

Subject: Report of the Litter Bins Task and Finish Group **Status:** For Publication

Report to: The Cabinet

Date: 17 October 2007

Report of: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Portfolio Holder: Cabinet Member for a Clean and Green Rossendale

Key Decision: No

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet of the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in respect of the Litter Bins and Dog Bins Policy.

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 2.1 The matters discussed in this report are linked to and support the following corporate priorities:

Delivering Quality Services to Customers
Keeping our Borough Clean and Green by providing

3. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Failure to agree to the recommendations will result in no uniformity being achieved in bin provision across the borough to improve Rossendale's image.

4. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee presented the findings of the Task and Finish Group in a report to Cabinet on 21st February 2007, when Cabinet agreed the recommendations. One of those recommendations was for the Chair of the Litter Bins Task and Finish Group to meet with the relevant Officers to discuss the report in more detail.

- 4.2 The Chair of the Task and Finish Group has met with Officers to discuss the types of bins available. A further meeting was held in July with the Chair of the Task and Finish Group, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and Officers about the possible use of the Topsy Jubilee 110lts bins throughout the Borough, as it was felt that to use these was best value for money.
- 4.3 To make progress on phasing in the introduction of replacement bins, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee asked for an update to be presented to their meeting on 25th September 2007.
- 4.4 The Portfolio Holder for a Clean and Green Rossendale presented a report on the Litter Bin and Dog Bin Policy to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, when members asked a number of questions, particularly in relation to the type of bins to be used. A copy of that report is attached at Appendix A and Cabinet are asked to consider the amendments to the recommendations within that report as set out in paragraph 9 of this report.

5. COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

- 5.1 The 2007/08 Capital Programme includes the sum of £80,000 for various environmental projects. Amongst other things, the proposal specifically identified £20,000 for the replacement of litter bins as a priority area for expenditure.

6. COMMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF REGULATORY SERVICES

- 6.1 At this stage there are no significant legal implications.

7. COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCES

- 7.1 No specific comments in relation to the report.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee discussed the recommendations within the Litter Bins/Dog Bins Policy and their recommendations are set out below for the consideration of the Cabinet.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the Cabinet be requested to consider the following recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee:
1. That, given the limited litter bins budget available, those defective bins highlighted by Members be replaced.
 2. That a programme of replacing and re-siting of bins be developed throughout the Borough; all bins removed will, where possible, be refurbished and used elsewhere in the Borough where required.

3. That priority be given to replacing litter bins in key areas where most litter was collected by the Street Cleansing Team.
4. That the Portfolio Holder for a Clean and Green Rossendale and the Head of Street Scene and Neighbourhood Services obtain where possible the sponsorship of litter bins, particularly in areas where businesses cause litter problems.
5. That the NEAT Teams make contact with local businesses to encourage them to promote anti-littering messages and to reduce packaging, in addition to promoting the adoption of voluntary codes of practice that may assist them to maintain a cleaner and greener environment.
6. That Planning and Licensing consider attaching relevant conditions to any applications submitted by businesses that might generate litter, particularly the provision of a litter bin by that business.
7. That standard 110ltr Topsy Jubilee black litter bins with cigarette stubbing plate, gold vinyl band, Rossendale logo, dog waste and anti litter messages be used throughout the Borough.
8. That the allocation of new bins be split evenly between the four neighbourhoods and should any discount be earned on bulk purchasing of bins or any sponsorship secured from businesses, the allocation of new bins would increase accordingly.
9. That dog bins on the highway be phased out and when in need of repair, replace by litter bins that serve a dual purpose, with bins being clearly marked with 'dog waste permitted' signs to raise awareness. Dog bins only to be provided in parks and open spaces.
10. That pole mounted bins be provided only in areas where it is not possible to site the 110lts Topsy Jubilee, for example, on narrow footpaths.

10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- Walks by Members to look at the provision of litter bins throughout the Borough and identify any that are in need of replacement.

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No background papers