



**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S
LOCAL COMMITTEE IN
EPSOM & EWELL**

**HOUSEHOLD WASTE SITE,
BLENHEIM ROAD –
PROGRESS REPORT**

28th NOVEMBER 2005

KEY ISSUE:

This report updates Members on issues concerning the Blenheim Road household waste site, following earlier reports to the Local Committee.

SUMMARY:

This report examines the progress made with establishing solutions to some of the problems surrounding the Household Waste Site at Blenheim Road with particular reference to the traffic flow both within and outside the site.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

To note the report.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Peak time congestion into the Blenheim Road household waste site and concerns about efficient vehicle movements within the site itself continued to be a feature of the summer period. The Chairman of the Local Committee decided to visit the site prior to requesting a further report to the Committee, and met with the County's waste management Operations Group Manager (Richard Parkinson) and with the SITA site manager in September 2005. The Chairman invited Councillor Graham Dudley to accompany him
- 1.2 The visit provided an opportunity to witness the frequency of refuse delivery from a number of boroughs, and the pressure on the staff to load this into the larger vehicles that dispose of the waste. Failure to keep this moving can rapidly lead to the site becoming full. Any difficulties at the receiving end, can quickly lead to capacity problems at Blenheim Road.
- 1.3 There have been particular difficulties on occasion with green waste, and the site manager was able to report that, subject to appropriate permissions, he hoped to have an additional capacity for green waste (to the left of the site entrance).
- 1.4 The Members were also able to observe the sorting of waste, both the ground level efforts of residents and of SITA staff working within the enclosed lower ground area. It was acknowledged that when delays to enter the site are severe, the motivation of residents to dispose of different types of waste in the available containers can decline, leading to it all being tipped into the general area.
- 1.5 Discussions with the Waste Manager focussed on measures that might ease the problems external and internal to the site. Within the site it was felt that:
 - Additional green waste capacity would be very helpful
 - Better and renewed signing of the various categories that can be disposed of and their location would be helpful
 - Traffic circulation could be improved
- 1.6 It is inevitable that traffic delays will occur at weekends and spring and summer bank holidays, as these times are the main opportunities for many residents to generate waste that needs disposing at their local tip. There could be opportunities in the future to use the Borough's newsletter to remind residents of the tip's opening times and encourage visits at other times. Members suggested a late night opening might provide another means of reducing the peak.

- 1.7 Following previous reports to the Local Committee, approval was given to the making of Traffic Regulation Order to close Blenheim Road to the North East of the entrance of Surrey County Council's Household Waste Site and diverting traffic via Longmead Road, Felstead Road and Blenheim Road on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

2. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 At present SITA staff put up barriers and temporary signs to direct traffic. Permanent signs can be provided, either hinged signs that are revealed when needed or electronic activated signs, which could be controlled from the Waste Site.
- 2.2 Local Transportation staff and SITA will be meeting soon to discuss the provision of permanent signs that can be installed before Easter next year.
- 2.3 Richard Parkinson is investigating the use of consultants to look at a possible re-design of traffic flow within the site.

LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER: Chris White

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01372 832 539

BACKGROUND PAPERS: