

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr David Henderson Street Scene, Parks & Open Spaces Portfolio Holder	Council	21 January 2016	8(c)

Executive Report: Street Scene, Parks & Open Spaces Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Street Scene and Parks & Open Spaces Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Parks and Open Spaces

- 2.1** Work to refurbish the Mount Grounds is progressing well with compliments being received following the start of installation of the railings. Hard landscaping and works to refurbish the two shelters are due to commence on site shortly.
- 2.2** With regard to the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Council has been requested to provide additional information to support the bid. As part of this process the HLF team have requested a meeting with officers to discuss a possible resubmission. Further updates will be provided in future executive reports.

3 Waste

- 3.1** The budget recommendations reported by Lancashire County Council suggest a number of changes to their waste disposal contracts and associated projects linked to the waste PFI treatment plants and education centre. It is currently early stages and they are undergoing consultation with staff, however there will be operational implications for districts. LCC Officers have indicated they will provide information to districts in a timely fashion.
- 3.2** Initial reports suggest that they will instruct districts to remove food waste from green waste with effect from April. They will then mothball the green waste processing facilities at Thornton and Farrington and secure open windrow composting contracts for the pure green waste. Audits of green waste into the plants have shown less than 1% food waste comingled with the green which makes it a very expensive treatment process. They have proposed to cease the education and waste minimisation programmes with effect from April 2016. The consequences of other waste streams are yet to be fully determined.

- 3.3 The on-line consultation for the subscription service for green waste ran from 8 December until 12 January and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.
- 3.4 The kerbside collection of small electrical items and domestic batteries has been launched.
- 3.5 The waste co-ordinator is targeting blocks of flats across the borough with an emphasis on promoting more dry recycling.
- 3.6 Since January of last year the workshop facility linked to the bulky waste collections service has provided 33 training opportunities for people living on the Fylde coast. Seven of these individuals have gone on to find employment as a result of the intervention.

4 Street Cleansing

- 4.1 The Association of Public Sector Excellence (APSE) performance network awards recognise the best performing local authorities. Street Cleaning and Refuse collection were shortlisted in two categories; the best performer and most improved for Refuse Collection.

Although unsuccessful, it's a fantastic achievement to be shortlisted nationally competing against some much larger city and unitary councils.

5 Public conveniences

- 5.1 Once again the facilities provided by the Council in partnership with Danfo have proved to be outstanding. Overall the Council are fourth in the Premier league, with 20 gold awards and one platinum. Our provider Danfo provides a service for five of the top ten performing Local Authorities.

6. Comments and questions

- 6.1 In accordance with procedure rule 10.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 10.5.