

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2015

ENVIRONMENT

STREETSCENE SERVICES

1. As part of an environmental improvement programme within the Newport area Streetscene Services recently completed a highway improvement scheme which involved renewal of kerbing and footways and removal of redundant planters with a combination of new flags and block sets within Pelham Street, Portman Street, Percy Street, Palmer Street, Peel Street and the east side of Diamond Road, the north side of Princes Road and the south side of Garnet Street. The works started in June 2015 and were completed on schedule at the end of July 2015.
2. Following the forecast of heavy rain over the weekend of 22nd/23rd August the reactive maintenance team were on standby to manage any flooding events and successfully dealt with a flooding incident at the entrance to Stewarts Park on Dixons Bank and a further flooding incident at the junction of Croft Avenue/Cranford Gardens. The quick response on the evening of Saturday 22nd ensured that the highways remained open and no flood damage occurred to surrounding properties.

Parks

3. The trees in Stewart Park have been inspected at which time 6 large trees, mainly in the vicinity of the play area; have been identified as dead or dying. To ensure the safety of the public arrangements will be made to fell the trees in September 2015.
4. There are some social events planned for the end of the school summer break in both Stewart Park and Albert Park :-

Stewart Park

Crows Fun Fair will be open daily until 31st August 2015

The Farmers Market will take place on Sunday 23rd August

A Charity Fun Day for "Branches" will be taking place on Sunday 23rd August

Albert Park

Crows Fun Fair will be open daily from 26th – 31st August

The Xplorer Trail will take place on 27th August

5. The regular family favourites i.e. The Swan Boats, Roller skating, Fishing, Tennis plus many more activities are available every day.

WASTE POLICY TEAM

6. Starting in July and August recycling stickers were applied to all individual recycling bins placed out for collection. This will continue into September for any bins that were not stickered. Officers have a supply of stickers to address any bins that were not previously stickered. The stickers aim to highlight the materials that can and cannot be recycled by pictorial means as well as text. Waste Policy continues to visit residents who have queries regarding their recycling and refuse collections, providing them with information and assistance.
7. We have recently produced the new refuse & recycling calendars for 2015/2016. The calendars run from August 2015 to July 2016 (inclusive). The new calendars can be found on the Council's website.
8. We attended several events during the summer, promoting recycling within Middlesbrough and educating the residents of Middlesbrough with what can and cannot be recycled within their recycling bins. The most recent events being The Cleveland Show in Stewart Park and Belle Vue Community Fun Day on 29 July.

ENFORCEMENT TEAM

9. Following the discovery of some tipping of commercial waste at one of the Council's Bring Sites, Enforcement have recently carried out an interview with the owner of a takeaway food outlet. Investigations continue.
10. Recently there has been an increase in the number of abandoned vehicles within Middlesbrough. Enforcement have responded and several vehicles have been removed from the streets.