

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Committee 1st March 2007

Report Title Council Motion - Feasibility Study on Establishing a Waste Partnership Company

Summary Members are asked to support a feasibility study on establishing a Waste Partnership Company.

For further information please contact Glenn Fleet
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? Yes/No

Background Papers None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- *Details to be specified*

- Other Committees Warwickshire Waste Partnership – 27th February 2007
- Local Member(s)
(With brief comments, if appropriate)
- Other Elected Members Councillor K Browne } for information
Councillor Mrs E Goode }
Councillor Mrs J Lea }
- Cabinet Member Councillor M Heatley – for information
(Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)
- Chief Executive
- Legal L Arben – 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 Report back to this Committee to enable Members to have an input into the final report.
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

**Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee -
1st March 2007**

**Council Motion - Feasibility Study on Establishing a Waste
Partnership Company**

**Report of the Strategic Director for
Environment and Economy**

Recommendation

That Members:-

1. Support the carrying out of a feasibility study to establish a Waste Partnership Company.
2. Endorse the terms of reference of a working group and nominate representatives.
3. Ask the working group to report to back to this Committee before the final report is completed so this Committee can have an input into the process.

1. Background

- 1.1 In December 2006, the County Council adopted a Council motion that addresses closer working arrangements regarding the Waste Partnership through the possible establishment of a waste company.
- 1.2 The motion is outlined below:

“This Council notes the growing pressure on Warwickshire’s local authorities to manage household waste and to meet stringent landfill diversion targets set by the Government and the European Union.

This Council also recognises that the split of waste collection and disposal functions across two-tier local authorities is not necessarily an efficient way of managing waste sustainable.

In recognition of the recent Local Government White Paper, “Strong and Prosperous Communities”, and the opportunity that it provides for enhancing two-tier working, this Council requests that the Cabinet, along with the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, with invitations to the District and Borough Councils, carries out a feasibility study on establishing a Waste

Partnership Company for Warwickshire. This study to be reported to full Council by July 2007 and to include financial information, timescales, and details of which Warwickshire District and Borough Councils would be interested in participating.”

- 1.3 Since the Council motion the Government has added to the range of possible options by announcing its intention to amend the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill to provide the opportunity to establish voluntary Joint Waste Authorities.

2. Progress on Feasibility Study

- 2.1 In light of these developments, the target to have the feasibility study completed by July 2007 may not be able to be achieved and after discussions with Councillors Goode and Browne on Council Motion, it was agreed to put a report to the Waste Partnership rather than Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee first. The reason for this is that if a report is made to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 1st March, it would be too late for the Waste Partnership meeting scheduled for 27th February. This would mean that it would not be possible to obtain the Waste Partners' signed acceptance to carry out a feasibility study until their next meeting in June. This would delay the whole process. Endorsement from Members for this action is requested, and will be reported verbally.
- 2.2 The report to the Waste Partnership includes proposed terms of reference (outlined below) and this committee is also asked to endorse these or others that may have been agreed at the meeting.

Proposed terms of reference:-

- (i) To identify the options available to the members of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership for carrying out waste management functions through partnership mechanisms with independent powers.
- (ii) To include the functions of waste collection, disposal and recycling.
- (iii) To include consideration of policy-making and the commissioning, management and delivery of services.
- (iv) To outline the legal form and powers of each option including arrangements for governance, performance management and accountability.
- (v) To assess the financial, legal, policy and operational implications of each option (including “do nothing”) and their benefits and disbenefits in light of the Joint Municipal Waste Strategy.
- (vi) To report to the Partnership with its findings by July 2007.

- 2.3 It is further proposed that a working group be asked to report back to this Committee before preparing their final report, to enable this Committee to have an input into the final report.

JOHN DEEGAN
Strategic Director for Environment and Economy
Shire Hall
Warwick

16th February 2007