

...working in partnership to enhance the quality of life for all...
COUNCILLOR PAUL BARRINGTON-KING

Sustainability Portfolio Statement

2009-12

Cllr Paul Barrington-King



1. What is the portfolio responsible for?

My portfolio contributes to delivering the Council's corporate priorities. In particular I am responsible for maintaining and enhancing local environmental quality, the protection of public health and the operation of the Council's car parking facilities and enforcement, and waste management.

2. Functions and Services

As Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, I am responsible for the following service areas:

- Street Scene and Client Services
- Parking
- Environmental Protection
- Food Safety
- Health and Safety
- Licensing
- Borough Engineering
- Environmental Health
- Sustainability

I am also the Council's Lead Cabinet Member with regard to a range of partners and partnerships including:

- The Kent Waste Partnership.
- ENCAMS
- KCC Highways (from a street-scene perspective)

Finally, I have responsibility for a range of key issues and projects including:

- Love Where We Live
- Grot Spots
- Waste and recycling
- Air quality

- Enviro-crime
- Clean Kent Campaign

3. Key Plans and Strategies

As Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, I have a key role in developing a number of policy framework documents and in ensuring that other strategies relating to the environment support the Strategic Plan and corporate priorities. Specific plans and policies for which I have responsibility include:

- The Council's contribution to the Kent Municipal Waste Management Strategy
- Licensing Policy
- Contaminated Land Strategy
- Air Quality Management Action Plan
- Flood Policy Statement
- Environmental Enforcement Policy
- Parking Enforcement Policy

I also take an active interest in the service plans relating to those services for which I have overall responsibility.

4. What are the opportunities for this portfolio?

To work with the Tunbridge Wells Local Strategic Partnership, particularly as a member of the Cleaner and Greener sub-group, deliver the Sustainable Community Plan and improve our local environment.

To contribute to increasing residents' satisfaction with their local area by providing a visibly cleaner and better maintained street scene.

To reduce the environmental impact of managing our residents' household waste by working through the introduction of a new service and working with the Kent Waste Partnership and KCC's Changing Attitudes and Behaviours Team to minimise the level of household waste produced and the amount of residual waste going for final disposal.

5. What are main areas for improvement?

The services that we provide are performing well but we will continue to explore how we can improve our cost effectiveness, quality and responsiveness by listening to our residents, seeking opportunities to collaborate, particularly through the Mid Kent Improvement Partnership and innovation from our staff.

6. What are our priorities for 2009-12?

My key priorities for each of the service sections for which I have overall responsibility are set out below

Street Scene

The successful roll out and operation of the new street cleansing contract that helps to deliver a visibly cleaner street scene and provides value for money

Tackle enviro-crime through better enforcement including the use of Parking Attendants to issue Fixed Penalty Notices

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Continue to maintain the appearance of the Council's street furniture.

Licensing

Realise opportunities to improve and extend our licensing partnership with Sevenoaks and Maidstone.

Ensure that our licensing function continues to support activity to minimise crime and disorder and maintain a thriving night time economy.

Grot Spots

Continue to work corporately to clean up/encourage the redevelopment of grot spots, taking formal action where appropriate in conjunction with other services.

Household Waste and Recycling

Work together with the Kent Waste Partnership to minimise the quantity of household waste generated and increase participating in recycling composting schemes to reduce the growth in the amount of waste going to final disposal in a way that provides the most economically advantageous collection and disposal systems to support the Kent Commitment.

Food Safety

Implement the Food Standards Agency's 'Scores on the Doors' system to publicise

the hygiene standards in food establishments.

Parking

Identify opportunities to improve parking provision for residents and visitors based on a review of current parking arrangements and charges, the public transport study and Town Centres' Master Planning process.

Environmental Protection

Contribute to the work across the organisation to reduce our carbon footprint.

Continue to ensure that sites that may pose a risk to health or the environment are assessed in a systematic way and remedial action is taken to clean them up.

Develop and implement an action plan to improve local air quality, particularly in the air quality management area, by working with KCC and local stakeholders.

These priorities are underpinned by a need to recognise that the Council is operating and is likely to continue to be operating in changing times. The Council is heavily reliant on income and has suffered from the impacts of the recession. Looking forward, it is likely that we will have to manage with considerable reductions in central government grants. This is

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something that we will manage but all priorities must be seen against this backdrop and may be subject to changes.

7. Delivery and performance management

This Plan draws on and elaborates on a number of key issues set out in the Council's Strategic Plan. I have also discussed these corporate priorities and my portfolio priorities with the Head of Environment and Street Scene these have been incorporated into their Service Plans. Key Performance Indicators and Local Performance Indicators which are relevant to my portfolio are set out as an appendix to this Statement. Along with Cabinet, I will be receiving quarterly reports on these indicators. In addition, I will be discussing them on a more regular basis at my monthly meetings with the service manager.

9. Contact

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Key Performance Indicators 2009-12

NI 185	(KPI) CO2 reduction from local authority operations
NI 186	(KPI) Per capita reduction in CO2 emissions in the LA area
NI 192	(KPI) Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting
NI 195a	(KPI) Improved street and environmental cleanliness :: Litter
NI 195b	(KPI) Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting): Detritus
NI 195c	(KPI) Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting): Graffiti
NI 195d	(KPI) Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting): Fly-posting