

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL Wednesday 29th March 2017

1. **Asset Management Accommodation Strategy - Central Campus**

The interim proposal plans devised by Asset Management for the decant of Vancouver House have now been approved by LMT. The process involved meeting with the effected service area managers and understanding their operating and accommodation requirements. The next step is to produce a project plan, set up an accommodation project team, who will meet with the service areas to progress the moves.

The new customer centre to be located in Middlesbrough House and Children services Contact centre at 154 Borough Road are due to open Mid-April 2017. The Civic Centre Municipal Buildings will be home to all other employees. The plan has strong links to the agile working strategy, with phase one completed in February 2017, with the wider plan being rolled out across the council

2. **Area Care**

Extensive amounts of fly tipping were found to the rear of Thorndyke Avenue and Fulwood Avenue on the 8th February 2017. This area of land is Council owned however, sits to the rear of a number of privately owned properties, and properties owned by 13 Group/Erimus. Limited evidence was found on site however Enforcement Officers are carrying out the appropriate investigations to try to identify the persons responsible. Area Care provided extra resources and cleansed the area on the 8th February.

The street trough outside Captain Cooks Car Park has been re-planted with decorative shrubs and plants and two large new planters have been placed either side of the entrance to the Civic Centre on Centre Square both containing decorative confers and flowering plants and heather.

To prevent occurrences of fly tipping at the Newport Bridge/Riverside site bollards and boulders have been placed on site to block vehicle access. The remaining boulders will be installed by week commencing 20th March 2017.

3. **Bereavement Services - Memorial Service on Sunday 19th March**

The first of four memorial services to be held in St Bede's Chapel this year at Teesside Crematorium, took place on March 19th.

Bereavement Services publish details of these services and post invitations to all families who have had recent funeral services at Teesside Crematorium, however the services are all open to all who want to remember a loved one. During the service the names of the deceased, who wish to be remembered by those present, are read out by the minister. 3 hymns and 2 readings conclude the 45 minute service.

Services start at 3pm and each Memorial Service is conducted by a different church minister. The service on Sunday was conducted by the Reverend Hugh Sperring

Dates for the remaining services in 2017 are:

- 18th June
- 17th September
- 17th December

4. Thorntree Cemeteries

The TS One Community Group, working with the Friends of Thorntree Cemeteries and supported by Middlesbrough Council's Environment, Property Services and Commercial Department held their 'Tees Valley Green Day' event.

The event, running from 1:30pm until 3:30pm on Sunday 19th March, was aimed at supporting the work done in Thorntree Cemetery and Thorntree RC Cemetery to make them both nicer places to visit. Those attended were planting hedges; tending to the edges of the burial sections and generally improving the environment. This will benefit the local community and those who visit the sites on a regular basis. In addition, the young people from the group to get the opportunity to learn the importance of working together, giving something to the community through volunteering and getting some fresh air and exercise too.

5. Waste Services

Residents will have seen the new Recycling & Refuse Collection Calendars dropping through their door and also tags on their refuse bins informing them of their new collection day. The new rounds are due to commence on Tuesday 4th April 2017. The round review will see an improvement in the quality of service while also ensuring that the rounds are as efficient as possible. This will be achieved as the crews will work in a closer geographical area.

6. Waste Policy

The Councils Recycling Reward Scheme has continued with 4 lucky residents being rewarded for recycling with a £50 shopping voucher for the Cleveland Centre. Residents are reminded that to have a chance of winning all they need to do is present their recycling on time, on the correct day and ensure their recycling bin is free from any incorrect items.

Reminder that green waste collections will resume on Tuesday 18 April – residents should consult their new refuse and recycling collection calendar for their collection day.

7. Pest Control

The Pest Control department continues to support Community Councils by attending meetings to address problems with various pest issues. The department has also been assisting Councillor David Coup in the Stainton ward, Linda Lewis in the Central ward with issues caused by pests.

8. Cleaning Services

121 members of cleaning staff have completed the level 1 practical cleaning skills Q.C.F (Qualifications and Credit Framework). This gives our cleaning staff a recognised qualification, these are the first staff to gain this qualification and we are continuing to roll this training out to our other staff over the coming year. Our staff are very important to us and by investing in them gives us a much focused workforce.

9. Property Services

Property Services are carrying out minor works to the front facades of Borough Road shops. This is a 'tidy up' of the tenants' front facing properties, linked with University hoarding on Borough Road to give visitors a brighter perspective when travelling into Middlesbrough.



The Middlesbrough House refurbishment is on target to complete by the end of March.

Property Services are also working on the refurbishment of 154 Borough Road to move contact centre from Vancouver House Children Services. External decorations and the install of fibre cable for IT services are currently taking place.