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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2004</b>	<b>CATEGORY:</b>	<b>DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>PAUL EVANS (EXTN. 5764)</b>	<b>DOC:</b>	s:\cent_serv\committee reports\environmental & development\29-jan-04\compost panel comm jan 04.doc
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>REPORT FROM THE COMPOST SCHEME REVIEW WORKING PANEL</b>	<b>REF:</b>	<b>PE</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE:</b>	<b>EDS07</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

1.1 That Members accept the report and conclusions of the Compost Panel.

## **2.0 Detail**

2.1 The Compost Scheme Review Working Panel was established in August 2003 following public concerns regarding the alternate week waste collection system especially during the hot weather conditions at that time.

2.2 The main difficulty expressed by residents concerned the insufficient capacity caused by the black bin being only emptied fortnightly. This had resulted, in some cases, in foul smells and, in the worst extreme, the waste becoming infested with maggots.

2.3 The Panel has considered these concerns together with the requirement on the Council to meet its statutory recycling standard in 2005/06 via the best and most cost effective options available.

2.4 The Panel has visited Lichfield District Council and East Staffordshire Borough Council as part of its deliberations.

2.5 The Panel's report is appended at Annexe A.

## **3.0 Financial Implications**

3.1 The financial implications of the options investigated by the Panel are detailed in Annexe B.

## **4.0 Conclusions**

4.1 The Compost Scheme has proved to be a successful and cost effective system in enabling the Council to meet its recycling targets.

- 4.2 The issue of bin capacity and associated problems will be eased by the implementation of the new scheme later this month for the fortnightly collection of glass, cans, foil, textiles and paper for the 12,000 households currently serviced by the Compost Scheme.
- 4.3 The Council should take every opportunity for funding the expansion of the above scheme across the district and, if and when affordable, to consider weekly collections and / or the collection of plastics.
- 4.4 Awareness raising and publicity are key factors in explaining, maintaining and improving the services provided by the Council especially in an area such as waste management in which residents themselves have such a crucial responsibility. A Publicity / Awareness Raising Plan in regard to the Compost Scheme, Recycling and associated waste management issues should be implemented during the forthcoming financial year.
- 4.5 A sample of the publicity material currently provided by the Council is appended at Annexe C for Members' information.