

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 23RD FEBRUARY 2005

REVIEW OF STREET CLEANSING SERVICES

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to note an ongoing review of the provision of Street Cleansing Services and consider interim modifications.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The provision of Street Cleansing Services is based largely on the specifications for the CCT contracts inherited from the two former District Councils.
- 2.2 The removal of CCT coupled with the Council's commitment to Best Value means that there is merit in an ongoing review of service and some initial work has already been carried out.
- 2.3 The initial findings indicate that some modifications can be introduced immediately with some further adjustments being made during the incoming financial year.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The Council's Street Sweeping Services are provided largely on a programmed basis but the monitoring regime is controlled effectively by the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse. The Code makes provision for members of the public being able to make complaints about the cleanliness of streets and places responsibilities on the Council to have these swept within defined timescales.
- 3.2 It is felt that the modification of some weekend sweeping arrangements together with the withdrawal of street washing in Kilmarnock Town Centre would not impinge on the Council's current ability to meet its obligations under the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse.
- 3.3 It is therefore proposed that:-
- (i) The weekend sweeping arrangements in the South area be modified to an alternate Saturday and Sunday service;
 - (ii) The sweeping arrangements in the North area be modified with the towns and villages being serviced by a mobile crew;
 - (iii) The daily street washing service in Kilmarnock be withdrawn.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Introduction of modified weekend street sweeping services in the two operating areas, and withdrawal of the daily street washing service in Kilmarnock will produce annual savings of £50,000.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Environmental Protection Act 1990.
5.2 The Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The proposal to improve the efficiency of the service is in accord with the Community Plan's aspirations for improving the environment.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 In accordance with the Council's commitment to Best Value, a review of Street Sweeping Services indicates the facility to modify the existing Service; and withdraw the daily street washing service in Kilmarnock.
7.2 It is thought that these modifications will not impact on the Council's ability to meet its responsibility in terms of the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Committee is invited to:-
- i) approve the proposals to modify weekend Street Sweeping arrangements as set out in 3.3 (i) and (ii) above; withdraw the street washing service in Kilmarnock as from 1st April 2005;
 - ii) note that the review of Street Sweeping Services is ongoing; and
 - iii) otherwise note the report.

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/JFC/GW

7th February 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

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