

Council: Tuesday, 5 November 2013

Opposition Business Item: Councillor Alan Schneiderman

Amendment in the name of Councillor Brian Coleman

Re-cycling Bin Fiasco

Add between paragraphs 2 and 3;

Council believes that for recycling to be successful it needs total Community buy in and that Councillor Dean Cohen has managed to bring a popular and efficient service into public disrepute. Council also notes the reports of long delays on the phone in dealing with customer complaints and considers this unacceptable .

Substantive Business Item to read:

Council notes that the new re-cycling service has started in utter chaos, with no contract signed in time to handle re-cycled waste, 11,000 new re-cycling bins not delivered in time for the official start of the new re-cycling service by the private contractor, complaints about the number of bins people are left with and rubbish piled high outside homes.

Council notes in particular, that even though the Cabinet Member is reportedly “apoplectic” at the failure of SSI Schaeffer to deliver the new bins on time, the council is said to be only “considering” imposing a financial penalty for non-compliance under the contract – despite the disruption this has caused to local residents.

Council believes that for recycling to be successful it needs total Community buy in and that Councillor Dean Cohen has managed to bring a popular and efficient service into public disrepute. Council also notes the reports of long delays on the phone in dealing with customer complaints and considers this unacceptable .

Council believes that the whole saga has been a complete fiasco, and a lesson in how not to do things – including in not holding private contractors to account.

Council calls on the Cabinet Member to get a grip, and impose the financial sanctions the council is allowed to under the contract, and immediately review the number of bins needed in each property so those who wish to share a bin or wish to have a smaller bin can.