

Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel

12 January, 2012

**Agenda
Item No.**

10

Update on Scrap Metal Working Group

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Cllr Ansell – Transport and Environment

Report:

The Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel, at their meeting held on 20 October, 2011, resolved that a working group be established to look at the issue of scrap metal.

This report sets out a summary of the first four meetings of the Working Group. It also informs the Panel of planned future work and seeks approval of the draft initiation document, attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

The Working Group consists of:

Councillor Illmann-Walker (Lead Member)
Councillor R. Carpenter
Councillor S. Fitzpatrick
Councillor Westley
Councillor A. Young

Councillor I. Robertson also attends the Working Group meetings.

To date the Working Group has met on four occasions.

At its first meeting, held on 10 November, 2011 the Working Group met with Officers from the Council and began to identify key areas for consideration. This informed the initiation document which is attached as appendix 1 to this report.

At their second meeting, held on 25 November, 2011, the Working Group met with numerous members of the public to hear their views on the issue of Scrap Metal and to establish a real insight into the problems faced by some residents within the Borough.

At the third meeting, held on 9 December, 2011, representatives from the scrap metal trade attended. This included a scrap metal collector and representatives from local merchants. This ensured that the Working Group would see the matter from those working within the scrap metal trade and ensure that the final report would be balanced and fair.

Finally, at the fourth meeting held on 16 December, 2011, the Working Group

met with the Police who updated the Group on many of the initiatives being carried out to combat anti social behaviour and metal theft.

Future work of the Group consists of a multi agency meeting to establish the viability of introducing a bye law, improving enforcement of those deemed to be operating outside of the law and establishing whether links can be made to carry out further work as a collective, rather than individuals, to reduce the impact that theft and anti social behaviour (such as burning wires in gardens) has on residents.

Recommendations:

That:

1. That the Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel approve the Initiation Document as appended to this report and;
2. Note the progress made by the Winter Service Working Group.

Councillor G. Ilmann Walker
Lead Member of the Scrap Metal Working Group

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