



ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

Panel Report

Public

Date of Meeting: 21st June 2012

Title: WASTE SERVICES UPDATE REPORT

Report of: The Director of Local Environment

Report reference: LE 19/12

Summary:

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

Questions for / input required from Scrutiny:

Members are recommended to note the contents of the report.

Recommendations:

Members are recommended to note the contents of the report.

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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

1.0 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 2011.

2.0 Waste Services Performance Indicators:

Performance of waste service in terms of waste collected is shown below for 2011/12 compared to the previous year's performance.

	<u>2010/11</u>		<u>2011/12</u>	
	Including 3 rd party	Excluding 3 rd party	Including 3 rd party	Excluding 3 rd party
Total Household Waste	44,465.60	43,963.36	44,341.84	43,637.27
Total Household Waste sent for Recycling, Reuse and Composting	20,673.57	20,171.33	20,341.44	19,636.87
NI 192 - % Household Waste sent for Recycling, Reuse and Composting	46.49%	45.88%	45.87%	45.00%

There is a reduction in recycling performance compared with last year and this is a picture replicated elsewhere in Cumbria. Reductions in recycling are found in green box recycling of glass, paper and cans and also in cardboard from bring sites. This reduction, together with an increase in bulky waste collected has seen a fall in recycling. The actual fall in recycling is further impacted as in pervious years recycling tonnage from the Salvation Army (159 tonnes) and from collected leaves were included in the figures. If the tonnage from Salvation Army and the leaves were included the recycling performance would be 46.27% which is broadly comparable to last year's performance.

This 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. This has been accrued back into 2011/12 accounts and will be dealt with through the out turn reporting processes.

3.0 Refuse collection service

As part of the Council's 'Transformation' process, the refuse collection was reviewed last year and the new refuse rounds were rolled out on 1st March 2011. These rounds are now well established and whilst savings were made, this has had no impact on delivery of services to residents.

The review has achieved the following outcomes;

- A more even spread of work throughout the week
- Minimised changes to collection day for the public
- Better co-ordinated refuse and recycling collections so that most recycling and refuse are now collected on the same day.
- Reduction in the number of crews required for the refuse collection service. One crew is no longer required which delivered savings without any reduction in service to the customer.

4.0 Greenbox multi-material kerbside recycling service

FOCSA and Waste Recycling Group (WRG) were recently consolidated to form a new company to be called "FCC Environment UK Ltd. Work will be carried out in the coming year to assess at performance in a mid term review of the contract and any areas identified that need to be improved will be addressed within the contract conditions and rectification procedures.

5.0 Plastic and cardboard kerbside recycling collection service

The City Council were successful in a bid to the County Council to fund a replacement vehicle for this popular 'in-house' kerbside recycling service. The vehicle is larger than the current vehicles and this together with a round review has allowed further savings of £50,000 to be made this year. New rounds were implemented in March 2012 and the initial teething problems have been addressed. The crews delivering the plastic and card were reduced by one crew with no impact to residents.

6.0 Garden Waste

A new disposal framework is in operation for the disposal of Garden Waste. This disposal service is provided by Cumbria Waste Management.

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 has provided. Eden commences with the new contract for garden waste on 1st July 2012 and the contract will transfer to CWM on this date. This is a transfer of undertakings and as such is covered by TUPE Regulations. 6 staff have been identified with the right to transfer to the new contractor.

7.0 Neighbourhood Recycling Centres

The Council has an extensive network of Neighbourhood Recycling Centres across urban and rural Carlisle, offering a comprehensive range of recycling facilities. Where kerbside recycling is not convenient (primarily flats) we will offer further flexibility to customers and enable them to recycle by providing a mini Neighbourhood Recycling centre for the flat complex.

8.0 Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership

The Council is an active member of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership (CSWP). The CSWP are assessing opportunities for enhanced partnership working. As such, the Enhanced Partnership Working (EPW) Project was set up to assess the available options for enhanced partnership working between the members of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership (CSWP) with a view to realising cashable efficiencies. Given the value of municipal waste management across Cumbria, both in financial terms and as a service provided to every household in the county, the outcomes of the EPW project are potentially significant to this authority. The Council is represented on the EPW Project Board by the Environment Portfolio holder and on the Project Delivery Team by the Director of Local Environment.

Three options for further work have been identified and Carlisle is involved with the assessment and potential implementation of these as reported to a previous meeting of the panel. Back ground papers regarding this are available on request.

Transformation Outcomes

In addition to the round reviews, further changes have been implemented in Waste Services in that Street Cleansing has been moved from Neighbourhoods and Green Spaces to join the Waste Services Team. This move will bring about closer alignment of the two work programmes so that there is better co-ordination of street cleansing with refuse and recycling collection rounds. This change was implemented on 1st May and already significant improvements have been seen in the City Centre and with the introduction of a more programmed way of delivering street cleansing. There is the potential for further improvements on the delivery of new street cleansing vehicles and machines which are now on order and due for delivery over the Summer.

Impact assessments

Does the change have an impact on the following?

Equality Impact Screening	Impact Yes/No?	Is the impact positive or negative?
Does the policy/service impact on the following?		
Age	No	
Disability	No	
Race	No	
Gender/ Transgender	No	
Sexual Orientation	No	
Religion or belief	No	
Human Rights	No	
Health inequalities	No	
Rurality	No	

If you consider there is either no impact or no negative impact, please give reasons:

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If an equality Impact is necessary, please contact the P&P team.