
OVERVIEW OF CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

1. Since the last meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work undertaken under my Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio:
 - (a) **Appointment of Proper Officer** – We appointed Dr. A.R. Marshall as Proper Officer and Dr. Deborah Wilson, Dr. Anne Lowe, Dr. Ian Holtby, Dr. Patricia Cresswell, Dr. Michael Grandey and Dr. David Walker appointed as alternative Proper Officers for the Purposes of the Public Health (Control of Diseases) Act 1984; National Assistance Act 1948 and its amendment for the purposes of Section 47 Removals; and Public Health Aircraft Regulations 1979. These appointments will enable the Council to carry out its statutory duties to protect the health of individuals and the general community.
 - (b) **Public Protection and Environmental Health** - The second phase of improvements to Honeypot Lane Caravan Site is now complete – a further 14 amenity blocks and pitches surfaced and the completion of a ten-pitch transit site.
 - (c) **Licensing** – I am pleased to report that nineteen businesses have now signed up to the Council’s Responsible Drinking Code.
 - (d) **Waste Management** – The application for planning permission for the refurbishment of the Civic Amenity Site at Whessoe Road has now been submitted. Development and implementation of a strategy to ensure that the Council is not penalised by land filling biodegradable waste over and above our allowance is underway.
 - (e) **Markets** - A French Market was held in Skinnergate over the May Day weekend and again was successful in bringing people and business to the Town Centre.
 - (f) **Litter** – The continued implementation of the Litter Strategy with the introduction of ‘Food on the Go’ campaign targeting Takeaways and the launch of the Council’s 100-day cleanup.
2. I have attended the following meetings in respect of my Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio:
 - (a) Inaugural meeting of the Smoke Free Darlington Working Group
 - (b) Briefing meetings with Directors and Assistant Directors
 - (c) Public Protection Forum – where the items discussed were discussed : Responsible Drinking Code, Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill, New Best Value Performance Indicators, Public Protection Service Plan, Litter Initiative Work Programme 2005

**Councillor Steve Harker
Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio**

