

## **TRAFFIC, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL**

MINUTES of the meeting of the Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel held on Tuesday, 1 July 2014 in the Civic Offices, Portsmouth.

### **Present**

Councillor Stuart Potter (in the Chair)  
Simon Boshier  
Lynn Stagg

5. **Apologies for Absence. (AI 1)**  
Councillors Phil Smith and Hannah Hockaday sent their apologies.
6. **Declarations of Members' Interests (AI 2)**  
No interests were declared.
7. **Appointment of Vice Chair. (AI 3)**  
This decision was deferred to the next meeting.
8. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting. (AI 4)**

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 April be noted.**

9. **Discussion of Future Topics. (AI 5)**  
Rachael Dalby, Head of Health, Community Safety and Licensing, Health, Safety and Licensing gave an overview of her service and explained that:
  - Legislation regarding new tools and powers to tackle antisocial behaviour will be introduced in October.
  - One of the tools for dealing with anti-social behaviour is restorative justice.
  - From April 2015, the Probation Service will be renamed the National Offending Service and be responsible for high risk offenders. The private sector will manage low and medium risk offenders.
  - It is very difficult for offenders with short prison sentences to access programmes.
  - Having a buddy, accommodation and a job is key to preventing reoffending.
  - The council does not have any responsibility for Kingston Prison.

Simon Moon, Head of Environment & Transportation gave an overview of the service.

A discussion followed that included the following points:

- The parking service is very much affected by the budget cycle.
- Members commented on the high levels of illegal parking including on zigzag lines outside schools, grass verges, yellow lines, grass verges and obstructing dropped kerbs. It was suggested that parking restrictions were not enforced as robustly in areas off the island.
- There are 37 Civil Enforcement Officers covering three shifts, with 12 on duty at any one time. It is difficult to cover the whole of the city.

- Some CEOs are now operating on bicycles which means that they can cover larger areas.
- A pilot has been launched with some CEOs starting their shifts from home rather than coming to the Civic Offices.
- When a residential parking zone is introduced, residents expect it to be enforced.
- A law was recently introduced which enables local authorities to take action against motorists who park on pavements.
- It is only possible to restrict parking of commercial vehicles within residential parking zones.
- Members commented that Brighton tried to limit the number of vehicles parked in residential zones by charging high rates for parking permits.
- A petition was submitted recently regarding allowing private hire vehicles to use bus lanes.
- Safety around schools is being compromised by inconsiderate or illegal parking.
- Members commented on the number of cyclists who cycle on the promenade despite the clear signs that show it is prohibited.
- The council runs joint operations with the police regarding cycling on the promenade. These are not as frequent as the council would like, as the police find it difficult to attend.
- The Big Recycle was launched 9 months ago to improve recycling rates.
- Members commented that it would be unfair to introduce fines across the city for non-recycling because areas have differing facilities.
- Rachael Dalby explained that the police wanted the whole of the Guildhall Walk area to be pedestrianized with the taxi rank located in a parallel road.

Other services that come under this panel's remit include: food standards; trading standards; noise; air quality; pest control and coastal issues.

**RESOLVED that the following topics be submitted to the Scrutiny Management for consideration in the Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel's work programme:**

- 1. Road safety around schools.**
- 2. Waste management.**

The meeting concluded at 6.30pm.

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Councillor Stuart Potter  
Chair.