



PLACE SELECT COMMITTEE

Wednesday 20 September 2023 at 10:30am

COUNCILLORS

Nigel Moxon (Chairman)

Tom Hollis (Vice-Chairman) - **Apologies**

Richard Butler - **Apologies**

Anne Callaghan BEM

Penny Gowland

Mike Introna

Kane Oliver

John Ogle

Roger Upton

Jonathan Wheeler

Elizabeth Williamson

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillor Steve Carr for Councillor Tom Hollis

Councillor John Lee for Councillor Richard Butler

OTHER COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Mike Adams

Councillor Neil Clarke MBE

OFFICERS

Mick Allen	- Group Manager, Environment and Resources
Vicky Cropley	- Programme Manager – Safer Nottinghamshire Board
Martin Elliott	- Senior Scrutiny Officer
Kate Morris	- Democratic Services Officer
Sue Jaques	- Flood Risk Manager
Mark Walker	- Interim Service Director, Place and Communities
Claudine White	- Group Manager – Trading Standards and Communities

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20 September 2023, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Councillor Richard Butler (Other County Council Business)
- Councillor Tom Hollis (Other Reasons)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

4. PLACE SELECT COMMITTEE JULY 2023 – RESPONSE TO RESOLUTIONS

For this item the Place Select Committee sat in its role as the Council's Statutory Crime and Disorder Committee, as defined by the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

Mark Walker, Interim Service Director Place and Communities, introduced a report that responded to the resolution that had been made at the meeting of the Place Committee in September 2023:

“That a further report be submitted to the September 2023 meeting of the Place Select Committee that:

- i. acknowledges the commitments of the Motion of Full Council in March 2023.*
- ii. includes information around performance issues under the current strategic priorities of the Nottinghamshire Community Safety Agreement.*
- iii. provides information on the suitability of those assigned to lead on priorities.*

Vicky Cropley, Programme Manager for Safer Nottinghamshire Board, gave a detailed summary of the response set out below:

- The report confirmed that rising crime rates were acknowledged in the Community Safety Agreement (CSA). Crime figures were one of a number of factors taken into account when setting the CSA priorities for the year and were taken from the Police and Crime Needs Assessment.
- The Safer Nottinghamshire Board was due to consider a revised performance management approach at its September 2023 meeting. If approved, this would use information from the Nottinghamshire Police Crime Update, information that was also used for reporting to the Police and Crime Panel in order to align information and to facilitate collaborative working.
- The latest performance information would be available publicly at the next Police and Crime Panel meeting
- Safer Nottinghamshire Board priority leads had been reviewed in April 2023 as part of the development of the current CSA. The rationale for each was set out in the report.
- Annual reports were not currently published, but a recommendation would be put to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board that a summary of the workshop style reviews should be shared in an annual report.

In the discussion that followed, members raised the following points and questions:

- Members noted that the Priority Lead for Reducing Re-Offending had changed from the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Chief Executive of the Police and Crime Commissioners Office. They asked why this change had been made.
- Members asked if Adult reoffending statistics were broken down into different categories of crime, and whether that data separated traffic offences from other crime types.

- Members welcomed the report and how it demonstrated partnership working towards reducing crime across Nottinghamshire. However, they raised concerns about varying focus on violence against women and girls.
- Members asked what the definition of “mutual cooperation” was as mentioned in the published report at paragraph nine.

In response to the points raised, the officers present provided the following responses:

- The Priority Lead for Reducing Reoffending was traditionally the Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Chair of the Reducing Reoffending Board. The Police and Crime Commissioner had Chaired a meeting of that Board in the period where a new Chief Executive was being appointed and was named as the lead. However, a new Chief Executive was now in place and so the Lead had been updated.
- The Police and Crime Needs assessment covered all types of crime and a specific breakdown could be circulated to members. The data seen by the Reducing Reoffending Board had many layers of information in order to target specific areas of crime. It was confirmed that speeding was not one of the offences that the Board focused on.
- The Community Safety Agreement currently prioritised violence against women and girls within the violent crime work programme. At the upcoming meeting of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board a proposal would be made to make violence against women and girls a cross cutting priority in its own right to further tackle the issue and enable greater partnership working.
- There was no legal definition of mutual cooperation, however in the context of the report it meant partners working from the same data set, joined up working with joint targets and goals, and aligned priorities.

The Chairman thanked Mark Walker, Interim Service Director Place and Communities, and Vicky Cropley, Program Manager for Safer Nottinghamshire Board for attending the meeting and answering the questions that members had posed.

RESOLVED 2023/014

That the report be noted.

5. PROGRESS REPORT ON WORK WITH THE JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD TO INCREASE RECYCLING RATES

Councillor Neil Clarke, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport introduced a report that outlined the progress of work with the Joint Waste Management Board to encourage greater recycling rates across Nottinghamshire. The Cabinet Member highlighted that a key focus of activity for the Board was centred on communication with residents to encourage higher levels of recycling.

In the discussion that followed, members raised the following points and questions:

- A number of years ago some district councils had gifted garden compost bins to residents. Members highlighted that the recycling of green waste done at home could not be captured and so could not be presented in the figures. They asked how many similar schemes had been rolled out that had resulted in non-recordable recycling.
- Members asked if it would be possible to have data broken down further to show what kerb side collections were available in which district, to establish what was working well, and what districts could do differently.
- Members asked if it was possible to see a breakdown of contaminated recycling by district and the cost of this contamination to the Council. Members asked what could be done around communication with residents to minimise contamination rates.
- Members recognised that in some residential areas having multiple bins and containers for recycling was difficult due to space. Members asked if data existed around how many residents were impacted by this issue, and how this would be impacted further by the proposed introduction of food waste collection.
- Members asked if data existed to highlight areas with higher contamination rates than others, and if so, how those areas were being targeted in order to reduce contamination levels.
- Members queried how the potential strike of union members employed by Veolia would impact on their fulfilment of their contract.
- Members highlighted that communication with residents was key, and that regular communication was essential to driving up recycling figures and reducing contamination rates.
- Members expressed frustration that all seven district and borough councils had different collection regimes and different coloured bins. They acknowledged that it would not be possible to align waste collection and recycling services across the county due to a number of factors.

In response to the points raised the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment and the Group Manager Place Commissioning provided the following responses:

- A number of districts had had similar schemes and had given out compost bins to residents. There was no way to record the recycling that had resulted from these schemes.
- Officers confirmed that it was possible to break down data further and include details of what kerb side collections were in place in each district.
- Contamination rates varied across the county between 10% and 20% and represented a significant cost. The Joint Waste Management Board was working on communication strategies and campaigns to further educate the public to reduce contamination rates.

- For new developments the District and Borough Councils, as the local planning authorities, were responsible for ensuring that plans included sufficient provision for waste disposal. In areas of existing housing where space was an issue, it was more of a challenge.
- Sampling of dry recyclables took place at the Material Recovery Facility which identified areas with higher contamination rates. The District and Borough Councils were aware of streets with a particular problem around contamination and were able to target support to improve rates.
- The Environment Bill was still outstanding and so plans for food waste collection could only progress so far. The District and Borough Councils were the responsible collection authorities and so plans for how the kerb side collection would work sat with them. The County Council had been working with districts and boroughs to start planning for the introduction of the primary legislation.
- Officers were working with Veolia around the issues that were emerging as a result of strike action and flexible contingency plans had been developed to respond to whatever circumstances could arise from any strike action.
- Consistent communication with residents had been in place for a number of years. There was a comprehensive range of information available to District and Borough Councils from Veolia to enable education and communication with residents. A programme of analysis was underway for some districts to see what additional waste could be recycled that was currently being disposed of through residual waste.
- Aligning the collection regime of the District and Borough councils would not be cost effective and would generate a large amount of plastic waste exchanging bins. It would also lead to a spike in contamination and a drop in recycling rates as citizens adjusted to the new arrangements.

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment and the Group Manager Place Commissioning for attending the meeting and answering members' questions.

RESOLVED 2023/015

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That the following issues raised by the Committee in its consideration of the report on the work with the Joint Waste Management Board to increase recycling rates across Nottinghamshire be progressed:
 - a) That the delivery of effective communications that encourage residents to recycle should continue to be a key focus of activity for the Nottinghamshire Joint Waste Management Board.

- b) That information on recycling rates in the districts and boroughs that show the amount of glass collected through kerbside collections as well as at bring sites be circulated to members of the Place Select Committee.
- c) That information on contamination levels of recycling collected through kerbside collections in the districts and boroughs be circulated to members of the Place Select Committee.
- d) That the invitation that has been made to all district and borough councillors across Nottinghamshire to visit the Materials Recovery Facility be reaffirmed

6. STATUTORY FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT SCRUTINY: SECTION 19 REPORT RE FLOODING IN RAVENSHEAD APRIL 2023

Sue Jaques, Flood Risk Manager, introduced the report to the Committee summarising the Council's statutory duties as the Lead Local Flood Authority and presented the Section 19 report in relation to the flooding event in Ravenshead in April 2023. The points below were highlighted:

- Following heavy rain nine residential properties and one business suffered from internal flooding. Two further residential properties that had been affected came to light later and were included within the report.
- Factors contributing to the flooding were topography, heavy rain and runoff. Work had subsequently taken place with Via and the community to look at potential solutions.

In the discussion that followed, members raised the following points and questions:

- Members asked what the Council was able to do as the Lead Local Flood Authority to influence developers to help avoid development in areas at risk of flooding.
- Members asked how many properties needed to be flooded to trigger a Section 19 report.

In response to the points raised the Flood Risk Manager provided the following responses:

- As Lead Local Flood Authority the Council was able to comment on planning applications and did so. They liaised with district and borough planning teams around drainage plans. The Council also worked with communities to develop flood warning schemes in areas of risk.
- A section 19 investigation was triggered when five or more residential properties were flooded internally. This was a nationally, statutory threshold.

The Chairman thanked the Flood Risk Manager for the attending the meeting and answering members' questions.

RESOLVED 2023/016

1. That in accordance with Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Council's Lead Local Flood Authority responsibilities, the Section 19 Report – Ravenshead – April 2023, as attached as an appendix to the officer's report, be approved and published.
2. That the work (as detailed in the officer's report) that has taken place in response to the flooding incident in Ravenshead in April 2023 be endorsed.

7. PLACE SELECT REVIEW - PROPOSED SCOPE

Martin Elliot, Senior Scrutiny Officer presented the report proposing the scope for a Task and Finish Group looking at the Household Waste Recycling Centre network. The scope had been drawn up with the Chair in consultation with Officers as a result of discussions at the July 2023 meeting of the Place Select Committee where it was resolved:

“That a scrutiny task and finish working group be established to carry out further scrutiny on, and to feed into the work being carried out on the review of Household Waste Recycling Centre provision.”

The Chairman thanked the Senior Scrutiny Officer, the Interim Service Director Place and Communities and the Group Manager Place Commissioning for their input in drawing up the scope. He urged members to participate where possible, and if they were unable to, to nominate a group member to attend in their place.

RESOLVED 2023/017

That the proposed scope for the Place Select Committee's review around Household Waste Recycling Provision be approved.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered its Work Programme.

RESOLVED 2023/018

- 1) That the Work Programme be noted.
- 2) That committee members make any further suggestions of items for inclusion on the work programme to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman (subject to consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and senior officers and the required approval by the Chairman of the Overview Committee).

The meeting closed at 12:09pm

CHAIRMAN