

Report to the Council

Subject: Environmental Protection

Date: 30 October 2007

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Mrs M Sartin

Item: 5(e)

Recommending:

That the report of the Environmental Protection Portfolio Holder be noted

Bobbingworth Tip

I visited the Bobbingworth Project site on 17 October when I viewed the progress to date. The profile of the site has changed considerably since my last visit with considerable earthmoving work having been carried out to cap the area and change the contours of the land.

The work on the grout wall which surrounds much of the site has now been completed and considerable work has been done on the leachate treatment plant. Work has now been completed on the laying of drainage pipes at various points on the site. With the recent improved weather these jobs have been able to move forward within the expected timetable.

Waste Management Contract

New Contract

We are now less than a week away from the start of our new waste management contract with Sita. A mobilisation team has been established and meetings have been held with the Sita South Area Manager to affect a smooth handover. Some training sessions have already taken place for operatives and there will be ongoing training once the contract starts.

The collection of glass will continue to be sub-contracted out by Sita to Lucy and Martin for the present so there will be no change to the way in which this service is provided.

I, along with John Gilbert and David Marsh, have met with the Waste Manager from Kensington and Chelsea who have had Sita as their waste provider for some time. This gave us a good insight into their workings with Sita and also how their Partnership Board worked. A report on the establishment of our partnership board will be going to the next Cabinet meeting and will then come to the December meeting of Council.

With the start of the new contract work will begin on looking into ways to provide recycling facilities for residents living in flats. A bid has been made to Waste &

Resources Action Programme (WRAP) for funding to help in the implementation of the next stage of offering this service to this group of residents for whom this is not currently available.

Alternate weekly collections

We returned to alternate weekly collections of household waste on 17 September for the winter period and will be resuming weekly collections in the Spring. Although the changeover did give rise to some additional calls to the Service these were not significant in number.

The first quarter (April to June) figures for recycling received from Essex County Council show that Epping Forest District achieved a figure of 43% which is very pleasing. We have not yet received the audited results for the second quarter but our own figures for the period are showing recycling at 45% of our total collections. Obviously this figure has only been reached by the efforts of our residents so my thanks go to them for their work in this area.