

**REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT  
(SUSTAINABILITY) AND LOCAL ENGAGEMENT  
TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2016**

**Waste updates**

- The **Annual Customer Service Survey** (which asks for feedback on the collection of green waste) went out to public consultation on **Friday 11 November**.
- The Supplementary Planning Document '**Guidelines for Recycling and Refuse Storage in New Developments Consultation draft SPD**' is also being consulted upon. This document sets out recycling and refuse storage provision guidelines for new residential and commercial development, and provides a clear direction on what it expects to see provided as part of new development and will be the basis for any negotiations over provision. This consultation continues until **Monday 5 December 2016**.

For further details on both these consultations please visit:  
<https://www.iwight.com/consultations/>

- Since the roll-out of the new waste contract, there has been a net reduction (by 28 per cent) in non-recyclable waste being sent for landfill and continued reductions in the number of missed collections.
- Following members' feedback, two community engagement officers are being appointed by Amey to support localised issues. I have asked for these officers to work in close partnership with Town and Parish Councils and environment officers.

**Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee**

- The recommendation to increase the 2016/7 local levy by five per cent fell, owing to austerity measures being rolled out in local authorities across the South East Region. Instead members resolved to increase the levy by two per cent, which I supported.
- In my role as part of the recommendation, the bid to award £400,000 of local levy funding (to unlock £4.8 million) was approved for future Monktonmead Brook outfall improvements. This will reduce flood risk to 327 residential and commercial properties at Ryde.

Further information can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/562689/SRFCC\\_Main\\_meeting\\_pack\\_-\\_19\\_July\\_2016.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/562689/SRFCC_Main_meeting_pack_-_19_July_2016.pdf)

## Countryside issues

I attended an **AONB Partnership meeting**.

- The partnership has offered to support and promote walking events through future **winter** and **summer walking programmes**.
- Following 'Down To The Coast' grant funding, the local Wildlife Trust has appointed four apprentices.
- It was also reported that the early stages of **Ash die-back** has been identified in Parkhurst Forest and Lushington Copse. Other woodland owners have also witnessed an impact upon young trees.

In my next report, I look forward to providing an update to members on the transition of the council's countryside estate to Gift To Nature.

## Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils

At the most recent meeting with the **Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils**, issues discussed with both myself and the chief executive included:

- An update on **Principal Parks**.
- **Regeneration** and ensuring local councils are and stay involved.
- Positive outcomes concerning working in partnership on the **Youth Offer**.
- An exchange of views concerning devolution.
- Individual views expressed from town and parish councils concerning the quality of road repairs.

## Transferral of public toilets

Although there continues to be a few localised issues, these continue to be ironed out following ongoing dialogue between local members, town and parish councils and officers. My grateful thanks to all members that have supported these efforts, it is much appreciated!

## Helping You Stay Warm this Winter?

People struggling with energy bills are being helped thanks to funding from the ScottishPower Energy People Trust. Local energy experts from the Island's Footprint Trust visit people in their homes and give free impartial guidance on reducing bills and using energy wisely.

## Save Energy, Save Money... Six Top Tips from the Footprint Trust:

- **Overcharging (Save up to £100):** Make sure that you are not on the wrong energy tariff. Don't be loyal to your energy company - Shop around to get the best deal!

- **Close Curtains (Save up to £15):** Get some nice thick curtains from your local charity shop, or fit a thermal liner to your existing ones- You will feel warmer!
- **Keep It Covered (Save up to £15):** Keep saucepan lids on, turn down heat, use the right size pan for your hob. This will speed up cooking times and reduce energy costs.
- **Be Waterwise (Save up to £250):** Showering is generally cheaper than taking baths. (Unless you spend a half-an-hour in there!). See if you can manage to be washed and out in four minutes.
- **Turn that Dial. (Save up to £200):** Every degree over 18C costs about £75 per year. If you are at home in your pants in winter, turn down the thermostat, and put on some clothes!
- **Insulate Now. (Save up to £300):** Grant funding may be available to you for loft and cavity insulation, depending on where you live, the age of your property or financial status.

**The best way to cut your bills is to have a FREE home energy visit!** For details contact the Footprint Trust on **01983 822282**, email: [ray@footprint-trust.co.uk](mailto:ray@footprint-trust.co.uk) or visit [www.footprint-trust.co.uk](http://www.footprint-trust.co.uk).

### **Warm Up Wight.**

Warm Up Wight is being delivered by J&J Crump which secured vital Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding to deliver benefits to residents. The scheme will provide insulation and heating improvements to residential properties which meet the required criteria. Each property's Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) will be checked, upon request for home insulation improvements which will identify any appropriate insulation and heating needs.

The scheme currently offers free cavity wall insulation for all properties. Free loft insulation will be undertaken where possible and as required, following the EPC check. Low income households may be entitled to free or significantly reduced replacement boiler systems. For a free, no obligation survey, call Free(!) **0800 032 8322**, or go online to: [www.warmupwight.co.uk](http://www.warmupwight.co.uk)

### **Also since last Full Council.**

- In Councillor Smart's absence, I attended a **Solent Transport** briefing. Of key note during the meeting was the future roll out of **Real Time Information** on Isle of Wight buses, **smart/contactless ticketing** on public transport, potential future disruption at **Waterloo Station** following its expansion and incentives to cut **pollution levels in Southampton**.
- Myself, Councillor Jones-Evans and Councillor Ward became recycling champions at a recent event hosted by the Footprint Trust and Community Waste Forum (which is delivered by Amey in partnership with the Isle of Wight Council)!
- I attended a meeting with officers and landowners on exploring 'self-help' options for modest **coastal/flood defence** measures in Gurnard.

- I've spoken to officers about the opportunity to work closer with town and parish councils and associations in the day-to-day **management of allotments**, and am hoping to arrange a meeting to move forward on this with relevant town councils in the coming weeks.
- In the coming weeks, I am hoping to arrange a meeting between **Ryde Aspire**, myself and officers to explore opportunities to support this local pro-recycling charity.
- I have been asked to attend an Executive meeting of the Southern IFCA next week to consider **Poole Harbour Dredge Permits**, feedback from recently implemented **Bottom Towed Fishing Gear** and **Solent Dredging By-laws** and relevant impact assessments.

**Councillor Paul Fuller**

**Executive Member for Environment (Sustainability) and Local Engagement**