

Report to the Council

Date: 20th February 2007

Subject: Environmental Protection

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Mrs Sartin

Item: 6 (f)

Bobbingworth Tip Remediation Project

Things are beginning to move forward on this project. The water supply work, which involved the closure of Moreton Road, has now been completed. A pre-start meeting has taken place between officers and our Highways sub-contractor and work is planned to start by the beginning of March. This will include work on the bell mouths at each end of the site and some traffic movement works, including signage.

Officers from Essex County Council and EFDC have met with Ongar Town Council to discuss road and safety issues. These mainly concern the movement of lorries through Shelley. A further on-site meeting, which I will also be attending, is to be held on 27th February.

Smoke Free Legislation

From 1st July 2007 all enclosed public places and workplaces in England will become smoke free areas under the Health Act 2006. In order to educate and enforce this new piece of legislation we will be employing temporary staff to go out into the community and work with employers. The cost of these posts will be met from Government funding. This is an area of work where we, as a Council, will be working in partnership with the PCT.

Following the successful introduction of similar legislation in Scotland we hope that all employers and individuals will take on board the message which is being given to them and that high profile advertising will mean that our role can be very much one of educating rather than enforcement. This does not mean that we will not hesitate to prosecute should the need arise.
