

**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 East 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 EAST 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 East 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 East 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 EAST FLY TIPPING – PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS 2009**

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>WORK REQUIRED</b>
Cliff tops Hendon	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Ferguson Street Hendon	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install boulders
Princess / Azalea Terrace	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Queensbury Street Hylton Road	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Salterfen Industrial Estate	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install Barrier
St Bedes, Park Place West	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Vine Place, Blandford Street, West street	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera

**SUNDERLAND EAST FLY TIPPING – PROPOSED MAINTENANCE WORKS 2009**

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>WORK REQUIRED</b>
Panns Bank Hendon	Steep bankside - litter and fly tipping	Shrub removal and thin out - dangerous conditions - platform and trained climbers needed

**PROPOSED CYCLEWAY IMPROVEMENTS  
EAST**

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required <b>MAINTENANCE</b>	Annual Maintenance required
Ryhope to Leechmere	53/40 53/39	Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Thin trees to expose lights. Remove front row of plantation.	Pruning of plantations HS Chemical control Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection. Mulch shrub beds & winter clean out
Tunstall to Newport	53/38 54/38 55/38		Pruning overhangs from plantations.  Prune plantations to expose signs. Cut grass verges on both sides and maintain regular. Remove overhang on plantations.  Albion pub open up & general clean of the area. Edge grass back to path. Remove fly tipping. Thin plantation and remove overhang.	Pruning of plantations Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs  Pruning of plantations HS Chemical control Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs Regular mowing of verges  Pruning of plantations HS Chemical control Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs Grass edging  Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required INFRASTRUCTURE	Annual Maintenance required
<p>Ryhope to Leechmere</p> <p>Tunstall to Newport</p>	<p>53/40 53/39 53/40 53/39 55/38 54/38</p>	<p>Safe passage &amp; visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour</p> <p>Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part</p> <p>Safe passage &amp; visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part</p>	<p>Seat to be replaced (damaged beyond repair).</p> <p>Introduce information signage. Erect new safety barrier to bridge as safety issue. A19 bridge – paint and general area clean up.</p> <p>Ryhope rec bridge, remove graffiti. Repair metal fencing. Paint barrier. Paint bridge.</p> <p>Sweeping, cleaning &amp; Litter collection Removal of fly tipping.</p>	<p>Weekly Inspections</p> <p>Weekly Inspections inc sweeping &amp; litter collection, graffiti &amp; repairs</p>