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Sharon Groth
Town Clerk & Chief Executive Officer
Witney Town Council
Town Hall
Market Square
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OX28 6AG

Dear Sharon

Further to your letter of 6th August, please see my responses to the various points raised:-

Town Environment and Cleanliness

Ubico, in partnership with WODC, is currently implementing a new task and asset management system—**Alloy**—within the Street Cleansing operation. Once fully operational, Alloy will enable teams to monitor and record bin fullness levels, report damage, and gather data to inform demand-led scheduling. This will significantly improve the ability to respond to local needs and maintain service standards.

While the request for additional bins is noted, simply increasing bin numbers is not always the most effective solution. The data from Alloy will help identify high-use areas or “hot-spots” where additional provision may be justified. Regarding recycling bins, we understand the desire for more facilities, but experience shows these are often contaminated due to “wish-cycling”—where items are placed in recycling bins in the hope they can be recycled. WODC is actively exploring ways to address this, including the possibility of a small-scale trial aimed at improving recycling outcomes.

Public Facilities & Accessibility

West Oxfordshire District Council are undertaking a full review of all public toilets across the district. The report and recommendations are due to be discussed at the Executive meeting on 10th September.

The public toilets at The Leys and Langdale Gate Witney are, unfortunately, subject to vandalism and we endeavour to do our best to keep these sites safe, open, and at a good standard.

Street cleansing in Witney follows a set schedule, which is supplemented by reports from frontline teams and members of the public. If there are concerns about the cleanliness of specific roads, we encourage these to be reported directly to WODC so that Ubico can respond promptly and effectively.

Leisure & Youth Provision

- Locked astro turf limits access to football for young people:

We have assumed this relates to Witney Artificial Turf Pitch. This facility is under the current Leisure Management Contract with GLL, which operates a booking system/ hire agreement to ensure the correct use of the facility. There are no plans to unlock the facility. Although going forward we do have a Playzone facility coming to Windrush Place pitches, which in agreement with the Town Council will likely operate club spark (smart access), which will enable members of the community to easily book the facility, but again this wouldn't be a free fully open access facility, as income will be required for ongoing maintenance.

- Requests for improved sports and leisure facilities (e.g. trampoline park, soft play and Leisure Centre).

We have assumed this related to the Windrush Leisure Centre. We will be looking at the s106 we have available and how best this can go towards improvements at the Leisure Centre, although exact timescales are to be determined as based on various development and trigger points for the release of fund.

Yours sincerely



GILES HUGHES
Chief Executive