

Environment, Culture and Communities Overview & Scrutiny Panel

5 March 2019



Quarterly Service Report Update 3rd Quarter 2018 - 2019

Damian James

Assistant Director: Contract
Services



Key Highlights

- The redeployment and coordination of SABA staff ensured good car parking during key periods such as the visit from HM The Queen, the Christmas lights switch on and increased town centre visits during the Christmas period.
- The Waste and Recycling Collection Contract extension due to complete and an order has been placed for 11 waste trucks.
- In the autumn budget statement the Borough was awarded an additional highway maintenance grant of £754,000 from the Department for Transport. To date approximately £561,000 of this grant has been spent resurfacing sections of Berkshire Way, Old Wokingham Road and Maidenhead Road and further works are planned for March 2019.
- The LED installation project will complete by end March 2019 with some minor additional works continuing beyond this date. Where major issues have been identified during the programme a review will be undertaken to see what can be done to address these.
- The refurbished Dry Changing Rooms at Bracknell Leisure Centre opened at the end of November, the new reception desk and foyer opened before Christmas and the new and much larger gym opened in the first week in January 2019.

Update on actions/indicators

- 2.3.03: Manage the cleaning and grounds maintenance of the town centre in accordance with the town centre management agreement:
 - There is a new Continental Landscape Contract Manager who is implementing an improved regime with staff in Town Centre. A small scrubbing machine has been purchased for cleaning spot staining from paving.
 - A ride on machine that was hired was returned as was not effective at cleaning stains.
 - Further investigations are ongoing into a high pressure machine.
- 5.8.01: Enable and encourage the public to increase recycling, seek opportunities to increase the materials recycled and reduce dependence on landfill.
 - The National Waste Strategy has recently been published and subject to various consultations will form an important framework for increasing recycling across the Borough
- *4.1.04 Work in partnership with Everyone Active to create development proposals for Downshire Golf Complex and determine how to proceed.*
 - Currently the business case does not support the proposal. Further investigation is required to see if there are any alternative funding arrangements.
- *L003 – Number of visits to Leisure facilities –*
 - The total target for the year is 1.7m visits. This is based on Everyone Active's figures and is ambitious but with the new gym at BLC now open needs to be reviewed at the end of the year.
- 5.8.01 Enable and encourage the public to increase recycling, seek opportunities to increase the materials recycled and reduce dependence on landfill.
 - This target is impacted by seasonal changes particularly on garden waste collections

Questions?



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Andrew Hunter

Director: Place, Planning &
Regeneration



Key Highlights

- Performance on all types of planning applications has exceeded targets.
- The Bracknell Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to the Council and prepared for consultation which commenced on 7 January.
- The A322 Downshire Way dual carriageway scheme is due to start on-site in February 2019. The Parks & Countryside Rangers are working closely with Transport Development on this project to develop a large-scale environmental enhancement as part of the project. This is a great example of innovation in the delivery of a highways project, embracing a 'One Council' approach.
- The ongoing A329 London Road improvements have been successfully completed with the scheme including the new signalised Martins Heron junction, looking good and working well.
- A new lease for the temporary use of Easthampstead House has now been agreed with a re-use of the space for small start-up businesses.



Update on actions/indicators

- 1.2.13 Complete the transformation review of Parks and Countryside seeking to make financial savings for the council. (T) (Amber) –the implementation of enhancements at Horseshoe Lake, Sandhurst to create a country park was agreed on 12th February 2019 along with the capital funding of £2.6m.
- 5.1.01 Develop a comprehensive Local Plan in line with the Local Development Scheme. (Amber) – the new Local Development Scheme has been approved by Executive on 12th February 2019 and we are now working to the programme it sets out therefore the status is now green.
- Percentage of successful planning appeals (Quarterly) (Red) - the figure was improved for the first month of the final quarter with 100% of appeals dismissed (though this is only based on two appeal decisions).

Martins Heron Junction



Questions?



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