

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2017

NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council recognises that Merton's residents are increasingly frustrated by the state of our local streets, parks and town centres with overflowing bins, fly tipping, graffiti, un-swept streets and missed rubbish collections becoming an all too familiar sight.

This experience has been further reinforced both by the results of the most recent Residents' Survey, which showed street cleaning and litter as residents' top concern, and by the 6 month performance review of the new Veolia contract considered by the Sustainable Communities scrutiny panel earlier this month, which included a number of worrying findings:

- Bin collection target missed for each of the last 4 months;
- Street litter target missed every single month since April;
- Increased detritus in the streets;
- Green sacks left uncollected after the street sweeping;
- Bins not being emptied frequently enough;
- Failure to remove fly tips within 24 hours;
- Backlog in clearing graffiti from public land; and
- £600,000 spent to implement the new contract despite Merton Council failing to have a fully integrated ICT system for reclaiming financial penalties from their contractor.

This Council believes residents deserve cleaner streets, parks and town centres of which we can all be proud. Therefore, in order to clean up the borough, this Council calls on the Cabinet to:

- a) Reintroduce weekly street cleaning of residential roads and ensure street sweepers follow after the refuse vehicle on the same day;
- b) Protect the weekly bin collection and reverse plans to move to a fortnightly service from October 2018;
- c) Increase the use of mobile CCTV to crack down on graffiti and fly tipping; and
- d) Discontinue their contract with Veolia as a result of the sustained performance failures experienced so far but without incurring further financial cost to the Council for doing so.

Cllr Suzanne Grocott

Cllr Daniel Holden

Cllr Abdul Latif

Cllr Gilli Lewis-Lavender

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