

**CABINET MEMBER – ENVIRONMENTAL
PORTFOLIO ISSUES – FEBRUARY 2011**

OPERATIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

<p style="text-align:center">Sefton Security</p>	<p>The recent bad weather has delayed the installation of a range of new and upgraded systems in Sefton. Technicians are now making great efforts to complete new CCTV installations at St. Oswalds Primary School and Davenhill Primary school. In addition, a new CCTV system has been commissioned at Litherland High School and will be shortly followed by an upgrade to the CCTV system at Hillside High School.</p> <p>Plans are also underway to improve security arrangements at both Hawthorne Road and Forest Road Depots. The increase in the number of services and personnel based at the Depots, coupled with a number of security issues in recent months, requires that movement activated perimeter CCTV is installed which will be monitored 24 hours a day via the Control Room at Sefton Security. A loudspeaker system is also to be installed which operators can use to advise those caught trespassing that they are being recorded and that Police or patrols have been advised.</p> <p>Sefton Security have developed and updated an increased range of Service Level Agreements for 2010/11 covering both CCTV and Mobile Patrol monitoring regimes. These Agreements contain very prescriptive and challenging targets. However, they are considered by National Security Agencies to reflect the needs and wishes of clients in times when security arrangements are at the fore. The targets place Sefton Security in the top quartile of bodies offering such services coupled with documented response times. Response and monitoring data is evaluated on a monthly basis and so far all commitments have been met in full.</p>
<p style="text-align:center">Cleansing</p>	<p>The new 'Zoned Collection Service' has now been operating for one month. Initial problems centered around the slow delivery of letters by Royal Mail. This was followed by a short period which saw 'pool' staff from across the service being allocated to assist crews and zones where tonnages were initially fluctuating greatly. This was especially prevalent in the south of the Borough.</p> <p>However, of the hundreds of thousands of collections made during the first month of the new system, some 98% of all collections have been undertaken as detailed in the calendars provided.</p> <p>The recycling contractor has also suffered initial collection problems, mainly due to resource allocation, but in a higher volume than that incurred by the in-house refuse collection service. This has been dealt with via contractual procedures and a performance deduction has been levied against the contractor in recompense for the at times poor performance. However, with four weeks passed since the introduction of the new system, the recycling collection levels have now returned to those delivered pre-christmas.</p> <p>The 'dry' recycling tender process has now closed, and all submissions are being evaluated by a number of Officers within the Council. The results will be communicated to Members in March with a recommendation to award the contract accordingly. The new contract commences on April 5th 2011; however, arrangements are in place to cover the period up to July 2011. This will allow adequate time for the expected mobilisation period, especially as it is envisaged that new equipment and machinery will be provided by any successful contractor.</p> <p>Street cleansing routines and schedules are currently being revised to reflect changes agreed by Members in relation to making necessary efficiency savings, with a full report of options due to be presented to Members in May. Staff currently 'at risk' within WNF funded posts and static toilet attendants are currently being given assistance by Corporate Personnel to be redeployed within the Council or being given special assistance to be re-trained or re-skilled for the external market place.</p>

<p>Catering Services</p>	<p>So far 2010/11 has proved to be a difficult year for Catering Services. An increase in food costs, coupled with the requirement to produce high quality food at the lowest cost possible, whilst also incurring the lowest possible overheads, has led to great pressure being brought to bear on both frontline service providers and service management. As the service moves into the final quarter, indications are that the tough financial targets imposed will all be met, as well as achieving the desired outputs in terms of staffing requirements and operational overheads.</p>
<p>School Crossing Service</p>	<p>In January one of Sefton's School Crossing Patrols won the Northwest "Lollipop of the Year" award. Parents, teachers and pupils were asked to vote for the Patrol that they thought was the best. Emily Jones, who covers Farnborough Road crossing in Southport, was the winner for the whole of the Northwest region. Emily was recognised for her hard work, determination and commitment to the community as a whole. She helps to keep the children and adults safe when crossing the road, and contributes to a safer environment for all. Pupils submitted pictures, poems and short stories to show exactly how much she is appreciated. She is held in such high regard that some children who have now moved to High School still go to school via this route just to keep in touch with Emily.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES

<p>Southport 'Operation Collar'</p>	<p>Weekend and evening enforcement activities for dog fouling and litter dropping offences have resulted in the issue of 71 fixed penalty notices being served for offences in the Southport Area Committee area. The "additional" out of hours enforcement activity over and above normal enforcement work was paid for by Southport Area Committee and targeted areas chosen by Ward Councillors as being problem hotspots. Of 381 dog walkers stopped 364 were carrying bags to clear up after their dogs. The remainder received a warning. Positive feedback was received from many responsible dog owners who were pleased to see more enforcement action at unexpected times.</p>
<p>Waste Strategy Development</p>	<p>Public consultation on the key themes for the Statutory Merseyside Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy is complete. The Regeneration and Environmental Services Overview and Scrutiny has considered the key themes that have emerged and endorsed the direction of the strategy. A formal draft strategy will now be produced for Merseyside wide consultation prior to being proposed for adoption by the constituent Councils by the end of 2011. The strategy focuses the direction of waste service development for each of the Merseyside Councils who collectively spend in the region of £100 million per year collecting and disposing of over 800,000 tonnes of household waste.</p>

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Cabinet Member Environmental