



CABINET WORKING PARTY – ENVIRONMENTAL STREET SCENE AND ENFORCEMENT

17th November 2025 at 10.00am

Present: Councillor Aisthorpe (in the Chair)
Councillors Bright, Hudson, Shepherd and Shutt.

Officers in attendance:

- Kath Jickells (Assistant Director – Environment)
- John Munson (Street Cleansing Team Manager)
- Beverly O'Brien (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)
- Claire Thompson (Strategic Lead – Insights NEL)

Others in attendance:

- Jim Elliott (The Canoe River Cleaner)

SSE.14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There was no apology of absence for this meeting.

SSE.15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made from Members with regard to items on the agenda for this meeting.

SSE.16 MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the Environment Street Scene and Enforcement Cabinet Working Party meeting held on 25th September 2025 be agreed as a correct record.

SSE.17 VOLUNTARY SECTOR

The working party invited the voluntary sector to share their experiences on environment issues and community perspectives and explore how the Council could work more effectively with local groups on environmental issues.

The Chair welcomed Mr Elliott and thanked him for coming to share his work with the Cabinet Working Party. The Chair gave him 20 minutes to share the work that he does within the community.

Mr Elliott shared how he currently did a lot of work with the Freshney Comrades and had numerous volunteers who helped him with regular litter picks. He went into detail about the work he was currently doing around education, particularly at Reynolds Academy where he had liaised with teachers to take the children out on litter picks themselves. He hoped by educating the children it would encourage their civic pride to make them more aware of protecting the environment.

Mr Elliott then went on to talk about things that he thought may be helpful when trying to stop fly tipping. He did not think signs were a good deterrent but wondered whether work could be done around publicising registered waste providers. He believed that if people engaging with waste collection companies should have their fees put into a holding account that only gets released once the waste has been disposed of correctly. This would make companies more likely to implement the correct procedure. Ms Jickells explained that the local authority did not recommend waste companies for the public to use, but they did publish who was registered. The Chair thought that it would be helpful if the working party received the link of all the waste companies registered. Members thought it would be useful if these were shared with community groups, social media and Parish Councils. Anywhere regular publications could take place to help the community recognise non-compliant companies.

Mr Elliott also wondered if an anonymous Facebook page could be created where fly tippers could be publicised. Mr Munson explained that they did get a good number of reports for fly tippers, but when it came to publicising evidence, members of the public were very reluctant to get involved, with the fear that individuals may realise where the evidence come from. Ms Jickells added that they had recently implemented 'Caught on Camera' which allowed them to upload images from CCTV, with the hope that people in the community would help name and shame.

The Chair noted how the enforcement team had improved, but she wondered whether the authority had enough to support the additional cameras that had now been implemented. She wondered whether it was more about deterring and preventing these crimes in the first place. There

was a discussion about fly tipping and side waste placed out for collection alongside the wheeled bins. The Street Cleansing team currently remove this if it was on the public highway rather than the waste collection crew. The Chair thought it would be helpful if officers could look at the current cost of going to pick up fly tipping, compared to how much it would be to just have someone who predominantly did that role.

Members also questioned the way that issues were reported. One Councillor believed that it needed to be a single page reporting system, where individuals could easily upload images. Another Member added that our fining system was a stepped approach and that it may be beneficial to look at changing it to a one-off amount to deter people.

One Councillor was very interested in the work Mr Elliott was doing around education. He felt that it was good to work with the young children to set a precedent on how we could look after the environment. Ms Thompson explained that they were also doing a lot of education work around recycling, and their aim was for it all to come together to make an environmental education communications package, where the material was universal for everyone to use.

Members thought that it would also be helpful to do educational work with landlords. Their concerns were that tenants were coming and going may not see the procedure, particularly around recycling. Members wondered how they could tackle new residents being taught the correct procedures. Mr Elliot added that he thought the cheapest and most effective way to do this was to get the community to help. By teaching children, they would go home to their parents and brag about what they've done. He added that they were currently looking at providing litter picking stations in various parks, but they were also looking to place them in areas where local businesses could use them and help promote the community to get more involved.

The working party really liked the idea of litter picking stations and thought it would be beneficial if Ward Councillors were to encourage and advertise using them.

The Chair asked about the funding for the operational Clean & Green Officer, particularly because it was coming to an end. The Chair wondered whether officers were looking into carrying the post on. Ms Jickells confirmed that a report could come back to the working party to show whether there was still a need for the role and that the barrow operatives and deep clean staff were included within the budget setting process.

RESOLVED –

1. That the work that the voluntary sector does be noted.

2. That the Cabinet Working Party be sent a list of all registered waste companies.

Key points to think about:

- Enforcement cameras, extra CCTV
- Increasing fine levels
- Changing the reporting system
- Departments working together/ Universal educational programme.
- Registered carriers – Publicise on community pages/parish magazines
- Budget – Clean and Green proposal (Is it needed).
- How can the authority support/promote litter picks.
- Targeted works in communities.
- Cleaner walks – do we have funds to adopt it and tailor working together on it.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.50 a.m.