

Warwickshire Waste Partnership – 9 December 2008

School Recycling Scheme

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

Summary

This report updates Members on the progress made regarding enhancing school recycling across the County.

Recommendation

That Members note the contents of this report.

1. Background

- 1.1 Over the past few years all Member authorities have been very keen for schools to participate fully in recycling. Both the Districts and Boroughs have managed within the limited resources to introduce some form of scheme for the schools within their boundaries. Within this financial year the County Council has managed to find pockets of both capital and revenue funding to support this agenda and all this work is highlighted within the report.
- 1.2 During 2007/8 the County allocated funding to enable the collection authorities to purchase classroom and external storage bins to support all the schools that had requested extra bins.
- 1.3 Currently the partnership is providing a recycling collection of at least one material to 198 out of the 239 schools (82%).
- 1.4 A number of schemes including In Vessel Composters, Green Cones and compost bins being rolled out are help promote waste reduction within schools, and these are explained in more detail below.
- 1.5 All the work below support our LAT's targets, our present PSA target and enables the collection authorities to receive recycling credits.

2. Stratford on Avon District Council

- 2.1 Since August 2008 Stratford on Avon District Council have been able to offer 64 out of the 66 schools an extended recycling collection for all materials that are

collected at the kerbside, including paper, card, plastic bottles, tins and cans, glass and cartons.

- 2.2 As this service has come so popular, a number of the schools have greatly increased the amount they are recycling, so on that basis the County has been able to provide more bins for the schools in the current financial year.

3. Warwick District Council

- 3.1 Warwick District Council currently collect paper from 46 out of 67 schools. This includes primary, secondary, special needs, private and state schools.
- 3.2 Warwick District Council are hoping to be able to expand the scheme to include all schools and also expand the range of materials collected to include plastic bottles and cardboard.
- 3.3 A capital funding bid has been submitted to Warwickshire County Council to purchase wheeled bins and boxes in order to provide this service.

4. North Warwickshire Borough Council

- 4.1 North Warwickshire Borough Council currently provide a paper collection to 27 out of the 32 schools.
- 4.2 To support the enhancement of other recyclable materials being collected, the County is providing some extra resource to enable this to be implemented by the North Warwickshire Borough Council.

5. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

- 5.1 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council currently provide a paper collection to 30 out of 51 schools.
- 5.2 The County is presently looking with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, into ways which the County can make best use of the small amount of extra resources to enhance the present collection.

6. Rugby Borough Council School Recycling

- 6.1 Rugby Borough Council are currently providing 33 of 36 schools with a kerbside scheme. They are able to offer a paper and card collection at present.
- 6.2 Rugby Borough Council's change to the recycling and refuse collection in April 2009, could potentially be extended to all schools offering more materials to be recycling similar to the Stratford scheme.

7. In Vessel Composter Project

- 7.1 This project is to provide In Vessel Composters for schools to dispose of all food waste in a sustainable way by converting the waste into compost.

7.2 15 secondary schools out of the 40 schools have showed an interest in the project. At present 7 of these schools will be provided with a composter as they fit the criteria, with more schools being provided with a composter once further studies have taken place.

8. Green Cone Trial

8.1 Up to 10 Primary schools will be taking part in a green cone trial. The schools will be provided with 5 cones (one for each day of the week) to dispose of all food waste in a sustainable way.

8.2 Schools will record the waste disposed of in this way and feedback how well the green cones work as a disposal method for schools. If this trial is successful there will be the opportunity to roll it out to any schools that would be interested.

9. Compost Bins

9.1 The County has been able to offer all schools compost bins. Schools that take up the compost bins are fully supported with education from the Waste Minimisation team and support from the Master Composter Volunteers.

10. Conclusion

10.1 As a County we are currently providing a recycling collection of at least one material from 198 out of the 239 schools (82%).

10.2 The In Vessel Composters, Green Cones and compost bins help promote waste reduction within schools.

10.3 The County will continue to fully support the districts to include all schools and to develop their school recycling schemes.

Enquiries: about this report should be made to Emily Martin, Waste Minimisation Officer, 01926 418088, email emilymartin@warwickshire.gov.uk

Background Papers

None.

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