

Council Meeting – 9th September 2020

Written Answers Provided To Member Questions

Questions of Councillor Ian Auckland to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

Q.2 Has the planning service re-structure concluded?

A.2 The Planning restructure (MER476) was paused in March 2020 on advice from HR, as were other MER processes in the Council. Work has recently been restarted and the posts are currently being considered by the Corporate Grading Panel.

Q.3 What contingency plans have been made to complete all stages of “The Sheffield Plan” considering the potential impact of COVID-19? and further so called “reforms” of the planning system?

A.3 "Work has progressed this year, in spite of COVID 19, albeit there were delays that resulted from the moves to remote working, and associated issues with IT. The intention is stick to the overall programme stated in the Local Development Scheme (LDS). If any delays do arise then the LDS would need to be amended. The LDS is a public document and the timetable is therefore open to public scrutiny.

With regard to the Government’s Planning reforms, these remain at the White Paper stage, and therefore may potentially change. Once any new legislation emerges, then the Planning service will respond to it, but it would be premature at this stage to be changing our approach to the Local Plan."

Questions of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

Q.2 Given that the new Local Plan will not be in force until 2023 at the very earliest, what Interim Planning Policies are considered to be necessary in order to meet the Council’s 2030 climate change commitments?

A.2 Question was re-submitted to the October Council Meeting and answered as follows:

The Council is only able introduce new planning policies through a new Local Plan. National planning policies (in the NPPF) and building regulations can be used where they exceed standards that were previously set in policies in the adopted Local Plan. We are,

however, intending to update the Council's Climate Change and Design Supplementary Planning Document and Practice Guidance to ensure it reflects current best practice on green roofs and reducing carbon emissions. Officers are currently working to identify a budget and resources to enable this work to be undertaken

Questions of Councillor Tim Huggan to Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change)

Q.1 How many fixed penalty tickets were issued outside Household Waste Recycling Centres since their reopening?

A.1 One to date.

Q.2 Are there plans to make the new earlier opening hours for Household Waste Recycling Centres permanent?

A.2 The Household Waste Recycling Centres are now operating to winter hours, reflecting day light and safe working. We will be opening all sites every day between Sunday 27th December through to New Years Eve when the sites close at 3pm and re-open at 10am on Saturday 2nd January 2021.

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change)

Q. How many tonnes of litter have been collected from on-street bins and litter-picking in each of the last 24 months?

A. Question was re-submitted to the October Council Meeting and answered as follows:

Monthly Tonnage of Litter and Fly Tip - Olive Grove and Ecclesfield Depots		
Dates	20 03 01 Mixed Municipal Waste (Tonnes)	Comments
Jul-18	495.35	Based on Three Month Total 1486.04
Aug-18	495.35	
Sep-18	495.35	
Oct-18	496.96	
Nov-18	496.96	

Dec-18	496.96	Based on Three Month Total 1490.87
Jan-19	462.6	Based on Three Month Total 1387.82
Feb-19	462.6	
Mar-19	462.6	
Apr-19	506.83	Based on Three Month Total 1520.5
May-19	506.83	
Jun-19	506.83	
Jul-19	542.45	Based on Three Month Total 1627.34
Aug-19	542.45	
Sep-19	542.45	
Oct-19	400.99	Based on Three Month Total 1202.98
Nov-19	400.99	
Dec-19	400.99	
Jan-20	390.51	Months Figure
Feb-20	404.96	Months Figure
Mar-20	520.48	Months Figure
Apr-20	385.22	Months Figure
May-20	374.53	Months Figure
Jun-20	557.14	Months Figure

Question of Councillor Alison Teal to Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change)

Q.3 If yes [to the previous question “Does the Council plan to make an effort to reduce waste in Sheffield?”], what initiatives are planned?

A.3 Question was re-submitted to the October Council Meeting and answered as follows:

The Council's website provides residents with information about how to access waste reduction opportunities including Love Food Hate Waste, a national food waste reduction campaign, and Love Your Clothes, which seeks to reduce the environmental impact associated with washing and replacing clothing.

Home compost bins - the Council works in partnership with Straight to offer home compost bins, with prices starting at £24.99 including delivery.

Further details about all these schemes can be found by visiting:-

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/bins-recycling-services/how-to-reduce-waste>

Residents can request a waste diary which they can complete and return. This captures the types of waste and placed into their black bin. The Council's Waste Management team will then review the information provided and provide tailored waste and recycling advice according to the waste types produced. Waste diaries are sent to all households who apply, but are not eligible to receive additional black bin capacity.

Nationally, it is understood that initiatives to reduce waste are difficult to influence and measure at the local level due to the wide-ranging factors which influence waste production, including economic factors, seasonal variations and individual household choices. By far the biggest impact however, is the amount of waste, and recyclability of waste produced by the manufacturing process both in the production of the products, and the subsequent packaging of these products for sale. These factors are not easily influenced at the local level, and instead rely on national, European and international efforts due to the worldwide nature of product manufacture and design.

The draft Resources and Waste Strategy for England, 2018 sets clear objectives to increase sustainable production through ecodesign to encourage resource efficient product design and by invoking a 'polluter pays' principle and extending producer responsibility for packaging, ensuring that producers pay the full costs of disposal for packaging they place on the market.

We have established a South Yorkshire Waste Partnership collaborating with Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham; recognising the value of joined up messages and greater influence we may achieve working together. It is important we have confirmation of the national waste strategy before we make further significant investment in waste services.