

**CABINET MEMBER – ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**PORTFOLIO ISSUES – June 2010**

<b>Food Champion Award</b>	Sefton Council working in partnership with NHS Sefton has been short listed for a national award by the Food Standards Agency for its “Appetite for Life project”. The project addresses improving food hygiene, nutrition quality and oral health in child nurseries by adapting statutory food standards inspection programme to health related subjects. The project is a successful example of joint working that brings wider community health benefits from the delivery of a core statutory service and is being promoted by the FSA as an example of best practice.
<b>Love Food Hate Waste</b>	“Love Food Hate Waste” a nationally funded joint Merseyside food waste prevention campaign, lead by Sefton, was the main sponsor of the Southport food and drinks festival held between 13 and 16 May. Thousands of visitors received the Love Food Hate Waste message at the regional show based around common tips to help the food we buy go further. Over one third of food bought is thrown away costing the average family £50 per month with serious consequences for the environment and significant public costs through waste disposal – 20% of Merseyside’s 800,000 tonnes of household waste in Merseyside is food. The Love Food Hate Waste campaign will continue until March 2010 and aims to divert 10,000 tonnes of food waste from landfill disposal each year.
<b>Air Pollution Low Emission Strategies</b>	After being awarded National Beacon Status for our Air Quality work Sefton has been given additional funding from DEFRA to develop Low Emission Strategy guidance on a regional basis. LES in Sefton is exploring the development of a formal planning policy document, based on a carbon reduction approach that adopts measures to mitigate the amount of transport generated emissions resulting from development. Other work associated with the development of LES considers taxis, building and construction emissions and procurement to minimise emissions. A key work area is the inclusion of LES within Local Transportation Plan for Merseyside, which is currently being reviewed. Poor air quality is a significant cause of respiratory ill health nationally. Sefton has declared three Air Quality Management Areas where the levels of air pollution are of concern.
<b>Pontins Primary Authority Scheme</b>	A provisional agreement has been reached with Pontins to act as their National Primary Authority for food hygiene. The Councils responsibility will be to advise Pontins on compliance with the law in relation to food safety. There are currently five Holiday Parks nationwide. The arrangement will mean ensuring their systems, if followed, will assure 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 arrangement also gives the Council the opportunity to work more closely with and assist an organisation that propose to invest millions of pounds into the local economy.
<b>Revision of Street Cleansing Schedules</b>	Since the completion of Alternate Week Collection in late 2008, Cleansing Services have been grappling with the 'out of sync', street cleansing schedules. Allied to the need to update and refresh the operations (especially mechanical) on trunk roads, and coordinating with the current WNF resources the service is pump priming the whole mechanical operation (from existing resources) to provide a better all round mechanical cleansing operation. After long and detailed talks with the TU's phase 1 of the 3 phases, is almost ready to begin, this is a change to cleansing arterial (trunk roads), dealing with accidents and incidents, collection of fly tipped materials and re-organising the rear entry cleansing system to achieve greater flexibility.