

Cabinet Member update (Cllr David Dixon) for the Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel meeting on Thursday 12th July 2012

Community safety

The new CCTV control room is now operational, and is being run now as part of the Contact Centre at Lewis House under Customer Services. The new control room has increased capacity on the system for more cameras and we are now looking at costing for new installations. I would strongly recommend a visit by panel and this can be organised through Ian Savigar.

We are also looking at the locations of Taxi Ranks for Bath City Centre in order to bring ranks nearer to where patrons are leaving the City centre, we have good support from the Taxi trade on this and we will be introducing new ranks at Milsom Street and Southgate and re-marking and looking at how to promote underutilised ranks at Walcot Street and George Street. It is envisaged that this will reduce the demand at Orange Grove and help with the on-going issues there.

We will continue to support the Bath BID with City Centre Marshalls and the new tender for this is due to go out soon.

Leisure

The Council is looking at a new leisure strategy. It is going to be focussed on the level of built facilities available. At present we have not been able to extend the contract with Aquaterra and we have to ensure that any future contract is focussed on what the future provision will look like. This includes the great progress being made looking at a new centre for Keynsham.

Libraries

We are still fortunate to be one of the only councils in the country to not have cut the number of libraries. The plans for the new Paulton hub are progressing well and I think that this will make a great pilot for future provision in other areas of the country. We have committed to keeping one mobile library vehicle on the road to deal with areas where very low but much needed demand exists. Officers are working well on the new Library Links and I am hopeful that we will have at least 3 links in place for March 2013 and 3 new community libraries on board.

Cllr David Dixon
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Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
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