

## SUSTAINABILITY PORTFOLIO HOLDER STATEMENT 2017-18 - Councillor Ronen Basu

### 1. Portfolio Holder Responsibilities

My portfolio contributes to delivering the Council's corporate priorities. In particular, I am responsible for maintaining and enhancing local environmental quality, the protection of public health and Licensing.

### 2. Functions and services

As Portfolio Holder for Sustainability I am responsible for the following service areas, covering a 2017/18 revenue budget of £4.5million

- Recycling and waste collection
- Street cleansing and littering
- Fly tipping and abandoned vehicles
- Stray dogs and dog fouling
- Environmental Health
- Emergency Planning
- Environmental Protection
- Food Hygiene and Health and Safety standards in businesses
- Corporate Health and Safety
- Licensing
- Sustainability
- Drainage & Flooding

I am the Council's representative on the Kent Resource Partnership, which brings together the district and borough councils and Kent CC in their roles as recycling and waste collection and disposal authorities.

Finally, I have responsibility for a range of key issues and projects including:

- Litter and fly tipping enforcement
- Grot Spots
- Graffiti
- Waste and recycling
- Air quality

### 3. Our achievements in 2016/17

- Development of Phase 2 of the Public Realm works around the civic centre continued with £1 million received towards the scheme from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.
- We worked with our partners, through the Kent Climate Change Network, towards the adoption of the refreshed Kent Environment Strategy.
- Work was carried out to reduce emissions and contribute to national carbon reduction targets by focusing on our own operations and estate.
- The use of renewable and low carbon energy was promoted in line with planning guidance.
- The Council continued to reduce levels of household waste collected and increased the proportion of household waste sent for recycling and composting.
- Residents were supported in saving money on energy bills – as part of Energy Deal - the Councils Collective Energy scheme.
- Income was generated for the Council from renewable energy - solar PV on the Tennis Centre roof, St John's sports centre.
- The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee was supported in reviewing the renewal of the Recycling/Household Waste Contract.

### 4. Key Plans and Strategies - Specific plans for which I have responsibility:

- The Council's contribution to the Kent Municipal Waste Management Strategy and the Kent Environment Strategy
- Contaminated Land Strategy
- Air Quality Action Plan
- Carbon Management Plan
- Licensing Policy
- Environmental Enforcement Policy

### 5. Our Priorities for 2017/18

- Delivery of the Council's 2017/18 Food Service Plan
- Continue to work on the renewal of the Recycling /Household Waste Contract for a March 2019 start
- Detailed design of Phase 2 of the Public Realm works around the civic centre using external Local Growth Fund money.
- Implement single Environmental Health employer project

### 6. Contact:

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