



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment Committee

Date: Tuesday, 18 July 2017

Time: 18:30

Venue: Supper Room

Address: Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

You have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be discussed if it relates to something on your Register of Interests form. You must declare the interest and leave the room while the matter is dealt with.

You have a Personal Interest in a matter to be discussed if it affects

- your well being or financial position
- that of your family or close friends
- that of a club or society in which you have a management role
- that of another public body of which you are a member to a greater extent than others in your ward.

You must declare a personal interest but can speak and vote on the matter.

Whenever you declare an interest you must say why the interest arises, so that it can be included in the minutes.

- 3 **MINUTES** 3 - 7
- To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 14 June 2017.
- 4 **MATTERS ARISING**
- To consider any matters arising from the above minutes.
- 5 **LIGHTING ST. GEORGE'S - TRIAL** 8 - 12
- Report attached.
- 6 **A REVIEW OF FOOTWAY AND OTHER LIGHTING** 13 - 18
- Report attached.
- 7 **REVIEW OF THE COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC SOLID WASTE** 19 - 22
- Report attached.
- 8 **REVIEW OF JOINT VENTURE ARRANGEMENTS**
- A verbal update will be given at the meeting.
- 9 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- To consider any other business as may be determined by the Chairman of the meeting as being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.
- 10 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**
- In the event of the Committee wishing to exclude the public from the meeting, the following resolution will be moved:-
- "That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act."

Environment Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, 14 June 2017 at 18:30

Present :

Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Annison, Bensly, Borg, Fairhead, Grant, Hacon, Hanton, Jones, Pratt, Walch, Weymouth and Wright.

Also in attendance :-

Mrs J Beck (Director of Customer Services), Mr G Buck (Group Manager, Environmental Health), Mr P Shucksmith (Senior Environmental Ranger), Mr D Addy (Environmental Health Officer) and Mrs S Wintle (Member Services Officer)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Nicola Holden and Simon Mutton of GYB Services.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest declared at the meeting.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12 April 2017 were confirmed subject to Councillor Walch being added to those present at the meeting and that it be noted that Councillor Weymouth had tendered her apologies for the meeting.

4 MATTERS ARISING

The Director of Customer Services advised Members that the refurbishment works on the Public Conveniences, as agreed at the last meeting of the Environment Committee, would commence in the near future. It was also advised that work was still being undertaken in respect of the fully accessible facilities and that this matter would be brought back to the Committee at a later date. Some concern was raised in relation to the timescales for the fully accessible facilities, it was pointed out that the Public Convenience Refurbishment formed part of the Capital Programme for 2017/18 therefore the works scheduled would be undertaken during the 2017/18 Financial Year.

Members raised concerns in relation to the current state of the roads within the Borough, the Director of Customer Services advised that Norfolk County Council had advised that spraying had only recently commenced, Councillor Grant advised that this matter would be raised at the Environment, Development and Transport Committee meeting at Norfolk County Council.

It was confirmed that the item relating to Footway Lighting would be brought back to the Committee at its meeting in July.

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee received and noted the items contained within the Forward Plan for the Environment Committee and the following was :-

RESOLVED :

That the Footway Lighting and Highways Roundabout items be deferred from the Committee's Forward Plan as both matters are subject to a budget review process.

6 AIR QUALITY STATUS REPORT 2017

The Committee considered the Environmental Health Officer's report which detailed the Great Yarmouth 2017 Air Quality Annual Status report, the report is an Annual statutory report to Government on the state of local air quality in the Borough.

Members were reminded of a request that had been made by the Environment Committee for a monitoring station to be placed at the children's nursery site on Pasteur Road, Great Yarmouth, it was reported that this had been put in place and to date after 8 months of monitoring no exceedance of the national objective level has been recorded, however this station will continue to be monitored for a period of one year to cover all seasons and the annual level assessed. At this time there is little to suggest that the annual national objective will be exceeded.

RESOLVED :

That the Committee note the Air Quality Annual Status Report 2017 and its contents.

7 GOVERNMENT LITTER STRATEGY 2017

The Committee considered the Director of Customer Services and Senior Environmental Rangers report which provided Members with background information in respect of the new Government Litter Strategy which contains a number of proposals to curb litter through enforcement, education and good infrastructure.

In discussing the report the following issues were raised :-

- Whether there were opportunities for funding of skips for clearing rubbish
- The issue of litter on the beach at Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth - it was advised that a number of voluntary litter picks are undertaken throughout the year but that beach cleanses are the responsibility of the Borough Council. A further issue was raised in relation to an area on Marine Parade that had been cordoned off, Members were advised that this particular area was classed as a pavement and not a public parking area.
- Concern was raised in relation to the disposal of dog poo bags as it was pointed out that these bags were not being disposed of in the appropriate way, the Senior Environmental Ranger advised that it was an offence if these were not disposed of correctly.
- A Member asked whether the rubbish bin within the Bunneywell Playarea could be re located, it was agreed that this matter would be discussed with GYB Services.

RESOLVED :

That the Committee note the contents of the Director of Customer Services and Senior Environmental Rangers report.

8 GYB SERVICES - GYB LIAISON BOARD

The Chairman advised that at the meeting of the GYB Liaison Board the

issues relating to weed spraying were discussed and it had been agreed that from next year there would be no more weed spraying within the Borough, strimming would be resumed.

Concern was raised in relation to Members receiving numerous complaints in respect of grass cuttings being left, it was advised that this matter was an ongoing issue, however it was pointed out that GYB Services were on schedule for the cutting regime.

Members discussed the issue of no disabled access at the Pirate Ship play area on Gorleston clifftop, it was agreed that this matter be looked in to.

A Member asked in relation to a new piece of play equipment which had been funded by the late Mr Fields and from Councillor K Greys ward budget which was due to be erected in Gorleston, it was agreed that this matter would be looked in to.

Concern was raised in respect of the poor condition of the Bowling Green at the Wellesley Recreation Ground, it was agreed that this matter be looked in to.

The issue of grass cutting in bradwell was discussed by Members and it was advised this matter had also been discussed at the Liaison Board meeting.

Reference was made to the amount of litter that can be seen on Caister Bypass since cutting of the grass had taken place, The Senior Environmental Ranger advised that this issue was apparent countywide and that no contact was being made by Highways England / KIER to advise the Council that cutting is being undertaken in order for litter picking to be arranged.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman passed on the Committee's thanks and appreciation to the Director of Customer Services for all her hard work and dedication and wished her the very best of luck within her new position.

10 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED :

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act."

11 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

The confidential minutes of the meeting held on the 12 April 2017 were confirmed.

The meeting ended at: 19:20

Subject: Lighting St. Georges - Trial

Report to: Environment Committee – 18th July 2017

Report by: Head of Environmental Services

SUBJECT MATTER/RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee are requested to approve the proposal for a trial lighting scheme as part of St. Georges Park.

1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

A resident and business operator in Great Yarmouth, Mrs. Staff requested Committee consider the option for a submission of a proposal to undertake the LED lighting within a tree in St. Georges Park.

2. MAIN BODY

Attached is the communication received from Mrs. Staff.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A range of costs were provided as consideration by Mrs. Staff

Company	Product	Installation	Trenching/Feed/Elec	Total
Blachere Option 1	£1,188.00	£1,650.00	£545.50	£3,383.50
Blachere Option 2 (includes hanging features)	£3,322.00	£2,200.00	£545.50	£6,067.50
Festive Lighting	£1,497.38	£1,320.00	£545.50	£3,362.88
MK Illumination	£2,663.36	£1,320.00	£545.50	£4,528.86

Mrs. Staff has identified that option 1 above is the preferred for the trial, attached are pictures of the tree proposed for the trial together with an impression of the completed project.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

Vandalism has been raised as a possible issue to mitigate this the height of the commencement of the lights has been increased.

Light pollution has been considered and a timer will be installed to ensure any necessary adjustments can be made through reduction of operating hours is necessary.

The life span of the lights is estimated to be 5 years ongoing fund raising will need to be identified to maintain or expand the trial.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Mrs. Staff would like to commence fund raising for the installation of the lights with ongoing energy costs being mitigated through the use of low voltage LED's and a potential reduction in other lighting in the immediate area of the tree.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval by Committee for the trial of LED tree decoration in St. Georges Park once adequate funds have been raised by Mrs. Staff for the trial scheme.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Email correspondence

Previous approval for consideration by Environment Committee.

Area for consideration	Comment
Monitoring Officer Consultation:	N/A
Section 151 Officer Consultation:	N/A
Existing Council Policies:	Considered
Financial Implications:	Limited ongoing energy
Legal Implications (including human rights):	None
Risk Implications:	Considered
Equality Issues/EQIA assessment:	N/A
Crime & Disorder:	Considered
Every Child Matters:	N/A

Subject:

FW: Lighting up a tree in St George's Park

Dear Jane and All

Please let me first try to explain the reason for wanting to light up a tree, just after Christmas this year I was in a very dark place having my husband and my grandson of 6 weeks in the James Paget and his twin sister ended up in Adenbrookes hospital all at the same time, , I spent a lot of time backwards and forwards to the hospital and passed the park on many occasion and always thought how dark and dismal it always looked in the evening , This is a connection from the seafront to the town and to be honest after dark it seems a place to be avoided, I kept having the same thought of how nice and pleasing on the eye a few lit up trees would look, Giving it a better feel instead of the darkness, I have decided after looking into my project with great scrutiny that to perhaps light up one tree first like a tester, if this is successful it may become something that other people may want to try to get involved in schools , business, or may just want to sponsor for ongoing maintenance.

I have picked the largest tree in the park and I believe to be the oldest, the night is a big factor because the lights don't need to start till they are at least 12 ft up the tree saving any problems to do with vandalism as it would have to take a great deal of effort to reach them,I would be using LED fairy lights as they cost is very low and also if the future is hopeful and more trees are lit this way , the cost of the lighting which is been used at the moment may be exchanged to LED lighting reducing cost.The life expectancy is 5 years , The lights would also be on a timer, shorter in the summer 10 to 12 o'clock, and longer in the winter 5pm till 11 am then it doesn't cause concern for inappropriate behaviour into the night for the residents living near by, The tree I choose is also at the top of the park and is mostly on view from the road and one set of flats , The cost of lighting and installling the lights is £2,800 to £3,000 I will raise the funds by involving the community I want them to be envolved so if this does happen it would be nice to think it is for everyone to enjoy, I believe looking at something beautiful gives us all a feel good factor, I know a few people may think it odd wanting to light up a tree, but I think the park will benifit maybe opening up opportunities for other things.

Thank you for reading about my idea kind regards Julie Staff

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad





Subject: **A Review of Footway and Other Lighting**

Report to: Management Team, 10th July 2017
Environment Committee 18th July 2017

Report by: Jane Beck Head of Property Services
Glenn Buck Interim Head of Environmental Services

SUBJECT MATTER/RECOMMENDATIONS

This report seeks to advise Committee of the Council's responsibilities for footway and other lighting.

Members are recommended to;

- 1) Note the report and,**
- 2) Confirm the Future Footway Lighting Policy detailed in Appendix 1 and,**
- 3) Consider whether it wishes officers to bring back an in depth report detailing future options for savings.**

1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Street and footway lighting within the Borough Council is provided by a number of agencies. Highways England are responsible for the lighting provided on main trunk roads, Norfolk County Council Highways are responsible for street lighting to a number of main roads. The Borough Council looks after a variety of footway, car parking and decorative lighting units together with some parish councils who also look after a number of units in their parishes. For the Borough Council this amounts to approximately 4500 footway and lighting units. The majority of these were inherited by the Borough Council as part of local government reorganisation in 1974, although up until 2006 the Borough Council did provide additional footway lighting.

The provision, renewal and maintenance of these lighting units is a significant capital spend with the Council approving a capital budget of £100K per year since 2009. In addition, in revenue terms, last year footway lighting cost approximately £280K for repairs, maintenance and energy costs

2. **FOOTWAY LIGHTING IN THE BOROUGH**

Having stopped providing new lighting in 2006, the Borough has concentrated on repairing and modernising the network it owns. In addition to the lamp standards above ground, the Borough is responsible for a number of private supply networks underground such as those supplying many of the rear passageway lighting columns. Given the age of the majority of the stock, there has been a rise in recent times in the number of faults developing on these underground cables. Piecemeal repairs tend to only be short term as the cable is likely to fail elsewhere. Cable replacement costs can stretch to several tens of thousands of pounds.

In gated rear passageways where the general public have been excluded, the Council has for the past two years only carried out repairs that are economical to do, for example replacement of bulbs or lighting heads on the columns. Where the system has failed completely and is life expired, the Council took the decision in December 2015 not to effect a repair. Committee may wish to reaffirm this decision. Where new cabling systems have been provided, the Council has endeavoured to secure that these are transferred to the national UK Power Network thus removing the Council's liability for future underground maintenance.

New Lighting Requests

The Council does receive regular requests for the lighting of new housing developments from the County Council but since 2006 has refused to take on additional schemes. With the rise in house building predicted and much of it as new estates, Committee are asked whether they propose to maintain this stance. New lighting in these areas is a decision for developers to make and for them to seek to cover the cost of maintenance by way of charging residents perhaps through a management company.

A Proposed Future Footway Lighting Policy

The various lighting policies around footway lighting that the Council have

approved have been consolidated into a single policy document which is attached as an appendix 1 to this report.

3. **OTHER LIGHTING**

Car Park Lighting

The Council provides lighting to its pay and display car parks by way of 56 lighting columns.

Decorative Lighting

The Council is responsible for most of the decorative lighting on public land which includes the ceiling of light on Regent Road, the light sabres around the Market Place and Britannia Pier, the light cannons on the promenade, and the uplighters in St Georges Park. It also includes lighting on North Drive and Gorleston Lower Esplanade, and the Christmas lights on King Street, Regent Street and the Market Place, as well as in Gorleston. The Council is also responsible for flood lighting to St Andrews Church in Gorleston and St Nicholas Minster and St Mary's Church in Great Yarmouth.

Recreational Lighting

This includes lighting to areas such as the multi-use games areas (MUGAs) which are lit by a total of 26 columns.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

As seen from above, the cost of repair, renewal and maintenance is ongoing. In order to reduce costs the following could be considered at sometime in the future;

- Partial overnight dimming or switch off as currently undertaken by Norfolk County Council
- Review the provision of existing lighting in certain areas
- Continue or speed up the current replacement programme for sodium lights by much cheaper to run LED units. Incorporate improved timing mechanisms for better control
- Cover the cost of the Community Housing footway lighting from the Housing Revenue Account budget.

5. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

We need to ensure that risk assessments are undertaken in relation to all footway lights. It is necessary on occasion to replace aging private underground cabling; this can lead to numbers of lights reported as being inoperative leading to reputational consequences for the Council.

6. **CONCLUSIONS**

The Boroughs lighting responsibilities are wide and varied and are provided and maintained as a complete cost to the Council. The age and condition of parts of the footway lighting in particular is such that it gives cause for concern and identifies the need to continue with the Capital scheme of replacement to actively manage safety requirements.

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the report and,
2. Confirm the Future Footway Lighting Policy as detailed in Appendix 1 and,
3. Consider receiving future reports in relation to areas whereby underground cabling rectification has been identified.

Area for consideration	Comment
Monitoring Officer Consultation:	None
Section 151 Officer Consultation:	None
Existing Council Policies:	Yes
Financial Implications:	Yes
Legal Implications (including human rights):	none
Risk Implications:	Yes
Equality Issues/EQIA assessment:	None
Crime & Disorder:	Yes
Every Child Matters:	None

Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Future Policy for Footway Lighting

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Borough Council is responsible for a number of different lighting systems throughout the Borough. One such system is footway lighting. In some areas the footway lights do provide lighting to roads but the Council does not own any highway lights. The lighting columns are found in the urban areas but also in many parishes, a few are on private land and a large number are on land that is the responsibility of Community Housing. This policy combines the Councils existing policies into this one document.

2.0 Background Information on Footway Lighting

2.1 The Council currently looks after approximately 4,500 lighting columns. This is a significant number for a small district council and has its origins in the local government re-organisation in 1974. There is no statutory requirement for the Borough Council to provide footway lighting so the provision of this service is discretionary. Where lighting is provided it can only be to footway standard to offer some assistance to pedestrians. Other lighting within the borough is provided by Highways England on trunk roads and Norfolk County Council's Highways Department as part of its legal obligation to promote road safety under the Road Safety Act.

2.2 Following a survey in 2006 a significant number of columns were found to be in a bad structural condition. As a result in 2008 the Council invested in a long term capital replacement programme which continues.

2.3 The ongoing maintenance works are handled by GYB services as part of the Joint Venture with the Council. GYB Services also manage the council's energy consumption and since 2013 the energy consumption has been reduced by 85,246 kWh equating to around £8,500 which has helped to off-set utility price increases.

2.4 Since 2008 743 columns have been replaced. This means that columns with an age of 0 – 20yrs is 1225 leaving the number of columns aged over 20yrs at 2954. The average life expectancy of older lighting columns was 25 years, however, the new lighting columns have been specified to have a life expectancy of 50 years. These life expectancies are design life expectancies and depending on where

columns are sited and their structural material these life spans can be exceeded.

2.5 Underground supplies vary between private and public networks and in some areas are reaching end of life. The private GYBC-owned electricity supply network currently supplies 2035 lighting columns (756 Yarmouth, 921 Gorleston and 358 within the parishes). Some of this cable, especially within Yarmouth, is approaching 100 years of age. As part of the capital replacement works new columns are, where possible, connected to the UK Power Networks (UKPN) supply cables and in doing this any future underground supply faults are repaired by UKPN at their cost.

2.6 Approximately 80% of our footway lights are either on the footway or highway on a combination of Borough Council and County Council owned land. The remaining lights are sited on land under control of Community Housing or private (unadopted) land such as numerous rear access paths and roads. Some footway lights do provide lighting to adopted highways although they are not of a standard that Norfolk County Highways can adopt.

3.0 Policy Decisions Covering Footway Lighting

3.1 To reaffirm the policy of continuing to maintain lighting to unadopted passageways until 'life expired' with a view to reviewing any significant passageways as the need arises.

3.2 The Council does receive regular requests for the lighting of new housing developments from the County Council but since 2006 has refused to take on additional schemes. New lighting in these areas is now a decision for developers to make and for them to seek to cover the cost of maintenance by way of a charging methodology perhaps through a management company.

3.3 To continue with the Capital Footway Lighting programme.

3.4 Continue with the policy of transferring all upgraded underground network cabling to UK Power Networks so that the new cables (and future maintenance liabilities) are taken on by them and incorporated into the national power network.

3.5 Refer back to Environment Committee any underground cabling issues with significant renewal costs.

4.0 Review

This policy will be subject to regular review by the Council and updated as appropriate.

Subject: Review of the Collection of Domestic Solid Waste

Report to: Management Team 10th July 2017
Environment Committee 18th July 2017

Report by: Glenn Buck Head of Environmental Services

SUBJECT MATTER/RECOMMENDATIONS

This report seeks to bring members up to date with respect to the Borough's waste collection and recycling service and the work proposed by the Norfolk Waste Partnership.

The Committee are recommended to note the contents of the report

1. INTRODUCTION

The council collects some 38,000 tonnes of solid waste annually from 48,000 properties across the Borough. For most residents the collections involve an alternative fortnightly kerbside collection of mixed recyclables and residual waste. There are a very small number of properties that still use a bag system (mostly flats above shops) and slightly different arrangements apply for the collection of the large communal bins found at large flatted developments. Additionally the Council has over 8,000 customers for its opt in paid for fortnightly garden waste collection service. The Council does not operate a trade waste service.

2. THE NORFOLK WASTE PARTNERSHIP

The Borough Council together with all the other District Councils in the County and the County Council are members of the Norfolk Waste Partnership (NWP). The NWP seeks to encourage the reduction of waste and to promote best practise in its collection and processing, to standardise waste practises across the County and to seek to liaise with contractors and operational partners such as Norse Environmental Waste Services (NEWS) around the processing of recyclable materials at the Costessey materials recycling facility (MRF).

At its Board Meeting on 20th June, the NWP endorsed a strategy to concentrate efforts on reducing contamination within collected recycling across Norfolk. Contamination is material that is incorrectly placed in the recycling system and cannot be recycled at the MRF such as food waste,

nappies, textiles and electrical equipment. There is an additional cost in having to deal with this contamination. It is estimated that in excess of 500,000 used nappies are placed in the recycling bins across Norfolk annually. The fortnightly twin bin collection system is still recognised as the current best solution for Norfolk.

3. **REVIEW OF THE EXISTING BOROUGH WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SYSTEM**

In Norfolk the districts are the Waste Collection Authority and collect the residual refuse and recyclables. The residual waste is disposed of by Norfolk County Council as the Waste Disposal Authority. All the Norfolk Districts are in a Joint Venture with Norse Environmental Waste Services (NEWS) for the processing of the recyclables at their materials recycling facility (MRF) at Costessey in Norwich.

In respect of recycling, one of the Borough's and indeed the NWP's key projects is around dealing with contamination of recyclables. Currently the Borough has a contamination rate of around 20% (Norfolk average approximately 13%). The amount of contamination affects the overall gate fee the Council has to pay to NEWS to handle the materials at the Costessey MRF as there is an extra cost involved in processing and removing the non-target materials. Borough Council Officer's, in conjunction with GYB Services currently are carrying out targeted work to address the issue of contamination. This work will increase in intensity as the NWPs Anti Contamination Recycling Campaign gets underway shortly. The Borough's Action Plan to tackle contamination is attached as Appendix 1.

Officers are continuing to review the current waste arrangements and to look at ways of continual improvement particularly in capturing additional material that can be recycled. It is planned that work this year will concentrate on increasing the tonnages of green waste in particular. It is proposed to work more closely with social landlords including the Council's Community Housing Service and other registered social landlords; to look to capture more recycling from 'recycling on the go' (street bins that separate waste) and expansion of the 'bring banks' possibly covering the areas of textiles and waste electrical equipment.

The Council's current recycling rate stands at approximately 32% of the

total domestic waste collected. The Norfolk average is around 40%.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Providing a domestic solid waste collection service costs all local authorities a significant amount of money, both District and County Councils. For the Borough, the total cost for the provision of the whole waste service for 2016/17 was approximately £2M.

To reduce the cost of disposing of residual waste, the County Council incentivises District Councils to promote and encourage recycling and therefore reducing the final amount of waste that needs to be disposed of. The incentive is a financial payback (called a recycling credit). The Borough also receives income from the garden waste service and collecting bulky items from residents. In 2016/17 this totalled £1.1M income for the Council. Thus the net cost to the Council for 2016/17 for the whole waste service was about £900K.

Insofar as reducing contamination within the collected recycled materials is concerned, it is estimated that for every 1% reduction in contamination the Borough Council should directly benefit by around £4K. In addition there are indirect benefits linked to the onward sale of the collected secondary materials.

The secondary materials market which is where the recycled materials recovered from the MRF are sold is extremely volatile and is affected by global demand for the materials. For example, in respect of the mixed paper line which earns the Joint Venture a good price, any nappies in the system that escape manual picking ends up mixed with this material. If these are discovered during quality checks the paper can be rejected by the purchaser meaning it has to be resold as a poorer quality commodity at a much lower price. Thus it is in everybody's interest to avoid contamination of the green bin.

5. **CONCLUSIONS**

The collection of domestic waste remains one of the principal services for the Borough and indeed all Norfolk Councils. In conjunction with the Norfolk Waste Partnership the Council continues to look at ways to improve its recycling performance. The NWP have agreed the reduction in contamination and the investigation of other materials that could be

recycled are priority areas to address. Member's attention is drawn to the forthcoming County wide action against contamination which it is hoped will receive wide public promotion.

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to note the information in this report.

Area for consideration	Comment
Monitoring Officer Consultation:	No
Section 151 Officer Consultation:	Yes
Existing Council Policies:	Yes
Financial Implications:	Yes
Legal Implications (including human rights):	No
Risk Implications:	Yes
Equality Issues/EQIA assessment:	No
Crime & Disorder:	No
Every Child Matters:	No