

StreetCare (StreetScene) / Veolia

Leafing 2007 Brain Storming Meeting

Tuesday 18th December 2007

No.	Item	Action by
1.	Persons Present Jean Francois Moreau JF Veolia Mick Minogue MM Veolia John Rymer JR StreetCare Bridie Cahill BC StreetCare Mark O'Brien MOB StreetCare Tony Talman TT StreetCare Nicola Percival NP StreetCare Tanya O'Rourke TOR StreetCare	
2.	Minutes of previous Meeting No previous meeting	
3.	Introductions All present knew each other so there was no need for introductions	
4.	Purpose of Meeting JR explained that this meeting was to discuss the 2007 leafing project where 45.66 tonnes of leaves were diverted from landfill and recycled at a saving of £2,500. It was decided to note down the attendees' views on what was good and what was bad with a view to producing a project plan for 2008 to increase the leaves to recycling tonnage.	
5.	Brain Storming A brain storming session was held with everyone participating to discuss the various good and bad points of the 2007 project. These were recorded with a view to referring to them at a later meeting in order to provide information and suggestions to improve next year's tonnage of leaves for recycling.	

<p>6.</p>	<p>List of issues raised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Big Johnson mechanical (2) Hand operated blowers (3) Twyford (4) Queens Park (5) Gladstone Park (6) Barrow beats (7) Liaison (8) Bio sacks (9) Method statement (10) Flexibility (11) Village managers (12) Timing (13) Hours of work (14) Education (15) Tonnages <p>Brainstorming notes are attached to these minutes.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>It was agreed to hold the next meeting at a convenient time to be decided at a Tuesday meeting in the new year.</p>	

Leafing Programme2007/2008

Brain Storming

Tuesday 18th December

	Procedure	Positive Aspect	Negative Aspect
1.	Use of the big Johnson mechanical sweeper	Mechanical sucks up leaves and instantly packs them for transportation	Requires litter picking either at Twyford or in local park depot.
2.	Use of hand operated blowers to collect leaves together	Much more effective gathering leaves than sweeping them up.	Doesn't sweep to grade BVA and also picks up litter. This can probably be resolved by using a litter picker before the blower and a sweeper to sweep after leaves are cleared to Grade BVA
3.	Depositing at Twyford.	'John' was very helpful and did accept some loads with small amounts of contamination.	Majority of litter needs removing prior to depositing at Twyford. May need litter picker at Twyford to keep minimising contamination if required by 'John'.
4.	Temporary short term storage of leaves in Queens Park City of London park.	This worked very well with Parks Superintendent. Crews assisted the park by removing their unwanted leaves.	Contamination can be minimised by employing temporary worker to litter pick temporary stored leaves in the park.
5.	Temporary short term storage of leaves in Gladstone Park.	There is an ideal storage area in Gladstone Park to complete procedures as in Queens Park	Park keeper is OK with the idea but needs authority from managers before he says yes.

6.	Use of barrow beats to collect and contain leaves in bio-degradable sacks.	This worked well in Roe Green and East Lane villages due to the enthusiasm of managers and foremen educating operatives and collecting sacks on a daily basis	Need education re-enforced in all villages and participation by all managers, foremen barrow beats and pick-up crews. Sacks should be removed daily from the public highway. Sacks need to be collected regularly from village depot before sacks decompose. Education is needed regarding use of bags and quality control to minimise contamination.
7.	Liaison between Ward Officers and leafing crews	This worked well in some wards.	Some ward officers appeared unwilling to compromise. Ward officers and village managers need to realise that the leafing crew is there to collect leaves and not to sweep to Grade BVA
8.	Pink bio-sacks (5000 used)	These were found to be better than the white sacks as they appear stronger and take longer to deteriorate.	Pink sacks were being used as bin liners by some sweepers. Better education needed through village managers and foremen of the barrow beats and pick-up crews.
9.	Method Statement	Not good	Re-vamped from previous year. This needs a complete re-write to be agreed by StreetCare and Veolia. Possibly set up a small project team of StreetCare and Veolia staff to make this happen.
10.	Flexibility	The longer the project continued the better the flexibility and the greater the tonnages collected.	More flexibility required from the start of the project to the end. Suggestion of starting with small team and gradually increasing the team and equipment as needed with a corresponding reduction of resources towards the end of the project. No wasted resources.

11.	Village Managers	Some village managers entered enthusiastically into the project (Roe Green and East Lane specifically).	Lack of enthusiasm by some village managers and foremen with the resulting lack of interest and effort from sweepers. One village manager was wrongly trying to use the leafing crew as additional cleansing resource which wasted a day's work for the team.
12.	Timing of operation	We need more accurate ways of determining a start date and also when to escalate the resources at high demand periods. Closer liaison with StreetCare Tree Officers and other boroughs.	Some man power was wasted collecting minimal amounts of leaves when the resources could be better used at peak leaf fall times.
13.	Operatives hours of work	8 hour days should be provided by all operatives on leafing programme.	Crews not to start work with blowers before 7am due to noise which means they should not be finished in depot until 4pm. Some days crews were finished by 1pm.
14.	Education	Needed for StreetCare and Veolia. Maybe bench marking by StreetCare and Veolia with other boroughs in the summer, say Westminster and Camden.	Possibility of joint training between StreetCare and Veolia staff to explain procedures and expectations before the start of leafing season.
15.	Tonnages	45.66 tonnes recycled and not sent to landfill with street sweeping arisings. Saving of about £2,500 in disposal costs plus helping to maintain clean streets.	Need realistic target for 2008. Suggested 25% increase.

