

Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health, Waste and Recycling

17 April 2018

Waste and Street Scene

Performance has been good in view of the severe weather conditions encountered in February and March. Disruption to rounds was minimised and rounds returned to normal within the same week in the vast majority of cases. Some issues occurred as residents had placed bins out that were not due for collection however we are back to normal now.

Green waste collections resumed and licence renewal is currently running at 63% plus and approaching £500,000 this is a promising result and will only increase during March and early April. Reminders have been issued to encourage take up. The recycling credit from County has a stay of one year in place and will then be reduced to £25,000.

Route optimisation is ready to roll out but officers have taken the decision to delay this slightly so as to minimise the disruption of the public bank holidays and residents understanding of the new collection dates. It will be live in June. A Members' seminar is scheduled to ensure that Members understand any impact on their wards.

A joint response with North Yorkshire County Council regarding fly tipping issues has been issued as a press release reinforcing that it as offence and clearance contractors should hold the appropriate licence etc. We are investigating the purchase of further cameras as part of our enforcement policy.

Waste recycling has not seen any impact of the Chinese decision to withdraw from the market and prices remain buoyant. We have over a year to run on our existing contract so are in a strong position contractually at present.

Environmental Health

Performance is generally good but challenging in view of the resourcing issues. Recruitment is ongoing and a full complement of staff should be in place shortly.

Councillor Stephen Watson
Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health, Waste and Recycling