

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

14 December 2021

Waste and Street Scene

- **Garden waste:** Year 6 subscriptions will open in December 2021. To date as at 17.15pm on Thursday, 18 November 2021 income is £946,480 – 103.1% of year 4 income – providing 23,662 licences to 22,313 properties with 75.1% of purchasers self-serving.
- **Budgets:** Diesel prices have risen significantly in the last months, however, this has been offset by a significant increase in the re-cyclate prices being received.
- **LGR:** Lots of planning work is going ahead LGR, areas that are being looked at for waste include continuity of services, integrating services across the districts and issues around fleet management.

Environmental Health

- **Food:** Due to Covid food inspections were suspended for a year. However, the Food Standard Agency has guidelines to ensure that new and unregistered food business inspections are prioritised to ensure the safety of food and drink in Hambleton. This means that there has been a knock-on effect on the KPI performance for food inspections for A, B and C rated premises. This work will be caught up by the end of the financial year.
- **Covid:** the service continues to work with Public Health colleagues to manage local Covid outbreaks. Vaccination Centre moved to old Grammar school. Minor staff numbers affected.
- **New Management Information System:** development work is still ongoing with Civica, with a view to going live in March 2022.
- **LGR:** The service is preparing detailed plans for day one including food, residential and Safety Advisory Group work.
- **Air Quality:** New air quality monitors are being located around the district, but at present there are no issues with air quality anywhere in Hambleton.

Warm Homes Schemes: There have been two successful bids to the Warm Homes Fund and a total of £537,058 of funding has been obtained for a consortium between us, NYCC, Scarborough, Ryedale and Richmondshire. Within HDC this equates to 54 potential installs. Currently 38 installs of central heating or home insulation have been carried out. We are working with Communitas to install air source heat pumps - There has been a successful bid to the Warm Homes Fund and a total of £770,000 of funding has been obtained for the consortium. 15 have been installed in the HDC area.

ECO3 - Energy Company Obligation funding and ECO Flex Funding Measures include new boilers, cavity wall and loft insulation. 191 installations completed and work is ongoing. This equates to:

- 5112 tonnes of carbon reduction
- £1,662,323 Lifetime bill savings
- £386,401.91 Eco funding pulled in

We are also working with York City Council and other North Yorkshire Councils to ensure that effective enforcement work is carried out to improve the energy efficiency of the private rented sector. Properties must meet a minimum energy efficiency standard (MEES) of E or above.

- **Avian Flu:** An outbreak has occurred at Morton on Swale and work is being led by Public Health colleagues, at present there is no action for Hambleton however it is a very fluid situation and may change at short notice.
- **Climate Change Strategy**
- **Outreach:** developing the relationship with local community groups to start work engaging to improve communication, publicity and local action on environmental issues. Successful Electric vehicle day at Thirsk on the 6th November.
- **Queen's green Canopy:** A reminder to members to get in touch with Tracey Flint for their tree as soon as possible. The sooner your ward requirements are received the more likely that we will manage to catch the spring planting window rather than autumn.

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