

## **Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 17 February 2016**

### **Councillor Tony Briggs: Cabinet Lead for Environmental Services**

The Operational Services team are now busy working on the mobilisation plan ahead of the launch of the new Joint Venture Company – ‘Norse South East’ on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

We will begin to communicate to our customers the message:

**New Name - Same Service**

### **Waste & Recycling Strategy & Management (including Project Integra)**

- The Councils garden waste licence renewal process is now well under way, with very encouraging feedback from Customer Services on this year's uptake. As part of last year's renewal process every resident who signed up for the service was advised that the re-useable sack system is now discontinued. This year we are able to offer a 140 litre wheeled bin providing the customer with extra capacity, a container that is easier to move around, more visible and no opportunity for blowing away. This will also help in reducing the risk of any manual handling injuries for the operators responsible for collecting the garden waste material. We will be commencing delivery of the garden waste bins from the 1 March providing a 4 week window before the start of this year's collection period.
- Recently Project Integra announced the extension of the waste disposal contract with Veolia until 2030. This extension allows for the refit of the Alton Materials Recovery Facility which has prompted Project Integra to undertake a broad reaching review of waste management provision across Hampshire. This review will be undertaken by a consultancy, 'Atkins', in an effort to identify where the system could offer better value and improve performance in line with existing national targets. Results from the consultancy report will be available by June 2016.
- The Project Integra Strategic Board was recently briefed on the progress to date of the Joint Venture Company project. This briefing set out the requirement to change the way that Havant operates the frontline services whilst not compromising ongoing standards. We were able to supply representative members from across the County with representations of the Norse South East brand and advise how the partnership with Norse will help to secure the future of HBC through increased commercial activity.

## **Vehicle Workshop and Fleet Management,**

Vehicle Fleet Workshop has now completed the Verge Cutting equipment winter servicing and are now concentrating on Open Space equipment ready for the forthcoming season.

The team have shown a “can do attitude” over the Christmas period, and to date, to ensure every available vehicle and piece of plant was in service on an ongoing basis.

Two external audits were undertaken during January:

- Freight Transport Association - health check for fleet compliance. This was a follow up visit, initial audit carried out in April 2015. The outcome was that we are fully compliant.
- ‘Van Excellence’ audit was undertaken and accreditation for compliance and standards was achieved. This has been achieved for the fifth consecutive year..

## **Open Spaces (including Beachlands, Recreation & Cemeteries)**

We have submitted our application for the ‘Blue Flag’ award for Beachlands West, Hayling Island. If successful this will be the 25th consecutive year of obtaining this accreditation on behalf of Havant Borough Council.

The team have been working at Hayling Island Seafront / Gun Site undertaking work within the ‘Site of Specific Scientific Interest’ (SSSI) on behalf of ‘Natural England’. The work consisted of cutting back vegetation and opening up linking footpaths that have become overgrown since last year ready for the spring and the anticipated increase in use.

Work has begun in improving the overall look of our Roundabouts within Borough, edging out, cutting and turning over the flower beds in preparation for early spring.

The teams working in our cemeteries have been utilising the winter period to enhance the overall appearance with excellent results, after receiving extremely good / positive feedback from members of the public visiting the sites. The Natural Ashes area at Warblington Cemetery will be under going some tree planting within the next few weeks to enhance the visual appearance of this location.

Work continues on examining the options for a new cemetery within the West of Waterlooville Major Development area. ‘Cemetery Development Service’ have provided a draft report into the long term feasibility of the site. This report will be used to inform decision-making on the development of the site over the long term.

Following feedback from the horticultural society and local residents Havant Borough Council has been working on plans to resurface Occupation Lane, the entrance leading to Washington Road allotment site. This work will significantly improve the track surface for users and is proposed to take place in the Easter holidays.

### **Street Care**

Officers are facilitating local participation in the 'Clean for the Queen' initiative in March as a celebration of the Her Majesty's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Local volunteer groups, schools and businesses have been encouraged to set up cleaning events in their areas. More information on the potential events can be found on the 'Clean for the Queen' website. Following on from this, we will repeat last year's Spring Clean throughout March, April & May, which will again include pressure washing of main shopping areas, and will be included in the Norse South East launch as well.

Currently we are working with the Councils Traffic Management Team identifying areas within the Borough that require cleaning due to falling below the required standard due to parked vehicles. We have agreed dates and times where 'Parking Suspension Notices' will be erected so we can undertake the necessary cleansing of the channels to improve the standard of cleanliness at various locations.

We are commencing a 'Deep Cleanse' of our mainland public toilets through the month of February starting Monday 8<sup>th</sup>.

We have been undertaking litter picks along two designated high speed roads - Hulbert Road and the Horndean Road. We are working alongside contractors as they have the appropriate Traffic Management systems in place.