

Report of the Director of Environment & Sport to the meeting of Bradford South Area Committee to be held on Thursday, 25 July 2013.

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Subject:

Street Cleansing - Devolution

Summary statement:

This report provides further information with regards to the devolution of Street Cleansing services and includes specific information relating to:

- Street Cleansing service delivery plan
- Finance
- Performance
- Involving citizens in service delivery
- Opportunities and challenges for the service

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Environment and Waste Management



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1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides further information with regards to the devolution of Street Cleansing services and includes specific information relating to:

- Street Cleansing service delivery plan
- Finance
- Performance
- Involving citizens in service delivery
- Opportunities and challenges for the service

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 A report "Street Cleansing. Devolution to Area Committee" (Document AE) was presented to Bradford South Area Committee at the meeting held on Thursday, 22 November 2012. This report outlined the basis on which the Bradford South Area Committee would take responsibility for the service. The Area Committee resolved:

(1) That the proposed devolution of street cleansing decision making to the Area Committee outlined Paragraph 2.8 of Document "AE" be noted and welcomed.

(2) That the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator programmes papers to enable Area Committees to consider the details of street cleansing and how they may be able to shape the service.

2.2 Service Planning

2.2.1 The Service Plan for 2013/2014 is shown in Appendix 1 which includes key goals for this financial year. District wide efficiency savings required from the Street Cleansing Budget for 2013 /14 is £320,000 which in future years will have a full year impact of £530,000. This has required reductions to the mechanical sweeping operation which will impact on the current working pattern.

2.2.2 Currently the mechanical sweeping operation works a shift pattern that operates seven days a week from 5.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. every day with the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

2.2.3 Changes will mean that in future the service will operate from 6.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Monday to Friday and with a skeleton crew operating from 6.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon at weekends. The weekend priorities will be the main town and village centres. It is the intention to implement the new changes early August this year.

2.2.4 With the reduced mechanical sweeping hours the frequency of cleaning for areas and methodology will need reshaping. The priority for the Street Cleaning this year therefore will be to prioritise areas for cleaning to maintain current performance which will require significant planning from the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator's Office in partnership with the Area Committee.

2.2.5 The Clean Teams element of the Service has not been affected by the current efficiency savings and therefore their deployment is as described in the report "Deployment of Street Cleansing – Bradford South" (Document J) presented to Bradford South Area Committee at the meeting on 28 June 2013.

2.3 Finance

2.3.1 The table below shows the total budget for Bradford South Area Committee and District comparators for 2013/14 and this takes into account the part year effect for the reduction in the mechanical sweeping resource.

Street Cleansing Devolved Budgets 2013-14

Area	Emps	Premises	Transport	Supplies & Services	Income	TOTAL
East	573,000	13,900	219,200	29,000	-10,300	824,800
Keighley	584,200	14,100	223,400	29,600	-10,500	840,800
Shipley	503,200	12,200	192,400	25,500	-9,000	724,300
South	553,500	13,400	211,700	28,100	-9,900	796,800
West	581,400	14,100	222,400	29,500	-10,400	837,000
TOTAL FOR AREAS	2,795,300	67,700	1,069,100	141,700	-50,100	4,023,700

Future reports will include further breakdown by Ward in Bradford South

2.4 Cleanliness Monitoring

2.4.1 The service conducts regular surveys of each Ward to establish a local snapshot of environmental indicators for performance management purposes. The grading methodology is derived from the former NI 195 indicator and the sample selection process has been adapted to specifically suit Ward based surveying. Details of the monitoring methodology is available on request.

2.4.2 Each Ward has approximately six to eight priority streets which are graded every month. These are areas of high pedestrian footfall, main roads or retail areas. In addition the monitoring officer will select another seven to nine streets before undertaking a survey.

2.4.3 Grades for litter, detritus, graffiti, fly posting and weeds are awarded as follows:

- A None present
- B+ Almost clear
- B Some present but not below acceptable standard
- B- Part of street falls below an acceptable standard (half-fail)
- C Street falls below acceptable standard
- C- Very poor condition
- D Street is completely affected

2.5 Performance

2.5.1 Appendix 2 shows the performance in terms of measured cleanliness with regards to litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting and compares the period of May to June 2011/12 to the corresponding period in 2012/13. The report also shows the numbers of fly tipping reports and requests for service over the same period.

- 2.5.2 These indicators give an overall picture of the cleanliness of a Ward and serve as early warning signs for specific problems. They can also act as a tool to facilitate moving resources around to target problematic areas.
- 2.5.3 In terms of litter, the percentage fails for 2012/ 13 dropped from 14% to 10% when compared to 2011/12. Significant improvements in Great Horton and Tong Wards indicate that although levels of litter are still relatively high the service is moving in the right direction. Detritus (silt in channels) levels remain unchanged across the area whilst improvements in Graffiti and fly posting show a decrease from 4% to 2% and 2% to 1% respectively.
- 2.5.4 Street Cleansing reports by the public have also reduced since last year from 911 to 794 with Tong in particular showing a marked improvement. Reports from Great Horton have however increased slightly.
- 2.5.5 Fly tipping reports across the area overall have remained broadly the same with a slight reduction on last year.

2.7 Involving citizens in service delivery

- 2.7.1 A number of schemes are currently in place which involves citizens in service delivery. These include:
- Cleansing Days of Action
 - Junior Litter Clubs
 - Probation work (requests from community groups)
 - Reporting environmental issues to 431000
 - Community Engagement activities
 - Dog fouling initiatives

2.8 Identifying opportunities and challenges

- 2.8.1 In terms of challenges the budget reduction on mechanical sweeping will have resource implications, particularly in the leafy season. Changing the way we work and improving efficiency with the remaining resource will be crucial if we are to maintain current service levels. Management is currently considering a number of strategies to address this e.g.:
- More disposal sites to reduce downtime on tipping
 - Drivers taking ownership of wards
 - Using water standpipes instead of returning to depot
 - Improving data on cleanliness of specific land classifications and adjusting routes accordingly
- 2.8.2 Fleet downtime is a particular problem presently with vehicles off the road for repairs and maintenance. Management is currently reviewing types of vehicles and the number of years they are purchased over to provide the most efficient and economic fleet. It is anticipated that the new patterns of working will lead to a reduction in vehicle downtime.

2.8.4 There are also a number of opportunities and prospects for the service including:

- (i) Increased apprenticeships and work placements providing additional support for the service and providing young people with NVQ2 qualifications and the possibility of full time employment.
- (ii) A new contract with the Probation Service for offenders to work on specific projects and streamline with Justice Seen Justice Done and ward officers.
- (iii) Continuing partnership with B works, a social business that supports long term unemployed people back into work through on the job training, focussing on snicket clearing and repainting litter bins.

2.8.5 Improved intelligence and data systems to provide Cleansing Managers and Ward Officers with effective ICT reporting mechanisms to identify hot spots and target priority areas.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 None

4. OPTIONS

4.1. The Area Committee has the option to redirect Street Cleansing resources within Bradford South Area.

4.2 As a devolved service the Area Committee has the option to have significant input into shaping the service particularly when developing Ward Plans.

5. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

5.1 The level of resource delegated to Area Committees is within existing budgets for 2013/14 as agreed at Full Council. Bradford South has an overall Street Cleansing budget of £796,800 for 2013/14. Comparators for other areas is shown in 2.3.1.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

6.1 The reduction in the budget in 2013/14 may have implications for the cleanliness of Bradford South in terms of litter and detritus which could impact on the levels of reports and complaints to the Council.

7. LEGAL APPRAISAL

7.1 Legal Services have been consulted and have not raised any major issues

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

8.1.1 The Street Cleaning Service provides coverage and support for all residents and visitors to Bradford South Area Committee decisions will need to be made in line with Equal Rights legislation. This will require the Area Committee to assess the

potential equality impact of decisions.

8.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

8.2.1 No significant implications. However in terms of waste collected Street Cleansing teams always separate and recycle materials where it is practicable to do so. In addition increased local decision making has the potential to create more sustainable solutions to local issues.

8.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

8.3.1 Street Cleansing Teams continue to divert waste away from landfill by recycling as much waste as possible to reduce methane and carbon dioxide emissions.

8.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.4.1 Increased local decision making has the potential to improve community safety through more closely addressing local priorities.

8.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

8.5.1 None specific.

8.6 TRADE UNION

8.6.1 Management continue to meet with the trade unions with regards the Street Cleansing service and in particular with regards the restructuring of the mechanical sweeping service and the redeployment of staff.

8.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

8.7.1 The information in this report is relevant to all Wards within Bradford South.

8.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS

8.8.1 An increased level devolution of the services will enable the Area Committee to further address local priorities for those services.

9. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

9.1 There are no not for publication documents.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the Committee notes the update and progress of Street Cleansing services with regards to devolution.

10.2 That a breakdown of funding by Ward be brought with the next report to this Area Committee.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1- Street Cleansing operational plan 2013/14

11.2 Appendix 2 – Performance Monitoring and requests for service

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 “Devolution to Area Committees” (Document AG), Report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Sport to the Council Executive, 9 October 2012.

12.2 “Devolution of Council Service budgets and responsibilities to Area Committees from 2012-13 onwards” (Document U), Report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Sport to the meeting of the Council Corporate Governance & Audit Committee, 5 October 2012, Devolution to Area Committees

12.3 “Devolution to Area Committee - Street Cleansing” (Document AE), Report to Bradford South Area Committee, 22 November 2012.

12.4 “Deployment of Street Cleansing – Bradford South” (Document J), Report to Bradford South Area Committee, 28 June 2013.

STREET CLEANSING OPERATIONAL PLAN 2013/14 - BRADFORD SOUTH CONSTITUENCY

1 Key Objectives

To maintain cleanliness across Bradford South to 2012 / 2013 service levels.

To review Health and Safety risk assessments and procedures across all services including rigorous audit inspections.

To undertake a full review of the mechanical sweeping operation and introduce new routes.

2 Significant Achievements in 2012/13

Litter, detritus, graffiti, fly tipping and fly posting kept to a minimum.

Successful community clean up campaign completed.

Secured funding for apprenticeship/work placements.

Amalgamated Street Scene successfully into Neighbourhood Service e.g. ward teams set up including wardens and cleansing staff.

Health and safety and on the job training completed for all Street Cleansing staff.

Community pay back scheme with Probation continued.

Health and safety audit completed and working procedures reviewed and in place for all areas of operation.

Successful bonfire operation.

Work closely with gritting teams to provide additional cover for Highways when Street Cleansing is suspended.

Liaising with Parks to streamline service operations.

3 Key Service Goals for 2013/14

Goal for 2013/14	Target Date	Progress	Concerns / delays and risks, and actions to address
Prepare for major downsizing of mechanical fleet	Aug 2013		
Fully implement routing in mechanical sweeping in Bradford South	Dec 2013		
To Plan all central reservation cleaning and set up in-house Traffic Management Team for Street Scene e.g. for central reservation work	Sept 2013		
To plan and route all minor islands and introduce multi tasking teams.	Sept 2013		
Drill down performance management information to the workforce.	Aug 2013		
Review all risk assessments and procedures and train with staff.	Apr 2014		
Utilise Probation teams in priority areas.	N/A		
Continue to recycle mechanical sweeping waste.	Ongoing		
Initiate closer links with Police, Fire Service, BCHT, Probation Service and Health Trust through WOTS to achieve a Cleaner, Greener, Safer Community strategy.	Ongoing		
To ensure close contact with City Centre Managers.	Ongoing		
Maintain current service levels for litter, detritus, graffiti, fly tipping and fly posting	Ongoing		
Ensure clear strategy is in place to deploy resources for the grass cutting season in conjunction with Parks in terms of before and after 'cutting'.	March 2013		
Ensure wards are programmed to the NI survey.	April 2013		

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

Litter Fails

Ward	% Litter Fails 2011/12	% Litter Fails 2012/13
Great Horton	27	20
Queensbury	7	5
Royds	5	6
Tong	27	16
Wibsey	13	9
Wyke	4	4
Bradford South	14	10

Detritus Fails

Ward	% Detritus Fails 2011/12	% Detritus Fails 2012/13
Great Horton	5	5
Queensbury	2	2
Royds	1	1
Tong	3	1
Wibsey	2	3
Wyke	4	5
Bradford South	3	3

Graffiti Fails

Ward	% Graffiti Fails 2011/12	% Graffiti Fails 2012/13
Great Horton	3	4
Queensbury	2	1
Royds	6	2
Tong	5	2
Wibsey	4	1
Wyke	7	3
Bradford South	4	2

Fly Posting Fails

Ward	% Fly Posting Fails 2011/12	% Fly Posting Fails 2012/13
Great Horton	9	7
Queensbury	0	0
Royds	1	0
Tong	0	1
Wibsey	1	1
Wyke	0	0
Bradford South	2	1

Street Cleansing Reports

Ward	Street Cleansing Reports 2011/12	Street Cleansing Reports 2012/13
Great Horton	199	250
Queensbury	115	101
Royds	88	94
Tong	272	128
Wibsey	150	143
Wyke	87	78

Bradford

South 911 794

Fly Tipping Reports

Ward	Fly Tipping Reports 2011/12	Fly Tipping Reports 2012/13
Great Horton	175	182
Queensbury	78	53
Royds	132	141
Tong	279	242
Wibsey	160	142
Wyke	70	99

Bradford

South 894 859