

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES**

**FLY TIPPING AND CYCLE PATH INTERVENTIONS**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To provide the South Area Committee with information relating to research undertaken across Sunderland and advise of the planned expenditure to address Fly Tipping and Improve Cycle paths as part of the Council's Strategic Investment Plan.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 Following Cabinet approval of the Strategic Investment Plan on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2008, twelve individual projects with a total value of £31.5million were allocated for delivery across the Council's Directorates.

2.2 Community and Cultural Services Directorate are responsible for the delivery of five projects. Two of those - Interventions to address Fly Tipping and Improvements to Cycle Paths, are the subject of this report.

2.3 Cycle Path Improvements - The aim of this project is to increase opportunities for take-up of cycling, raise participation and increase perceptions and satisfaction by reviewing the maintenance and upkeep of key cycle paths across the city.

2.4 Fly tipping Interventions – This project aims to implement fly tipping interventions at identified problem locations across the city.

**3.0 AREA WORKING AND PROVISION IN SOUTH SUNDERLAND**

3.1 Information has been drawn from a number of sources including feedback from the Leader's ward visits, customer requests and complaints, and inspections undertaken by Environmental Services operatives, as part of their enriched roles, to inform and develop a proposed programme of works to address fly tipping and to raise participation and increase perceptions and satisfaction with cycle paths across all of the Council's Regeneration Framework Areas.

3.2 It is proposed that, on the basis of the collated information, that works estimated to cost £100,000 are undertaken in the South Area. Principal sites to be tackled are listed within Appendix 1 of this report.

**3.3 Fly Tipping**

3.3.1 A variety of works are included within the proposed programme, including removal of fly tipping, tree and shrub removal, strim grassed areas and installation of columns to which CCTV equipment can be mounted as required, knee rail fencing, barriers, fencing and bollards.

3.3.2 At some of the identified sites it has been noted that the potential for the introduction of preventative measures is limited. In such cases advisory notices/signage could be erected and additional patrols undertaken by Enforcement

and Environmental Services staff, with the staff trained accordingly on how to gather and preserve any evidence that may/could lead to prosecution of offenders.

### **3.4 Cycle Paths**

- 3.4.1 The proposed programme has been developed in partnership with the Sunderland City Council's Cycle Network/Public Rights Of Way Officer.
- 3.4.2 A variety of works are included within the proposed programme, including pruning of vegetation, thinning of plantation, tree and shrub removal, graffiti removal, improved directional signage, repairs to access barriers and barrier installation, painting, hard surfacing repairs, litter and dog bin installation and installation of columns to which CCTV equipment can be mounted as required.
- 3.4.3 To ensure improvements are undertaken on those parts of the Cycleway network that are not the Council's responsibility at the same time that those which are; the Public Rights of Way Officer has secured agreement with ONE North East, Sustrans and English Partnerships. (The council already undertakes vegetation control and route cleansing on behalf of ONE and Sustrans).
- 3.5 Maximum benefit will be secured from planned works if the vegetation clearance can be expedited and completed early to mid March i.e. prior to the bird nesting season. Work delayed beyond that point would have to be deferred until much later in the year in order to comply with wildlife protection legislation. A delay would also impact on the removal of litter and fly-tipping which will be masked by the growth of vegetation.

### **4.0 FUNDING AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 An overall budget allocation of £600,000 capital was agreed at Cabinet on 12 March 2008, for Fly Tipping and Cycle path Intervention works.

### **5.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 Members are requested to approve the proposed programme of works in the South Area.

### **6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 6.1 Sunderland City Council - Staff Reporting Line
- 6.2 Leader Ward Visit feedback
- 6.3 Customer Requests for Service and Complaints

## Sunderland South Fly Tipping – Proposed Infrastructure Works 2009

LOCATION	REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT	WORK REQUIRED
Rear of Sainsbury's - Silksworth	Fly tipping, trailers from supermarket and litter	Install camera
Ryhope Beach Road	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Ryhope Store Field	Regular fly tipping and litter problem and broken glass	Erect fencing and bollards at access points around field

## Sunderland South Fly Tipping – Proposed Maintenance Works 2009

LOCATION	REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT	WORK REQUIRED
Lansdowne and Linskill, Ryhope	Unmaintained grassed areas, encouraging fly tipping rear of allotments	Strim down grassed areas, clear fly tipping and litter
Moorside Road - Moorside	Regular fly tipping and litter	Shrub removal and tidy up
Newport Dene - Silksworth	Burnt out cars, vandalism to trees regular fly tipping and drugs	Remove damaged trees, remove shrubs from either side of bridge, remove fly tipping etc
North Moor	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Plantation removal & landscape area to grass
Rear of Perth Road - Plains Farm	Fly tipping from properties on Perth Road	Heavy prune of trees to rear and removal of fly tipping
Toll Bar Road	Reduce/remove fly – tipping Improve visibility and deter ASB Security for passers by	Plantation removal & landscape area to grass
Tunstall Hills	Regular fly tipping at varying access points	Regular removal of fly tipping
Rear of Sainsbury's - Silksworth	Fly tipping, trailers from supermarket and litter	Clean and tidy stream area

**PROPOSED CYCLEWAY IMPROVEMENTS  
SOUTH**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Map Ref</b>	<b>Reason for improvement</b>	<b>Initial Work Required MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>Annual Maintenance required</b>
Ryhope to Leechmere	53/40 53/39	Safe passage and visibility Discourage antisocial behaviour	Thin trees to expose lights Remove front row plantation Pruning overhangs from plantations	Pruning of plantations HS chemical control Weekly inspections inc. sweeping and litter collection.
Tunstall to Newport	53/38 54/38	Improve public perception Encourage more users to cycle	Prune plantations to expose signs Cut grass verges ob both sides and maintain regularly Remove flytipping	Mulch shrub beds and winter clean out. Regular mowing of verges.
Stephenson Trail (part)	55/38 54/38			
<b>Location</b>	<b>Map Ref</b>	<b>Reason for improvement</b>	<b>Initial Work Required INFRASTRUCTURE and CLEANSING</b>	<b>Annual Maintenance required</b>
Ryhope to Leechmere	53/40 53/39	Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour	Introduce additional direction and information signage. Replace fencing Drop down barriers required	Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs.
Tunstall to Newport	53/38 54/38	Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Remove paint from paths Graffiti removal Warning signs to advise of road approach to be introduced and general information signage Erect new safety barrier to bridge as a safety issue Repair metal fencing Paint barriers and bridge	
Stephenson Trail (part)	55/38 54/38			