



OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

23 AUGUST 2011

ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

- PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) with an update on the work of the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the updated position.

BACKGROUND

3. Since the last update to OSB, the Environment Scrutiny Panel has met twice, on 1 and 15 August 2011. Details of reports and information submitted to those meetings are set out below:
 - a) **1 August 2011 - Update on Recycling in Middlesbrough:** The scrutiny panel was updated on progress made in respect of the recommendations that were made following its 2010 review of recycling. Information was submitted in respect of:
 1. Current recycling levels following introduction of the Council's new recycling contract in April 2010.
 2. Lobbying for the inclusion of recyclable materials from the energy from waste plant in recycling levels.
 3. Recycling of paper, glass, cans etc. from Council buildings.
 4. The updated position following the earlier review of Middlesbrough's recycling 'bring sites'."

b) **15 August 2011 - Pavement Repairs:** The scrutiny panel began investigation of this new topic with an overview/introduction on the subject. Information was submitted in respect of:

1. The Council's legal duties and responsibilities regarding footpath repairs.
2. Current reporting systems and procedures.
3. Performance standards/best practice - including preventative maintenance vs reactive repairs.
4. The scale of the repairs problem - including implications of the current budget position.
5. Levels of insurance claims and whether these are an issue locally.

COUNCILLOR BOB KERR

CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

Contact Officer: Alan Crawford
Scrutiny Support Officer
Legal & Democratic Services
Telephone: 01642 729707 (direct line)
e-mail: alan_crawford@middlesbrough.gov.uk