

Warwickshire Waste Partnership - 27th February 2007

Draft Waste Minimisation Strategy

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy on behalf of the Officers Group

Summary

This report seeks Members' outline approval for the draft Waste Minimisation Strategy attached, and approval of the proposed consultation plan.

Recommendation

That:-

1. Members approve the draft strategy in principle.
2. The consultation proposal in paragraph 4 be approved, and Members receive a further report on the outcomes of the public consultation.

1. Why Develop a Waste Minimisation Strategy?

- 1.1 As part of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy published in January 2006, Members approved the development of a Waste Minimisation Strategy as soon as possible.
- 1.2 One of the biggest challenges we face is the continuous increase in waste growth. Waste prevention sits at the top of the waste hierarchy, reducing and minimising waste. If the partners stand any chance of achieving the stretched targets within the waste strategy, then the development of this strategy is of the utmost importance.

2. Strategy Format

- 2.1 We believe there are four elements that have an impact on our waste growth, Policy, Waste reduction, Re-use and Education. Officers have addressed all these elements as part of the strategy. The full draft strategy is contained within **Appendix A**.

3. Aims and Objectives of Strategy

- 3.1 This strategy proposes a coherent and structured approach to waste minimisation within Warwickshire with the aim of delivering waste reduction of

1.25% per year below the national growth rate average over the next eight years per capita, giving us a 10% reduction.

The proposed objectives:-

- (i) To set out the policy direction that the Warwickshire Waste Partnership has established to deliver this strategy.
- (ii) To reduce waste through the implementation or continuation and improvement of waste minimisation schemes and initiatives such as composting, real nappies and prevention of unwanted mail.
- (iii) To support partnership working with community groups and increase the Countywide capacity for re-use and refurbishment of goods.
- (iv) To raise awareness and educate the public to enable them to make informed consumer choices.
- (v) To support the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the amount of raw material extracted/used.

4. Strategy Adoption Process

- 4.1 Officers from across the partnership have been working on the development of this strategy over the past few months. At the beginning consultants were employed through funding from Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).
- 4.2 A copy of the Warwickshire Waste Minimisation Strategy has been provided to each partnering authority enabling them to have time to read the strategy before this meeting. If the draft is approved in principle, the formal consultation process with key interested groups and the general public can start to take place.
- 4.3 Officers are not recommending to carry out such a large consultation process as with the Municipal Waste Management Strategy, due to this strategy not seeking options with regard to large infrastructure projects having to be built. We are proposing to write to all key interest groups that responded to the Waste Strategy consultation, but not the parish councils. We intend to consult with minority groups, and carry out a general consultation exercise on the web, as well as highlight the consultation through press releases.
- 4.4 What the consultation plans to seek if approved by the Members, is outlined in **Appendix B**, including questions like “have the essential issues been identified within the strategy”? “are the policies clearly presented”? and “do they agree with the approach set out in the strategy that community engagement and involvement is the best way to achieve waste minimisation”?

Enquiries: about this report should be made to Glenn Fleet ,Sustainability Group Manager , 01926 412961, email glennfleet@warwickshire.gov.uk

Background Papers: None.

JOHN DEEGAN
Strategic Director for Environment and Economy
Shire Hall, Warwick

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