

Appendix 9 – Summary of comments from Parish Councils

Responses were received from the following Councils:-

- Albury Parish Council
- Anstey Parish Council
- Ardley Parish Council
- Aspenden Parish Council
- Aston Parish Council
- Cottered and Throcking Parish Council
- Hertford Heath
- Hunsdon Parish Council
- Little Hadham Parish Council
- Walkern Parish Council

Below is a summary of the points raised:-

An objection to the proposed changes was received from some of the respondents. No responses were received from Parish Councils not in receipt of the grant.

Concern regarding a lowering of the standard of cleansing.

Concern regarding the frequency of litter bin emptying.

Concern that litter bins may be allowed to over flow.

Concern that the grant is used to cleanse areas which are outside of the districts responsibility and therefore won't be cleansed under the contract. E.g. village greens, fields and common land.

Concern for the safety of visitors if more cleansing vehicles will be operating in areas.

Concern that some Parish Councils operate services with a zero carbon footprint.

Concern that litter left uncollected (because it falls outside of EHC responsibility) will be harmful to the environment etc.

Concern that contracted staff will not perform duties as diligently as locally employed staff.

Concern that a degradation of litter collection would impact on neighbourhood cohesion, community pride, emotional and mental wellbeing.

Concern that reduced litter collection would result in rats and other vermin.

Concern that Parish Councils need sufficient time to budget for changes.

That the grant scheme currently in place meets the objectives of the Discretionary Community Grants Policy

Concern that litter would blow into hedges, gardens and fields due to infrequent litter collection.

Concern that money from the precept would be needed to maintain service standards.

Concern that the precept can not afford the current private provision.

Concern that current schedules would not be sufficient to maintain standards.

Suggestion that the 'Adopt an Area' scheme is the Council relinquishing it's responsibilities.

Question whether there is a real saving to EHC.