

Operational Services – Waste & Recycling 2020

Achievements

- Won the Environment Cup from the Mayor for our efforts during the first lockdown.
- Managed to keep the majority of the Refuse & Recycling services running during the Covid-19 lockdown, mainly due to the enormous efforts of the staff and Supervisors.
- Took possession of a new rear loading recycling truck to help collect from narrow terraced streets.
- Got Steve Howlett bedded in as the new Transport Manager looking after the fleet.
- Got Christine Birch in situ as Business Support manager to organise Trade waste, the admin function and review processes with the department.
- The introduction of the blue recycling box for glass has seen a reduction in time to complete the rounds and a reduction in glass related H&S incidents.
- The workshop took possession of additional equipment (Ramps & Rolling road) which means we can do more work inhouse, without having to pay an external supplier. This could also lead to other income generation by offering services to external companies.
- We have increased the staffing levels by 15 to cope with the increased demand on the service.
- Increased the cleaning schedule for public toilets to comply with Covid measures

Issues

- Loss of the Head of Service (still to be replaced) leaving added pressure on the management team.
- Outbreak of Covid-19 and the related pressures that brought.
- Reliability issue with the vehicle fleet affecting collections and staff morale.
- Integration issues between the in-cab technology and the CSC system have been troublesome.

The future

- A lease vehicle tender is underway to implement a more robust fleet solution for the Council as a whole.
- A tender is about to start to replace and re-organise the process hall and baling equipment. This will provide a lot more capacity for recycling material to help the Council reach it's recycling targets.
- The roll out of the 3 weekly black bin service should reduce the amount of waste generated and increase the amount of material recycled.
- The team are currently working on upgrading the in-cab technology to work in a smoother way, to speed up the customer requests and reduce the paper / admin work required around the processes.
- Having a bespoke Litter & Waste Strategy in place that Councillors, staff & residents can buy into to improve the district as a whole.