
REPORT TO:	Environmental & Development Services Committee	AGENDA ITEM: 6(b)
DATE OF MEETING:	5th October 2006	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	Community Scrutiny Committee	
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	Councillor Ron Lane – Chair of Community Scrutiny Committee	DOC:
SUBJECT:	Achieving Targets – 2006/09 – Waste Management	REF:
WARD (S) AFFECTED:	All	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

Recycling

- a) Accelerate the implementation of the 'green box' scheme across the district.
- b) Review the number of 'bring site' locations, in order to ensure Value For Money

Composting

- c) Accelerate the implementation of the 'brown bin' compost scheme across the district.
- d) Extend the 'brown bin' (compost) collection service throughout the year, except two weeks over the Christmas period.

Waste minimisation (education / publicity)

- e) Review the existing side waste collection facility
- f) Review the existing 'closed lid' wheeled bin policy
- g) Consider options for the kerbside collection of plastics
- h) Ensure that the Waste Minimisation Plan is SMART

- i) To be more innovative and proactive in our publicising and promoting our waste management services and our successes.
- j) Adopt a higher profile and more proactive school education programme

Improving the quality of our service to our customers

- k) In partnership with other contractors, offer a wheeled bin cleaning service
- l) Ensure that the Council's website is regularly updated.
- m) Ensure that website application forms can be completed on-line.
- n) Consider 'branding' the waste management service
- o) Advertise / promote all waste services to all households

Improving efficiency

- p) Investigates scope for securing developer contributions in relation to planning permissions for development, for the purposes of providing improving waste management provision.

Strategic approach to waste management

- q) Develop our strategy and performance using the existing 'building capacity' initiative as its next project. Concentrate our 'shifting resources' savings into the performance delivery of the service
- r) Urgent review the financial implications of our current waste management service in relation to the National Waste Strategy and the County response.
- s) Press for additional civic amenity sites, in order to serve the rural community

2.0 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 To respond to the request from the Environmental & Development Services Committee to examine the issues around the achievement of the Best Value Performance Indicator targets for waste management services. In particular BVPI 82a (proportion of waste recycled), which is expected to in the second quartile by March 2009; BVPI 84a (waste collected per household), which is likely to move into the bottom quartile by March 2009

3.0 Setting the Scene

- 3.1 At the meeting of 13 July 2006, the Environmental & Development Services Committee resolved to refer the issue for more detailed examination to the Community Scrutiny Committee viz:

‘That the Community Scrutiny Committee be requested to consider the recommendations from the Improvement Panel and to submit a report to a future meeting of this Policy Committee, ideally before the next performance report’

4.0 Consideration by the Community Scrutiny Committee

- 4.1 This Committee considered this matter on 7 occasions as detailed in the table below.

Date / Minute Ref	Detail
31 July 06 CYS / 4	To consider the request from Environmental & Development Services Committee BVPI 86 (cost per head of waste collection) to be included in the list of waste management performance targets to be scrutinised.
14 Aug 06	Informal meeting to consider a briefing report prepared by the Head of Environmental Services A number of issues raised with the Head of Environmental Services for clarification
30 Aug 06 & 8 Sep 06	3 Site visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rushcliffe Borough Council,• Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council; and• Blaby District Council
11 Sep 06 CYS / 14	Consideration of two reports 1. Progress report and identification of issues arising from the briefing report 2. The Council's current plans to develop the Council's waste management service
18 Sep 06	Informal meeting with the Director of Community Services and Head of Environmental Services to clarify a number of issues
19 Sep 06	Informal meeting with Head of Planning Services regarding planning guidance in respect of waste management issues
25 Sep 06	Special meeting to consider findings and make recommendations to the Environmental & Development Services Committee

5.0 The Issues

5.1 The following main issues were identified

- How are recycling centre sites determined?
- How are the types of materials for collection from recycling centres determined?
- The provision of additional Civic Amenity Sites
- More detailed financial information regarding the provision of various waste management services. (For example, green box, blue bag, composting schemes, collection costs from recycling centres etc)
- Details of the Council's waste management contract arrangements
- The performance targets set by the Council in respect of waste management issues
- The targets set in the Waste Minimisation & Recycling Plan (2005 – 2009) lack robustness
- Publicity, education and awareness raising issues, in particular within schools.
- The implications of the National Waste Strategy
- The implications of the County Council's Waste Strategy

6.0 Community Scrutiny Committee's Findings

6.1 The findings are summarised within the 6 themes, as identified below

Recycling

- 6.2 Currently householders are provided with a green box for additional recyclable materials. The scheme is has recently been expanded to 33,000 households in the district. The plan is to extend the scheme over the next three years to the remaining 4,000 households. In addition the Council has 81 'bring sites' across the district.
- 6.3 This Committee considers that the existing plans to implement the green box scheme to the remaining households is too slow and it believes it should be possible to accelerate this process, which will help the authority meet top quartile performance targets. However, this may affect the viability of existing 'bring' sites. In the main, the bring sites adequately serve the district except for two possible rural sites

Composting

- 6.4 The council's 'brown bin' compost scheme has been expanded to 18,000 households in the district. The plan is to extend the scheme over the next four years to the remaining 19,000 households.
- 6.5 The existing brown bin collection scheme operates for 40 weeks per year.

- 6.6 This Committee considers that the existing plans to implement the 'brown bin' compost scheme to the remaining households is too slow and it believes it should be possible to accelerate this process, which will help the authority maintain top quartile performance and help deliver the county wide waste strategy.
- 6.7 By extending the compost collection period, this Committee believes that the amount of household waste would be reduced, as more waste would be composted.

Waste minimisation (education / publicity)

- 6.8 At present, there is a side waste collection service, and arbitrary restrictions are applied to wheeled bins that have lids not fully closed.
- 6.9 This Committee considers that there are health and safety issues with regards to side waste collections and wheeled bins that have partially open lids. The implementation of the recommendations will help minimise waste.
- 6.10 Currently, there are no kerbside collections of plastics. Therefore, plastics are collected with residual household waste.
- 6.11 Residents have strongly indicated that they would like the Council to offer this service.
- 6.12 The current Waste Minimisation Plan needs to be SMART.
- 6.13 This Committee notes that over the last two years, 24 schools in the district have been made aware of the benefits of recycling and waste minimisation.
- 6.14 Consequently, this Committee believes that the Council should adopt a more innovative and proactive approach to publicising and promoting our waste management services and our successes. Therefore, it should adopt a higher profile school education programme

Improving the quality of our service to our customers

- 6.15 It was noted that, a wheeled bin cleaning service is not provided.
- 6.16 Therefore, to address the issue of wheeled bin hygiene criticisms from residents, a cleaning service could be offered in partnership with other private contractors
- 6.17 This Committee adjudged the waste management section of the Council's website to be well presented, informative, structured logically and easy to use. However, some pages were out of date and not all application forms can be completed on-line

- 6.18 During our site visits, it was noted that other authorities had very strong 'branding' and advertised and promoted their services extensively.
- 6.19 Therefore, it is considered that this Council should adopt a similar approach.

Improving efficiency

- 6.20 Currently, the Council bears the capital costs for the provision of new wheeled bins / green boxes. Since the district is one of the fastest growing areas in Derbyshire, therefore the Council should investigate the scope for securing developer contributions.

Strategic approach to waste management

- 6.21 It is noted that the new National Waste Strategy, and the likely County response is being developed. As a result, there are fundamental implications on the possible impact to our waste management service.
- 6.22 Currently, the County Council provides only one civic amenity site in the district and this is the lowest provision for any district in Derbyshire.
- 6.23 This Committee believes that a strategic review of the whole service, including any financial implications needs to be undertaken

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The Council has identified in its Corporate Plan that '*a cleaner and greener South Derbyshire*' is one of its three main priorities. Therefore the waste management service needs to reflect the important position it commands in delivering this priority
- 7.2 The recommendations contained in this report have a mixture of short, medium and longer term actions
- 7.3 This Committee would like to thank all the Officers and Members who have taken their time to prepare reports and contribute to the discussions, in making this report possible.

8.0 Financial Implications

- 8.1 None directly from this report, but the Environmental & Developmental Services Committee will need to address any financial implications as set out in the strategic approach section above

9.0 Background Papers

- 9.1 Environmental & Development Services Committee, '*Performance 2005/06 & Targets 2006/09: Recommendations from Improvement Pane,*' 13th July 2006
- 9.2 Community Scrutiny Committee, '*Achieving Targets 2006/09: Waste Management & Planning,*' 31st July 2006
- 9.3 Community Scrutiny Committee, '*Recycling Performance: Strategic Review,*' 14th August 2006
- 9.4 Community Scrutiny Committee, '*Achieving Targets 2006/09: Waste Management,*' 11th September 2006
- 9.5 Community Scrutiny Committee, '*Recycling Performance: Strategic Review,*' 11th September 2006
- 9.6 Community Scrutiny Committee, '*Achieving Targets 2006/09: Waste Management,*' 25th September 2006
- 9.7 Other supporting papers in relation to this Special Project held by the Policy & Economic Regeneration Section