

# Environmental Operations

October 2013 – Issue 1

## Latest News



**Message from Councillor Topping, Portfolio Holder for Environment:** Thank you for everyone's hard work so far on this proposal to form a wholly owned company (WOC). We recognise from discussions with staff, residents and members that you are currently delivering excellent levels of service. As the Leader has said previously, *"Our aim is to provide greater value for money while delivering better performance for our customers. Delivering our services in this way also means a better deal for staff who work hard to provide services to our residents and customers. We're putting in place organisations that should offer longer-term job security."* Our priority would be a seamless transition to maintain current service levels. I am remaining in my role. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce new Company Chair and Vice Chair, my fellow Councillors John Hammond and Roger West. More detail will follow in future newsletters.

### Message from Kevin Melling, Head of Environmental Protection and Enhancement



Welcome to this newsletter for employees potentially affected by the formation of the new WOC. The proposed scope of the company has been broadened and now includes Waste, Fleet, and parts of the Streetscape and Sustainable Environment Team. These new elements include grounds maintenance, mechanical sweeping, street cleansing, open space development and technical functions including play areas, trees and drainage.

The remaining teams in the service which are currently considered to be out of scope are Bereavement Services, the streetscape team in Congleton devolving to the Town Council, public rights of way, countryside ranger service and markets and toilets (which have not already transferred to town and/or parish councils.) We will continue to talk to these staff separately.

We have been working closely with the trade unions on these proposals and I am very happy with how the programme is progressing so far. We have asked focus groups of staff, members and residents for their views on the name and logo for the new company and I am happy that we have come to a decision. The name of the company will be 'Ansa' which means 'loop' in Latin, and reflects how the company has a mission to keep up a continuous service. The next stage is to design some logos for signage, uniforms and vehicles – we will be asking your views again over the coming months on the design.

A report is going to Cabinet on 15 October to consider:

- Forming this wholly owned company;
- Investing in vehicles; and
- Improving depots across the Borough.



## Staff Briefings

I would like to invite you to a staff briefing session to discuss the changes and any concerns you have. I would encourage everyone to attend as it is vital that you are aware of the exciting developments and changes ahead.

We have organised the briefings, please attend the one that suits you best:

- **28 October**
  - Commercial Road Depot at 6:30am – Mess Room
  - Macclesfield (Old) Town Hall at 9:00am - Assembly Room
- **29 October**
  - Pym's Lane Depot at 6:30am – Old Window Shop
  - Pym's Lane Depot at 10:00am - Old Window Shop

We will send out further newsletters to share progress with you. If you have any immediate concerns please raise them to a senior manager.

## Employee Working Groups

I am keen to continue hearing from you during the process so we are developing a Employee Working Group from across the various services. This group will voice the ideas, concerns and feedback from others in their teams and will help advise on various aspects of the new company.

This is your opportunity to get involved and I value your experience within these services. If you would like to be a part of the Employee Working Group please contact Ruth O'Brien on 01625 383847 or by email at [ruth.obrien@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.obrien@cheshireeast.gov.uk).

## Union Reps

We are working very closely with your Trade Union Representatives who are:

### GMB:

- Shawn Reed: 07896 346448 [shawn.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:shawn.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk)
- Chris Millington: 07795 697595

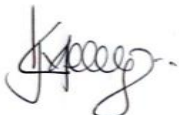
### Unison:

- Craig Nicholson: 01270 371188, [Craig.Nicholson@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Craig.Nicholson@cheshireeast.gov.uk)
- Tracey Evans, [Tracey.evans@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Tracey.evans@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

### UNITE:

- Steve Otter: 07534 535054
- Paul Gibson: 07845 222332

We would like to thank you for your help so far and for your continued commitment to delivering excellent front-line service.



Kevin Melling, *Head of Environmental Protection and Enhancement*

