

## COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL

19 October 2020

Meeting commenced: 2.00 p.m.  
“ ended: 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Burch - in the Chair

Councillors Fletcher, Karen Garrido, Humphreys, Mullen, Ryan, Turner, Joan Walsh and Wheeler.

OFFICERS: David Seager - Assistant Director, Operational and Commercial Services

David Robinson - Head of Service, Streetscene and Parks

John Wooderson - Head of Service, Urban Renewal

Neil Smith - Regulatory Services Officer

Mike Tuson - Salford Community Leisure

Asa Keenan - Salford Youth Alliance

Mike Relph - Senior Democratic Services Adviser

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Barnes, Boshell, Lancaster and Warner.

### 2. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 21 September, 2020, were approved as a correct record.

Reference was made to continuing issues with the GMP iOPS crime data recording system (Previous Minute 4(d) - 21 September 2020) and when these were likely to be resolved. It was indicated this would be investigated and update provided.

### 3. SALFORD COMMUNITY LEISURE (SCL) - SUMMER PROVISION 2020

The Chief Executive of SCL submitted a report which provided an overview of the activities for young people which had been held over the summer months and the additional challenges Covid-19 and observing social distancing had presented in delivering these.

Members raised issues, commented on, and noted them, as follows:

(a) What were the reasons for the relatively low female participation? The logistics of staging the activities had perhaps resulted in them being predominately ones which were traditionally regarded as male orientated. In addition, them being staged outdoors, rather than indoors, could have made them less attractive to young females.

(b) What was the reason for the apparent low take up in Swinton and Pendlebury? The early start of these may have been a factor, as well as the poor weather on the days they were held.

(c) What was the number of staff involved with these events compared to normal, when there were no social distancing restrictions? Normally the ratio of staff to young people would be 1:10, but to ensure effective social distancing that was now 1:4, which in turn, limited the total number who could participate.

(d) Despite the lack of promotion, for obvious reasons, the attendance at the events had been good.

RESOLVED: THAT the report be noted and thanks be extended to all those involved in the successful programme of events.

#### 4. WASTE STRATEGY AND GREATER MANCHESTER CONTRACT - UPDATE

The Strategic Director for Place provided a presentation which provided an overview of waste and recycling, together with the Greater Manchester waste and recycling disposal contract and associated waste strategy 2020, which covered the following key areas/themes:

- GM Waste Disposal Contract - update
  - Background/context - GMCA partnership with Suez
  - GMCA Waste Board - Salford City Council representation
  - Contract performance indicators/statistics
  - Impact of Covid-19 and contingency measures
- Environment Bill 2020 - England's Resource and Waste Strategy
  - Objectives/proposals
  - Implications particularly proposed consistent nationwide waste and recycling collections

Members raised issues, commented on, and noted them, as follows:

(a) On a visit to the Greater Manchester waste recycling facility in Wythenshawe in 2018, an excess of paper products had been identified, for which there was no ready market. Was this the still case? The recycling of paper waste was on target and being managed, though sometimes, due to the poor quality of the waste products concerned, the only option was to dispose of it to create energy, rather than recycling it.

(b) Did the Environment Bill address the need for producers and retailers to have a responsibility for recycling. This was covered in the Bill, as was the introduction of a plastic deposit return scheme. The key thrust was on the reduction of waste and reuse instead.

(c) Did the Bill propose greater local autonomy in terms of recycling policies, particularly the requirement of businesses in this regard? There was reference to the devolution of such powers, but these were non-specific, nor gave any indication as with whom the enforcement of them would rest.

(d) Concerns were expressed at the “6 Bin” policy for every home which the Bill proposed, both in terms of cost, logistics and the potential confusion it could cause, in turn discouraging recycling and negatively impacting on rates.

(e) There was a possible need to ensure new housing developments had “built in” recycling facilities. Such facilities had benefits, as well as well as drawbacks, including the cost. In addition, while developers could be encouraged to incorporate them into residential schemes, there was currently no statutory requirement for them to do so.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT presentation and its contents be noted.

(2) THAT the Panel’s reservations to the potential implications of the proposals of the Environment Bill 2020 - England’s Resource and Waste Strategy be added in support of the representations being made on behalf of Salford City Council

5. RENEWAL OF DOG CONTROL OF PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS (PSPOs)

The Strategic Director for Place provided a presentation which provided an overview of the City Council’s Dog Warden Service, particularly its activities in promoting responsible dog ownership, together with the recent renewal of PSPOs relating to dog control in Salford’s parks, public spaces and cemeteries and the reintroduction of dog exclusion areas, such as for children’s play areas.

[Salford City Council Dog Control PSPOs](#)

Members raised issues, commented on, and noted them, as follows:

(a) Whether there had been an increase in abandoned pets during the Covid-19 pandemic. There was no evidence to suggest this as the case.

(b) It was agreed the use of stencilled warnings on pavements, requesting owners picked up dog waste and disposed of it responsibly, was an effective and relatively inexpensive deterrent. It was also indicated it could be quickly implemented in any areas which were experiencing such problems, if requested. Similar promotional/advisory stickers, to be placed on lampposts, could also be provided to residents.

(c) What work was done with commercial dog walkers? There was regular engagement with them, normally through a variety of events, where guidance was provided and awareness raised about relevant issues/problems.

(d) Reference was made to the low number of fixed penalty notices issued for dog fouling and associated offences. The level of evidence required often made this difficult and while enforcement was taken seriously and applied in appropriate circumstances, there was generally an emphasis instead on prevention and promoting responsible dog ownership.

RESOLVED: THAT presentation and its contents be noted.

6. WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

Members gave consideration to the Panel's Work Programme for 2020/21.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the Panel's Work Programme for 2020/21, be noted.

(2) THAT the following issues be incorporated into the Panel's Work Programme 2020/21 and arrangements made for them to be considered at a future meeting(s):

- Pest Control, including current contract with United Utilities
- Trees - preservation and replacement policies
- Allotments - usage, demand, waiting lists
- Services for older people during Covid-19 pandemic, particularly for those who are "shielding"

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Panel would be held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2020, commencing at 2.00 pm.