

Chairman's Announcements - Westbury Area Board 22 April 2010

Flooding Consultation

Wiltshire Council has set up two operational flood working groups, one in the north and the other in the south of the County. As part of the work of these groups they have been collating information on flooding and drainage issues from highways and drainage teams around the county.

The Area Board would like to invite each town and parish council to identify areas which flood or have previously flooded and any documentary evidence (preferably photographic) to support this. You are invited to collect the packs of information this evening and return them to the Community Area Manager at the next meeting.

Review of Special Educational Needs Provision

Any questions about the review or the consultation process should be directed to Tracy Gates, SEN Project Officer, tracygates@wiltshire.gov.uk 01225 756170.

There are opportunities available to meet with officers to discuss the proposals at Salisbury City Hall, Salisbury Tuesday 4 May 7pm

The closing date for the consultation is 12 noon Monday 24 May 2010.

Gypsy and Traveller Review

An 8 week consultation on the issues and general approach to identifying land for new gypsy, traveller and showpeople sites is to start on Tuesday 6 April until 5pm on Friday 4 June 2010. This is the first stage in the process of preparing a Gypsy & Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document.

All information relating to the consultation will be available from the end of March on line at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/gypsyandtravellersitesallocationsdpd and in the main Council offices in Chippenham, Devizes, Salisbury and Trowbridge and available at local libraries.

If you would like to discuss the issues involved in this consultation in more detail drop in events are being held at the following locations between 4pm and 8pm:

Wessex Room, Corn Exchange, Devizes	Tuesday 11 May 2010
Salisbury, City Hall	Thursday 13 May 2010

Contaminated Land Strategy

Please find below a link to the new draft Contaminated Land Strategy for Wiltshire.

Under the terms of the Environment Act 1995 the Council is obliged to develop and adopt a formal strategy that details how it proposes to deal with historic land contamination. This document unites the work previously carried out by the four district councils in one policy document.

The legislation is proactive, requiring us to survey the district for potentially contaminated Land (e.g. gas works, landfills, industrial & commercial usages etc) and it is retrospective i.e. it applies equally to land that was contaminated before the Act came into effect, as well as new contamination.

The Strategy document:

- Sets the scene within Wiltshire, reviewing the nature of Wiltshire, geography, ground conditions and other environmental factors that influence how we deal with land that has become contaminated.
- Reviews the legislation and its specific requirements.
- Details how Public Protection Services propose to implement it.

That said it remains that the governments preferred means for dealing with land contamination is through the planning process as sites are redeveloped for new uses.

Wiltshire Council is interested in gaining the views of partner organisations, interest groups and members of the public. Your comments can be submitted via email to publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk, or by writing to Specialist Environmental Protection Team, Public Protection Services, Monkton Park, Chippenham, SN15 1ER.

The consultation remains open until 10 May 2010.

Air Quality Consultation

The Environment Act 1995 places a duty on local authorities to monitor air quality within their administrative areas having regard to national and European air quality objectives.

Wiltshire is a high quality environment however we have a number of locations where the objective for nitrogen dioxide is not being met and one where the objective for fine particulates is not being met. These failures are generally associated with vehicle emissions and congestion.

The strategy has been developed as an over arching document detailing our approach to air quality and will be supplemented and supported by our annual reports, Air Quality Action Plans and Supplementary Planning Guidance.

A consultation will run for 12 weeks until the 18th June 2010. Please find below a link to the Air Quality webpage and the new Air Quality Strategy for Wiltshire:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/environmentandplanning/publicprotection/pollutionandnoise/airandwaterpollution/airquality/airqualityreportsandsummaries.htm>.