
Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment
Date	25 January 2016
Present	Councillor Waller (Executive Member)
Apologies	Councillor Warters

18. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests he may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

19. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the decision session held on 14 December 2015 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

20. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been one registration to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Cllr Warters had registered to speak on Agenda Item 5, Working with Students and Landlords and flytipping. He commended officers for finally allowing wards the opportunity to purchase additional bins. He questioned what had happened to the old bins and if parish councils would be reimbursed.

He highlighted his concerns regarding waste issues from students who resided in the Osbaldwick and Derwent Ward, in particular in the Osbaldwick area.

21. A Cleaner City

The Executive Member considered a report that set out a series of proposals to improve standards of cleanliness across the city.

The Executive Member stated that the unachieved savings agreed by the previous Cabinet were being considered and although these could create difficulties when moving forward work was ongoing to improve the situation.

The proposals set out in paragraphs 15, 19, 26, 31, 38 and 43 of the report were discussed and in answer to the Executive Members questions it was noted that:

- ward/parish councils would be given the opportunity to purchase additional bins with the capital costs to be compensated by the council's capital programme but the ongoing emptying costs would have to be funded by the ward/parish.
- the report did not propose any changes to the basic standard that the council provided so for that reason it would not offer the potential to double taxation.
- the frequency of emptying the bins could be discussed with ward committees.
- the rapid response service would continue to operate between 7:30am and 3:00pm.
- the large mechanical sweeper service was being modified and a number of visits would be reduced to allow it to drive more slowly to improve the standard of cleanliness.
- Hammerheads would be cleaned manually and mechanically to improve cleanliness across the city.
- a pedestrian controlled mechanical sweeper had been purchased to improve cleanliness standards across the city centre.
- further discussions with the Business Improvement District team would take place regarding a more coordinated way commercial waste could be collected from the city centre.
- the existing small red dog bins were, in some locations, insufficient for the demands and problems also occurred when other waste was placed inside them.
- the previous litter bins were made of fibre glass, were unrepairable and were disposed off.
- full Edinburgh bins were no longer manufactured so where applicable a new combined dog waste and litter bin would be used.
- wards could volunteer to receive one of the Solar Powered Litter bins in order to replace at least one existing bin.

- teams from Public Realm, Neighbourhood Enforcement, Community Engagement and Waste Services all worked closely together and met on a monthly basis to share information and discuss hotspots.
- a campaign was being organised called 'Clean for the Queen' and would take place in March running along side the annual big Spring Clean campaign.
- City of York Council's based standards for street cleanliness were already set but ward committees could use their volunteer groups to increase standards.
- the Environment Team could facilitate and support the volunteer teams by providing equipment and health and safety guidance.

The Executive Member suggested officers coordinate a meeting that would allow the public and councillors the opportunity to be involved in the development of the new Customer Relationship Management system. He also proposed that the new style dog/litters bins should be advertised and he asked officers to inform all ward committees of the changes and proposals agreed.¹

Resolved:

- (i) That the proposals set out in paragraphs 15, 19, 26, 31, 38 and 43 in the report be approved with the following additions to paragraphs 15 and 43:
 - Paragraph 15
That discussions be taken on improving the systems for collecting commercial waste.
 - Paragraph 43
That a meeting be scheduled to allow the public and councillors the opportunity to be involved in the development of the new reporting systems.
- (ii) That all ward committees be informed of the changes and proposals agreed.
- (iii) That the public be informed of the new style dog/litter bins.

Reason: To ensure that best use is made of the available resources for street cleansing activities.

Action Required

- 1) Inform all ward committees of the changes made to street cleanliness,
- 2) Advertise the new style dog/litter bins,
- 3) Receive feedback from councillors and the public on the new CRM system

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22. Working with Students and Landlords

The Executive Member considered a report that highlighted the wide range of work carried out in the city to help students to manage the waste they produced and to encourage them to dispose of it responsibly.

The Executive Member noted the high level of student accommodation in the Osbaldwick and Derwent Ward, in particular in Osbaldwick and asked officers to also consider this area.¹

It was highlighted that at the end of the previous academic year waste issues raised by residents, ward members and landlords led to some policies being restructured. A variety of initiatives had already taken place and to remind students to be responsible residents in a community and to avoid a large waste problem occurring at the end of the academic year, ongoing promotions with students would take place.

Resolved:

- (i) That the report be noted.
- (ii) That option A, to utilise the arrangements as detailed in the report, be approved.
- (iii) That Osbaldwick and Derwent Ward also be recognised as a problem area.
- (iv) That a review on the costs to the authority be reported.
- (v) That the improvements made to cleansing and fly tipping be measured and a report be brought to a future meeting.

Reason: To ensure the services involved develop a coordinated programme of work to deliver in student areas

Action Required

- 1) Consider the student waste problems in the Osbaldwick area,
- 2) That a review on the costs to the authority

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be reported at a future meeting.
3)That the improvements made to cleansing
and fly tipping be reported at a future meeting

23. Executive Member Remarks

The Executive Member thanked the Environment Services team for their response to the floods and for their continued hard work. He also showed appreciation to those local authorities who had offered resources and staff and requested officers write to them to express his gratitude.¹

Action Required

Write to those LA's who offered flood
resources

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Councillor Waller, Chair

[The meeting started at 3.00 pm and finished at 3.35 pm].