



Agenda Item 6

Clean Green Croydon

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Stuart Collins

March 2019

Deposit Return Scheme

As part of the councils clean and green agenda we are exploring ways to introduce a Deposit Return Scheme in Croydon, this week we launched a poll survey via Your Croydon to seek the views of residents. This could be to encourage shops to offer a scheme, whereby people would pay a small upfront charge refundable upon return of the empty container, this could drive up the recycling of the estimated 3bn plastic bottles that are currently incinerated, sent to landfill or discarded on streets across the UK.



New Grounds Maintenance

A new plan to improve grounds maintenance in Croydon has got underway as the service is brought back in house by the council. The service cares for 127 parks and green spaces across the borough, as well as grass verges and hedges.

The service to enhance and preserve the public spaces will be provided directly by Croydon Council as employees previously working for the contractor will become members of council staff meaning that 27 staff who were previously below the London Living Wage have now been brought up the LLW. The more adaptable service is designed to help residents make the most of facilities near them.

By delivering this service directly to residents we can improve how we direct and shape work. We will have more control over what works to carry out and when work will go ahead as we deliver services directly to residents.

The council is well-placed to listen to and respond quickly to communities, helping them make the most of their parks and open spaces.



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New Waste & Recycling Service

Last year saw some major changes to the way Croydon collects waste which were put in place to ensure we maximise the amount of recycling and reduce the amount of landfill waste we produce, providing increased recycling provision to over 125,000 households in the borough. I'm pleased to report that these changes are already having a positive effect and that we are on track to soon be amongst the top recyclers in London. We are very ambitious in our approach and are hoping to be recycling over 50% of all waste in Croydon during 2019/20, which will be the first full year of the new service.

Schools Recycling Programme

More than 13,000 children and young people in Croydon have learned about how to recycle and other environmentally friendly ways of disposing of waste over the past year through a Croydon Council initiative.

Croydon Council's education and outreach scheme has visited schools across the borough delivering dozens of assemblies to primary school pupils.

A short education session was also delivered to a class of pre-schoolers to help some of our youngest residents learn the importance of recycling properly. Council staff visited Norwood Grove Pre-School on Thursday, 14 February, and spoke to the children about recycling and minimising waste. At the end of the visit each child was given a reusable plastic water bottle.

Children like those at Norwood Grove Pre-School represent our future and I am very impressed at how knowledgeable and passionate these children are. They really enjoyed the visit from the council and learning more about recycling and reducing waste.



AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON



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The 2018 Street Champions in Numbers

I would like to take thank all our street champions for all the work they put in throughout 2018 to help make Croydon Clean and Green and taking pride in Croydon. If you would like to become a Street Champion in your local community then please contact our Street Champion coordinator at champions@croydon.gov.uk



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