

SERVICETEAM (VEOLIA) PROGRESS REPORT – REFUSE COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND STREET CLEANSING

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Members to receive the attached progress report from Serviceteam Limited, on the progress and development of the refuse collection and street cleansing contracts. (Appendix A). Mike Jarvis (Regional Manager) and Derek Lester (Operations Manager) for Serviceteam will be present at the meeting, to answer any questions that Members may have.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
That the contents of the report be noted.

Jeremy Bourne

Head of Community Services

Background Papers:

None

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If you would like this report in large print, braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.

Appendix (A)

SERVICETEAM (VEOLIA) & ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Refuse Collection, Recycling, Street Cleansing

OPERATIONAL REPORT - September 2006 to January 2007

1. Introduction

Following our last progress report to the meeting of Environmental Services on 7 September 2006, we are pleased to report that we have now completed the expansion of the kerbside recycling service to flats within the District. This service is now resulting in an increase in the overall recycling tonnage collected, please see section 2 below.

We are also looking to include a recycling collection for schools within the same round, with an anticipated start date of March 2007, in addition to rolling out the kerbside recycling scheme to the caravan parks around the District, now that the flats roll-out has been completed. The implementation of these expansions will be a joint effort with the Council's Recycling Team and, when complete, will mean the majority of properties within the District will be receiving a kerbside recycling collection.

We struggled again with the various adverse weather conditions that we were faced with, but the crews showed their resilience and continued to provide an efficient service, regardless of the elements. We still have areas for improvement and these will be addressed as we continue to look for ways to improve our service delivery.

2. Recycling

Detailed below are the recycling tonnages that have been generated. The flats recycling that has recently been implemented is having a positive impact on the overall recycling performance. Whilst there is a very high risk of contamination in these areas, this is monitored closely by both ourselves and the Council's Recycling Team and so far the contamination levels have been kept very low.

	Date												
Material	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb (part month)	March	Total
<i>Kerbside</i>													
Paper	188.84	189.14	203.2	172.54	189.82	207.78	228.55	224.38	186.56	215.38	48.32	0	2054.51
Glass	110.84	112.7	142.04	130.72	127.26	122.24	117.24	119.4	125.12	183.54	29.56	0	1320.66
Cans	21.76	21.1	23.38	18.46	19.32	18.34	21.94	21.643	21.2	24.4	4.92	0	216.463

3. Refuse Collection

As previously mentioned, we are proud of the efforts made by our refuse and street cleansing crews who during this period have continued to provide a consistent level of service.

There have been a couple of occasions when we have been refused entry at the landfill sites because of high winds, with the alternative tip being at the back of the Lakeside shopping complex. However, this area can become extremely congested, particularly in adverse weather conditions and even more so if the Dartford Bridge is closed, which has happened on some occasions. This also means that we can only complete one load on these occasions, as we are not allowed to return to the depot loaded.

We have been in communication with Essex County Council, with a suggestion of an alternative site for waste disposal in Rochford, Eco Logic located in Purdeys Way Industrial Estate (transfer station registered with the Environmental Agency), which would obviously provide much easier access in situations when weather conditions prevent us from using the regular landfill sites.

We continue to look at the level of service we provide and identify any particular areas where we feel improvement can be made, with a prime example being the replacement of wheeled bins in the correct place following emptying. Whilst there has been improvement in this area of the service, there is still room for more improvement.

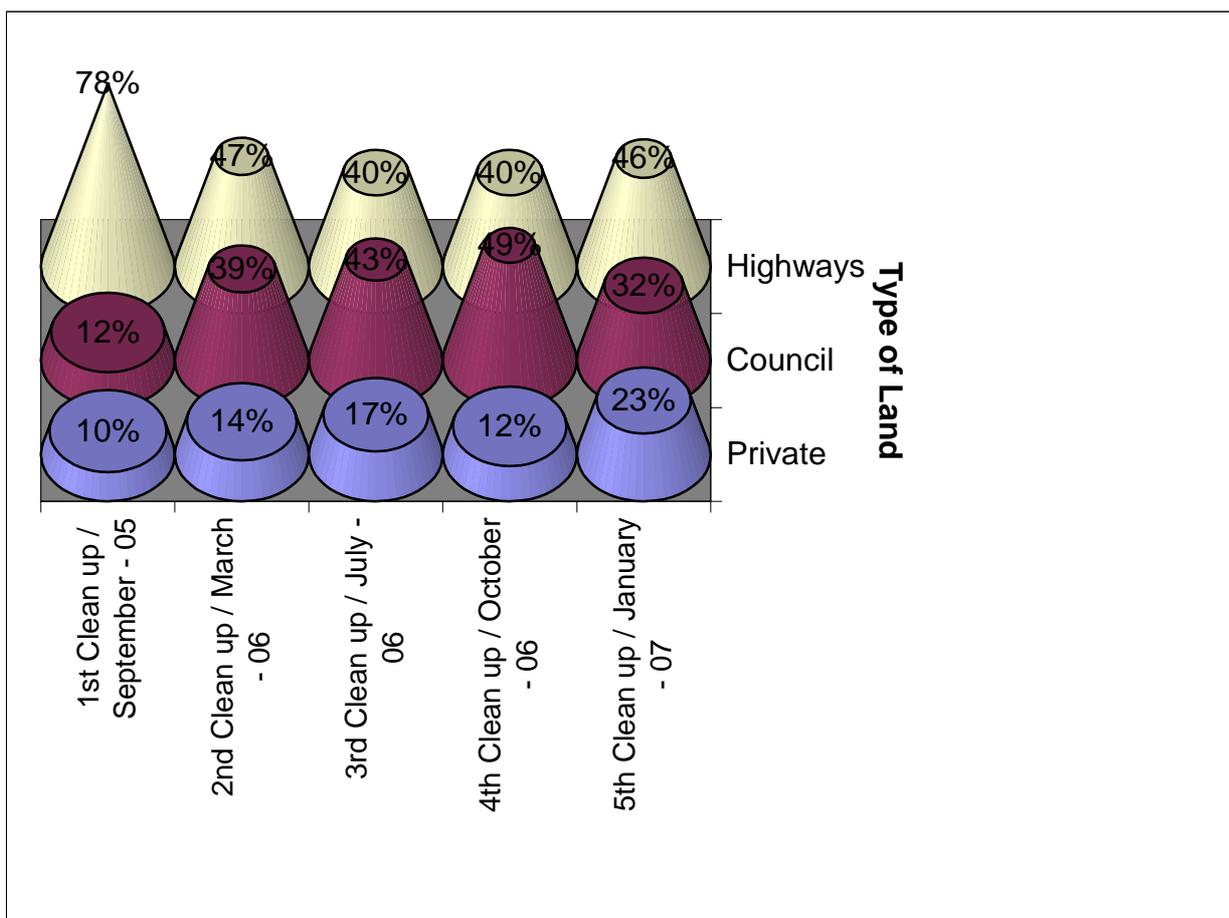
4. Street Cleansing

The next phase of the Council's Environmental Campaign re-started in January 2007, with another phase taking place in March 2007, which has created a further resource of one vehicle plus two operatives to collect various rubbish and litter from regular fly tipping sites and private land, with the vehicle carrying the specially designed logo as detailed below.



Tonnages collected over the campaign as follows.

Environmental Campaign					
Activity	1st Clean up / September - 05	2nd Clean up / March - 06	3rd Clean up / July - 06	4th Clean up / October - 06	5th Clean up / January - 07
Fly Tipping	55	66	78	63	69
Street Cleansing (Dog Fouling + Litter Picking)	40	100	111	30	62
Weed Clearance	40	3	23	23	19
Graffiti removal	25	83	47	84	114
TOTAL	135	169	212	116	264
TONNAGES	13	12.91	14.24	15.52	29.74



5. Training

I am pleased to say that Council Officers within the Waste Management Team have now undertaken the Zero Harm Training and passing the appropriate test and have been issued with a certificate to say that they are part of the Zero Harm Policy. This joint training has already proved to be useful in one particular situation, where an alternative safer collection point was agreed on a newly built site.

6 Conclusion

Again a difficult but successful few months, involving proactive discussions between Council Officers and Serviceteam personnel, to plan how to move forward within the service provision. We have a challenging period ahead, with the continual roll-out of the kerbside recycling scheme to flatted accommodation and caravan parks, in addition to the potential of schools being put onto the scheme.

We will be continuing to try to increase participation levels in areas which currently produce less recyclable material, and will also need to monitor the make-up of the different collection rounds, in relation to the tonnages being collected, and also any new properties being built.

8. Follow Ups

A visit was organised to our Rainham Materials Recycling Facility (MRF), where Council representatives were able to view how the company were dealing with the recycling material taken to this particular site, and also to hear how the site is to be developed in the future, to enable greater capacity. This offer could be given again should any Councillor wish to visit.

A promotional DVD showing the workings of the MRF and other associated aspects of its operation, was given to the Council, which could prove useful as an aid for recycling promotion in the local schools.

Mike Jarvis
Regional Manager

Derek Lester
Contracts Manager