

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 27 July 2010

Subject: Safer and Greener Portfolio

Item: 6(j)

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Penny Smith

Recommending:

That the report of the Safer and Greener Portfolio Holder be noted

1. Safe and Sound Project

The "Safe and Sound" Project commenced 9 April 2010. A liveried van is now in use to further enhance the service. The service was formally launched on 30 June by Chairman of Council at Leonard Davis House, North Weald in the presence of representatives of all the Agencies involved. Publicity is available from all Council and Partner Information outlets and on EFDC website.

Preventing falls in the home and guarding against uninvited callers in the target age group is a priority of the Community Safety Partnership. Through the "Safe and Sound" scheme residents aged 60 and over, both Council tenants and private occupiers can be assisted to live independently at home through the provision of additional safety aids e.g. handrails, security locks. Safe and Sound is funded by Epping Forest Community Safety Partnership, Epping Forest District Council, NHS West Essex and Essex County Council with cooperation of the Fire Service (smoke alarm and fire prevention advice).

2. Portfolio Holder Decision - Dispersal Order – Nazeing

Community Safety Officers, local Police and Nazeing Parish Council have for some time been gathering evidence to address anti-social behavior issues in Nazeing. All relevant parties have been consulted including the relevant Authorities outside of Epping Forest District. The Order is effective for six months from the expiry of the call-in period and is to cover those specific areas identified with anti-social behaviour difficulties.

3. Epping Forest District Safer Communities Partnership (SCP)

At the AGM of the Epping Forest Community Safety Partnership held on 8 July, the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Greener was elected as Chairman of the SCP Strategy Panel. This appointment runs for two years. The SCP Chairman and officers have recently attended a joint Essex Police and Essex Probation Conference to deal with the new statutory obligations put on CSP's effective 1 April 2010 in relation to Integrated Offender Management.

4. Country Care Manager

It is appropriate to acknowledge formally the outstanding contribution that Paul Hewitt has made since joining the Authority 20 years ago. Developing Country Care and securing long serving Volunteers and Staff, with the whole aim of maintaining and enhancing our Nature Reserves, SSI's, special landscape features, advice to schools and community groups and much more. Paul is moving away from the District.