

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Committee 27th September 2005

Report Title Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy

Summary The report summarises the main objectives of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

For further information please contact Kalen Wood
Project Manager
Tel. 01926 418064
kalenwood@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? Yes/No

Background Papers Waste Strategy

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- *Details to be specified*

Other Committees

Local Member(s)
(With brief comments, if appropriate)

Other Elected Members Councillor C K N Browne } For information
Councillor Mrs E M Goode }
Councillor Mrs J Lea }

Cabinet Member Councillor M L M Heatley – For information
(Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)

Chief Executive

Legal I Marriott – comments incorporated.

Finance

- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION **YES/NO** (*If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps*)

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council 1st November 2005
- To Cabinet 20th October 2005
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

**Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee –
27th September 2005**

Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy

**Report of the Director of Planning, Transport and
Economic Strategy**

Recommendation

That Members support Warwickshire's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Warwickshire authorities – North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, Rugby Borough Council, Stratford on Avon District Council, Warwick District Council and Warwickshire County Council, have been working together to produce a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Warwickshire.
- 1.2 The development of the Waste Strategy has been managed by the Warwickshire Waste Partnership (formerly known as the Waste Management Forum), which consists of elected members from each of the authorities.
- 1.3 On behalf of member authorities the Waste Management Forum was given authority to manage and steer the waste strategy in March 1999 and as a result has approved and supported each stage of the development of the Strategy.

2. Why do we need a Waste Strategy?

- 2.1 The production of a Waste Strategy is mandatory unless an authority is considered 'excellent' through the CPA scheme. Although two of the Warwickshire authorities currently have excellent status, it was agreed that 'Warwickshire' needed a Waste Strategy to provide a framework for the future management of waste in Warwickshire.
- 2.2 The Waste Strategy provides a framework for the management of waste in Warwickshire for the next 15 years, incorporating district/borough recycling plans. Our current waste management practices are not sustainable; historically we have recycled little and have relied on landfill as our main means of waste disposal. Challenging EU and UK legislation and subsequent statutory targets mean that this cannot continue.

3. Warwickshire's Waste Strategy?

- 3.1 We have worked together and sought advice from independent environmental experts on the most suitable options for managing waste in Warwickshire.
- 3.2 Critically, we have also consulted key stakeholders and the public throughout the development of the Strategy, to seek their opinion and inform them of our options and choices and the reason for their selection.
- 3.3 The Waste Strategy will consist of two documents. A summary document, which contains the main aspects of the Strategy (attached) and a supporting information document, which contains the detailed background information.
- 3.4 In summary our proposed Strategy for managing municipal waste in Warwickshire is:-
 - (i) To reduce the amount of waste produced in Warwickshire.
 - (ii) To work progressively towards higher recycling levels, exceeding current statutory targets of 30%.
 - (iii) To achieve aspirational *countywide* targets of between 40-45% recycling by 2009/10.
 - (iv) To limit the amount of waste disposed of to landfill – making use of existing waste treatment facilities e.g. Coventry & Solihull's Energy from Waste (EfW) facility.
 - (v) After maximising recycling we will treat all remaining residual waste using a thermal treatment system – generating heat and electricity from a non-fossil source.

Translated into 'real terms' this means the following:-

- 3.5 Waste Prevention and Reuse
 - (i) We will continue to develop innovative campaigns to encourage waste prevention, minimisation and reuse.
 - (ii) We will continue to develop links with community groups, the voluntary sector and charities to establish partnerships to promote waste prevention and particularly reuse.
 - (iii) We will work with private sector/charitable institutions to provide door to door collections of alternative materials, such as shoes, mobile phones toner/printer cartridges etc.

3.6 Waste Collection and Recycling

- (i) We will need to consider changes to collection frequencies of residual waste and recyclables. It will be up to each authority to determine what the frequency of collection should be.
- (ii) Districts that do not currently have complete coverage will need to consider expanding their green waste collection services.
- (iii) To reach higher recycling levels of 40-45% we will need to consider the separate collection of biowaste (kitchen and food waste) to be processed in an In-vessel composting facility.
- (iv) If biowaste is collected, the County Council will need to ensure that sufficient In-vessel composting capacity is available to meet the needs of the participating district(s).
- (v) As the waste disposal authority the County Council will provide financial support to the districts to enable them to reach enhanced recycling targets, which are over and above their statutory requirements.

3.7 What facilities will be needed to meet our targets?

- (i) If biowaste is collected we will need to develop In-vessel composting facilities in Warwickshire – we could need up to three facilities depending on capacity requirements.
- (ii) We will need to increase our input of residual waste into Coventry & Solihull's Energy from Waste Facility (EfW) – utilising any spare capacity (ideally in the region of 50,000 tonnes per annum).
- (iii) We will need to develop an Energy from Waste Facility within Warwickshire to process between 150,000-200,000 tonnes of residual waste per annum.
- (iv) The EfW facility could potentially be developed in any of the districts within Warwickshire. The selected location will be in accordance with the policies of the Waste Local Plan and subsequent Waste Development Framework.
- (v) Depending on the location of the EfW facility, we may need to build new transfer facilities for bulking waste.
- (vi) We will need to improve existing Household Waste Recycling Centre infrastructure, increasing the types of materials that can be recycled.
- (vii) Post 2015 consider the need to invest in additional waste treatment infrastructure – considering alternative technologies.

4. Implementation of the Waste Strategy

4.1 Our statutory and enhanced targets that we have set ourselves are challenging. In order for us to reach them and implement the Waste Strategy we will need to:

- (i) Work in partnership towards the aspirations set out in the Waste Strategy.
- (ii) Share (District Councils and the County Council) appropriate costs of meeting the aspirations in the Waste Strategy.
- (iii) The proposed enhanced targets (40-45% recycling by 2009/10) are progressive, countywide targets, to be reached over a period of years.
- (iv) We will keep the public and stakeholders 'in the loop' and ensure that they are aware of our proposals and how we aim to implement them.
- (v) A Multi-representative Project Board has been established to drive the procurement process to develop the treatment facilities required to implement the Waste Strategy

4.2 Next Steps

- (i) Sustainability appraisal of Waste Strategy by Forum for the Future.
- (ii) The comments from each council and final approval of the Waste Strategy will be considered by the Warwickshire Waste Partnership on 25 October.
- (iii) Beginning of November – Final Strategy published.
- (iv) Commence information/education campaign on Waste Strategy.
- (v) Implementation of the Waste Strategy.

JOHN DEEGAN
Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy
Shire Hall
Warwick

14th September 2005