

# Report to Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:  
**A.4**

Meeting Date: 13th June 2013  
Portfolio: Environment and Transport  
Key Decision: Not Applicable:  
Within Policy and  
Budget Framework YES  
Public / Private Public

Title: WASTE SERVICES  
Report of: The Director of Local Environment  
Report Number: LE19/13

## Purpose / Summary:

This report provides Members with an annual update on the Council's Waste Services as set out in the work programme.

## Recommendations:

Members are recommended to note the contents of the report.

## Tracking

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Executive:             |  |
| Overview and Scrutiny: |  |
| Council:               |  |

## 1. BACKGROUND

### 1.1 Introduction:

Waste Services is a key service for the City Council and is important to all residents across the District. Work has been on going throughout last year to improve productivity of the service, improve services and to reduce costs. This is set against a background of an economic downturn and reduced consumption. This has had the effect of reducing the overall waste arisings compared with last year and with a corresponding reduction in recycling tonnage. The following report outlines the key developments in the service since April 2012.

### 1.2 Waste Services Performance Indicators:

Performance of waste service in terms of waste collected is shown below for 2012/13 compared to the previous year's performance.

|   | <u>2011/12</u>                     |                                    | <u>2012/13</u>                     |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|   | Including<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> party | Excluding<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> party | Including<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> party | Excluding<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> party |
| Total Household Waste   | 44,341.84                          | 43,637.27                          | 42,968.35                          | 42,262.53                          |
| Total Household Waste sent for Recycling, Reuse and Composting      | 20,341.44                          | 19,636.87                          | 19,000.59                          | 18,317.46                          |
| NI 192 - % Household Waste sent for Recycling, Reuse and Composting | 45.87%                             | 45.00%                             | 44.22%                             | 43.34%                             |
| NI 191 – Kg Residual Waste per household                            | 487.36kg                           |                                    | 480.22kg                           |                                    |

Some of the notable variations, year on year are:

- Reduction in paper recycling (green box)
- Reduction in glass, paper, cans and plastic recycling (bring sites)
- Reduction in garden waste collection (down 12%)
- Reduction in residual waste (7kg per household)
- Increase in cardboard recycling by 20% (bring sites)

Overall the rate of recycling fell by about 1.5%, mainly explained by the reduction in garden waste collection (which may have been a seasonal blip caused by the poor weather in 2012). Taking this out of the equation the overall decrease in the recycling rate would have been about 0.3%

This overall reduction in performance means that the actual tonnage recycled was less than estimated and therefore repayment of recycling reward grant will be made to the County Council. As our year-end estimate was 807.54 tonnes down and payments are made at £58.64 per tonne, we need to repay the County Council £47,354.15.

### **1.3 Refuse Collection Service**

FLARE - a back-office database - has been implemented in October 2012. It allows us to efficiently manage our customer requests for service whilst also giving good quality management information. FLARE is synchronised with the CRM system in Customer Services, so calls can be dealt with as soon as they are logged.

In April charges for new or replacement refuse bins were introduced as a measure for reducing the cost of replacing lost bins. The charges are payable should a customer require a replacement bin,

The purple sack review has already been reported at the last Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Panel. Consultation ended on 28<sup>th</sup> May and the consultation report will be available in late June.

### **1.4 Greenbox Multi-material Kerbside Recycling Service**

Work has been carried out in 2012 to assess performance in a mid term review of the contract. There has also been an internal audit of this area of waste. Areas that need to be improved are being addressed with the contractor, for instance, improved weighbridge procedures have been introduced.

### **1.5 Garden Waste**

Cumbria Waste Management won the recycling contract for Eden Council at the end of 2011 which included the green waste collections that Carlisle City Council had provided. Eden commenced with the new contract for garden waste on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 and the contract transferred to Cumbria Waste Management on this date.

Nearly 200 properties have been added to the existing Carlisle green waste rounds.

### **1.6 Plastic and Card Round Review**

The current rounds were looked at to review and improve the efficiency with a view to trying to find capacity in the current system to add more customers who were not already on P&C collections. After the round review the total mileage was reduced across all the rounds and vehicles by 3477 miles/annum with a saving in the region of £6000. By improving the efficiency of the collection service and since the addition of a larger vehicle, a total of 350 properties have been added to the service.

### **1.7 Neighbourhood Recycling Centres**

Following the discussion at the last O&S panel, the Executive considered the option of bringing this service in-house (Executive Report reference LE08/13).

Consultation is on-going regarding the precise number and location of bring-sites, but we will be aiming to provide a service that combines convenience for customers with efficient operation.

## **1.8 Transformation Outcomes**

A significant project reviewing the design of the whole service is about to begin for implementation in 2015. This is a long term project which will be the subject of further update to this panel through the year.

## **2. PROPOSALS**

### **2.1 N/A**

## **3. CONSULTATION**

### **3.1 N/A**

## **4. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **4.1 Members are recommended to note the contents of the report.**

## **5. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES**

### **5.1 One of the Carlisle plan priorities is to 'Deliver the Cleaning Up Carlisle programme in 2013/14' building a sustainable and better local environment.**

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**Appendices  
attached to report:**

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:**

- **None**

**CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS/RISKS:**

**Chief Executive's -**

**Community Engagement –**

**Economic Development –**

**Governance –**

**Local Environment –**

**Resources -**