

Title of the review: Sewerage review working group

Date review completed: 23 March 2023

Date presented to Cabinet: 6 July 2023

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Viv McCrossen

Chair of the review group: Councillor Liz Clunie

Officer supporting the review: Emma McGinlay

Response received by the Overview Committee (28 days): 4 September 2023

Recommendation 1

The Council raises general awareness of pollution issues

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted Partly accepted Do not accept

Cabinet response:

Pollution is an issue at the forefront of all of our and our resident's minds and we are aware that it needs consistent efforts to try to keep up awareness of it.

We welcome this recommendation and will work with the relevant teams to implement it as best we can.

Implementation comment:

The carbon management action plan, which is due for a refresh imminently, houses actions for the council to reach its carbon goals. There will be a period of public consultation that will help inform the updates - communications around pollution issues will be considered.

Recommendation 2

The Council promotes permeable driveways and surfaces.

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted Partly Accepted Do not accept

Cabinet response:

We understand that permeable driveways and surfaces support great drainage systems and helps to alleviate flooding.

We welcome this recommendation and will implement it as best as we can.

Implementation comment:

Non permeable driveways need planning permission, which is something the council would not usually support.

Information and encouragement to use permeable driveways is included on the planning portal and is also provided by the planning department through the Pre-Application Advice Service.

Recommendation 3

The Council raises awareness on what the public can flush, endorsing existing relevant campaigns

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted Partly Accepted Do not accept

Cabinet response:

With the current climate crisis and pollution issues, we are aware that any tips we can provide to residents about what they can/cannot flush will be useful. We welcome this recommendation and will work with the relevant teams to implement it as best we can.

Implementation comment:

This has not yet been implemented but we plan to endorse existing campaigns as part of the council's communication plan.

Recommendation 4

The council ensures that, where feasible, new developments utilise sustained urban drainage systems

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted Partly Accepted Do not accept

Cabinet response:

Through our current planning policy, we can specify certain conditions for developers when they create new developments – specific types of drainage do not form part of this. We can, however, use our position to influence developers to ensure they utilise sustained urban drainage systems.

We welcome this recommendation and will implement it as best as we can.

Implementation comment:

Decisions on planning applications ensures this is the case for all new major housing and commercial developments. There is full consultation with the Environment Agency, Seven Trent Water, and the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA).

Recommendation 5

The Council consults Severn Trent on all major developments in the borough, to ensure they can give information on best placed drainage sites based on current systems in place

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted Partly Accepted Do not accept

Cabinet response:

We currently engage with Severn Trent but welcome the opportunity to better this relationship to ensure that they can provide their expert guidance on drainage sites and issues affecting our new developments.

We welcome this recommendation and look forward to working with Severn Trent.

Implementation comment:

We consult Seven Trent Water on all new major residential and commercial developments. This consultation allows them to influence new development by recommending technical drainage requirements which must be complied with by developers.

Recommendation 6

The Council actively engages with Severn Trent through the established Gedling developers' forum

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted Partly Accepted Do not accept

Cabinet response:

We currently engage with Severn Trent on several issues but welcome the opportunity to better this relationship to ensure that they are kept up to date with developments in the area.

We welcome this recommendation and look forward to working more collaboratively with Severn Trent via the developers' forum.

Implementation comment:

We regularly engage with Severn Trent on major planning decisions and look forward to continuing this relationship to increase collaboration.

Recommendation 7

The Council educates residents on money saving ideas regarding the installation of water flow and drainage devices

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted Partly Accepted Do not accept

Cabinet comment:

With the current cost of living crisis, we are aware that any tips we can provide to residents about money saving will be useful.

We welcome this recommendation and will work with the relevant teams to implement it as best we can.

Implementation comment:

Cabinet have recently (7 November 2024) adopted a supplementary planning document called the "Gedling Borough Council Design Code Framework which requires rainwater harvesting measures for all new residential developments.

We are hopeful this will educate and assists with money saving idea in relation to water flow and draining devices.