

## PROGRESS ON DECISIONS

## FROM FORMER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Item	Progress/Officer		
<b>Essex County Council – Tree Preservation Orders (Minute 388/06)</b>  <b>Resolved</b>  That the District Council makes the strongest representation to the County Council that they maintain the management and administration responsibility for their TPOs, but that if they decide to cease this responsibility, urgent discussions take place to determine the resource implications and how the future situation can be effectively managed, with the County Council being requested to reimburse the District for any additional costs incurred. <b>(CD(ES))</b>	Red	Amber	Green
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Meeting has taken place with the County Council's Countryside & Arboricultural Manager following which a letter was received offering the secondment of an administrative officer for 2 days a week on a temporary basis. This offer has been rejected as inadequate and the county are now in discussion with all other District Councils. No further communication has been received.		
<b>How Clean are our Streets Survey July 2006 Analysis (Minute 73/07)</b>  <b>Resolved</b>  (1) That the findings of the survey be noted and that a further survey be carried out in summer 2007.	Red	Amber	Green
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A survey is being undertaken within the next edition of Rochford District Matters.		

**KEY**

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Amber	=	Implementation Stage – Rolling out of approved projects, on target to meet scheduled end date.
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(2) That action be taken to address the issues raised, in particular the public perception around dog fouling and that, where appropriate, these be included in the specification for the new street cleansing contract.	The Street Cleansing Contract is currently under consideration by the Contracts Sub-Committee
(3) That officers explore the possibility of hiring external staff over 2-3 days to target known hot spots for dog fouling with a view to instigating prosecutions. (HES)	Some intensive public relations work has already been carried out at hotspots, using Council staff. Evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of using external staff is being carried out.
<b>Regulation of Cosmetic Piercing and Skin Colouring Businesses (Minute 74/07)</b>  <b>Resolved</b>  (1) That the byelaws outlined in the officer's report be adopted.  (2) That the necessary procedure be completed and that an application be made to the Secretary of State for confirmation of the byelaws.  (3) That the fee for registration of premises at which acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin colouring, cosmetic piercing or electrolysis is undertaken be £148 for 2007/08. (CD(ES))	<div>Red</div> <div>Amber</div> <div>Green</div>
	<div><input type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/></div>
	Public notice of adoption is to appear in the local newspaper in June and it is anticipated that subject to the Secretary of State's consent the byelaws can be brought into force by October 2007.

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## FROM FORMER LEISURE, TOURISM AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Item	Progress/Officer		
<b>Bird Watching – Tourism Potential (Minute 263/06)</b>	Red	Amber	Green
<b>Resolved</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That officers work with the RSPB to identify specific sites within the Rochford District that could potentially be developed as nature reserves / areas of tourism and report back in due course. <b>(CE)</b>	Officers met with RSPB for tour of the District for potential project sites. RSPB subsequently looking at viability of specific initiatives prior to making formal response back.		

## FROM FORMER PLANNING POLICY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Item	Progress/Officer		
<b>Update on Gypsy and Traveller Sites (Minute 40/07)</b>	Red	Amber	Green
<b>Resolved</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(1) That, subject to a successful prosecution, direct action be taken in respect of site 3.  (2) That, subject to a successful prosecution and the site not being vacated, details of the circumstances of the occupants be reported to Members to enable proper consideration to be given to the most appropriate form of action to resolve the breach in respect of site 7.	Arrangements are in hand for a further prosecution.		

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(3) That a press release be issued when a site is successfully cleared. (4) That progress on dealing with the other sites be noted. <b>(HPT)</b>			
<b>Review of the Operation of the Planning Enforcement Service (Minute 104 (2)/07)</b>  <b>Resolved</b>  (1) That the Head of Planning and Transportation conducts an annual review of outstanding enforcement cases, with the Development Control Committee to confirm those cases to be closed.  (2) That the Head of Planning and Transportation reviews the provision of duty cover in order that those members of the enforcement team that have study leave do not spend a material part of their week as part of the duty rota and for him to give further consideration to his staffing levels as a result.  (3) That the Head of Planning and Transportation records the date of the last action on the 'live case' list report.  (4) That the Head of Planning and Transportation regularly submits the number of outstanding cases, together with details of enforcement notices issued and appeals lodged, to the Development Control Committee.	Red	Amber	Green
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	In hand – report by end of 2007.  In hand – review to be completed by December 2007.  Revisions to software being investigated.  Actioned.		

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<p>(5) That the Head of Planning and Transportation implements the following changes to the public documentation relating to planning enforcement:-</p> <p><u>Enforcement Policy</u></p> <p>‘Pursuing any breach of planning control to its resolution so far as it is reasonable and expedient to do so’ should be amended to ‘pursuing any breach of planning control to a satisfactory conclusion’.</p> <p><u>Complete Guide to the Enforcement Service</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reference should be made, on page 2, to how people should register complaints and in what form.</li> <li>- Page 10 should include details of how to access the website and other ways of contacting Rochford District Council.</li> <li>- Page 17 should include details of the location of the Council offices and of provision for writing in to the Council.</li> </ul>	Implemented
<p>(6) That the Head of Planning and Transportation investigates the possibility of submitting the public documentation relating to planning enforcement for the ‘crystal mark’.</p>	Arrangements in hand to submit the document for accreditation by September 2007.
<p>(7) That the Head of Planning and Transportation continues the dialogue with other Authorities regarding best practice relating to enforcement and regularly reports back to Members.</p>	Actioned.

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(8) That, in those cases where an impasse has been reached and court action has failed to resolve the breach of planning rules, the Head of Planning and Transportation reports the case to the Development Control Committee for direct action to be considered to remedy the breach.	Actioned when appropriate.
(9) That the Head of Planning and Transportation publishes a quarterly planning enforcement report in <i>Rochford District Matters</i> , stating the number of new cases and cases closed in the quarter.	Actioned
(10) That the Head of Planning and Transportation commissions an aerial survey of the district bi-annually, with a link on the Council's website, to enable residents to acquire aerial photographs of their homes and neighbourhood. <b>(HPT)</b>	Actioned – an update has been commissioned in 2007

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