

## **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

**CLLR JIM SMITH**

**PORTFOLIO CO-ORDINATING  
DIRECTOR- MARTIN EDEN**

**DATE: 21 April 2016**

### **STREET LIGHTING**

Over 16,851 units have now been installed as part of the LED retrofit with the completion remaining as at the end of March 2016. A full evaluation of the Street Lighting Service is currently being undertaken to establish the level of service required to undertake maintenance post LED retrofit contract.

### **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE**

No additional resurfacing schemes have been brought forward from the 2016/17 approved programme and are now complete. Pre-patching works for the 2016/17 surface dressing works will continue into May.

### **DRAINAGE / FLOOD MANAGEMENT**

Heavy persistent rain during December generated a large number of flooding issues/enquiries. HAMIS has responded to the majority of these enquiries and are now dealing with the damage to the highway and drainage network.

### **WINTER MAINTENANCE**

A short period of snow and cold weather in early March resulted in a number of issues during peak morning travel periods. All routes during this time had been gritted and all available resource assigned to grit traffic routes and town centres during the day. The weather conditions continue to be monitored with the service ready for any changes. Winter Maintenance is currently planned to end on 3/4/16 this will be monitored depending on the weather forecast.

### **WASTE AND RECYCLING**

Waste to energy and waste sent to landfill this calendar year has increased, in comparison with January and February 2015, by some 13% (842 tonnes). Recycling tonnages for the kerbside collection of commingled materials (grey bin), have remained mainly static, with a marginal increase of 9 tonnes this year, compared with the tonnage collected in January and February 2015. Leaflets are being distributed at present across the borough, as part of a drive to remind residents of the need to recycle and also what items they can recycle.

### **RATS AND MICE**

In March 2015 the Council introduced charges for the control of rats and mice at domestic premises. A reduction in staffing for pest control activity was undertaken at the same time. Following a review, the Council has from 22 February 2016 reintroduced the free control of rats and mice at domestic premises. Since the re-introduction of a free service in February this year, the number of requests being received by the Council has increased by 400% per week.

## **RECIPE4HEALTH**

The latest businesses to achieve the Recipe 4 Health Award have been invited to attend an awards presentation at Blakeys in March. To date, some 100 businesses achieved the award last year and some 60 have achieved the award this year, despite the funding for the project having been reduced as part of the Public Health in year reductions. The latest recipients of the awards were takeaways, schools, cafes and residential homes.

The award recognises those who provide healthy choices to those they cater for. The aim is to reduce illness in residents caused by poor diets by reducing salt and sugars in food contents.

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