



CABINET REPORT

Report Title	Billing Waste Water Working Party
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AGENDA STATUS: Public

Cabinet Meeting Date:	8 July 2009
Key Decision:	NO
Listed on Forward Plan:	YES
Within Policy:	YES
Policy Document:	NO
Directorate:	Environment & Culture (Public Protection)
Accountable Cabinet Member:	T Crake. Portfolio Holder for the Environment
Ward(s)	Billing Ward, Ecton Brook Ward

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The report sets out the Cabinets response in respect of the recommendations set out in the Overview and Scrutiny 2, Billing Waste Water Task and Finish Group

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet agree the recommendations set out in the Overview and Scrutiny 2, Billing Waste Water Task and Finish Group in 3.3 (1 to 7) below namely:
- That continuous improvement reviews of the service are carried out to ensure that their working practices continue to be in line with national standards and Government guidance
 - That a robust proactive continuous monitoring regime be put in place by the Council's Regulatory Services
 - That the evidence collected by this working party is forwarded onto West Northamptonshire Development Corporation for their information in the consideration of any planning applications submitted by Anglian Water

- d. That Officers be instructed to monitor the iron salts releasing programme Water and request details of the iron salts releasing programme
 - e. That a copy of the report be forwarded to all neighbouring Local Authorities
 - f. That the Council's Regulatory Services Officers contact each petitioner within the Northampton Borough Boundary, and forward the rest of the petition to Wellingborough Borough Council for action according to their processes.
- 2.2 That Cabinet Notes that currently there is insufficient evidence to serve an Abatement Notice
- 2.3 That Cabinet confirms this response to Overview and Scrutiny 2.

3. Issues and Choices

- 3.1 Report Background
- 3.2 The Housing and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee established the Task and Finish Group out of concern that an Abatement Notice under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 s 80 should be served upon Anglian Water in respect of a possible smell nuisance from Billing Waste Water Treatment Works (sometimes called Billing Sewage Works).
- 3.3 The Task and Finish Group met between December 2008 and March 2009 and the report received approval at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 7 April 2008.
- 3.4 The report made the following recommendations / observations.
- 1) There is sufficient evidence to acknowledge that the work of Northampton Borough Council's Regulatory Services Officers has been robust and professional and that continuous improvement reviews of the service the Service are carried out to ensure that their working practices continue to be in line with national standards and Government guidance
 - 2) That currently there is insufficient evidence to serve an Abatement Notice
 - 3) Notwithstanding the above statement (2), given the factors affecting the possibility of any potential future nuisance due to the nature of the activity and the many causative factors, that a robust proactive continuous monitoring regime be put in place by the Council's Regulatory Services
 - 4) The evidence collected by this working party is forwarded onto West Northamptonshire Development Corporation for their information in the consideration of any planning applications submitted by Anglian Water
 - 5) That Officers be instructed to monitor the iron salts releasing programme Water and request details of the iron salts releasing programme

- 6) That a copy of the report be forwarded to all neighbouring Local Authorities
 - 7) The Council's Regulatory Services Officers contact each petitioner within the Northampton Borough Boundary, and forward the rest of the petition to Wellingborough Borough Council for action according to their processes.
- 3.4 The report of the Task and Finish Group was presented to Cabinet on 11 November 2008 by the Chair of the Group, Councillor Dennis Meredith and Chair of Overview and Scrutiny 2 Cllr Malpas.
- 3.5 Cabinet resolved that the report of the Overview and Scrutiny 2, Billing WwTW Task and Finish Group be received and that Cabinet provide a full response on 7 July 2009.
- 3.6 The recommendations of the Task and Finish Group have now been implemented and a report on the findings was presented to the O&S Committee on 23 March 2009. A copy of the report is appended to this report
- 3.7 This Working Party notes that Anglian Water is and will continue to take appropriate action to manage the odour, working closely with the Council's Regulatory Services Officers

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

The solutions to the recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny 2 will not result in changes to Council policy.

4.2 Resources and Risk

The work associated with the recommendations by Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 will not require additional staff or financial resource, either for a short or extended period.

4.3 Legal

No legal issues have been identified as a result of recommendations of the report

4.4 Equality

No equality issues have been identified as a result of recommendations of the report

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

None for this particular report

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

By monitoring the site and responding to complaints the Council can ensure that best practice is employed by Anglian Water to minimise smells from the site. This promotes priority outcome 2, by protecting the health and enhancing the wellbeing of the local community.

4.7 Other Implications

None

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 Cabinet on 11 November 2008 Minutes
Report of the Overview and Scrutiny 2 Billing Waste Water Task and Finish Group as approved by Overview and Scrutiny on 11 November 2008
Report to Overview and Scrutiny 2, 23 April 2009

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