

**Wiltshire Council**

**Cabinet**

**25 September 2018**

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### **Additional Questions**

**Colin Gale - Pewsey Community Area Partnership (PCAP), Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and Pewsey Parish Council (PPC) Questions on the status of the consultation on the proposed closure of Everleigh HRC**

**To Councillor Bridget Wayman – Cabinet member for Highways, Transport and Waste**

Further to the response to the questions provided on 17<sup>th</sup> September I wish to clarify and respond to a number of points:

#### **Question 1**

Please can you confirm that the 12 additional emailed responses are additional to the 1,318 total response's and if these emailed response which are not in the questionnaire format will be included in the consultation analysis?

#### **Response**

Yes, these are in addition to the 1,318. We can confirm that all responses have been included in the analysis regardless of whether they were emailed or sent as hard copy, and also irrespective of whether responses were made on the council's consultation template.

#### **Question 2**

The response identifies that there has been no engagement with ESC etc on the consultation report before the report is submitted to Cabinet but the response does not advise why not. The consultations recently observed seem to all go through some level of scrutiny before being submitted to Cabinet which would seem to be good practice. Is there a reason why this practice is not being carried out for the Everleigh Consultation report?

It should be noted that although PCAP and CPRE have made statements to ESC on Everleigh the statements have simply been acknowledged by the chairman with no discussion by the committee.

## **Response**

Not all executive actions are subject to overview and scrutiny just those which are agreed as priorities by the non-executive members. Early discussion with the relevant leading members of the overview and scrutiny function is important.

As part of Environment Select Committee's (ESC's) work, the Waste Contracts Task Group (who report to ESC) discussed the consultation on the closure of Everleigh household recycling centre at their June meeting. The task group agreed that no further Overview and Scrutiny engagement was required.

Ultimately it is for Overview and Scrutiny to decide whether they engage with a particular issue.

## **Question 5**

The response refers to additional investment at the Everleigh site. Wiltshire Council have previously acknowledged that there has been no investment at the Everleigh site since 1997 and that the drainage issue is due to the original drainage installation not being carried out in accordance with the installation drawings.

## **Response**

The additional investment refers to the funding required at this time to install a new drainage system, replace the drainage tank and repair the retaining wall. This would be in addition to the investment under the new contract for provision of new containers and a new mobile compaction unit.

## **Question 6**

The character limitation correction as identified in the response did not work as notified to the Director for Waste on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018. I was only allowed to insert approximately four sentences before the character limitation restricted further input for both questions 10a and 11a.

## **Response**

This was highlighted early in the process and the character limit increased to either 500 or 2000 (from 200 or 500), depending on the question, from 10 July – so, with nearly two months to run before the consultation close. In respect of questions 10a and 11a there was a limit of 500 characters. From 1,251 responses eight reached that limit and on Q11a seven from 1,251 reached that limit. I apologise that Mr Gale was not able to complete his responses in this format, however the extension to the character limit did work for some. The majority of respondents restricted their free text replies to one or two points.

Respondents were also free to submit comments by other channels to the council at any time, with a number of people and parish and town councils electing to do so.

Where submitted the comments have been added to the numbers reported and given equal weight to those recorded via the consultation portal.