

COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE - 17TH SEPTEMBER 2003

SUBJECT: WEEKEND CLEANSING OF PARKS AREAS

REPORT BY: HEAD OF LIFELONG LEARNING AND LEISURE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report has been requested concerning the clearance of litter from parks during the weekends.
- 1.2 A report into the cleansing of parks and play areas was presented to this committee on the 27th March 2003. In that report it was confirmed that play areas located in the community and outside main parks are cleansed by the Council's Street Cleansing section operating a frequency in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, (weekday cleansing to ground areas and bins).
- 1.3 Play areas located inside the Council's main parks are litter picked and bins cleansed daily (weekdays) in accordance with the Grounds Maintenance Contract specification. This same weekday cleansing is undertaken in a number of our larger parks using the same Grounds Maintenance staff.
- 1.4 During the summer period April to early September these same parks and play areas receive a follow up litter cleansing exercise covering 7 days of each week. This follow up cleansing is undertaken by staff operating the ranger service at our main park locations.
- 1.5 With the provision of new Welsh Assembly Government finance this year for youth provision in the Caerphilly Borough, providing skateboard areas, multi use games areas, youth shelters, play equipment and kick walls approximately 40 new sites have been evaluated and recently included in the cleansing programme operated by cleansing staff and parks staff for weekly cleansing.
- This weekly cleansing has for parks operations been funded from the Grounds Maintenance contract.
- 1.6 In relation to weekend cleansing to parks, play areas and youth sites, outside the cleansing undertaken by the parks ranger staff at selective locations, currently no regular cleansing activities take place.
- 1.7 The Principal Parks and Open Spaces Officer is currently looking to establish further grounds maintenance savings from leisure contract funds to try and commence a limited cleansing programme to heavily used parks, play areas and youth sites this Winter.

In addition growth bids are being drawn up to fund the additional cleansing requirements to existing and new areas with a view to providing a 7-day 12-month service.

Author: Derek Price – Principal Parks and Open Spaces Officer
Consultees: Mark S. Williams/Tony Lelliot/Peter Gomer/John Ridgewell