

**CABINET MEMBER – ENVIRONMENTAL
PORTFOLIO ISSUES – 15 APRIL 2010**

<p align="center">AIR QUALITY UPDATE</p>	<p>A Low Emissions Strategy Partnership of City Region authorities, led by Sefton has secured funding from DEFRA (£20,000 and 20 days of consultancy support) for the development of Low Emission Strategies (LES) within the Liverpool City Region. LES seek to use the planning system to implement a range of measures to help reduce emission of carbon and toxic air pollutants from transport associated with new developments, principally by promoting the uptake of low emissions fuels and technologies. The proposal includes: developing a LES planning policy guidance note agreed across the sub-region that can be developed into a formal Supplementary Planning Document (SPD); including LES within the next Local Transport Plan (LTP3); exploring whether offset contributions from new developments can be used to support additional funding for the introduction of low emissions buses; examining how LES can be used to minimise and control construction emissions; examining how LES can be used through taxi licensing to achieve a reduction in emissions from taxis; and examining how LES can be included in local authority sustainable procurement policies.</p> <p>DEFRA have also separately made £40,000 of additional Air Quality Grant funding available to Sefton, as follows: £10,000 contribution to the Low Emissions Strategies Partnership; £5000 to support the development of LES within Sefton; and £25,000 to support a proposed road-washing trial at the Air Quality Management Area near Millers Bridge, Bootle.</p>
<p align="center">PRIMARY AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP</p>	<p>The Environmental & Technical Services Department has been approached by Pontins with a request to enter into a Primary Authority relationship. A series of preliminary meetings have taken place with the company and a provisional agreement reached to act as Primary Authority for food hygiene. The Department's responsibility will be to advise Pontins on compliance with the law in relation to food safety across their entire estate. Inspection of individual Pontins' sites remains the responsibility of the local authority where the holiday park is situated, however, the local authority in question must be guided by any inspection plan we determine and must refer to us before taking any formal enforcement action in relation to food safety. The Primary Authority Scheme is being heavily promoted by the Local Better Regulation Office (LBRO) as an important element in delivering the Hampton principles of a risk-based, consistent, proportionate and effective regulatory system. Sefton is able to claim costs from a Pontins for work over and above that which would normally be undertaken at Pontins in Sefton. A charging regime has been provisionally agreed with the company. This is an exciting opportunity for the Department and if all goes well the arrangement could be expanded to gradually include other work areas such as food standards and health and safety.</p>
<p align="center">DRY MATERIALS RECYCLING CONTRACT – INTERIM AGREEMENT</p>	<p>In February 2010 the Council's Dry Materials Recycling Contractor went into administration. The appointed Administrators completed a sale of the Company's business and assets (but not the debts) to Palm Recycling Ltd and the Sefton service has continued to be provided by Palm Recycling Ltd and their subcontractor PD Logistics Ltd. To date there have been few disruptions to the service. Sefton is now seeking to confirm a short-term interim agreement for the continuation of the current service with Palm Recycling Ltd and their sub-contractor PD Logistics Ltd., for an initial period until 30th September 2010 with an option to extend by further 1 month periods.</p>

**Councillor D Tattersall
Cabinet Member Environmental - 15th April 2010**