Report to the Council

Subject: Environmental Protection Date: 28June 2007

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Mrs M Sartin Item: 7(e)

Recommendation:

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

Bobbingworth Tip Remediation Project

Work began on the importation of soil onto the site on 27 April. Between that date and 20 June, 1,365 lorries brought soil onto the site. The rate of work has been somewhat hampered by the very heavy rains which we have experienced during this period, the site being unsuitable for access by HGV's when the ground has been exceptionally wet.

A complaints line was set up before this work began and up to 20 June, 14 complaints have been logged. Of these, two were lorries parking on Fyfield Road before 8am, soil movement not being allowed before 8am. This practice has now been banned as it was perceived to be a Health and Safety risk to members of the public. Two others concerned breaches of the soil protocol, in that lorries were seen along Moreton Road travelling to the site before 8am and lorries were observed using Gainsborough Road which is not part of the accepted route. In the first instance CCTV camera images showed lorries arriving at the site before 8am and in the second confirmation was given by independent observers. On both occasions drivers were identified and reprimanded.

Hopefully, we will now have a period of more settled weather and, although we cannot make up the shortfall in terms of lost lorry movements, we will be able to maintain the agreed rate of movements per day.

Waste Management Contract

Following the opening of the tenders received for this contract, four companies have been asked to attend the Waste Contract Appointments Panel on 5th July. The four companies are Veolia, Cory Environmental, Keir Street Services and Sita UK. All four have submitted tenders for the complete contract which had been broken down into four parts.

The Panel will receive officer reports and presentations from each of the companies. Following on from the deliberations of the Panel, a recommendation will go forward to Cabinet on 16 July with the Cabinet's recommendation going to full Council on 24 July.