

## ***Report to the Council***

**Date: 18 December 2007**

**Subject: Environmental Protection**

**Portfolio Holder: Councillor Mrs M Sartin**

**Item: 7(e)**

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### **Recommending:**

**That the report of the Environmental Protection Portfolio Holder be noted.**

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### **Waste Management Contract**

The new waste management contract, awarded to SITA earlier in the year, came into operation on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2007. As might be expected with any change of this nature, there have been a few teething problems but nothing which should cause any ongoing problems.

An issue did arise over the weekly collections of household waste from flats which came about through incorrect instructions being put in place for the crews. This has hopefully now been resolved. There have been relatively few calls from residents with problems but at this stage I do not have any statistics on this.

One problem which did arise was that SITA had underestimated the amount of green waste that was generated within the District, perhaps more so this year due to the weather conditions. The temporary 30/70 split vehicles which they had put on the rounds proved to be inadequate to cope with the amount of green waste which they were collecting and involved additional vehicle movements to and from Heatherlands and required the use of additional normal freighters. This should be resolved when the new 50/50 split vehicles arrive.

As you will see from Item 11(d) in the agenda, the process is now being put in place to set up the Waste Management Partnership Board. This will meet on a quarterly basis with the first meeting being set up for February 2008.

### **Bobbingworth Tip**

The leachate treatment plant is now in place and leachate and groundwater pumps are being installed with monitoring taking place to ensure that this infrastructure is performing at the required levels. Some importation of soil is continuing but at a very slow rate due to the weather conditions. Plans are now being worked on with the Planning and Conservation officers to agree the final surface.

A group of local parish councillors visited the site on 12<sup>th</sup> December to view the work done to date and receive an update on progress overall.