

## **Performance and Finance Select Committee, 23 June 2004**

### Task group proposal

#### **Household waste collection and the Onyx contract**

##### Purpose and timeframe

A group of three members, ideally cross-party, to look at issues facing household waste collection and the Onyx contract, with the intention of reporting back to the committee in time for its meeting on 22 September. The committee may wish to question Onyx representatives based on the report's findings.

Most household waste collections in the borough perform to adequate standards; however, there are certain pockets where performance is unacceptably below standard. Although it is important to understand the overall picture in terms of performance, it seems appropriate to concentrate the task group's activities on "hotspot" areas of poor service.

##### Officer support

A policy and performance officer, from the corporate policy team, will coordinate the task group's activities and will prepare the final report based on the recommendations arising from its members' investigations.

Streetcare officers will provide performance information and will give evidence and other logistical support as required.

##### Possible areas of investigation

A small number of meetings, perhaps four, each one focusing on a particular topic area in respect of household waste collection and the Onyx contract:

- Contract monitoring and performance

A presentation by StreetCare officer(s) to explain how Onyx's household waste collection performance is being contract monitored overall and in "hotspot" areas, followed by members' questions on the issues.

- Field trip to a "hotspot" area

Two collection rounds causing concern at present are those in Kilburn and Harlesden. Members might wish to take evidence on the ground in one of those areas. Another way of creating a productive dialogue is through attending area forums in "hotspot" localities.

- Financial questions

The Assistant Director of Streets and Transport giving a presentation to examine pertinent financial factors facing household waste collection contracts, followed by members' questions on short-term and longer-term issues and solutions.

- Considering the evidence and reaching recommendations

Members reach their evidence-based conclusions to appear in the final report.