

City Management and Public Protection Policy & Scrutiny Committee

Date:	20 September 2018
Report of:	Cllr Tim Mitchell
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management
Report Author and	Charlie Hawken
Contact Details:	chawken@westminster.gov.uk 020 7641 2621

1. Environment

Greener City Action Plan (GCAP)

- 1.1 As requested, all members of the P&S committee were invited to a visit to the recycling sorting facility in Southwark, which took place on 10th September.
- 1.2 Work is continuing on a new five-year Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan which is due for publication by December 2018. As part of this, the council published (March 2018) a new Air Quality Manifesto, forming high-level pledges to frame our work in this area in the coming months. The first of these pledges is to expand the successful diesel parking surcharge project – a consultation on which is due to close on 12th September. Associated with this is the Leader's announcement of the £1m schools clean air fund, which is another Air Quality Manifesto pledge. This fund, subject to the diesel parking surcharge consultation outcome, could go live from October 2018. Schools have been made aware of the fund proposals and have been invited to start working with us on their proposals and bids.
- 1.3 Work is progressing on the other eight Air Quality Manifesto commitments, including exploratory officer meetings on resident parking permits, and forward planning for strengthening the air quality and general environmental requirements for developers through new Supplementary Planning Documents which will accompany the new City Plan.

Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN)

- 1.4 Following the LEN Stakeholder meeting in September 2018 there is continued good progress. The main development relates to the group agreeing on five main priorities for urban realm projects delivering air quality benefits within Marylebone, and the securing of £1.4m funding (at the last report this fund was £930,000) to deliver these from the Mayor's Air Quality Fund (MAQF), but mainly from CIL and S106 contributions locally. These projects (subject to traffic orders and investigations) should start being delivered from December 2018 alongside complementary schemes including the cycle quietway and St. Vincent Street pedestrianisation. They focus on improving the pedestrian environment and reducing motor vehicle dominance, through improved crossings, linking green spaces, as well as extensive greening between the pedestrian and vehicle environments which will not only absorb pollution but also add value to the public realm.
- 1.5 Since the last report, the following events happened or are being prepared; to raise awareness about the LEN:
- School play street, 14th June 2018 – Enford Street
 - Community green street & public realm drop-in session – October date TBC
- 1.6 The diesel parking surcharge trial across F-zone has been extended for a further year, following a full year of results which show an overall decline of 16% of pre-2015 diesel parking transactions in the area. F-zone has also seen a higher proportion of electric and hybrid vehicle transactions than other zones, suggesting appetite for behaviour change and shift towards cleaner vehicles.
- 1.7 LEN partners carried out a second round of air quality monitoring walks using a sophisticated mobile air quality monitoring device with support from King's College London, providing a detailed picture of relative concentrations of black carbon (a good indicator of harmful diesel emissions). A full report analysing the results will be delivered by October 2018.

2. Highways and Transport

- 2.1 All 20mph trial zones continue to receive broad support with additional requests for other areas to be considered received. The trials are currently being received and proposals will be brought forward later in the autumn.

- 2.2 Officers are working on the development of a three year programme for the next Local Implementation Plan submission to Transport for London due on October 10th 2018. This will include the delivery of pedestrian, cycling and other road safety projects.
- 2.3 Virtual speed cushions have been installed on St George's Drive and Warwick Way. Initial results indicate they are having a positive effect on driver behaviour. A more formal review is due to be completed in November 2018.

Highways

The table below shows the performance for reactive highway works on the carriageway and footway.

	May 18 Performance		June 18 Performance		July 18 Performance		Completed with Time target. (April 18)	Target from 1 April '14
Priority 1 (2 hour)	100%		100%		100%		87 of 87	98%
Priority 2 (24 hour)	98%		100%		100%		268 of 268	98%
Priority 3 (10 day)	85%		100%		100%		177 of 177	98%
Priority 4 (28 day)	97%		100%		100%		673 of 673	98%

100% of all reactive highways jobs in July 18 (1205) were achieved within the time target.

2.4 Planned Preventative Maintenance Footway – 2018/19

- Hugh Street, Circus Road, Durham Terrace and St Barnabas footway schemes were completed in the last quarter.
- Schemes currently on site are Brewer Street, Fordingley Road and Hereford Road.
- Marylebone High Street is due to commence on 5th November subject to agreement with Cycle Super Highway and LEN schemes in the area.

2.5 Planned Preventative Maintenance Carriageway – 2018/19

- Grove End Road, Emery Hill Street, Leamington Road Villas, Harrow Road, Bravington Road, Peach Road, Clifton Road, Randolph Avenue and Bayswater Road were completed in the last quarter.
- Ecclestone Road is due for completion on 28th September subject to the agreement of a permit for the final section.
- Prince Consort Road, Warrington Crescent, Greville Road and Macroom Road are all due for completion by the end of September.
- Ashmore Road, Scott Ellis Gardens, Abercorn Place, Herries Street, Kennet Road and Blenheim Road are all due for completion by the end of October

Lighting

2.6 The table below shows the current performance for reactive responses for lighting.

	May Performance		June Performance		July Performance		Target from 1 April 14
Priority 1 (2 hour)	91%		100%		95% (35 of 37 jobs)		98%
Priority 2 (24 hour)	100%		No P2 Jobs raised		100% (1 of 1)		98%
Priority 3 (48 hour)	94%		99%		99% (740 of 751 jobs)		98%
Priority 4 (7 day)	100%		100%		100% (9 of 9 jobs)		98%

2.7 Lighting service performance continues to suffer higher levels of day burners than is acceptable due to communications failures between the lamp columns and the control equipment. To address the issue, improve street lighting and install smart city technologies three LED systems (two with CMS including IoT

systems) are to be trialled. The trials are due to commence in October 18 with the outcome known in February 2019.

- 2.8 62 lamp column Electric Vehicle charging points have been installed to date. The target of 100 by the end of the financial year is on track to be achieved.

Road Management

2.9 The table below shows the volume of activities on the highway:

	May Volume	June Volume	July Volume	Previous three months' average
Utility Works	923	870	788	737
Crane Licences	93	52	95	89
Temporary Structures	118	136	139	167
Road Closures	87	67	79	117

Surface Water Management

- 2.10 There were no operational issues in Quarter 2. Our routine programme has continued on track for both June and July. The volume of reactive works has begun to decrease due to the very dry summer.
- 2.11 In addition to our routine programme, our CCTV programme continues. We will continue to collect inventory and defect data across the network under this programme. We have identified a host of improvements in the drainage network. This year has brought more focus to progressing drainage further works identified. Through increased coordination across the highways contracts, WCC can now target drainage improvements works far more accurately and efficiently. We continue to use a full-time heavy jetting crew to resolve much of the outstanding further works already identified. This crew will deliver real-time updates via Confirm, further accelerating this process.

Cycling

- 2.12 The cycle hangars trial in Ilbert Street has been a success and, subject to them being moved across the road, will be made permanent. The installation of 15 more hangars has been agreed, officers are in the process of identifying suitable sites with Parking colleagues. It is expected that the additional hangars will be installed by March 19.
- 2.13 The Council successful with its Judicial Review of TfL's Cycle Superhighway 11 (CS11). It is hoped that TfL will now meet us and the neighbouring highway authorities to agree a way forward.

Public Realm Schemes

- 2.14 The major public realm schemes are progressing on time and on budget. Works at New Bond Street are progressing well and Baker Street Two Way is due completion and switch over in Spring 2019. Work has been initiated on Phase 1 of the Oxford Street District programme in advance of the opening of Crossrail. The public realm programme continues to deliver, major public realm schemes, developer schemes, local safety schemes and the Local Implementation Plan TfL funded programme.

3. Parking

- 3.1 A City-wide expansion of the diesel surcharge is currently under consultation and closes on the 12th September 2018. The scheme has been being trialled in the LEN area (F zone) since June 2017, and in that time we've seen a resultant 14% reduction in pre-2015 diesel vehicles paying to park. Responses from the consultation are currently being compiled.
- 3.2 An online suspensions application tool, developed in conjunction with the London Borough of Camden, has been successfully mobilised and implemented in a beta testing mode. The beta system can only be utilised by the back office. Release of the online suspension system to internal customers, processing Westminster work, is scheduled for October 2018. The release of the full system, with customer 'self-serve' capability, is scheduled for later in the year / early 2019
- 3.3 Parking Services has procured a new car sharing service, with Zipcar (UK) Ltd awarded the contract to continue to deliver round trip car sharing from the 185 car club bays in the City and both Drive Now and Zipcar awarded contracts for the provision of flexible car sharing, which is new to the city. Zipcar launched both of their services in July and Drive Now will introduce their flexible car sharing service at the start of November. Drive Now have experienced delays in the delivery of their vehicles, which has prevented them from mobilising over the summer as planned. However, considering the

service is new, and that there were concerns about the impact of flexible car sharing on the highway in the City, this has allowed us to review any impact from a smaller fleet.

- 3.4 The service so far, and it is early, shows that flexible car sharing hasn't resulted in any instances of vehicle clustering and we have not seen significant numbers of vehicles completing their journeys in Westminster. In fact, the reverse is the case with flexible Zipcar vehicles in the City being low and not exceeding the maximum number that we set, as well as there being very low impact in central areas of the City too. Zipcar have seen very good performance levels following the introduction of Zipcar Flex with membership numbers in the City approaching 12,500 and also they have seen the highest ever utilisation levels on the round trip service. In addition, both fleets will benefit from significant numbers of full EVs with a third of Drive Now's fleet in Westminster being the fully electric BMWi3 and half of Zipcar's Flex fleet being made up of the fully electric VW Golf, with plans for 80% of their fleet being made up of these vehicles 2020.
- 3.5 After receiving approval, we have now extended Parking's Bus two largest contracts, which are Business Processing & Technology and the People & Resources contracts. Both contracts have two-year extension provisions built in, effective from July 2018 and November 2018. These extensions will result in efficiency savings to the Council of over £1m per annum.
- 3.6 The work stream for traffic orders on Westminster's housing estate land to enable enforcement of the parking restrictions continues apace. Governance procedures and a Memorandum of Understanding are being established between City West Homes and Parking Services. The submission of a Cabinet Member report seeking approval for the proposed approach from both the Cabinet Members for Environment and City Highways and Housing and Customer Services will be submitted shortly.

Electric Vehicles

- 3.7 There are currently 203 Electric Vehicle (EV) on-street charging points: 97 of these are in dedicated EV-only bays, 44 in dedicated car club bays, and a further 62 retrofitted into lamp columns.
- 3.8 Westminster continues to expand the lamp column charging option for residents and has secured £300,000 in funding through the Go Ultra Low Cities Scheme (GULCS) for resident's charging. The roll out to date has been funded by TfL LIP funding and this will pay for approximately 100 points, with plans to introduce a further 150. The service is currently being trialled although we intend to complete a procurement exercise through the GULCS framework by Christmas.
- 3.9 Using the TfL framework for rapid chargers in taxi rest ranks, the City Council has procured a contract with ESB to supply ten rapid chargers at six taxi rest

ranks throughout the City to complement the transition of the black taxi fleet to zero emission capability. The framework will allow us to further transition rest ranks in the City and also to procure rapid chargers for public availability too.

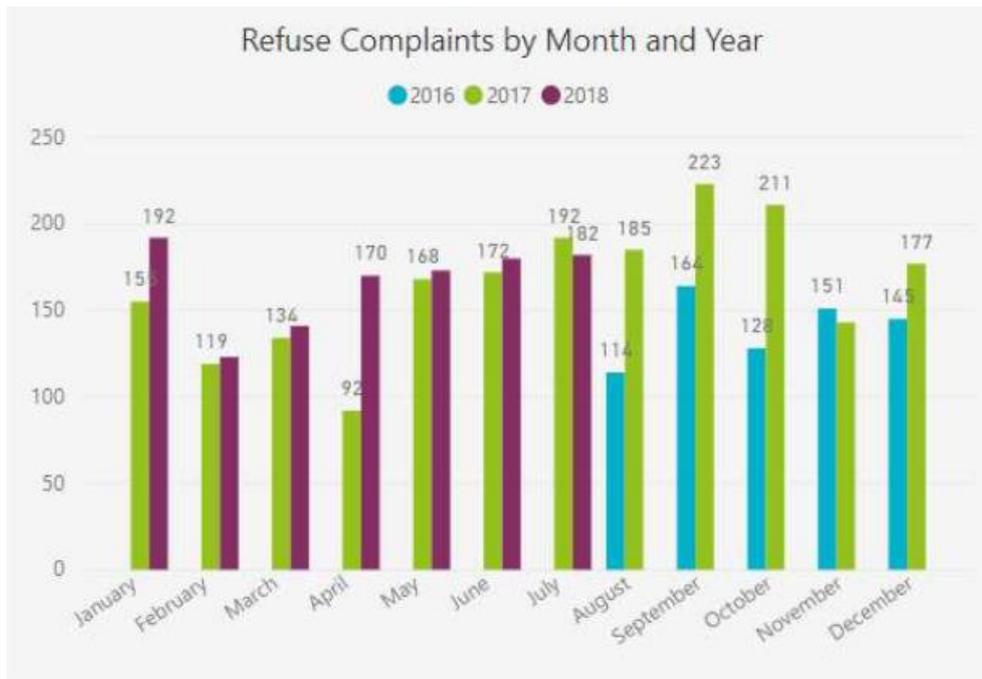
- 3.10 City Highways is in the process of drafting a strategy for EV charging for Westminster that considers the needs of EV drivers in the City, both residential and commercial, and how the City Council can best ensure that sufficient charging infrastructure is in place to encourage transition from petrol and diesel to electric. The strategy is constructed from a number of sources including the survey that was issued over the summer and will be issued in September. This will determine how we progress further charge point roll out in the future.

4. Waste and Parks

- 4.1 The largest event in the street cleansing calendar, the Notting Hill Carnival, took place at the end of August. The street festival hosted approximately two million people, with Veolia managing the clean-up operation, deploying 30 vehicles and 170 staff amongst the crowds to deliver clean streets.

On Sunday and Monday evenings, the clean-up started at around 10:30pm, with the team working through the night until the job was completed. It is estimated that over 200 tonnes of rubbish were collected from the event, all of which was sent to Veolia's SELCHP Energy Recovery Facility, where the amount of recovered energy produced could generate enough power for every attendee to watch the carnival's television highlights.

Following the Carnival, some 280 local residents signed up for a free garden and basement clean-up. This gives Veolia permission to enter private property in order to return the entire area to an A Grade of cleanliness. This extra clean-up took place over the week following the Carnival, cleaning up paraphernalia associated mostly with street food and drinking. For the first time this year, we publicised the fact that the sign-up window would stay open beyond the date of the Carnival itself. So far, we have seen fewer complaints than previous years, although a review session has been planned to examine how the service can be improved on for next year.



4.2 Westminster carries out more than one million waste and recycling collections per week. As shown in the above graph, refuse complaints were down in July against the same month last year. A total of 10 fewer complaints were made in month, against July 2017. The reason for this decrease in complaints is possibly due to an increased focus from the waste team in resolving longer-term issues, making use of a new complaints analysis system called Power BI.

4.3 Parks Capital investment

Resurfacing of the path network in Berkeley Square is nearing completion-the old hogging style path surfacing which in wet weather became non DDA compliant has been replace with a resin bonded surfacing making the square accessible for all.

4.4 Green flags

All 23 green flags for parks, gardens and Cemeteries have been awarded again this year; an additional green flag has been awarded for Leicester Square bringing the total to 24. In addition, Green Heritage plaques have also been awarded to the Embankment Gardens and Leicester Square.

4.5 London in Bloom

The London in Bloom awards are taking place on the 20th September at Richmond Park.

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