

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL OCTOBER 2016

Environment Services

1. Middlesbrough Schools Catering Service is celebrating achieving Gold Food4Health Award which is a reward for its commitment to promoting health through nutrition in Middlesbrough schools. This is the 2nd award that Middlesbrough Schools Catering Service has achieved. The Food4Health Awards scheme is an initiative created by Middlesbrough Council's Improving Public Health Service to help local food businesses to meet consumer demand for healthier foods and to raise awareness of the need to have a healthy diet
2. Due to concerns over the health of some of the fish in Albert Park during a routine water check, fishing was temporarily suspended. Investigations revealed that there was an outbreak of KHV (Clinical Disease) of which has now been resolved and fishing in Albert Park has now recommenced
3. The contract for the collection of office waste from 65 Council buildings is now back 'in-house' and will cover the removal of waste from all Council Buildings. This service includes emptying over 100 containers from a variety of buildings ranging from town centre buildings to outlying community hubs and libraries.
4. 'Clean up's' have taken place following several major events including the Colour Run held at Stewart Park and the Town Meal in Centre Square, regular cleansing works are also undertaken following the monthly Orange Pip Market which, due to its success, has now expanded into neighbouring Bedford Street.
5. The enforcement team now have some new signage to tackle issues such as littering, dog fouling and fly tipping which are of triangular design and will be placed onto lamp posts. Ideally the signs stay in the area that is experiencing the problem(s) for a several weeks in order to help address the issue that has been highlighted to the team.
6. Green waste collections in Middlesbrough are to continue for an extra month. The fortnightly collections will now run until the end of November in response to warmer temperatures and a longer growing season. Residents are reminded that green bins are for loose, unbagged garden waste only - grass trimmings, plants, flowers, branches etc – and should not be used to dispose of other items such as soil and rubble. Any material left at the side of the green bins will not be removed; green sacks used previously and other sacks and containers will not be collected. Residents should refer to their calendar for remaining collection days from the current schedule; while additional information on the extension will be added to the Council's website in due course. Garden waste can also be disposed of at the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Haverton Hill.

7. Middlesbrough Council has been recognised for a huge improvement in its recycling performance in the annual Recycling Carbon Index. Climbing an impressive 35 places, Middlesbrough was ranked in the middle of the 'Mid Performer' section of the index for 2014/15 – a big leap forward up from its position as a 'Poor Performer' the previous year. Middlesbrough is now saving a total of 63kg of CO2 per person, an improvement in carbon savings of 40% as a result of adopting a new collection system in 2014.

8. The Supervisor at Teesside Crematorium was named as "Runner Up" in the national Good Funeral Awards Ceremony 2016's Crematorium Assistant of the Year category, after being nominated in the category by independent funeral director Colin Liddell for what he described as "quiet efficiency" and an "excellent quality of service". The Good Funeral Awards Ceremony was held at Porchester Hall in Bayswater, London, and celebrates excellence in the funeral industry. Mr Liddell presented the certificate at the Crematorium on 16th September.