

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 29 March 2011

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

Scrutiny

The last meeting of the Safer, Cleaner, Greener Scrutiny Panel was held at St Mary's Church in Loughton, looking at issues around licensing and the night time economy. Members who attended found it very informative but I was disappointed that so few of the local community chose to come along and find out about what the Police, the Council and other agencies are doing. I have asked officers to look again at how we can better engage with local communities and encourage their attendance at such meetings.

Anti social behaviour

We are in the process of considering the implications on the proposed new legislation to replace ASBOs and the many other specific pieces of legislation intended to tackle anti-social behaviour. The proposed new legislation is intended to streamline current anti-social behaviour laws and reduce them to four new offences replacing the existing legislation. The proposals will also include a community trigger to force partners to take action against anti-social behaviour complaints when nothing has been done. This is likely to be introduced in 2013 and until that time current legislative powers will remain.

Awards

Epping Forest SCP were very successful at the High Sheriff's Awards last week organised by Essex Community Foundation with funding awarded to Voluntary Action Epping Forest towards work books for workbooks for every child attending Crucial Crew. Other organisations recognised were Safe and Sound, our home safety Scheme, Voluntary Action Mow n Grow, Home Start Epping Forest and Loughton Youth Project (LYP) who were the worthy winners of the Essex Police Cup