ENVIRONMENT AND DIRECT SERVICES CABINET MEMBER MEETING

20 MARCH 2006

- Present: Councillor Bolton
- Also present: Councillors Ahern and Care
- 06/05 Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Carr.

07/05 Late Items Introduced by the Cabinet Member

There were no late items

08/05 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

09/05 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2006 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Updates

10/05 Climate Change Launch/Declaration

Councillor Bolton provided an update on the Climate Change Launch. It was reported that the declaration was signed on 24 March 2006. It was hoped that a number of major employers in the City including the Derbyshire Building Society, Bombardier and Rolls Royce would join the Council in a similar statement of energy saving.

11/05 Dog Fouling Update

It was reported that graphic stickers had been placed on bins in parks to encourage people to use dog waste bins. It was noted that there had been 98 replacement and 57 new dog waste bins throughout the city. It was hoped that free doggy bags could be reintroduced. Councillor Bolton provided reassurance that park rangers could issue fixed penalty notices.

12/05 Carbon Trust

It was reported that the Carbon Trust had been authorised to work with the authority from 1 April 2006.

13/05 Wheelie Bin Stickers

It was reported that there had been a pilot scheme of 21 streets in Abbey ward trialling tickers on wheelie bins in order to deter people from leaving their bins on the street. It was considered that the scheme had been well received. There was no formal end date for the pilot but it would be before summer 2006.

14/05 Re-think Rubbish

It was reported that rounds J (Sinfin), H (Bolton and Alvaston) and L (Arboretum, Littleover, Mickleover, Blagreaves and Abbey) would be starting in May, July and September 2006 respectively. It was hoped that recycling targets would be exceeded.

Non-Key Decisions

15/05 Crematorium – Environmental Levy

The Cabinet Member considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services requesting the approval of an environmental levy of £25 per cremation to accrue funding for mercury abatement. The estimated cost of the abatement was between £1.3 million and £2 million.

The Planning and Environment Commission recommended that cremation charges should be increased by £25 from 2006 and that the money should be ring fenced to offset the cost of works need at the Markeaton Crematorium.

It was reported that an increase of £25 per cremation above the proposed increase would generate £75,000 annually. Over a 5 year period, a sum of £375,000 would be accumulated towards the abatement.

Resolved to approve an environmental levy of £25 per cremation in order to accrue funding to undertake mercury abatement work at the Crematorium.

MINUTES END