

Committee: Council

Date:

Title: Report from the Portfolio Holder for
Environmental Services

Tuesday 4
December 2018

**Report
Author:** Councillor Susan Barker, Portfolio Holder for
Environmental Services

Summary

1. This report summarises the activities of the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services on behalf of the Council.

Recommendations

2. That Council notes this report.

Financial Implications

3. None.

Background Papers

4. None.

Situation

5. A meeting of the Council's Waste Strategy Panel was called to consider the Motion on Plastics as agreed at the last Council meeting. The meeting considered the Council's current approach to minimising the impact of plastics waste and found that a number of initiatives were already underway to recycle plastic waste. The new Waste Awareness and Education Plan focuses on reaching schools across the district to improve pupil's knowledge on a variety of subjects including the impact of plastics on the environment. There are opportunities to improve the amount of plastics that is recycled through commercial waste and to take a leading role in reducing the amount of single use plastics used by the Council. The Panel will prepare a report for consideration by Cabinet in the New Year and will meet again to monitor progress.
6. From 1 October, all houses in multiple occupancy (HMOs) occupied by 5 or more people need to be licensed. Cabinet has agreed a set of minimum standards which must be met for a licence to be issued. These standards are for the protection of tenants in shared houses or bed sit type accommodation with sheltered facilities. They include minimum room sizes, kitchen facilities, bath/shower room and WC compartments.
7. Cabinet has also reviewed the licensing fees for kennels, catteries, dog breeding and riding establishments. Of the 48 premises of this type currently

licensed in Uttlesford, 24 are due to be licensed under the new regime that has come into force.

8. Cabinet agreed to publish a Local Heritage List. The list identifies heritage assets across the district that are not designated as ancient monuments or listed buildings. The list is a rolling document that is updated periodically. Although not providing specific protection, local listing will be taken into account in planning decisions.
9. The use of Claypits Plantation on the southern edge of Saffron Walden, land leased by the council from the Audley End Estate, has, in principle, been agreed as a “forest school”.
10. Christmas parking promotion proposals have also been agreed for Dunmow, Saffron Walden and Stansted.