



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Simon Bridge, Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder	Council	28 October 2021

Executive Report: Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To inform council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio as set out below.

2. Parks and Open Spaces

- 2.1** I am pleased to advise members that The Mount has gained the Green Flag Award following the completion of the recent restoration works. In addition Wyre Estuary Country Park, Memorial Park, Hawthorn Park and Jean Stansfield/Vicarage Park have once again successfully retained their Green Flag status. I would also like to pass on my congratulations to Catterall Parish Council who have secured the award for Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field, Catterall.
- 2.2** Recent activities held within our parks and open spaces include bump and buggy walks to encourage new mums to explore Wyre Estuary Country Park, heritage walks looking at the development of Fleetwood's Seafront and a geology of the beach walk.
- 2.3** Once again we have supported the Marine Conservation Society Big Beach Clean with local groups and visitors from further afield collecting tidal litter and recording data.
- 2.4** In late summer and early autumn, as wildflowers set seed, our programme of meadow management began. Our teams, supported by volunteers, undertook cutting and the removal of hay from parkland and coastal areas managed for biodiversity and carbon sequestration.

3. Waste and recycling

- 3.1** As I am sure you are all aware, the waste and recycling service has been impacted again over recent weeks; due to staffing shortages linked to both COVID-19 and the national shortage of HGV drivers. I have discussed the issues with Veolia and can confirm that they are committed to recruiting more drivers and developing skills from within. Again, I am sure you will join me in thanking all our frontline teams for their continued hard work and dedication in such challenging times.
- 3.2** The annual waste and recycling leaflet will be delivered to households next month. Information will include collection dates and key information on recycling household waste. Unfortunately we have seen a slight increase of contamination rates in recycling bins; we continue to utilise all communication channels available to educate residents including face to face engagement with householders.
- 3.3** We celebrated National Recycling Week during September and officers attended schools to address assemblies and class activities to strengthen the key messages of reduce, reuse and recycle and take the message home to parents and carers.

4. Street Scene

- 4.1** Further to the update in September, a bid has been submitted for Changing Places Toilet facilities at Fleetwood Beach Front and Wyre Estuary Country Park. I will update members on this application in due course. Opportunities for this type of facility at other locations will continue to be explored.
- 4.2** The team will work again with Lancashire Police and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service in the run up to bonfire night to deal with the building of unofficial fires and the build-up of waste on public land. We discourage unauthorised bonfires and ask our residents and businesses to act responsibly.

5. Comments and questions

- 5.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with procedure rule 11.5.