

**REPORT TO:** CABINET MEMBER – TECHNICAL SERVICES

**DATE:** 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010

**SUBJECT:** Highways Grounds Maintenance Contract

**WARDS** All

**AFFECTED:**

**REPORT OF:** Mike McSorley, Head of Regeneration & Technical Services

**CONTACT OFFICERS :-** D. Richardson Ext 4236  
Steph Prewett Ext 3485

**EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL:** No

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY:**

To seek approval to extend the current Highway Grounds Maintenance Contract for its final year option from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.

To update the Cabinet Member on the consultation with members about priorities for Highways Grounds Maintenance in their respective areas

To request that the consultation on other contracts which impact on an area are undertaken with members to inform delivery that is tailored to the needs of areas

**REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:**

To allow the continued delivery of grounds maintenance works through the existing term maintenance contract arrangements for a further twelve months

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member:

- (i) approve the extension of the Highway Grounds Maintenance contract for a 12 month period commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.
- (ii) note the involvement of members at an area level which has informed the approach taken and the merits of applying this approach to other contracts which impact on areas as set out in section 2.7 and Annex 1
- (iii) agrees to consultation with members at an area level on contracts which impact on an area to ensure that the service is tailored to need and not a one size fits all approach
- (iv) receive updates on performance of the contract which are informed by Member experiences in their area as well as formal performance management data from Capita

**KEY DECISION:** No

**FORWARD PLAN:** No

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010

<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:</b> There are no alternative options, other than retendering.
---

**IMPLICATIONS:**

**Budget/Policy Framework:** No Implications.

**Financial:** The contract rates have been renegotiated in the current competitive financial climate and are on a fixed rate basis which will also include the price fluctuation clause included within the contract and represent good value for money. The cost of the service will be kept within the available budget.

**Legal:** The Legal Director will be requested to extend the current contract with the existing contractor.

**Risk Assessment:** The Company is suitably experienced to carry out the works and financially viable.

**Asset Management:** The extension of this contract will ensure the continued delivery of highway grounds maintenance works which are required to safely maintain the highway asset.

<b>CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS</b> Member views are set out in
---

**CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:**

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities	√		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Environmental Sustainability		√	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People		√	

## **1.0 BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 The contract for the delivery of Grounds Maintenance work on the highway was initially awarded in April 2006 via Leisure Services to the current contractor Veolia for a three-year period with an option to extend for a further up to two-years.
- 1.2 Throughout the initial 2.5 year period the contract was managed wholly by the Council although there were deficiencies due to changing demands it has functioned reasonably well despite limited budgets.
- 1.3 During the contract period there have been fundamental changes within the Council the Housing Department was externalised and became One Vision Housing. This transfer involved numerous areas of land previously maintained falling between different maintenance contracts of Leisure Services, Technical Services and One Vision Housing all of who have differing specifications and expectations.
- 1.4 In October 2008 the Highways Grounds Maintenance Contracts were further subject to change when the contracts were transferred mid way through a financial year to the Council's new partner organisation Capita Symonds.
- 1.5 During this period (Oct 2008 to date) it has become apparent that there are deficiencies within the current arrangements as the volume of complaints to the Council direct and via elected members has increased significantly.
- 1.6 Deficiencies in specification and coverage have been coped with by using other maintenance funding to cover any shortfall when work has been necessary for Health and Safety reasons. However, this funding has been subjected to the expenditure freeze over the last 2 financial years.
- 1.7 This situation has now become more critical due to the financial crisis the Council has been subjected to and the funding utilised to manage for unforeseen circumstances has been subjected to a freeze over the last two financial years.
- 1.8 Capita have in recent months undertaken a major piece of mapping work in which all areas of land that are being maintained or not, being identified, its ownership being established, so that informed decisions can be made on the future of the current service provision.
- 1.9 The mapping exercise has in the main been substantially completed but the identification of land ownership for some areas is still outstanding. The Council's Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Department have now undertaken an extensive consultation exercise on a ward by ward basis which has been invaluable in gauging elected members expectations, opinions and concerns and the detailed results of this elected members

consultation are appended to this report in Annex 1. These are based on their in-depth knowledge of the areas and in some cases there are actions that need to be followed up and queries about land ownership which are being chased up.

- 1.10 This exercise in conjunction with the mapping has enabled the majority of areas of grass that is required to be cut to be more accurately quantified and the areas of shrubs and bushes to be identified for treatment in order to incorporate them into future arrangements that will make a noticeable difference in all the neighbourhoods across the Borough.
- 1.11 Negotiations with the current contractor are nearing completion to obtain a formal competitive offer in current financial conditions for these revised quantities so that we can undertake a radical improvement in the service provision in this final year of the current contractual arrangements.
- 1.12 This will give sufficient time to enable a full and comprehensive review of this service to be undertaken which will explore changes such as, grass cutting collection, edge cutting, grass height of cut adjustments, cutting frequencies changes, growth retardant spraying and weed control, however expectations will need to be managed so that the service can be kept within the available budget.

## **2.0 PROPOSALS**

- 2.1 Capita Symonds have acknowledged that the contractor's performance has been of concern throughout the contract period but believes that a large number of these concerns emanate from unrealistic expectations in terms of trying to deal with the large areas of land that were never included in the original contract and specification and insufficient budgetary provision to deal with the problems contractually via variation order.
- 2.2 Following protracted negotiations with the contractor it has now been agreed to vary the contract requirements in order to deal with a number of areas and issues not forming part of the original contract (eg shrub maintenance).
- 2.3 The offer for the final year option in the contract, which also includes the annual indexation under the GM87 provision, will offer a much better value for money.
- 2.4 On this basis it is proposed to make arrangements for a single one-year extension to be taken up and that the Contractor's overall performance be re-evaluated by continual review and monitoring prior to a re-tendering for a new contract to commence in 2011.

- 2.5 The negotiations have been undertaken on the basis of making the best use of the existing budgetary provision and have included potential changes in frequency of cut, increased areas of grass, potential for grass collection, edging treatments, additional areas of shrub maintenance and the use of a trial on selected areas of the use of a new growth retardant product to enable judgements to be made on future specifications.
- 2.6 The current contractor has made an offer to deal with the whole of the increased areas of grass cutting based around the existing circa two weekly cut as at present but limited to a maximum of 18 cuts in the year. In addition it is anticipated that the trunk roads and bridge embankments will be cut between 4 and 8 times per year subject to the growth retardant trial intended to be undertaken in the spring with the rough verge cutting in country lanes / low populated areas continuing at twice per year.

### **3.0 GENERAL OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION WITH WARD**

- 3.1 As stated above in para 1.10 each Area Committee has had the opportunity to discuss and put forward their views on how the last year of the current contract could work in their area. The consultation has been based on the fact that there are severe budgetary constraints across the Council and that additional resources are unlikely to be found to supplement the existing resource. **Members support on this issue has been absolutely invaluable to officers as they have brought real local insight to the process.** It has also highlighted that the consultation on this contract should be replicated across other contracts where they directly impact on an area to ensure that local knowledge can be used to help improve service standards.
- 3.2 The key outcomes from this consultation which need to be considered and built into the new contract going forward are specification:
- More effective contract management to ensure that the service specification is adhered to. The apparent lack of inspection has been highlighted as a major issue by most members
  - Move away from cuts based on length to frequencies. This will enable more effective inspection, but also mean that the resources can be used in a smarter way. This could mean that a contingency sum could be held back to deal with weather issues and the need for potential further cuts.
  - Ensuring that all sites including hedges are litter picked and dog fouling removed before cutting takes place (this will need co-ordination with Operational Services)
  - That sites continue to be litter picked outside of the growing season (this will need co-ordination with Operational Services)
  - Residential areas to be cut more frequently and to a higher standards than outlying areas and wherever possible the edgings to be done in residential areas and the cuttings taken away

- Better co-ordination of all contracts is needed so an area is done all at one time rather than contractors coming and going at different times – gives the appearance it is being done ad hoc (this will need co-ordination with other Departments and Partners)
- Information on frequencies to be shared with members so that they know when areas should be cut and can share this information with residents. Members have also expressed a desire to be the “eyes and ears” of the Council and be able to inspect the sites themselves if they know when the works should be done and to what standard.
- Less frequency of cutting of major highway routes where the main costs are caused by traffic management for health and safety reasons, rather than actual grass and hedge cutting. The investigation of grass growing retardants. (Formby bypass to be used as the pilot area)
- Alternative uses of areas currently grassed but used for parking. This links into work being undertaken by the Member/Officer Grass Verge Working Group. Other possibilities of turning areas of grass where suitable into wild flower areas, especially steep embankments.
- Consideration of the impact of not maintaining areas as several areas had become hotspots for anti-social behaviour and litter as a result

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 This revised offer in the sum of £543,017 for the final year of the Highways Grounds Maintenance Contract represents good value for money and can be contained within the total budget allocation for 2010/11.

#### **5.0 OVERVIEW**

- 5.1 Consultation at an area level with Members has been very helpful in informing the service requirements. The contract extension has re-defined the requirements to include as much of the feedback as possible within the existing budget.
- 5.2 A new contract is required for 2011/12 and the remaining issues raised by Members can be built into the revised service specifications and further member engagement will take place as part of this process.
- 5.3 It is suggested that the model of Member engagement used be adopted for similar service contracts in the future, as it enables local knowledge to be included in developing the service requirements with the benefit of better more focussed services.
- 5.4 Another key issue is the co-ordination of services: other grounds maintenance works in an area, letter picking and cleansing in order to provide a joined up service.

5.5 The cost of the highways grounds contract for 2010/11 will be within the allocated budget provision.

## **6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member:

- (i) Approve the extension of the Highway Grounds Maintenance contract for a 12 month period commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.
- (ii) note the involvement of members at an area level which has informed the approach taken and the merits of applying this approach to other contracts which impact on areas as set out in section 2.7 and Annex 1
- (iii) agrees to consultation with members at an area level on contracts which impact on an area to ensure that the service is tailored to need and not a one size fits all approach
- (iv) receive updates on performance of the contract which are informed by Member experiences in their area as well as formal performance management data from Capita

## **SOUTHPORT AREA COMMITTEE**

### **1. Ainsdale Ward**

#### **General Comments**

- Grass cuttings should be taken away wherever possible and especially in residential areas
- Areas for grass cutting need to be cleared of litter/dog fouling, prior to grass cutting.
- When grassed areas are cut, can the edges be included

#### **Specific Issues**

- Areas of Westminster Drive need to be in the contract
- Adequate maintenance needs to be given to Paddock/Moor Lane/Oakwood Drive
- Shrubbery on main road Southport Old Road needs to be maintained
- Small piece land corner Kendal Way/Coastal Road and near Moor Lane is never litter picked and needs to be.

### **2. Birkdale Ward**

#### **General Comments**

- Dog fouling and litter to be picked up before grass is cut
- Litter picking to be continued after growing season
- Frequency rates to be given to members and if practical published on the Council website for residents to check
- Inspection regimes should be robust

#### **Specific Issues**

- Page 3 check out road name as it is unadopted with no verges
- Abbey Gardens- check whether contract management is actually with Highways or whether it is Leisure Services
- Abbey Gardens path leading to Claremont - graffiti issues need to be resolved as well as cleansing, issue over ownership of walls
- Viking Close – need to check whether land belongs to Housing Association – potentially Vicinty- needs to be maintained
- Ashton Court – does grass actually exist there and if so whose responsibility is it needs checking
- Ensure that library site is maintained at the back of Canarvon
- Hillside and Lynton Drive at the top end the trees need to be maintained, other side on embankment look at whether the area can be an urban meadow type site. Southport AC had already paid £2k for this to be done and it has failed. Need to investigate why.
- Top area at Waterloo Road is not included and needs to be investigated further, contract responsibilities for roundabout need to be checked out.



- Norfolk Grove – check whether this is not a hard surface as opposed to grass
- Liverpool Road – need to establish alternative usage for some of verge for cycle facilities, busy route used for access to schools
- Hartley Crescent – strip of land need to establish ownership and maintenance
- Langsdale Gardens – strip of land that needs to be checked
- Olive Road at the end by Olive Lodge – at the left hand end there is a lot of unmaintained shrubbery which needs to be maintained
- Grantham Close – strip of land which needs to be maintained
- Shaftesbury Grove – unidentified on map but is in fact a private road
- Wellbeck Road leading to Acre Grove footpath – vegetation over-growing and needs to be sorted out , maybe an enforcement issue
- Lincoln Road and Shaftesbury Avenue – passageway needs cleansing
- Central Avenue – Liverpool Rd – sub station and cleansing and graffiti issues need to be resolved
- Rivington Close – area to be maintained
- Stanford Drive – check progress with planning application and the ownership of land around site.
- Broom Road – ensure that vegetation overgrown from old Christ the King playing field is dealt with

### **3. Cambridge Ward**

#### **General Comments**

- Frequency of cuts should be regularised and members informed of schedule
- Grass edgings to be done wherever possible
- Cuttings to be collected wherever possible
- Litter to be picked up before cutting and dog fouling removed
- Litter and dog fouling to be picked up all year round

#### **Specific Sites**

- Footpath 7 – Fleetwood Rd to (besides Stanley Rd High School) embankment needs attention. Need to check whether North Meols Civic Society can take it over on a licence and maintain it.
- Trees and grass maintenance issue Radnor Drive – Fleetwood – needs to be investigated further in terms of ownership
- Priority areas to collect grass cuttings up through Millers Pace- Seaton Way Estate and ensure litter picking throughout the year
- Trees need maintaining as overshadowing end properties at Salcombe Drive
- Similar issue at the triangle at Coyford
- Hesketh Rd – Coastal Rd embankment – ownership issue near Brooklands – needs to be sorted out with Estates
- Parklands embankment – Roe Lane Bridge meets Norwood Avenue – ownership issue needs sorting out with Estates

- Threllfalls Lane – opposite Windmill House – section of land needs ownership check and including on maintenance schedule if possible.
- Elswick Rd – issue of ownership and contract management between Council and One Vision needs to be resolved – note OVH contract standards superior to Highways Maintenance Contract specifically grassed area between houses on Preesall Close.
- Cut through Emmanuel Rd – triangle of land- need to check ownership either side of Equity Housing, these are large verges and potentially done by Equity
- Safety fence along Stanley Road school on Marshside Road - verge never cut – check out ownership and resolve maintenance
- Preston Road – need to check ownership issues
- North St/Court Rd corner regular maintenance required
- Hilbre Drive and Rawlinson Rd embankment needs regular cutting
- Old factory site running along golf course needs ownership and maintenance issues to be resolved – Hesketh Road

#### **Other Issues**

- Coyford – youth disorder consequence of over-hanging trees
- Bank – Sea Defence – RSPB base dog fouling and flytipping issue along here to be resolved
- Flooding issue road off Radnor Drive – Paul's Lane
- Parking issues along Links Avenue area and emergency vehicle access along Bellis Avenue – Ronnie Stafford to see if solutions can be found for these areas
- Area around Marine Lake and site next to Ocean Plaza in needs of maintenance. Litter issues here, plus need for tree maintenance on Marine Parade Bridge.

#### **4. Dukes Ward**

##### **General Comments**

- Dog fouling and litter to be picked up before grass is cut
- Litter picking to be continued after growing season
- Frequency rates to be given to members and if practical published on the Council website for residents to check

##### **Specific Issues**

- Focus on Worthing Close and Treesdale Close as main levels of complaints about lack of quality and inspection last year originated from these areas
- Queries raised about blue coded areas as these all looked like in private ownership on estates – esp Warren Court, Sunden Court off Beech rd, Beechfield Gardens, Prince Charles Gardens, Wells Rd
- Victoria Court – residents cut the grass themselves
- Biggotten Rd and Curton Row – need to establish who owns the land and then needs to be maintained

## **5. Kew Ward**

### **General Comments**

- Dog fouling and litter to be picked up before grass is cut
- Litter picking to be continued after growing season

### **Specific Comments**

- Main area that needs attention is Kew Estate – key issue is to get some clarification as to who looks after which pieces of land and ensure that standards are consistent.
- 61 Cheltenham Way and Folkstone Road land issue to be resolved and maintenance of it to be done
- Bentham Way- cycle path very overgrown and needs maintaining
- Town Lane site by hospital needs maintaining
- Scarisbrick New Road – issues of wooden blocks on grass mean that cutting needs to be tailored to make sure that it is done right
- Litter picking issue outside Kew Wood School
- Footpath at the side of Meols Cop school and KGB needs to be regularly weeded

## **6. Meols Ward**

### **General Comments**

- Inspection and overall contract management needs to be effective
- All areas should be litter picked and dog fouling removed before cutting
- Wherever possible grass edging should be done

### **Priority Areas**

- Kingston Estate
- Glencoyne Estate
- Preston New Road (Steph to investigate methods to resolve parking issues here. For example, trees and shrubs as used in areas of Maghull)
- Need to ensure that as the estates were open plan layout with low walls that we keep the verges neat and tidy

### **Investigate Alternative Usage**

- Land that was planned to be road as potential allotment site, part used for horses opp Bartons Close (Steph to pursue with Leisure Services)

### **Land Needing Further Investigation**

- Balmoral Road strip of land at the entrance to car park. Need to establish land ownership and contract responsibility, but ultimately to make sure that this is maintained by somebody ( Steph to investigate further)

### **Other Issues**

- Fencing Primrose Close – works to be programmed (subject to all budgets being available) at end of 2009/10. Works to be funded through Section 74, area mgt and Area Committee ward budget. ( Dave Richardson to keep members informed)

## **7. Norwood Ward**

### **General Comments**

- Dog fouling and litter to be picked up before grass is cut
- Litter picking to be continued after growing season

### **Specific Comments**

- Area over Sussex Rd Bridge needs maintaining. Hedge ownership and green space to right hand side in particular needs to be established
- Apple Grove, Shelley Grove, Hazel Grove all maintained to some extent by residents. Therefore, grass cutting not the issue, but litter picking is and this needs to be built into the contract. All of the Groves by the station need to be looked at as to what maintenance measures would be most effective.
- Morven and Beech Grove – land ownership not clear and shaded on the map, needs to be checked out
- Tithebarn –steep embankment and needs low level maintenance and litter picking to keep it to a reasonable standard

### **Other Issues**

- Graffiti issue by Meols Cop – needs to be resolved
- Level of 106 needs to be confirmed for activities for young people

## **FORMBY AREA COMMITTEE**

### **8. RavenMeols and Harrington**

- Suggestion that edging could be done once or twice a year
- Triangle in Duke Street
- Redgate – area behind houses, could this be bought by houses?
- Areas where there are main problems:
  - Triangle in Duke Street
  - Long Lane
  - Dobbs Gutter
  - 8 / 16 Acre Lane
- Beechwood Drive 2 areas of white with no shading colour require to be maintained if possible need to ask who owns them.
- The land to the rear of Alt Road, Kirkstall Drive adj Formby Bypass

- Check out the maintenance of land adjacent Formby Bypass to rear of Longfield, Mounthouse Close, Gardner Ave, Turnacre, Lingdales and Heather Close and the footpath to rear of School Trinity St Peters and Heatherways.

## **SEFTON EAST PARISHES AREA COMMITTEE**

### **9. Molyneux Ward**

#### **General Comments**

- Dog fouling and litter to be picked up before grass is cut
- Litter picking to be continued after growing season
- Effective contract inspection important
- Ward and Parish Members could offer support to inspect sites if they were supplied with frequency rates

#### **Specific Issues**

- Small section between Hayes Drive and Satinwood.- enforcement issue
- Section of land on Spencer's Lane, just over the motorway bridge on the left used by scrambling bikes, without the landowners permission
- Verges need to be maintained around the Alt/A59 traffic lights
- Litter picking of hedges before cutting is important on all major routes
- Footbridge at Bridge Road/Rutherford Rd needs attention

### **10. Park Ward**

#### **General Comments**

Dog fouling and litter to be picked up before grass is cut

- Litter picking to be continued after growing season
- Residential areas and at the side of main corridor routes to be

#### **Specific Issues**

- Whinfield Close – two stretches of land need attention
- 12 Meadway – fenced off piece of land potentially bought for industrial estate use – needs to be investigated
- Meadway – small little triangle of land – needs to be presentable-suggested cut four times a year
- Hedges and trees which may be privately owned on Lunt Road need to be cut back and if not done by the Council it is an enforcement issue
- Parkfield Grove – very overgrown
- Racecourse Road poor visibility and lower part of embankment needs to be maintained
- Land adjacent to Swing Bridge ownership issue to be resolved
- Path to Glenholme Road and shops needs smartening up
- Coppell Rd – quality of the cut by Council is poor compared to those undertaken by local residents and One Vision Housing
- Library site and maintenance of this a real issue to be resolved

- The Round Mead Estate – various quality of cuttings as some done by Maghull Town Council and some by Council. MTC quality better.
- Roundabout on Green Lane and hedging needs to be maintained. Hedge is prickly and needs regular litter picking
- Sandy Lane and Lambshear Lane – piece of land is used as a dumping ground and by first two houses tall shrubberies never get maintained
- Pathway from Coppull Road to Southport Road needs to be maintained
- Hedging on Green Lane and Shop Lane needs to be maintained
- Footpath from Aragon Close to The Boleyn - one side is resident owned fencing, but other side going down to sub station at the bottom is poorly maintained.
- Kenyons Lodge should be maintained as it is Council owned and has a prickly hedge attracting litter
- Between 9-13 Southport Rd sub station fencing panels broken and replacement needed
- Large piece of grass in middle of Haigh Crescent needs attention
- 211 Liverpool Road South – hedge ownership issue to be resolved. However, needs to be maintained and or enforced if in private ownership
- Passageway Liverpool Road South and Greenville Drive needs to be maintained
- Mannion Avenue – wide grass verge needs to be looked after
- Hall Lane at the bottom where it meets Jacksons Bridge needs to be maintained
- Maghull Sorting Office- perennial issue needs a co-ordinated approach to sort out.
- Footbridge over Northway needs to be maintained underneath the bridge.
- Manor House Close – needs to be maintained
- Sefton Lane – northern side difficult to walk along now due to hedges and undergrowth not being maintained
- Marshalls Close – grass which needs to be identified and maintained
- Sefton View needs cutting
- Junction of Hall Lane and Northway – new path only one way needs reviewing
- Lunt Road Bus Stop – needs enforcement, bushes overgrowing onto pavement
- Land opposite Great Mogul Station Rd. Hedges are not being cut and need cutting back past the canal
- Junction of Taylor Road and Station Rd bought for junction improvement by the Council, now not going ahead needs to be cut

## **11. Sudell Ward**

### **General Comments**

- All verges with trees and shrubs to be cut to a reasonable standard
- Dog fouling and litter to be picked up before grass is cut
- Litter picking to be continued after growing season
- Frequency rates to be given to members

### Specific Issues

- Highfield Park – small piece of land which is not maintained
- Deyes End Estate – houses front onto green – needs a site visit to look at alternatives to grass due to parking issues
- Mail Court- Northway – privately owned piece of land, but Council used to cut hedges back. Either council pick this up or enforcement action needs to be taken as it is an area with high levels of complaints
- Central Square – some areas are not maintained to the required standard
- Liverpool Road North – two cuts a year would be sufficient. It was suggested that this area could be planted up with daffodils and would reduce frequency of cuts and potentially parking issues
- Leighton Avenue opposite toilets piece of land which is neglected and attracts rubbish
- Northway – whole stretch with prickly hedges which attract rubbish. Complaints focus around the fact that the rubbish isn't currently removed from the hedges and when they are cut this is then shredded
- School Lane towards prison – cross over of Molyneux to Sudell ward where it joins M58 needs maintenance
- Corner of Moss Lane and Langdale – over hanging tree issue which causes youth disorder

## CROSBY AREA COMMITTEE

### 12. Blundellsands Ward

#### General Issues

- Better co-ordination is needed so an area is done all at one time rather than contractors coming and going at different times – gives the appearance it is being done ad hoc

#### Specific Issues

- **Map 19 – Cheyne Close** This would only need doing a few times per year
- **Map 19 Blue area on corner of Mariners Road and Burbo Bank Road South** This is paving flags and has a concrete pot with some weeds in it – flags will only need weed spraying
- **Map 19 Blue area on Nicholas Road near Gaywood Court** Need to identify what this is
- **Map 19 Merrilocks Road** Near Blundellsands Station there is a patch of grass at one of the exits – this has only recently started to be maintained but need to ensure that it is continued
- **Map 20 Abbotsford Road (green area)** This is down as Leisure's responsibility however the land has a house on it which has been sold on privately so this should be the responsibility of the new owner

- **Map 20 Blue area outside of the Crosby United Reformed Church**  
This is a verge that becomes overgrown (has a bench and a bin on it) – this needs to be included in a contract as Cllr Parry complains about it a couple of times per year
- **Map 20 Kenilworth Road Blue Area** These are steps that need to be weed sprayed
- **Map 11 The Serpentine Road North (junction with Warren Road) Yellow Area** This is sometimes left too long
- **Map 10 Manor Road** Grass verges outside the school – both sides of the road need to be done at the same time (problems arise when residents see one side of the road done and the other side done at a different time)  
The verges outside the school are being parked on and it is cutting up grass.  
The verges are not done well – contractors appear to drive on, drive around a bit and then leave
- **Map 10 St Michaels Road** One of the grass verges on the right hand side (approaching from roundabout) does not get done
- **Map 15 Yellow area opposite roundabout at junction Manor Road and Islington** This area is being maintained at the moment – need to identify by whom and it needs to continue
- **Map 15 Islington (junction with Coronation Road) outside Sandalwood** This area is forgotten about but needs to be included in a contract
- **Map 15 bottom of Manor and Ilford Avenue, by Manor Road** Quite a new piece of land and ownership is unclear but this is not being looked after – only looked after when Cllr Parry complains
- **Map 21 Brighton Vale Road, Brighton le Sands** Bottom of the road quite a new piece of land and ownership is unclear but this is not being looked after – only looked after when Cllr Parry complains
- **Map 21 Riverslea Road, Blundellsands** Bottom of the road quite a new piece of land and ownership is unclear but this is not being looked after – only looked after when Cllr Parry complains

### General Issues

- Better co-ordination is needed so an area is done all at one time rather than contractors coming and going at different times – gives the appearance it is being done ad hoc

### 13. Church Ward.

- **Map 4** – End of Great Georges Road, the path that runs to the centre of Marine Gardens always looks unkempt. This will soon be a busy area due to the Water Centre
- **Map 4** – General standard of pruning around the Town Hall is poor. The window boxes need replenishing and weeding on a regular basis



- **Map 4** – Greenbank and Park Terrace need to be maintained more often – ideally fortnightly. Residents are regularly dissatisfied
- **Map 14** – Sandy Road – poor maintenance of green area opposite the Claremont Pub. It would good to make this a pleasant feature – few plants etc as an entrance into Seaforth

#### **14. Victoria Ward**

- **Map 9** – Ascot Park (corner of Northern Road). Small trees being strangled by ivy. DR stated that whilst this was on the contract there is no budget available to deal with trees and he will see if Jerry McConkey can assist.
- **Map 18** – Victoria Park/ Somerville Road (opposite the park). There is a large section of land that is not being maintained and is currently overgrown. No ownership is indicated on the map – DR to investigate further.
- **Map 18** - Sefton View/ Brownmoor Close. There is a footpath leading to a school that is used by a large number of pedestrians, the grass verge and shrubs near the footpath are not being maintained.

#### **15. Manor Ward**

##### **General**

- Grass cut every 3 weeks residential areas and 6 weeks rural areas
- Grass cuttings collected around school areas to prevent students throwing grass
- Look at planting wild flowers in areas where the grass can be left to grow

##### **Page 6**

- Formby by Pass - is this area the responsibility of Lancashire City Council or Sefton's to maintain, as area is not being maintained to a high standard

##### **Page 7**

- Kerslake Way (blue area) on roundabout near St Stephens Church and the bank – think there may be volunteers who maintain these two areas
- The Roundway – there is a pathway just off The Roundway which is overgrown with shrubs
- Westway – Large area not being maintained but should be included in contract
- St Georges Road – Mersey Travel land near train station not maintained, need to speak to Mersey Travel about tidying area up

##### **Page 10**

- Sandy Lane (blue area) - area which runs along Sandy Lane this area is okay to stay as it is

- Moorhouses (blue area) –residents are trying to get a tree on this area of land
- Sandhills (blue area) – not sure if this area is grassed or concrete needs to be checked out
- Whitefield Close (blue area) –ownership of this area needs to be investigated further as Councillors think it may belong to the residents

**Page 12**

- Richmond Close (blue area) – think this area is maintained by residents but need to check
- Langley Close (blue area) – think this area is maintained by residents but need to check

**Page 13**

- Sandy Lane (yellow area) outside Cricket Club – this area is not being maintained but could be taken out of the contract
- Elmcroft Lane (blue area) at end of lane - leave this area as it is, does not need to be included in contract

**Page 18**

- Moss Lane, Little Crosby – Hedges overhang the walkway on the left hand side, need to be cut back also an issue with farmer not maintaining his hedges. Grass cutting needs to be on a 3 weekly cycle. Community Payback to possibly litter pick this area.

**Page 20**

- Little Crosby Road - area outside pensioner's bungalows, ownership needs to be investigated but area is not being maintained properly

**Page 24**

- Southport Road (blue area) – needs to be included in maintenance contract every 3 weeks
- Southport Road (yellow areas) – these areas are in the contract but are not cut very well - defective contractor issue
- Rothwells Lane/Lydiat Lane (yellow area) – these areas are in the contract but are not cut very well – defective contractor issue
- Virgins Lane (blue area) – ownership of this area needs to be investigated as think it may belong to the school
- Sefton Drive (blue area) – ownership of this area needs to be investigated as think this is a mistake and area may be owned by the resident

**Page 25**

- Long Lane – at the end of this lane near Homer Green Farm there is a grassed area which is overgrown, need to investigate ownership

**Page 31**

- Juniper Gardens / Bretlands Road (unadopted area) – needs to be added to contract, every 3 weeks
- OVH areas are not being maintained properly e.g Field Walk, Tanhouse Road, Stannyfield Road

**Page 32**

- Buckley Hill / Lydiate Lane (end of Brickwall Lane) – area privately owned but is untidy needs an order putting on it

**Page 34**

- Ormskirk Lodge (yellow area) - think this may be a mistake, think it may belong to the lodge not Sefton
- Virgins Lane opposite Moor Hey Plantation (yellow area) – this area is cut but badly, especially around the bench

**Page 36**

- Moor Lane outside Ramblers Society (blue area) – this area needs to be included in the schedule
- White Meadow Drive (yellow area) – look into possibility of OVH taking on this area as its in the middle of OVH housing

**Page 40**

- Hillary Drive (unadopted area) - needs to be added to contract, every 3 weeks
- Hillary Drive next to no. 47 – there is a grassed area which is missing from map which needs to be added

**Page 41**

- Runnels Lane (unadopted area) – ‘L’ shaped area needs to be added to contract, every 3 weeks

**Page 50**

- Redgate Avenue (unadopted area) – area needs to be added to contract, every 3 weeks
- Drummond Road (blue area) – footpath through to Rimrose Valley not maintained, bushes overhang. Needs to be added to contract.

**Flytipping Issues**

Long Lane / Homer Green

Lunt Road

Broad Lane

Gorsey Lane

Hightown Bends

Holgate

Masefield Road

Rothwells Lane

## LITHERLAND AND FORD AREA COMMITTEE

### 16. Ford Ward

- **Map 12 Purple areas** These are tarmac and so do not need maintenance but may require weed spraying
- **Map 14 Yellow area from William Wall Road to Green Lane** This is a pathway and so does not need to be under grounds maintenance but more likely to be highways maintenance
- **Map 14 Farm View (White Area)** Part tarmac with shrubs and trees
- **Map 14 White areas (Estate – Pankhurst Road / Richard Martin Road / Ebenezer Howard Road)** These are being maintained but ownership needs to be established. Need to identify what thick black line represents; some are marked purple and others are not – these are communal grassed areas
- **Map 14 White areas Kirkstone Road North** These areas are being maintained – responsibility needs to be established
- **Map 15 Field Lane Yellow areas** These verges are being used for parking (this is due to necessity), Could look at alternative surfacing options as verges being cut up (concrete / tarmac?)
- **Map 16 Sefton Road between roundabout and School Lane** Footway includes a grassed area which is maintained and there are no complaints – this is not marked on the map
- **Map 16 Church Road** Responsibility of Highways Agency but need to check who is responsible for the service road
- **Map 16 Roundabout Moss Lane / Kirkstone Road North** Need to identify why this is marked purple. Issues with the roundabout are the stone blocks on the roundabout that come loose – these need to be strengthened
- **Map 16 Purple areas Kirkstone Road North** Verges get parked on and get destroyed, need to look at alternative surfacing options
- **Map 16 Sefton Road / Gorse Lane** Verges along the road are being parked on and get churned up – need to look at options for alternative surfacing

### 17. Litherland Ward

- Bushes by the bowling green seem well maintained, but do face residential properties so should be regularly maintained.
- Bushes/ Shrubs on land by the Old Johnson site/ Pacific Pub is untidy and problems with litter (I will report litter to cleansing).
- Road with David Clegg Funeral Directors on the corner the grass verge and steps leading up to the dual carriageway, looked untidy.
- Verge near Bridge Road underpass (Beach Motors) looked ok in terms of grass length. There is an ongoing issues with the business owner parking cars on the verge but this should be resolved when a new bollard is installed in the near future.

- Verge just as you come out of the underpass into Beach Road – lots of dead leaves. Also some litter problems, which will forward to cleansing. The verge is close to housing and should be maintained regularly.
- Green space facing bungalows on Tattersall Road, looked fine but needs to be maintained regularly as the bungalows overlook the site.
- Jubilee Road (just after the underpass leading from Tattersall Road- back of the Red Lion Pub) a patch of wasteland with lots of weeds and litter (will report the litter to cleansing). The area facing this is also grassed and looks reasonably maintained, however, there has been a fire on the verge at some point and this has destroyed a large section of the grass. The area is not around houses but is passed by motorists and pedestrians.
- Verge just outside of the underpass on Sefton Street looked fine, but needs to be maintained regularly as it is directly opposite bungalows.
- Old Methodist Church Site Marina Avenue – the site is private and is currently being maintained to a satisfactory standard. D E has contact details should there be any future issues.
- Verge near houses facing St. Philips vicarage needs to be maintained to a good standard as close to properties.
- Verges by Walker Drive close to residential properties and will need to be maintained regularly.
- Melville/Springwell Road - large green space with grass and shrubs. This area is close to residential properties and will need to be maintained regularly.
- Captains Green at junction with Galsworthy Ave – grassed section that residents have to look at every day. This should be maintained to a high standard as it is overlooked by residents.

## **St OSWALD, NETHERTON AND ORRELL AREA COMMITTEE**

### **18. St Oswald and Netherton and Orrell Wards**

- Old Roan Estate – area opposite ASDA needs to be in a regular maintenance contract
- 3 traffic islands in Netherton and Orrell ward – edging needs to be done (as is done elsewhere)
- Grass verge edging is not done – in relation to highways grass would not push to increase frequency and would potentially be open to lengthening the frequency if edging could be done in compensation
- Issues around One Vision owned grassed areas
- Biggest source of complaints arises from Dunningsbridge Road – Highways Agency responsibility
- Sefton Estate – need to ensure co-ordination of contracts or passing over pieces of land to the contractor who offers best value for money and quality service. Edges of grass have been cut back and need to be maintained.

## LINACRE AND DERBY AREA COMMITTEE

### 19. Linacre Ward

- **Map 8 Seaforth Road (area through to Vine Place)** This area needs better maintenance
- **Map 11 Blue Area Marsh Lane** This was a grass verge that people used to park on so Area Committee paid for a small fence to protect it but now it is not being maintained. Resident next to the piece of land has complained a number of times – needs to be included in a contract
- **Map 11 White area corner of Marsh Lane and Rimrose Road** This is not maintained
- **Map 11 Blue Area Chaucer Street** This may be Highway Land
- **Map 11 Atlas Road** This has had planting of bushes and shrubs but these have been left and now look shabby
- **Map 11 Small Blue Areas** Area has various ownership (OVH / Private / Riverside) and so blue areas may be in various ownership
- **Map 12 Marsh Lane High Rise** Grassed areas are being left – OVH ownership?
- **Map 12 Irlam Road** Grassed area by Community Centre (OVH) has been tidied a bit but needs to be properly maintained. OVH supposed to be progressing a playbuilder grant for the site – this needs to be confirmed
- **Map 12 (plus others) – Various sites** Embankments around railway bridges are never maintained, are always untidy and full of rubbish (Network Rail?)
- **Map 12 White area corner of Capricorn Way and Marsh Lane (corner by housing)** This is never maintained
- **Map 12 Blue Areas around Chestnut Grove** This is Pier Head Housing – are the blue areas their responsibility?
- **Map 12 Blue Areas around Peter Mahon Way** This may be OVH responsibility
- **Map 12 Grassed area next to Asda** This area is unkempt and needs maintaining
- **Map 12 Carolina Street by bridge** Area needs maintaining (embankment – Network Rail?)
- **Map 12 Irlam Road White area between Strand Road and Marsh Lane** Piece of land next to Muncaster Pub (now derelict) which is not maintained and looks unkempt. There is a piece of land slightly further up which is maintained and so makes this look worse
- **Map 12 Area around Bank Road (area under the bridge)** This area is untidy
- **Map 13 Area between St Mary's School and Canal (at Back of Little Merton Pub) – U shaped green area backing on to Canal** This area is really badly maintained – needs looking at and tidying up
- **Map 13 Balliol Road between Pembroke Road and Oriel Road (outside baths)** Area is overgrown and full of litter – this needs tidying up as area is outside listed building and is main road so very noticeable to passing traffic

- **Map 13 Purple area corner of Exeter Road and Stanley Road** This land was bought privately with intention of turning it into temporary car park, however, when this wasn't allowed area was fenced and has been left
- **Map 13 Car park opposite Hugh Baird (corner of Balliol and Pembroke Road)** This has trees and shrubs around perimeter which have been left unkempt – need tidying up
- **Map 13 Purple area corner of Derby Road and Millers Bridge** Need to clarify the ownership of this and ensure it is maintained as it is a highly visible area
- **Map 18/20 William Henry Street / Douglas Place** Grassed areas are not maintained well (OVH land)
- **Map 20 Yellow area on Derby Road at corner of Douglas Place** This area is not maintained but is within the contract – this needs to be picked up

#### **General Comment**

- Would be happy for residential areas to be better maintained where these have a daily impact upon residents. Outlying areas could be left for a bit longer

#### **20. Derby Ward**

- No member comments received. However, officer assessment would be that Southport Road needs regular maintenance.