

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 27 February 2019

Councillor Gary Hughes
Cabinet Lead for Contracts and Commercial Services

Capita Contract

Work continues on the implementation of services under the Capita contract, with the focus for improvement on the HR and Payroll service.

Environmental Services delivered by Norse SE

There are some changes to the management structure at Norse SE. Richard Rose (Ops Manager - FM) left the business at the end of December and has been replaced by Sue Keeble. Sue is an experienced Ops manager who has taken this chance to relocate nearer to family in the Portsmouth area. Sue has worked at Waveney and Suffolk Coastal Norse for the last 10 years looking after a wide range of services.

Chris Haynes (Op's Manager - Refuse and Cleansing) will be retiring at the end of March.

Chris's retirement has given Norse the chance to review its management arrangements and to consider how best to meet the service delivery and future commercial ambitions of the joint venture.

Peter Vince will take on the Operations Manager (Refuse and Recycling) role and a new Operations Director will be recruited. I would like to thank Peter for the work he has done in getting NSE to where it is now, and I'm very pleased we will be retaining his experience as we deal with the challenge of settling in new rounds in East Hants and continuing to run our core Havant operations.

Waste and Recycling services

Collections during the Christmas and New Year period went well with the crews operating a "no quibble" return service for non-collected bins to ensure that waste was collected as quickly as possible.

Grounds maintenance and street cleansing

The street cleansing team responded well to leaf fall during November and December, prioritising on areas of high pedestrian activity.

NSE completed 7 full highway verge cuts throughout the borough up to the end of November, managing an 8th cut for verges along main roads.

Beachlands

In December, following approval from Natural England, we worked with Norse's Engineering Works team to relocate 40 beach huts from West Beach to a temporary location adjacent to the skateboard ramps, to protect them from the effects of storm damage to the coastline. This work lasted about 2 weeks (in atrocious weather conditions) and was implemented to minimise damage to the huts, some of which were very fragile. I was particularly impressed with the professionalism displayed by all staff (HBC and NORSE) and their contact with the affected beach hut owners. They were excellent ambassadors for both organisations.

Work is continuing to identify a permanent site for the relocated huts.

Waste and Recycling Strategy (Project Integra)

The PI Partnership is reviewing the government's waste strategy, recently launched for consultation. Further consultation on the detailed elements of the strategy are anticipated over the next few months. It is hoped to receive an update at the PI Strategic Board meeting on 26 Feb.

Liaison with HCC & Police and Crime Panel

In my role as representative on Hampshire Police and Crime Panel, I have been a member of the Finance Working Group and been actively engaged in the decision to approve an increase in the precept of £24 per annum. All the additional monies will be directed to front-line policing to include an increase of 200 police officers, a tranche of PCSO's and additional investigators.