

## PORTFOLIO: COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

### 1. Cabinet decisions since the last meeting of County Council

- 1.1 There will have been 4 Cabinet meetings (18 December 2017, 22 January 2018, 19 February 2018 and 19 March 2018) since the last Executive Report to County Council on 21 November 2017. There were no items of business specifically attributed to this portfolio.

### 2. Consequences of Cabinet decisions before the last meeting of the County Council on 21 November 2017

- 2.1 Nothing to report.

### 3. Anticipated/future decisions to be made by Cabinet

#### Cabinet – 19 March 2018

A010/18 - The provision of a sustainable Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) network: The HWRCs manage over 80,000 tonnes of waste and approximately 2.4 million visits each year. The service provides facilities to segregate a wide range of different materials for recycling, reuse or recovery and last year diverted over 70% of all waste away from landfill. Cabinet will be invited to consider a report that outlines pressure on the existing contractor for the services (Amey) and explores mitigations of potential risks to the County Council.

#### Future Meeting of Cabinet

The potential transfer of governance of Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) from the County Council to the Police and Crime Commissioner: This has now been independently assessed by CIPFA and a decision by the Home Secretary is awaited. Necessary information and decisions in relation to this will go through the Community Safety and Waste Management Panel and Cabinet in due course

### 4. Key Partnerships

- 4.1 **The East Coast Collaboration** of fire control rooms is now live, which will enable a fully integrated control function across four fire and rescue services (Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Humberside and Lincolnshire). This will provide increased emergency resilience to Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service.

- 4.2 **The Hertfordshire Waste Partnership (HWP)** has completed the reviews of the inter-authority mechanisms for transport subsidy payments and the Alternative Financial Model (AFM) mechanism. The technical review of the AFM concluded the mechanism remains fit for purpose and fair. It is anticipated a more root and branch review of the Model and its purpose may be required within the next 12-24 months. The review of the transport

subsidy led to a £150,000 efficiency saving for the County Council (as highlighted in the Integrated Plan).

**4.3 The Hertfordshire Fly Tipping Group (FTG)**, led by the HWP, is showing promising signs of success with fly tipping in Hertfordshire during 2017/18 reducing significantly; from April to December 2017 the number of record incidents compared to the same period in 2016/17 reduced by 2,284 which is equivalent to a 19.4% reduction. A county wide multi-channel fly tipping campaign will roll out from mid-March onwards and is being supported by the FTG's 17 partner organisations. The efficacy of the FTG was recently recognised on the national stage at the Keep Britain Tidy awards where the FTG picked up the award for Best Partnership.

## **5. Other comments**

### **5.1 Breathing Apparatus Replacement programme**

Following a competitive tendering process, Interspiro have been chosen to provide the '10-year period' replacement for Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Services compliment of the vital Breathing Apparatus (BA) sets and ancillaries at a cost of just under £500k. The phased transition to Interspiro has commenced with a comprehensive training package for Firefighters.

### **5.2 Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety**

Dame Judith Hackitt, who was appointed by the Government to lead an Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety following the Grenfell fire has published her interim findings. The interim report finds that:

- a culture change is required - with industry taking greater responsibility for what is built - this change needs to start now
- the current system for ensuring fire safety in high-rise buildings is not fit for purpose
- a clear, quick and effective route for residents to raise concerns and be listened to, must be created.

### **5.3 New Office for Product Safety and Standards**

The Government has announced the creation of a new national oversight body tasked with identifying consumer risks and managing responses to large-scale product recalls and repairs. The Office for Product Safety and Standards will provide support and advice for local authority Trading Standards teams, co-ordinate work across local authorities where action is needed on a national scale and will ensure the UK continues to carry out appropriate border checks on imported products once the UK leaves the European Union.

**5.4 The Secretary of State (SoS) for Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government** notified the Council on 1 February 2018 that the planning application, from Veolia Environmental Services Ltd, for an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) at Rye House, off Ratty's Lane, Hoddesdon (presented to the 20 December 2017 Development Control Committee which resolved that it was minded to approve planning permission), is to be called-in and a "local inquiry" is to be scheduled.

In accordance with the relevant legislation, the Council in its role as Waste Planning Authority (WPA) is required to provide a statement of case to the SoS. A further letter from the Minister's department was received by the Council on the 8 February 2018 notifying the WPA of the case officer and to start the process of developing a bespoke timetable for the inquiry. This is very disappointing news for the applicant and for the County as Waste Disposal Authority. Further delay is now certain and risks of failing to secure a viable, in-county, long term solution for the treatment of Hertfordshire's residual waste have increased.

- 5.5 A new Ware Household Waste Recycling Centre 'super-site'** planning application was submitted to the County Council's WPA on 18 August 2017, and was determined and approved by the WPA under delegated authority on 20 February 2018. However, as the site is in the green belt the application has been referred to the SoS for consideration. This process will take up to 21 days for a decision on whether to call in the application.

## **6. Cabinet Panels**

- 6.1 Since the last Executive Report to Council, the Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel has met on 8 February 2018 and 13 March 2018. The matters discussed at the Panel meetings can be found at the following locations:

[Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel - 8 February 2018](#)

[Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel - 13 March 2018](#)

**Terry Hone**  
**Executive Member for Community Safety and Waste Management**  
**March 2018**