

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Overview and Scrutiny Management Board</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> June 2013</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Response to the review by the <i>Improving Places Select Commission</i> of Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing services</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Environment and Development Services</b>

**5. Summary**

The report provides a detailed response to the recommendations made by the *Improving Places Select Commission* following its review of the Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing services.

**6. Recommendations**

That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board notes the response.

## 7. Proposals and Details

A report on the “**effects of budget savings on the Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing schedules**” was presented to the Improving Places Select Commission on the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012. The commission agreed at the meeting that a review of the services be carried out. The review was conducted over three separate meetings during November and December 2012 against the following objectives:

- To analyse the impact of budget cuts to the service
- To ensure that risk and impact assessments have been fully considered and are in place for the future
- To develop practical suggestions for improvement of the service within budget
- To consider invest to save options.

The recommendations of the Select Commission have been considered by officers, and a detailed response is attached as an appendix.

The review by the Improving Places Select Commission largely aligns with the work undertaken by officers to identify actions which mitigate the effects of the reductions in service budgets.

It is recommended that the detailed response is agreed by Cabinet and reported to the Overview & Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

## 8. Finance

There are no direct financial implications arising from the review.

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

The review by the **Improving Places Select Commission** was undertaken against a backdrop of concerns that, following reductions in budgets for Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing, it is difficult to meet the standards that residents of the borough have been accustomed to. The recommendations and actions already taken by officers will help mitigate these concerns.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing services have a direct and significant impact on one of the Council's key priorities: **Improving the environment**.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

The Cabinet Member for Waste and Emergency Planning has been consulted in drawing up the response.

**Report to Improving Places Select Commission** - Leisure and Community Services: effects of budget savings on grounds maintenance and street cleansing schedules. Dated 25<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

**Scrutiny review: Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing** - Review of the Improving Places Select Commission November – December 2012

### **Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse**

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