REPORT TO:	**ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**	**AGENDA ITEM:**	13
DATE OF MEETING:	**29TH JANUARY 2004**	**CATEGORY:**	**DELEGATED**
REPORT FROM:	**DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**		**OPEN**
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	**PAUL EVANS (EXTN. 5764)**	**DOC:**	s:\cent_serv\committee reports\environmental & development\29-jan-04\compost comm jan 04.doc
SUBJECT:	**REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE – EXTENSION TO COMPOST SCHEME (2004/05)**	**REF:**	**PE**
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	**ALL**	**TERMS OF REFERENCE:**	EDS 07

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 Members are asked to approve the proposed extension plans to the compost scheme for 2004/05.

2.0 Detail

2.1 The plans are as follows:

Date	Areas	No. of households	Estimated Additional percentage recycled
June 04	Linton, Walton on Trent, Coton in the Elms, Rosliston, Castle Gresley (part)	2,248	1.46%
September 04	Overseal, Acresford, Stanton, Castle Gresley (part), Netherseal, Lullington, Drakelow, Cauldwell, Catton.	2,169	1.40%
March 05	Newhall (part), Midway (part)	1,953	1.26%
Total		**6,370**	**4.12%**

2.2 The proposed extension will increase the number of households on the compost scheme from approximately 15,000 in March 2004 (bearing in mind the expansion of the scheme into Hartshorne and Woodville during March 2004) to over 20,000 in March 2005. The additional percentage recycled is vital in the Council's efforts to increase its current recycling rate of 14% to meet the Government's statutory standard of 21% in 2005/06.

2.3 The areas remaining in the district that are not serviced by the compost scheme, following the implementation of the proposed expansion, lie in the North East of the district and in the Urban Core.

2.4 Waste from the households in the North East part of the district has been earmarked so far for the Brightstar Contract. Now that the Brightstar Contract is being allowed to expire (see separate report on this agenda), there is no reason not to expand the compost scheme to those households. However, given the recent rescheduling of the refuse collection rounds due to the closure of the Bretby Landfill Site, it will be more suitable from an operational perspective to delay implementation of the compost scheme until there is more certainty about future disposal arrangements.

3.0 Financial Implications

3.1 The implementation of the compost scheme is broadly cost neutral and the costs have been allowed for in the 2004/05 budget.

3.2 However, there is likely to be a significant increase in costs in 2005/06 when new regulations regarding the processing of waste to compost take effect. The increase in costs could be as much as £140,000 per year. The implication is highlighted in the Technical Services Division's Service Plan 2004–2007 approved by this Committee at its meeting on 6th January.

4.0 Community Implications

4.1 The compost scheme requires householders to divide their waste into compostable waste for the brown bin and residual waste for the black bin. The success of the scheme relies on the residents' efforts to manage their waste in this way.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 The Council needs to continue to expand the compost scheme in order to meet its statutory recycling standard in 2005/06.

5.2 The areas proposed are the most suitable from an operational perspective at this time.