

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 West 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 12th 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 WEST 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 West 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 West 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 WEST FLY TIPPING - INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS 2009

LOCATION	REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT	WORK REQUIRED
Claxheugh Road Access	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Pottery Lane next to allotments	Reduce/remove fly – tipping Improve visibility and deter ASB Security for passers by	Install camera
Rear St. Lukes Road Pallion	Persistent fly tipping and vandalism	Install camera and thin out plantation and remove shrubs

SUNDERLAND WEST FLY TIPPING – PROPOSED MAINTENANCE WORKS 2009

LOCATION	REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT	WORK REQUIRED
Foxcover Lane	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Remove fly – tipping
Golden Lion Pub A19 underpass	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Remove fly - tipping
Pottery Lane next to allotments	Reduce/remove fly – tipping Improve visibility and deter ASB Security for passers by	Install camera
Rear St. Lukes Road Pallion	Persistent fly tipping and vandalism	Install camera and thin out plantation and remove shrubs

SUNDERLAND WEST FLY TIPPING – PROPOSED CLEARANCE WORKS 2009

LOCATION	REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT	WORK REQUIRED
Golden Lyon Pub A19 underpass	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Remove fly - tipping

**PROPOSED CYCLEWAY IMPROVEMENTS
WEST**

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required MAINTENANCE	Annual Maintenance required
Stephenson Trail Barnes to Central and the Wear Bridge.	55/38 56/38 57/39	Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Remove shrubs at road junction Remove litter & broken glass (Heavy distribution).	Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection. Mulch shrub beds & winter clean out Pruning of plantations Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required INFRASTRUCTURE	Annual Maintenance required
Stephenson Trail Barnes to Central and the Wear Bridge.	55/38 56/38 57/39	Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Additional direction signage required. Graffiti to be removed. Warning signs to advise of road approach to be introduced. Fencing repairs/replacement Replace fencing. Remove graffiti from bridge. Remove graffiti. Drop down barriers required. Remove paint from tarmac paths	Weekly Inspections

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required CLEANSING	Annual Maintenance required
Stephenson Trail	55/38 54/38	Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour	Sweeping, cleaning & Litter collection	Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs
Barnes to Central and the Wear Bridge.	55/38 56/38 57/39	Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Removal of fly tipping.	