



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

D232

Council 18 December 2012

CABINET MEMBER REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

Report by Cllr Peter Stevens, Environment and Waste Management Portfolio

Portfolio includes:

- Conservation, Climate Change and Energy Action; and
- Environmental Sustainability and the Environmental Management System;
- Public Toilets;
- Street Names and Numbering;
- Street Scene, Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance; and
- Waste and Recycling.

1. Environmental Sustainability

1.1 Domestic Energy Efficiency programme

1.1.1 The Environment Team has been actively developing and promoting free or heavily discounted home insulation, taking advantage of the utility companies Carbon Emissions Reduction Target, which is due to cease at the end of 2012 and be replaced by the Government's new initiative, Green Deal, and the associated Energy Company Obligation which supports energy efficiency improvements for vulnerable households.

1.1.2 This programme in Suffolk is branded "Warm as Toast" and has been developed by all Suffolk local authorities, and supported by businesses such as Co-Op East of England, charities and community groups. Since its launch in June 2012, 571 properties across Suffolk and 86 in the Borough have benefitted from improved home insulation, so saving household energy costs and cutting carbon emissions. This is in addition to other promotions run by commercial insulation companies and the Warm Homes Healthy People programme run by the local authorities in Suffolk aimed at vulnerable households.

1.1.3 Work is underway to extend and as necessary reconfigure the programme utilising any opportunities from the Green Deal.

2. Waste and Street Scene Services

2.1 Energy Saving Trust Fleet Hero Awards 2012

- 2.1.1 We were recently shortlisted for the Commercial Vehicle Management Award 2012 together with other organisations who have implemented a broad range of measures across their road going commercial vehicle fleet operations to help cut emissions and improve efficiency.
- 2.1.2 Our entry was for the benefits achieved as part of the partnership round reorganisation with Forest Heath District Council.
- 2.1.3 The awards were presented on Tuesday 20 November 2012, and although we were not the outright winners the nomination underpins the success, wider recognition and legacy of this project.

2.2 Community Engagement

- 2.2.1 Officers have recently undertaken waste and recycling talks to pupils at the Priory School, Bury St Edmunds and Coupals County Primary School in Haverhill.
- 2.2.2 Furthermore, officers have also supported litter picks with pupils from The Priory and Hardwick Schools.
- 2.2.3 We also recently attended an 'Impact Day' at Ipswich Court in Bury St Edmunds to address waste, recycling and enforcement issues. This was part of an organised multi-agency event to provide face-to-face information to the residents of the area.
- 2.2.4 In addition the textiles recycling scheme continues to perform well, and in order to support our residents' participation and to provide advice, officers undertook a promotional textiles road show at the arc in Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday 28 November 2012. The contact number for residents who need additional textiles recycling bags is 01284 757320.

2.3 DEFRA's release of Local Authority Waste Statistics 2011/2012

- 2.3.1 On Thursday 8 November 2012 DEFRA released the Local Authority waste statistics for 2011/2012. St Edmundsbury's residual waste per household (NI191) decreased by 15.77 kg/hhld (kilograms per household) from the previous year to 461.39 kg/hhld. In addition, St Edmundsbury also achieved a recycling and composting rate (NI192) of 52.34%, a 0.45% improvement on the previous year's.