

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 North 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 NORTH 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 North 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 North 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 NORTH FLY TIPPING – PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS 2009		
LOCATION	REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT	WORK REQUIRED
Church Street North	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Community North Complex	Regular fly tipping and litter	Install camera x 2
Downhill Allotments	Regular fly tipping to entrances and pathways	CCTV camera
Fulwell Quarry	Regular fly tipping and litter	Install camera near changing rooms
Marley Potts Playing Fields	Regular fly tipping and resolve vandalism issues	Install camera
Roker Avenue	Reduce/remove fly - tipping	Install camera
Rolls Royce Playing Fields	Regular fly tipping	Provide barrier to block off track
Summerbell Allotments	Large amounts of fly tipping outside the site	CCTV camera

SUNDERLAND NORTH FLY TIPPING – PROPOSED MAINTENANCE WORKS 2009		
LOCATION	REASON FOR IMPROVEMENT	WORK REQUIRED
Southwick Gyratory	Reduce/remove fly – tipping Improve visibility and deter ASB	Plantation thin out. Selective pruning to open up the bed and visibility
Stadium of Light adjacent South Stand	Fly tipping and litter overgrown trees/shrubs	Remove shrubs/trees at front of plantation - carry out clear up

PROPOSED CYCLEWAY IMPROVEMENTS NORTH

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required MAINTENANCE	Annual Maintenance required
Glass Centre This area is subject to approval and completion of English Partnerships transfer of work	57/40	Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Pruning of vegetation, Chemical control & removal of dead vegetation to hard surfaces. Shrub beat up's and replacements. <i>Note: some of these costs are already included in EP remedial works transfer agreement</i>	Pruning of plantations HS Chemical control Mulch shrub beds & Winter clean out
Bonnorsfield & Sheepfolds One North East	57/39	Safe passage & visibility Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Pruning of vegetation Strim weeds and vegetation, Grass cut verges more regular to retain grass verge Chemical control & removal of dead vegetation. Clear hard surface vegetation.	Pruning of plantations HS Chemical control Strim areas Regular mowing
Low Southwick Sustrans own part site	58/38	Safe passage & visibility Environmental issues and compliance with relevant legislation. Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Pruning of vegetation, Thinning of plantation. Removal of selected trees & shrubs. Open out areas for visibility and access for maintenance. Chemical control & removal of dead vegetation.	Pruning of plantations HS Chemical control Strim areas Thinning out areas
Low Southwick English Partnerships This area is subject to approval and completion of English Partnerships transfer of work	58/37 58/36 57/36 57/35	Safe passage & visibility Discourage antisocial behaviour. Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Pruning of vegetation, selected thinning of trees & plantations. Chemical control & removal of dead vegetation <i>Note: some of these costs are already included in EP remedial works transfer agreement</i>	Pruning of plantations HS Chemical control Strim areas

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required CLEANSING	Annual Maintenance required
Glass Centre	57/40	Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour	Sweeping, cleaning & Litter collection Removal of fly tipping.	Weekly Inspections inc sweeping & litter collection, graffiti & repairs
Bonnorsfield & Sheepfolds	57/39	Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Sweeping, cleaning & Litter collection Removal of fly tipping	
One North East			Sweeping, cleaning & Litter collection Removal of fly tipping.	
Low Southwick	58/37 58/36 57/36 57/35			

Location	Map Ref	Reason for improvement	Initial Work Required INFRASTRUCTURE	Annual Maintenance required
Bonnersfield & Sheepfolds One North East Low Southwick		Safe passage & visibility. Discourage antisocial behaviour Improve Public perception. Encourage more users to take part	Improved direction signage. Graffiti removal Repair two access barrier locks and paint barriers. Fencing repairs. Graffiti removal Hard Surface repairs. Improved direction signage Graffiti removal Drop down kerb required.	