

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**

**County Council  
22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014**

**REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor John Powell, Portfolio Holder for  
Highways and Environmental Health**

**SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Russell George**

**The authority set up a system of Local Environment areas, so that operational decisions and local services could be integrated, the reason for this change was to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery. Can the cabinet member outline any changes to this system, and why any changes are being made?**

It has been agreed that our Waste & Recycling service and our Highways, Grounds & Street Scene service require separate operational structures and a designated workforce to focus on the particular remit from either function, whilst retaining high levels of flexibility and responsiveness. When the Local Environment arrangement was developed our Refuse function was also developing into the Waste & Recycling service that we have today. However as Waste & Recycling continues to develop it continues to be seen as a priority and the service resource is drawn to it at the expense of the delivery of our Highways, Grounds and Street Scene functions. The ethos of being able to integrate operational decisions and local service delivery is still relevant and will continue to be applied across both functions. We have reduced the number of managers across both functions and found a way to release capacity and capability at this level to look forward and develop the commissioning approach for the service in line with the Authorities requirement to achieve the £70m savings by 2020.