

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 1 November 2018

Subject: Safer, Greener & Transport

Portfolio Holder: Councillor S. Kane

Recommending:

That the report of the Safer, Greener & Transport Portfolio Holder be noted.

Countrycare

Since the last report Countrycare has worked on four different sites with its volunteers. Tasks included raking, sowing yellow rattle seed to help improve biodiversity on one of the wildflower meadows, creating a new path and fence repairs. The days were well attended with an average of 13 volunteers out each week.

We held our annual mammal morning with Essex Wildlife Trust at Chigwell Meadows. Only 5 people attended but they were all very complimentary and enjoyed the morning very much. The autumn Tree Warden meeting was held with 16 tree wardens in attendance. It was a very constructive meeting. A leaflet has been produced on Why Trees are Good for You. It details all the health benefits trees have and encourages people to “take care of trees so that they can take care of you”.

We have begun a project to turn the World War II pill box in Roughtalley’s Wood into a bat hibernation roost. A bat survey has been carried out and recommendations have been made by the ecologist on the best way to make the inside of the pill box suitable to hibernating bats. The next step is to have a building survey carried out to make sure the structure is sound enough to work in.

Parking

Loughton Broadway Parking Review:

Final designs for the scheme have been agreed with Ward Members and preparations for a public consultation are well advanced at the time of writing this report.

North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP):

At the meeting of NEPP Board on 4 October we had the yearly opportunity to nominate our six schemes.

The following schemes put forward by the Council have all been accepted by NEPP:

- 1) Hill Road Theydon Bois,
- 2) Blackacre Road, Theydon Bois,
- 3) Epping New Road,
- 4) The Windsors,

- 5) Blackmore Road,
- 6) Whitehills Road,
- 7) Stag Lane,
- 8) Palace Gardens,
- 9) Spareleaze Hill,
- 10) Stewards Green Road,
- 11) Nursery Road Connaught Avenue and Shaftesbury as one scheme,
- 12) Abridge Road, Station Hill and Graylands.

Epping Town Parking Review:

All responses from the public consultation were collated and discussed with local Ward Members. Officers will now finalise the proposed changes and arrange making of Traffic Regulation Orders which will enable enforcement. I am keen to see the scheme implemented in this year however this is subject to weather and procurement.

Community Safety

I would like to focus on a couple of issues mentioned in my last report which have had developments that Members may be interested in.

On 28th September our EFDC Police Team worked with officers from Planning and Loughton Community Policing Team, to support the enforcement of notices that were served on a number of unauthorised development plots at Roydon Lodge Chalet Estate. Our risk assessment for the enforcement determined this action required the support of police.

In total 15 police officers were deployed to support Operation Xerses, to enable process servers to facilitate the councils lawful enforcement function. This is the start of what is expected to be a long term action. I am happy to report that there were no incidents of threats, intimidation or threats of violence due to this planned and co-ordinated response led by Sergeant Neil Ross from our team.

I previously reported on two ASB Case Reviews (Community Triggers) received from residents in Pyrles Lane, Loughton. The threshold for review was met in both cases due to the persistence of anti-social behaviour. A multi-agency Review Panel meeting was held on 20th September chaired by Community Safety. Recommendations were made concerning the tenancy of the perpetrator, working with East of England Ambulance Service to put in place a preventative injunction and with Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) to look at other tenancy options. (CRC are part of the Probation Service).

It was also agreed that work was also required by the Mental Health Team to provide more intense management of the perpetrator in the community. This has been an extremely difficult and intense case involving many different agencies and has placed significant pressure on all agencies involved. The council have a duty to publish data of all ASB Case Review applications which can be found on our web site under Crime and Safety / anti-social behaviour. I am pleased that our processes for receiving and reviewing Case Review applications seem to be working well.

The Community Safety Investigators continue to manage a cross border intelligence meeting relating to the Chigwell/Hainault border areas. Participants are EFDC, Essex Police CPT, our

police team, British Transport Police, Operation Raptor, Metropolitan Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team and specialist gang crime and intelligence officers. This is a tried and tested information sharing meeting which allows a dynamic exchange of operational intelligence which has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate worth.

EFDC Safeguarding Referral Statistics April 2018 to March 2019

	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTALS
No. of NEW concerns received	31	36	27	32	38	29							193
Children only concerns	5	4	7	3	6	3							28
Adult only concerns	18	24	17	15	19	15							108
Adult & children concerns	8	8	3	14	13	11							57
No. of children involved	32	27	18	40	50	27							194
No of adults involved	27	36	25	32	34	27							181
New cases ref. to social care	7	7	8	9	7	7							45
Referred to the Police	0	0	1	1	10	2							14
Ref. to MARAC	2	0	0	3	3	0							8
Referred to partner agency	2	5	2	4	8	2							23
Referred to Mental Health	0	0	2	1	2	0							5
Not referred	20	24	18	17	11	13							103

As can be seen from the table above, we are continuing to receive a high number of safeguarding referrals each week, which are often complex and can involve a wide range of agencies in gathering intelligence.

CCTV

Following an assault in Buckhurst Hill, Police requested an emergency download of CCTV of the incident. The CCTV provided the Police with conclusive evidence and at a recent Crown Court Hearing the perpetrator pleaded guilty to wounding/causing grievous bodily harm with intent, which the CPS has accepted.

The perpetrator was sentenced on 12th October 2018.