

# FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

## AGENDA

### STREETSCENE SCRUTINY PANEL

**Date:** Thursday, 30 January 2020

**Time:** 6.00 pm

**Venue:** Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

**Members:**

Councillor Miss T G Harper (Chairman)

Councillor G Fazackarley (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors J E Butts

Mrs L E Clubley

L Keeble

Mrs K Mandry

R H Price, JP

**Deputies:** Mrs T L Ellis

J S Forrest



**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Minutes (Pages 5 - 8)**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel held on 17 October 2019.

**3. Chairman's Announcements**

**4. Declarations of Interest and Disclosures of Advice or Directions**

To receive any declarations of interest from members in accordance with Standing Orders and the Council's Code of Conduct and disclosures of advice or directions received from Group Leaders or Political Groups, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

**5. Deputations**

To receive any deputations of which notice has been received.

**6. Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment (Pages 9 - 16)**

To receive a report from the Head of Streetscene reviewing the operational services that fall within the remit of the Streetscene service.

**7. Executive Business (Pages 17 - 18)**

To consider any item of business dealt with by the Executive since the last meeting of the Panel, that falls under the remit of the Streetscene Portfolio. This will include any decisions taken by individual members during the same time period.

**8. Streetscene Scrutiny Panel Priorities**

To provide an opportunity for Members to consider the scrutiny priorities for the Streetscene Panel.



P GRIMWOOD  
Chief Executive Officer  
Civic Offices  
[www.fareham.gov.uk](http://www.fareham.gov.uk)  
21 January 2020

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# FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel (to be confirmed at the next meeting)

**Date:** Thursday, 17 October 2019

**Venue:** Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

**PRESENT:**

**Councillor** Miss T G Harper (Chairman)

**Councillor** (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:** J E Butts, Mrs L E Clubley, L Keeble, Mrs K Mandry,  
R H Price, JP and Mrs T L Ellis (deputising for G Fazackarley)

**Also  
Present:**



**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor G Fazackarley.

**2. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel meeting held on the 18 July 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements: -

Firstly, it is with great sadness that I announce that Angie Ostler passed away on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2019. Angie had over 40 years of continuous service with the Council and was a much-loved member of the Fareham Borough Council Team. I would like to take this opportunity to pass on the Panels condolences to her family.

Secondly, on the 17 September 2019, the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment at Hampshire County Council agreed a series of proposals as part of Hampshire County Council Transformation to 2021 savings programme.

Hampshire County Council consider that, after 22 years the financial position, and therefore the Memo of Understanding that governs the Project Integra partnership, is no longer sustainable. As such they are proposing to implement the following changes from 31 March 2021:

- a) Cease to pay recycling credits for recyclables for which provision has been made through the contract;
- b) Recharge each Waste Collection Authority the cost of disposing of the contamination/non-recyclable material within their dry mixed recyclables deliveries ; and
- c) Retain the income from the sale of all Materials Recovery Facilities processed recyclables.

Hampshire County Council will continue to provide free of charge access for the Domestic Mixed Recycling collections at the Material Recycling Facilities. Officers are currently awaiting legal advice on the validity of the Hampshire County Council proposals which will help to inform the Fareham Borough Council response and ongoing future arrangements for the disposal of recyclable materials.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**5. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

## **6. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS**

### **(1) Purchase of Refuse Collection Vehicles**

Members enquired as to the reason for the purchase of the new, upgraded vehicles to the Council's current fleet. Officers advised that the new vehicles are 2 cubic meters larger, with greater capacity meaning that the new vehicles are more economical.

## **7. PRESENTATION ON WOODLAND AREAS, SPORTS PITCHES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS AT COLDEAST**

The Panel received a presentation from Mark Trigwell, Countryside Ranger and Mick Gore, Public Spaces Operations Manager on transforming woodland areas, sports pitches and play areas at Coldeast.

The presentation, which is appended to these Minutes, showed a series of photos of the site, highlighting the extensive work that had been carried out by both staff and volunteers to transform the Coldeast site.

Members asked if recognition had been given, particularly to the volunteers for their work and asked for more to be done to advertise the site to the wider community. Members suggested Fareham Today as a possible platform in which to promote the new community space.

Members enquired about the funding for similar play areas, such as Holly Hill, across the borough. Officers explained that Leisure and Community are responsible for the provision of new play areas across the Borough with Streetscene responsible, purely for the maintenance and repair of play areas.

RESOLVED that the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel notes the contents of the presentation.

## **8. GRASS CUTTING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Panel received a report from Mick Gore, Public Spaces Operations Manager, on the Council's grass cutting arrangements.

The main areas of discussion for the Panel included; detail around the challenges the service had experienced this year as a result of staff shortages whilst still ensuring customer satisfaction. This in turn resulted in a few more strimming complaints than usual. Officers explained that the staffing shortages this year were unusual and as the short-fall in covering operations was largely due to illness. Agency staff were used to cover some of the staff shortages but obtaining the appropriately trained agency staff and budget constraints were an issue.

The Panel discussed the potential for an increase in pro-active communication for the service to keep the public better informed and minimise queries and complaints to the service. Officers advised that this is something that is currently being developed across the Streetscene services.

Members enquired about the contributions from Hampshire County Council Highways Department and asked that in future, information could be provided to detail the cost towards the Highways grass cutting element of the service.

RESOLVED that the Panel scrutinised the arrangements for grass cutting as set out in the report.

## **9. ROUTE OPTIMISATION OF WASTE COLLECTION ROUNDS**

The Panel received a report from Gary Squire, Refuse and Recycling Manager on the route optimisation of the waste collection rounds.

The report provided information to the Panel on the importance of route optimisation to maximise collection capability across the Borough in the most efficient manner. This is an extremely complex piece of work with several factors influencing the need to re-balance the refuse and recycling rounds.

Members asked about operatives assisting with the route optimisation work due to their knowledge of the rounds. Officers confirmed that discussions have already taken place with operatives to get their input.

RESOLVED that the Panel scrutinised the current arrangements for the refuse and recycling rounds.

## **10. STREETSCENE SCRUTINY PANEL PRIORITIES**

The Chairman asked Members of the Panel to consider the Scrutiny Priorities for the Streetscene Portfolio. The Panel requested that at future meetings a copy of the Scrutiny Priorities be available for Members as a prompt for discussions at this item.

Members asked to see the pro-active communication information that was being prepared for Streetscene services to keep the public informed and help minimise queries and complaints. The Head of Streetscene confirmed that the finalised communications document would be circulated to members of the Panel.

The Head of Streetscene confirmed that, at the next meeting scheduled for the 30 January 2020, items would be brought to the Panel to allow Members to scrutinise arrangements for cleaning and clearing; fly tipping, dog fouling, graffiti, litter and abandoned vehicles throughout the Borough.

RESOLVED that Members considered the Scrutiny Priorities for Streetscene.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm  
and ended at 7.38 pm).

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### **Report to Streetscene Scrutiny Panel**

**Date:** 30 January 2020

**Report of:** Head of Streetscene

**Subject:** CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

#### **SUMMARY**

The members of the panel are invited to scrutinise the performance and key activities, as included in the report, that are undertaken by the Public Spaces Operations Team with the purpose of delivering the corporate objective of providing a Clean and Tidy Borough.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Panel scrutinises the information as set out in this report

## INTRODUCTION

1. Local authorities have a statutory duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA) for keeping land which is under their control, and to which the public has access, clear of litter and refuse and their highways must be kept clean, as far as is practicable.
2. To comply with the legislation the Council provide a service that is responsible for the following operations:
  - Mechanical sweeping of streets and large pedestrian areas.
  - Litter and dog waste bin provision and servicing.
  - Removal of litter, fly-tipping, graffiti and fly-posting from public land.
  - Removal of dead animals (domestic and wild) from public land.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

3. The Street Cleansing service is operated with an annual budget of just over 1 million pounds (£1,031,400).

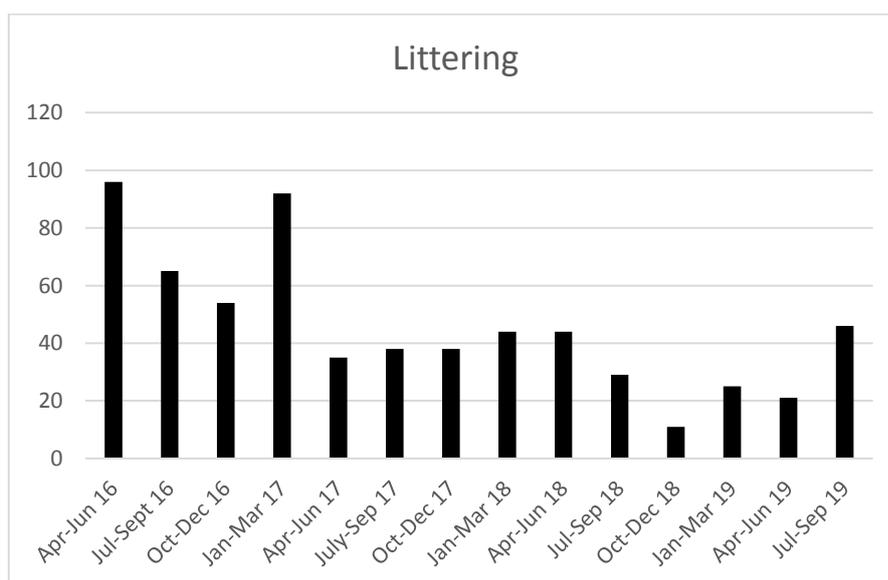
## LITTER

4. It is estimated by Keep Britain Tidy group that more than two million pieces of litter are dropped in the UK every day.
5. Between April 2016 and September 2019, residents have reported a total of 638 litter related issues in the Borough. This is broken down by quarter in the below table.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Figures</b>
April- June 2016	96
July – September 2016	65
October – December 2016	54
January- March 2017	92
April- June 2017	35
July – September 2017	38
October – December 2017	38
January- March 2018	44
April- June 2018	44
July – September 2018	29
October – December 2018	11
January- March 2019	25

April- June 2019	21
July – September 2019	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>638</b>

6. The above figures show a peak of 307 reports in 2016/17 and a low of 109 in 2018/19. The average annual total is 182 reports and the average quarterly figure is 46 reports.
7. Some areas are difficult to manage to a constant high standard such as the Motorway Junctions and other fast roads in the Borough that require lane closures and traffic management to ensure the safety of the workforce. Permission is also required from the Highway Authority in advance, to enable the lane closures to be approved. This not only increases the cost of the operation but also the time to undertake the works. The estimated cost to litter pick each motorway junction approach is approximately £1,605.26 per occasion.
8. Fareham East has the highest reporting of litter issues with an average of around one or two reports a month whereas Fareham West has the least with a report received from this ward that averages around once every seven months.
9. Figures based on the average data show the service receives less than 4 reports of litter related problems per week. The below chart shows the quarterly trend through this period indicating a slight downward trend from the high of 2016/2017.



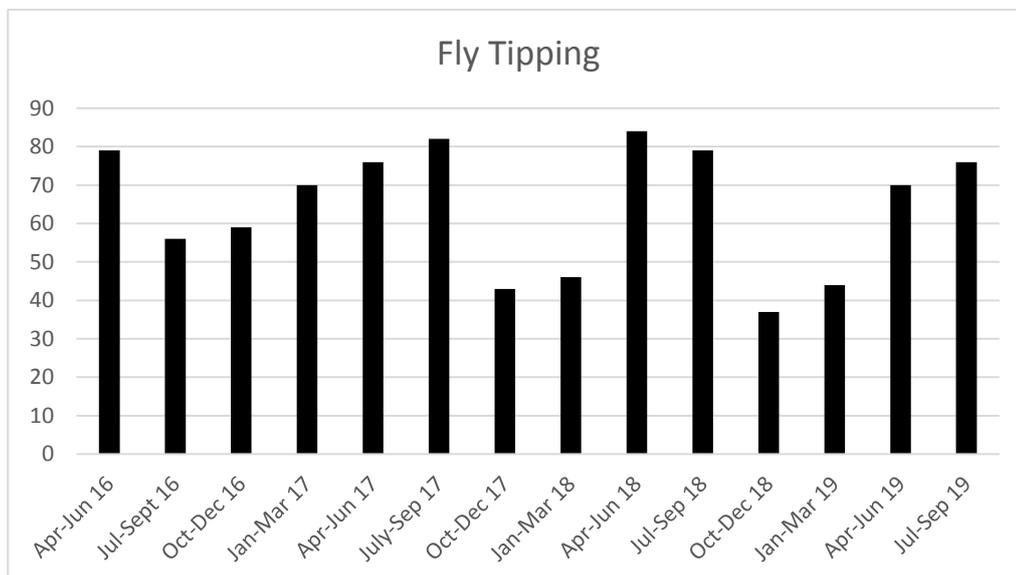
### FLY-TIPPING

10. For the 2018/19 year, local authorities in England dealt with over 1 million (1,072,000) fly-tipping incidents, an increase of 8% from the 998,000 reported in 2017/18.
11. Fareham Borough Council figures have decreased by around 1% over the same year on year period (247 reports 2017/18 – 244 reports 2018/19).
12. Consistent with previous years, nationally the most common place for fly-tipping to occur was on highways (pavements and roads), which accounted for almost half (46%) of total incidents in 2018/19. For Fareham the figure is comparable at 45%.

13. As in the last few years, nationally the most common size category for fly-tipping incidents in 2018/19 was equivalent to a 'small van load' (33% of total incidents), followed by the equivalent of a 'car boot or less' at 30% and single items at 18% and 4.5% for a single black bag (combined 52.5%). In Fareham small van load incidents are again comparable at 39% of the total and a car boot or less combined with single items makes up a further 51% of Fareham's fly-tipping.
14. The estimated cost to clear and dispose of fly-tipping on public land in Fareham for the last financial year was £9,332.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Figures</b>
April- June 2016	79
July – September 2016	56
October – December 2016	59
January- March 2017	70
April- June 2017	76
July – September 2017	82
October – December 2017	43
January- March 2018	46
April- June 2018	84
July – September 2018	79
October – December 2018	37
January- March 2019	44
April- June 2019	70
July – September 2019	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>901</b>

15. Figures reveal an average of 257 reports of fly-tipping have been received from residents each year. The figures also show that FBC receive less than 5 reports of fly-tipping per week from residents.
16. The ward reporting the most fly-tipping is Fareham East with between four and five calls received by Streetscene a month whilst Locks Heath has the fewest reports averaging just one every three and a half months.
17. The below chart shows that over the past two years, the number of reports falling over the winter period before rising again over the spring and summer periods. There is no obvious reason for this trend but it may in part be due to seasonal work increasing disposal demand.



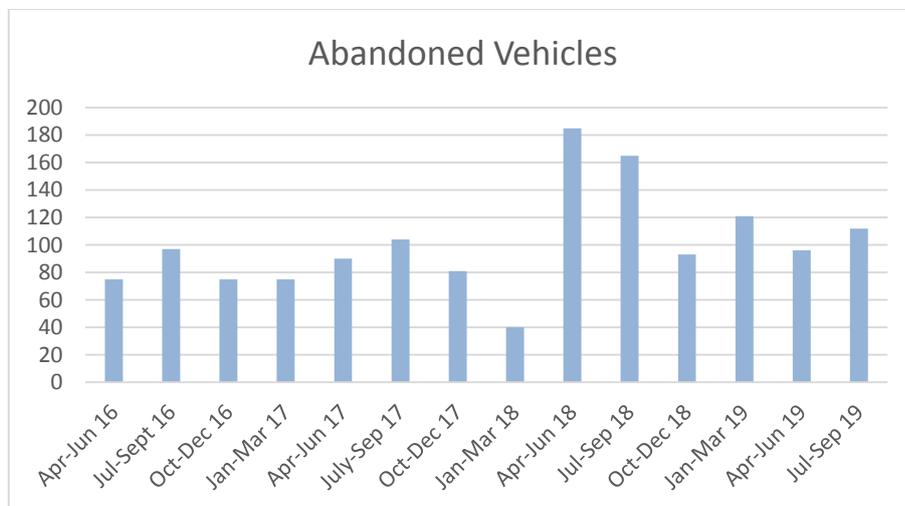
### ABANDONED VEHICLES

18. It is not possible to compare national figures as the information stopped being collated centrally after 2008.
19. Owners must be given 15 days' notice that a vehicle is to be removed (7 if located on the Highway) and a vehicle cannot be removed if the landowner or owner objects during this period.
20. The below figures for abandoned vehicles in Fareham show that from January 2018 to September 2019 there have been a total of 812 reports of abandoned vehicles. However, only 42 of these reports resulted in vehicles being sent for scrap (actual abandoned vehicles). In contrast 371 were recorded as "not abandoned" and 362 were recorded as "vehicle gone", meaning the owner had removed it from the original site. The small number remaining (37) were for advice given to residents on the matter or passed to another agency such as a housing association.

Period	Figures
April- June 2016	75
July – September 2016	97
October – December 2016	75
January- March 2017	75
April- June 2017	90
July – September 2017	104
October – December 2017	81
January- March 2018	40
April- June 2018	185
July – September 2018	165

October – December 2018	93
January- March 2019	121
April- June 2019	96
July – September 2019	112
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,409</b>

21. There is a noticeable peak in reports of abandoned vehicles in the period Apr-Jun 2018, the bulk of which were reports sent in via the online form were multiple reports submitted by the same person for different vehicles.
22. This frequent reporting of multiple abandoned vehicles has resulted from a car dealership nearby that regularly park vehicles around that area. There are other incidents of multiple reports for the same address where similar businesses are operating. They do not result in a vehicle being scrapped but simply being moved by the owner. If more than one of these incidents occur in the same month this will show a spike in the level of reports for abandoned vehicles.

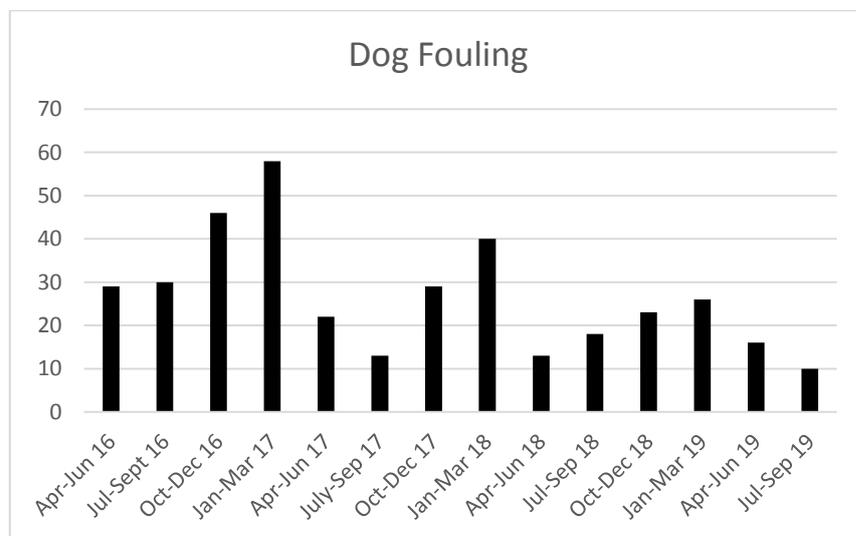


23. When reports of vehicles sent for scrap are broken down into wards, Fareham South had the highest incident rate of 11 for this reporting period, while the other wards all had totals of 5 or under.

### **DOG FOULING**

24. Estimates made by Environmental Campaigns (ENCAMS) put the UK dog population between 6.5 and 7.4 million, producing 1,000 tonnes of faeces every day.
25. Fareham residents report an average of 106 incidents per annum (just over two incidents a week) to the Council.
26. The Ward reporting the most dog fouling to Streetscene is Warsash although this is on average just once a month. Hill Head and Fareham North have the least number of reports with an average of 10 months between incidents being reported in these two wards.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Figures</b>
April- June 2016	29
July – September 2016	30
October – December 2016	46
January- March 2017	58
April- June 2017	22
July – September 2017	13
October – December 2017	29
January- March 2018	40
April- June 2018	13
July – September 2018	18
October – December 2018	23
January- March 2019	26
April- June 2019	16
July – September 2019	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>373</b>



### **STREET WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

27. The following tonnages have been collected by the Operations team for the reporting period (full years only).

<b>Operation</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>
Fly-tipping, bulky waste, street litter & litter bins	1,661	1,545	1,571
Mechanical street sweeping	40	64	84
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>1,609</b>	<b>1,655</b>

28. Overall waste tonnages appear steady year on year but street sweeping totals have increased over the period. There is no obvious reason for this other than FBC have modernised the fleet in recent years and that will have resulted in improved performance and reduced downtime for the newer vehicles.

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

29. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report.

### **CONCLUSION**

30. Fareham's figures for fly-tipping are broadly comparable to the reported national average and most environmental issues seem to be suggesting a slight drop since 2016/17 except for the abandoned vehicle reports.

#### **Background Papers:**

None

#### **Reference Papers:**

None

#### **Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Mick Gore. (Ext 4459)

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Report to Streetscene Scrutiny Panel

**Date:** 30 January 2020  
**Report of:** Head of Streetscene  
**Subject:** EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

#### SUMMARY

One of the key functions of this Scrutiny Panel is to hold the Executive Portfolio Holder and Senior Officers to account in the delivery of the service and the Improvement Actions identified in the Council's Corporate Priorities and Corporate Vision.

Members are therefore invited to consider the items of business which fall under the remit of the Streetscene portfolio and have been dealt with by the Executive since the last meeting of the Panel. This also includes any decisions taken by individual Executive Members.

The relevant notices for decisions taken are attached for consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members consider the items of Business discharged by the Executive since the last meeting of the Panel and make any comments or raise any questions for clarification.

