

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

18 October 2022

Waste and Street Scene

Garden waste

Year 6 garden waste subscription- as at 24 August 2022 the income total is £946,080 – 99.5 % of year 5 income

Recruitment

Recruitment is underway for 5 waste operatives; this will ensure the resilience of the service for the immediate future.

Performance

Performance is strong with recycling at 53%.

LGR- Waste: An approach has been agreed where the minimum changes will be made to the service at day 1. A lot of work is going into establishing and measuring best practice, health and safety, branding, PPE etc. Work is being undertaken to ensure that web and phone customer access channels are seamless for customers.

LGR- Fleet: This sub-group is examining the best option for fleet renewal and replacement and maintenance, the preference being for owned vehicles and in-house maintenance at present. This area will merge with North Yorkshire County Council fleet operations. Vehicles will likely be rebranded, with vinyl panels displaying new logos etc.

Environmental Health

Food: Work is still underway to catch up with the high priority work as a knock-on effect of Covid, this work is well underway and targets are being met.

New Management Information System: The new system is implemented and will provide a strong platform going to LGR.

LGR: The service is preparing detailed plans for day 1 including Food, Residential and Safety Advisory Group work.

Avian Influenza

An outbreak has been recorded in the Easingwold area. NYCC Trading Standards Service are working with Animal & Plant Health Agency to undertake foot patrols of the protection zone (3km radius from the infected premises) to identify all poultry keepers in the zone. This task involves door knocking at every property (farm and residential), inspecting buildings, allotments, etc. At present there are no actions for Hambleton, but support has been offered.

Emergency Planning

The passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Following the sad announcement of the death of the Queen, council officers were able to follow well-rehearsed and meticulous plans for Operation London Bridge, or actions the Council needed to take following the death of the monarch. This was a complex task involving working with partners in town and village communities and many other agencies.

Officers from across the council including Environmental Health, Waste and Street Scene, Customer Services, Facilities, Communications and the PAs, were able to ensure that everything went as smoothly as possible and that Hambleton marked the death of the Queen in a dignified, respectful and professional manner.

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