

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 8 (d)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

8 JANUARY 2013

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 report to OSB, the Environment Scrutiny Panel has met once, on 3 December 2012.
4. At the above meeting, the panel considered an update on the issue of fly tipping. OSB had asked the panel to examine the issue following a request from a Council Member. The Councillor had suggested that, following the introduction of charges for the collection of junk jobs, levels of fly tipping have been on the increase.
5. The scrutiny panel heard that monitoring undertaken since the introduction of junk job charges shows that, overall, there has been a 7% reduction in reported fly tipping in the previous 12 months. However, there has been a slight increase in fly tipping in two Council Wards, where the position will continue to be monitored. It was noted that fly tips are normally removed within 24 hours of being reported and that income from junk jobs is projected to meet its £30,000 target for 2012-13.

6. The panel suggested that, where possible, and in order to keep fly tipping incidents to a minimum, all free disposal methods for bulky waste (eg civic amenity site, collections by charities, internet sites and rag and bone men) should be publicised.
7. In addition to the above, a representative of South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust attended the Environment Scrutiny Panel's 3 December 2012 meeting. Information was provided regarding the panel's investigation of environmental awareness, energy and carbon reduction in local public bodies.
8. A draft final report on the panel's findings on this topic will be submitted to the panel's 7 January 2013 meeting.

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