

# ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

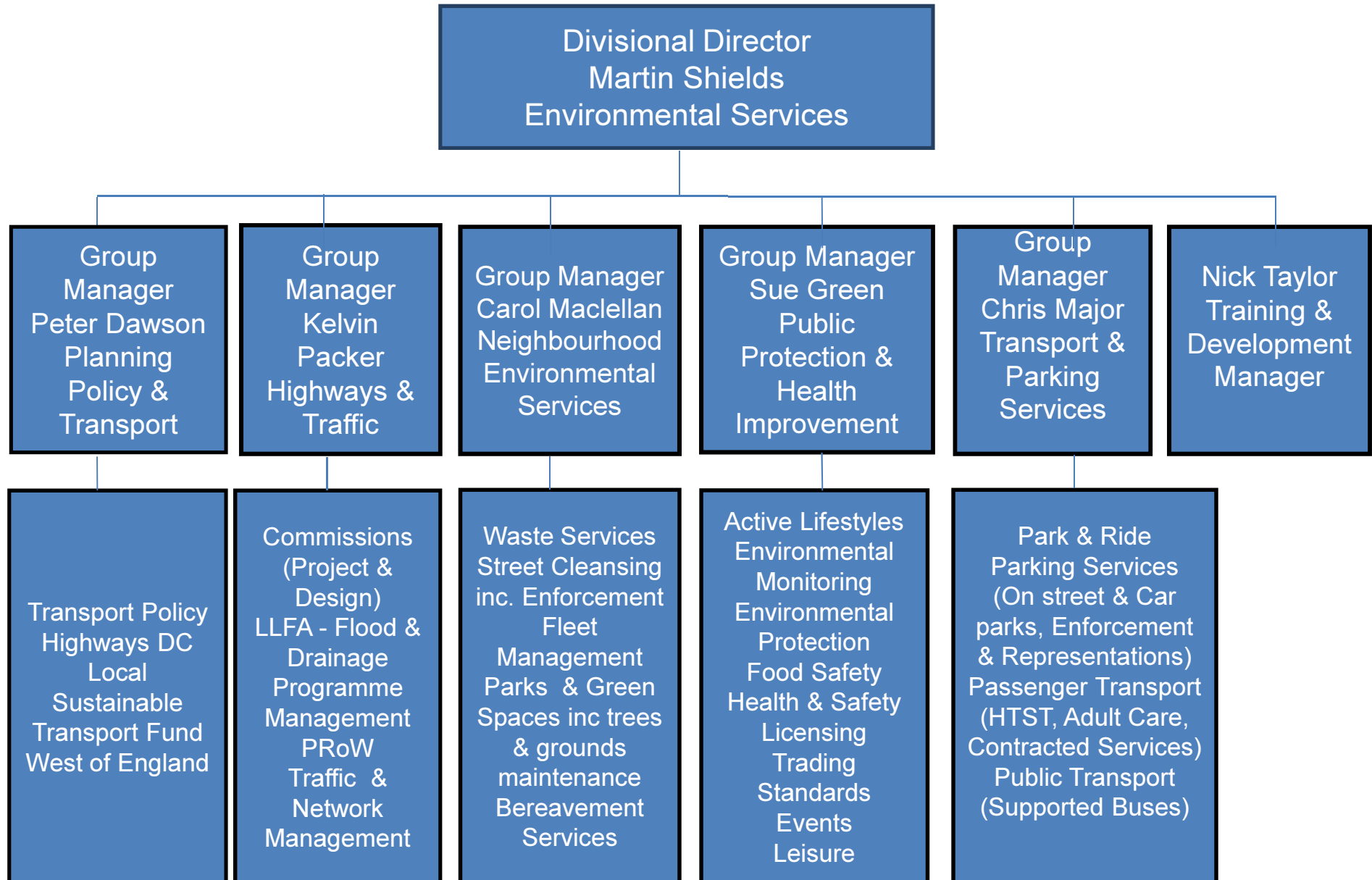
Martin Shields – Divisional Director

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# Environmental Services structure chart



# Savings for 2016/17

## Savings Target

£3.895m

## Savings Achieved

<b>Green</b>	(Banked)	£2.512m
<b>Amber</b>	(Not Banked)	£1.192m

## Savings Shortfall

£191k

# Parish Sweeper Scheme

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# Background

- In operation since April 2003.
- 18 participating Parishes.
- Currently resourced to ensure that B&NES Council meets its statutory obligations (Environmental Protection Act 1990) through devolvement to the Parish Councils.
- Parish Councils administer cleansing services within their areas, giving flexibility to employ staff themselves and to determine locally how the service is provided.

# Current Service

The current agreement is based on Parishes undertaking all cleansing activities, such as those outlined in the table below:

The Parishes	B&NES Council
Litter picking	Mechanical sweeping
Removal of weeds	Disposal of waste from litter bins
Sweeping of pavements & pedestrian areas	Graffiti removal
Removal of leaf & blossom fall	Weed spraying

# Aim

The aim of the review was:

- To identify any improvements that could be made.
- To identify areas of duplication/confusion.
- Ensure that the Council's statutory obligations were being met.
- Ensure that the scheme offers value for money.

Views were sought from representatives of all the Parishes that are part of the scheme and B&NES Council cleansing team.

# Findings

The scheme is highly valued by the participating Parish Councils:

- Local knowledge and ownership enables services to be responsive to local cleaning needs.
- The Scheme offers flexibility and adaptability to react swiftly to local circumstances.
- The scheme provides local employment and has a wider social benefit in that sweepers are able and willing to take on additional roles such as ensuring elderly residents are ok & clearing snowfall from pavements.
- It provides a good link between the Parish Council and the local community.



## Findings cont.

Several themes have emerged as areas where improvements and/or changes could be made to the scheme:

- Clarity of responsibility within the Terms of Agreement -
  - Greater clarity and amendment of the Terms of Agreement to clearly define who is responsible in each area to avoid duplication of work and ensure any complaints are dealt with by the appropriate party.

Some key areas identified were:

Gutter clearing	Clearing grass verges
Disposal of waste	Emptying of litter bins
Weed control	

## Findings cont.

- **Health and Safety** - Ensuring that all Parish Councils are aware of, and monitoring compliance with relevant Health & Safety legislation, whether employing staff directly or carrying out work through a contractor.
- **B&NES Schedules** - Provision of more information to the Parish Councils of the schedules when B&NES Council undertakes cleansing duties such as mechanical sweeping, chemical weed spraying etc.

## Findings cont.

- **Ensuring achievement of minimum standards -**  
Development of a performance monitoring scheme to ensure that the specified standards are being met by the Parish Councils.
- **Payment Mechanism-** A request from some Parish Councils for clarification and revision of the payment mechanism to reflect the increase in housing development within some Parishes and the introduction of national living wage.

## Findings cont.

- **Communication-** Regular communication between B&NES and the Parish Councils to enable identified issues to be rectified swiftly and for Parish Councils to provide feedback on other areas such as litter bin usage and placement.
- A revised offer from the Council is needed to allow more Parishes to participate should they wish.

# Next Steps

- Development of a revised, more detailed, Terms of Agreement for the scheme.
- Clarification of the Parishes Health & Safety responsibilities.
- Further discussion and consultation on the review findings, revised Terms of Agreement and a new Service Offer from the Council over the Summer for all Parishes.

# Fly Tipping

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## Key statistics

	Incidents of fly tipping reported to the Council	Council spend on clearing up fly tipping
<b>2012/13</b>	626	£21,451
<b>2013/14</b>	395	£17,056
<b>2014/15</b>	527	£23,979
<b>2015/16</b>	505	£36,896

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# What we do

- We will search for evidence to use to allow our Enforcement team to investigate.
- Collect and clear the fly tip location.
- Dispose of the waste appropriately, i.e. we will separate out white goods from rubble when at the transfer station as best we can.



# Asbestos & access difficulties

- For small amounts of asbestos we will collect in a safe manner.
- For large asbestos tips we have a contract with Shield Enviro who are contract to clear within 72 hours of us reporting this to them and giving location.
- There are occasions where the fly tips are in very hard to get locations or they are large piles of soil. We then have to get a waste disposal contractor with a hiab truck in to clear. This process can lead to delays.

# Actions

- The Enforcement team will take on a case to investigate based on their assessment of a successful prosecution.
- Unfortunately these have been far and few between, although in a joint operation with South Glouces Council recently they have been successful in prosecuting a well know fly tipper.

# Future

- We are in the process of deploying a covert CCTC system in a number of well known fly tipping hotspots throughout the district.
- We would potentially welcome the ability to work with Parishes to deploy this (once the RIPA process of signage etc is in place) to areas where they feel there is an issue. This would have to be based on the severity of fly tip so we may not be able to accommodate all requests initially.

# HIGHWAYS A37 ROUTE REVIEW

Kelvin Packer – Group Manager Highways and  
Traffic

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