is again significantly ahead of budget, reflecting the number of major proposals under consideration.

Planning Policy

The Allocations Local Plan has been found 'Sound' subject to the inclusion of minor modifications by the planning Inspector. The inspector's report was finalised on 7 July and is being considered by the Council at this meeting. There is a 6 week period for interested parties to seek a judicial review of the decision, it is not anticipated that any should arise.

Together with our adopted Core Strategy, the adoption of the Allocations Plan puts the Council at the forefront of Planning authorities nationally and the first in Hampshire having a full Local Plan and an adopted Community Infrastructure levy (CIL) in place. The Allocations Plan has been produced very effectively taking only 10 months from Publication to Adoption, which is an excellent achievement for the planning policy team, councillors and a range of other officers who have been involved throughout the process.

The new Local Plan sets the framework for planning and development in the Borough until 2026. However, there are likely to be changes to the development targets over the next few years and the debate about the best way of taking those forward are likely to emerge next year as the PUSH Spatial Strategy is reviewed.

This meeting is also considering the designation of the 'Emsworth Forum' as the Neighbourhood Planning body. The New Local Plan sets a comprehensive framework for Neighbourhood planning and it will be interesting to see what the Emsworth Forum propose to add to local planning.

As the housing market has picked up in the Borough the Council has sent out CIL invoices for £305,132 and collected £29,092 in Quarter 1 (March - June 2014). The accelerated work on developing CIL spending priorities has been effective and the Spending Protocol is being considered by this meeting. If approved the list of

infrastructure projects will continue to be developed and its prioritisation integrated with the annual budget process for Councillors to determine.

The successes of the Planning Policy team in getting the local Plan and CIL in place means they will now focus on the delivery side of development; looking at the schemes needed for the regeneration and promotion of Havant Borough.

Building Control

For Building Regulation applications the overall picture appears to be one of increasing workloads as the economic situation improves. Last financial year the total number of applications dealt with by Havant Borough Council increased over the previous financial year from 621 to 689, an increase of 9% and early signs are that this growth will continue with estimations predicting a further 5% growth in applications. This is likely to lead to a corresponding increase in income, although this will be influenced by the types of application submitted.

The team are also continuing to expand their other consultancy services, assisting the property services team with updating the fire risk assessments for the existing stock of Council owned buildings, rather than putting this work out to more expensive private consultants. Continuing to develop the consultancy arm of the service within the existing resource has recently become more challenging given the increasing volume of core Building Regulation work.

Coastal Management

The Coastal Partnership continue to work on behalf of four local authorities and have an extensive programme of major capital works that they are striving to deliver. 2013/14 income targets for the team were exceeded by approx 20% and they are currently holding a reserve of just over £90k. Results for the first quarter of 2014_15 show a similar trend.

After the severe winter, bids were submitted to the Environment Agency in an attempt to recover funds required for Emergency Works. To date, in HBC, we have had one approval through for an additional £150k at Eastoke to bring the beach levels back to their design profile. Repairs to failures on the Broadmarsh revetment are ongoing and are expected to require an additional £120k on top of the planned maintenance budget. Although additional revenue has been approved internally, the Partnership are still seeking external funding after being turned down for Flood Defence Grant in Aid (as no significant risk to property).

The Beach Management Plan at Eastoke, for which we have funding of £1.6M over 5 years, is undergoing a revision of its planning permission. This is aimed at integrating the wider South Hayling frontage so that more holistic decisions on managing the entire frontage can be taken without risking pressure points where Beach Management is not permitted.

The Partnership are working closely with The Friends of Norebarn Woods who are planning to construct an armourloc revetment to protect ancient woodland on the harbour frontage. Assistance has been provided with design work and procurement of contractors and staff will also aid with supervision of construction over the coming months.