

Warwickshire Waste Partnership – 31 March 2009

Review of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy - Implementation Plan

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

Summary

The report summarises the proposed steps to commence the review of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Recommendation

That the Warwickshire Waste Partnership:-

1. Approves a review of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
2. Agrees to the Waste Minimisation Strategy being included in the review of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
3. Agrees to the setting up of an officer group which will develop the scope of the review of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy and appoint consultants to assist in the review.
4. Agrees to hold additional meetings of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership (if required) to progress the review of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

1. Background – Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy

- 1.1 Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy was adopted in 2005. In the Strategy key review points were identified where the Strategy would be reviewed to take into account changes in waste legislation and policy and local circumstances. The first review of the Strategy was scheduled for 2008/09 and as such this report outlines a proposed plan for reviewing the Strategy.
- 1.2 There will be a consultation paper issued shortly by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) (expected in May) on Municipal Waste Management Strategies and the scope/requirement for them. It is proposed that irrespective of whether the statutory requirement to produce a Waste Strategy remains in place, that the Warwickshire Waste Partnership

should carry out a review of the Waste strategy and develop a revised Strategy that guides the development of sustainable waste management practices in Warwickshire.

2. Proposed Steps to Progress the Review

- 2.1 Since the Strategy was adopted, the revised Waste Strategy for England has been published, therefore any review needs to take into account the targets and policies established in the document as well as other key changes to waste legislation and policy.
- 2.2 It is proposed that the Waste Minimisation Strategy is also reviewed and included in the overall Waste Strategy to provide a more streamlined and uniform document.
- 2.3 As with the development of the existing Strategy, it is proposed that an Officers group is established to carry out the review of the Strategy with the assistance of external consultants. The Officers group will then report back to and be guided by the Warwickshire Waste Partnership. As such it may be necessary to convene special meetings of the Waste Partnership to progress the review of the Strategy outside of the normal tabled meetings.
- 2.4 It is proposed that the Officers group is tasked with agreeing the scope of the review and also managing the appointment process for external consultants to support the development of the Strategy. Unlike the adopted Strategy, it will be necessary to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) on the revised version of the Strategy under the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and adhere to a statutory consultation period of 12 weeks.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The costs of developing the current Strategy were met through a series of 'grants' that were provided by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). This funding is no longer provided, therefore there will be a cost to the review of the Strategy. It is estimated that the review (including consultation) could cost in the region of £60,000 – 80,000, depending on the amount of work carried out internally.
- 3.2 Funds have been set aside within the current WCC Waste Management budget to fund the review.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 The key steps to progress the review of the Strategy will include:-
 - (i) Establish membership of the Officers Group.
 - (ii) Programme meetings of the Officers Group.
 - (iii) Agree development timeline.
 - (iv) Develop scope for consultants.
 - (v) Procure consultants support.
 - (vi) Review waste data and projections.

Enquiries: about this report should be made to Kalen Wood, Programme Manager
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Background Papers

None

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