

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford West Area Committee held on Thursday, 26 November 2020 in <https://bradford.public-i.tv/core/portal/hom>

Commenced 6.05 pm
Concluded 8.10 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR
Ahmed
Akhtar
Amran
Engel
Kamran Hussain
Mohammed
Nazir
Thirkill

COUNCILLOR AMRAN IN THE CHAIR

43. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

44. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

45. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

46. OBJECTIONS RECEIVED TO THE TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER FOR WAITING RESTRICTIONS ON VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BRADFORD WEST CONSTITUENCY

The Interim Strategic Director, Place, presented a report (**Document “A”**) which considered objections to proposed Traffic Regulation Orders on various roads in the Bradford West Constituency.

The Principal Engineer was present and with the invitation of the Chair, he explained that at a previous meeting of this committee, as part of its Safer Roads Programme, a scheme to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order on various roads throughout the Bradford West Constituency was approved. The Order then had been promoted to resolve a number of requests for small areas of existing waiting restrictions to be amended or new restrictions to be introduced. Requests have been raised by ward members or local residents and businesses that had experienced problems with on street parking, gaining access to premises or parking for customers.

Following amendments, a Traffic Regulation Order was formally advertised between the 14 August 2020 and 11 September 2020. At the same time consultation letters and plans were posted to residents and business affected by the Order.

Resolved –

- (1) That the Traffic Regulation Order be modified to reduce the length of the prohibition of waiting Monday to Friday between 6am and 5pm on Birch Street as detailed on drawing HS/TRSS/104497/CON-29C attached as appendix 2.**
- (2) That the remaining objections be overruled and the modified Traffic Regulation Order be sealed and implemented as otherwise advertised.**
- (3) That the objectors be informed accordingly.**

ACTION: Strategic Director, Place

47. WASTE SERVICES - BRADFORD WEST SERVICE PROVISION

The report of the Interim Strategic Director, Place, (**Document “B”**) provided a summary of the Service’s response to date with regards to the additional demands and operational difficulties encountered due to the Covid19 pandemic and its effects within Bradford West and the wider District.

The Contact and Procurement Manager and gave a synopsis of the report to the Committee. The authority had disposed in the region of 20,000 tonnes of waste which was a mixture of domestic waste and trade recycling. Out of this, 9.5 thousand tonnes were domestic waste in addition to 1.5 thousand being recyclable waste. As a whole, it was fairly spread out across the whole city and not limited to one area. The service used a routing software for the purposes of organising the collection of waste. The software assisted the service to assist officers to make collection services as efficient as possible. In regards to present standing, the service was only missing around a 0.1% of collection targets. The reasons for this percentage was due to unforeseen obstacles such as parked vehicles preventing access to homes and so on. In order to tackle lack of access sites, the service had staff working on such circumstances or the collection vehicles would try to return to the sites as quickly as possible. The main issues arising from all wards is recycling contamination as mentioned above.

Contamination as a whole currently costs the Council approx. £260k per month in processing and disposal costs as a direct result of material not being cleaned or placed in the correct bin. Bradford West accounts for approx. £43k of this monthly cost based on the tonnages above. To reduce this cost, the Council have restarted working with residents and business to lower contamination levels. Load inspections have also resulted in full loads being disposed of if they are visibly highly contaminated. This information is logged internally and then provided to the Recycling Advisors who then visit the relevant area. This has led to a marked improvement in many areas including Manningham in particular so it is clear that residents and the Council are working together for a better outcome. Currently a “no side waste” policy is also enforced (no bags next to the bin). The address is noted down and enforcement letters are posted to the resident. This doesn’t always work well as residents stop for a while and then and starts placing side waste out again once the enforcement timeframe expires. It can also be difficult to enforce against landlords and transient residents.

He further stated that in relation to collection services during present circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, multiple issues had affected operations as a result critical issues of contamination had arisen. This was due to lack of curb side access, resulting in repeat visits. At present, the service was averaging around 3.5 thousand resident visits per day and, whilst adhering to the governments recommendations on social distancing, additional vehicles had been hired so that social distancing was applied by collection crews.

A question and answer session ensued:

- What action was being undertaken with residents to address the issue of missed bin collections due to lack of access due to vehicle obstructions as such obstructions would be detrimental to emergency services during times of family crisis?
 - The service was addressing such concerns by educating communities on service deliveries that involved communities as a whole as such obstructions could possibly cause detrimental impacts on a wide range of services as opposed to only collection of waste services;
 - In response, the committee touched on the matter on whether enforcement could be taken into consideration.
- Was it possible to create new working group, the makeup of the group being community members (residents), elected members, wardens and officers was set up that could focus on looking into a wide range of collection service issues could possibly assist the service in identifying the main areas of concerns?
 - This was a viable proposal and could be looked into;
 - In response, the committee stated that there were many effective working subgroups within wards facilitating other subject areas of concerns and maybe this was a way forward for Waste Services.
- In relation to contamination, most households were conscious of the status of waste and it could possibly be the fact that they may be guilty of leaving such waste on the streets for the council to pick up. How was this area of concern being addressed?
 - At present, the service was trying to educate and enforce however this was an area in need of improvement;

- In relation to Cranbrook Street which was very narrow, there was heavy presence and obstruction of vehicles and therefore was it possible to mail out some form of letter to the residents'?
 - This proposal would be addressed by the service.

The committee stated that it was important to encourage communities on the importance of waste collection services; due to Covid, many families were at home and remaining indoors, hence the increase of waste due to the increase groceries.

Resolved –

- (1) **That the Bradford West Area Co-ordinator facilitates a working group of elected Members of the Bradford West Area Committee, officers from the Bradford West Area Co-ordinators Office and Waste Services be formed to investigate responses to the issues highlighted in the report specifically related to side waste and other operational activities.**
- (2) **That the Assistant Director, Waste, Fleet and Transport Services be requested to personally attend the Bradford West Area Committee in February 2021 and present a detailed update report on how the operational activities of the sub-group are being addressed.**

ACTION: Assistant Director, Waste, Fleet and Transport Services

48. TEN YEAR CULTURAL STRATEGY - VERBAL UPDATE

The Principal Officer for Cultural Partnerships provided a verbal update on the ten year cultural strategy the Bradford Place Partnership is co-creating with the support of Arts Council England. That work is called 'Culture is Our Plan' and will be reviewed and refreshed annually.

The presentation include details of work so far and the next steps planned toward the production of the plan by April 2021 to support Bradford's bid for City of Culture.

The officer further went on to state that Bradford was considering looking into becoming a child friendly city as well and an application had been submitted into UNICEF for this purpose. This would be a fantastic, equally important thing for the authority to bring into the council's cultural plan. As indeed, the city's commitments around sustainability and resilience to climate crisis was a very important thing to think about in terms of recovery from Covid, but maintaining consciousness of the authority's current and future resources. However it was an expression of interest at present, but we hopeful that the city becoming a child friendly status city. This status would focus on young people and create training opportunities, jobs with future working careers and creative industries.

Resolved –

No resolution was passed on this item.

49. COVID-19 - VERBAL UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE COUNCIL'S COVID-19 PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The Director of Public Health and the Assistant Director, Neighbourhood and Customer Services provide a verbal update on COVID-19 and on the Council's COVID-19 Programme Management. She explained that the city's cases had started to reduce as Bradford was 406 cases per every 100,000 people which was down from the peak of 573,000 people. In the last two weeks' cases had reduced 25%. In comparison to the rest of the country, Bradford was currently 17th on track. At the peak of the second wave Bradford was at 20% in some parts of the district, and it's now down to 13.5%. Around 7500 people were being tested a week, which was high compared to other cities.

She further stated that there would be at least three weeks before the service could analyse the usage of hospitals as it could take two to three weeks for people who were going to become ill. Even though there was a positive outlook for communities, hospitals were at the point of immense pressure and were extremely struggling.

- (1) A written report be presented in February 2021 that gives detailed information on Public Health and the Council's COVID-19 Programme Management activities, with a particular focus on fair and representative recruitment processes for Covid related positions.**
- (2) That the spirit of the work ethic of NHS frontline staff including the Ambulance Service be highly praised for their efforts in pulling together and making essential changes to ensure the best possible care for patients during COVID-19.**

ACTION: Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods and Customer Services

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Bradford West Area Committee.