

WARWICKSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2014, Shire Hall, Warwick

Present:

Warwickshire County Council

Councillors: Mike Brain
Richard Chattaway
Jeff Clarke (Chair)
Jenny Fradgley
Philip Johnson

Officers: Glenn Fleet – Group Manager, Waste Management
Monica Fogarty, Strategic Director, Communities Group
Kerry Moore – Waste Strategy and Commissioning Manager
Mark Ryder – Head of Economic Growth
Paul Spencer – Democratic Services Officer

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Councillor Hayden Phillips
Richard Dobbs – Assistant Director (Streetscape)

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Councillor Roma Taylor
Brent Davies – Director of Assets and Streetscene

Rugby Borough Council

Councillor Dr Mark Williams
Sean Lawson - Head of Environmental Services

Stratford on Avon District Council

Chris Dobson – Waste and Recycling Officer

Warwick District Council

Councillor Dave Shilton
Graham Folkes-Skinner - Waste, Policy and Performance Officer

1. Apologies

Councillor Lynda Organ (Stratford on Avon District Council) and Olly Scholefield, Streetscene Manager (Stratford on Avon District Council).

2. Disclosures of interests

None.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. As a matter arising, it was questioned by Glenn Fleet, Group Manager, Waste Management whether an update should be provided by each partner regarding trade waste. An issue was raised about the poor siting of skips for commercial waste collection, which was impeding access for domestic refuse collection vehicles. Such issues could be forwarded to the portfolio holder, Councillor Clarke. It was agreed that a report from each authority on trade waste collection be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.

4. Waste Strategy Implementation Annual Targets and Key Work Areas

Glenn Fleet presented a report, which confirmed that all partners had now signed the updated Joint Municipal Waste Strategy. Draft annual waste targets were provided for the remainder of the strategy period to 2020/21, together with key work areas for strategy delivery during 2014/15.

Thanks were recorded to all partners for their work on the Strategy. Glenn Fleet spoke about delivery of the Waste Strategy objectives, through waste analysis and education, including a door to door campaign, if funding permitted. He referred to two circulated leaflets on home composting and the availability of compost bins, together with a leaflet on the use of cotton nappies and a trial scheme, which was being promoted by the County Council.

There was discussion about the potential impact of home composting, which would reduce the tonnages of recyclable materials collected. Officers advised of campaigns to promote other forms of recycling with the overall objective being to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

Glenn Fleet confirmed the circulation of the leaflet on the cotton nappy scheme to parish councils, maternity wards and ante natal clinics. It was further suggested that supermarkets could be approached to display the leaflet adjacent to disposable nappies. It was noted that this scheme provided for a deposit payment by a cheque, which was becoming less common as a method of payment.

Reducing the amount of 'junk mail' was discussed and it was confirmed that the County Council are currently updating a leaflet that promotes the mail preference service.

The provision of smaller wheelie bins for waste was raised by Nuneaton and Bedworth's Officer and was discussed. Research of the implications of introducing smaller bins was suggested, so this could be considered by each district and borough council. It was stated that this would need political support from all partners. Councillor Chattaway sought confirmation from all partners of support to progress this aspect and asked when it would be considered again by the Partnership. The Chair suggested that a report be provided at the September meeting. There was also discussion about education and the 'Wastebuster' initiative.

Resolved

That the Warwickshire Waste Partnership approves the draft Waste Strategy Implementation Annual targets and notes the key work areas for 2014/15.

5. Waste Partners Report

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Richard Dobbs, Assistant Director (Streetscape) provided a verbal report on the implementation of revised recycling arrangements in North Warwickshire. In the first ten weeks of the new scheme, the recycling tonnages had increased by 20% to 47%. The Authority was looking at how it could improve even further with schemes for flat accommodation and recycling of commercial waste. It had been identified that capacity for the composting scheme might become an issue in the summer months and the home composting scheme was being promoted. The Council had agreed to remove recycling centres from June on a phased basis. There was a perception that quantities of cardboard and glass at these centres was coming from commercial sources.

Councillor Philip Johnson questioned how the commercial recycling would be encouraged. The idea being progressed was to provide a free service for recycling, if the customer used the Authority's commercial waste service.

A further issue discussed was the collection of litter from verges adjacent to trunk roads.

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Brent Davies, Director of Assets and Streetscene gave a verbal update to the Partnership. Following door to door surveys, a scheme to provide comingled recycling services to those living in flat accommodation would be rolled out from the following week. There were 50 blocks of flat accommodation, where the scheme wouldn't be suitable, but alternate arrangements were being considered for those residents.

Use of the 'Binfo' phone application was continuing to increase and there were now over 1000 users. Through promotion, it was expected this would increase further. Glenn Fleet asked about the Council's dry recycling scheme and it was confirmed that additional boxes were being provided where requested.

Rugby Borough Council

Sean Lawson, Head of Environmental Services reported on the re-launch of this Council's kerbside collection scheme. There had been a change to vehicle livery, but the main aspect was educating residents to improve the quality of materials presented for collection.

Warwick District Council

Graham Folkes-Skinner, Waste, Policy and Performance Officer referred those present to his written report. This gave details of the successful recycling awareness campaign over the Christmas period, the development projects planned over the coming months and liaison with the County Council on a scheme for recycling advice stickers on receptacles.

Stratford District Council

Chris Dobson, Waste and Recycling Officer, spoke to a circulated report, which updated the Partnership on Stratford's kerbside collection scheme, the recycling of batteries, the offer of a free kitchen caddy and liners and their review of clinical waste collections. He also referred to the successful Christmas campaigns to promote recycling via the Twitter social media platform.

Warwickshire County Council

Kerry Moore, Waste Strategy and Commissioning Manager reported on progress with new County Council tenders, a new waste data management system and home composting workshops. The report also covered the Warwickshire week of thrift, which would take place in late March and the initiative to promote washable nappies. Glenn Fleet referred to planned projects for the recycling of carpets and mattresses.

A suggestion was made about Town Centre managers being asked to promote recycling initiatives. The collection and recycling of old electrical items and furniture by retailers was discussed, together with the use of civic amenity sites and issues associated with fly tipping, legislative powers and enforcement.

Resolved

That the Waste Partnership notes the contents of the report and acknowledges the work being undertaken by each partner authority.

6. Waste Data Overview for Quarter 3, 2013/14

The Partnership received the provisional data for the third quarter of 2013/14. This included a provisional estimate of waste and recycling figures at both disposal and collection authority level, for the period. Glenn Fleet took the Partnership through the appended data, advising that a recycling rate of 54% was anticipated. It was noted that for January there had been a slight increase in waste levels.

Resolved

That the Waste Partnership notes the contents of the report.

7. Separate Collection of Waste and TEEP

Kerry Moore provided a verbal update on the Waste Framework Directive (WFD). From January 2015, councils would be expected to collect separately paper, metal, plastics and glass, unless there were technical, environmental, economical or practical (known as TEEP) reasons for not doing so. This would also apply to collections from commercial sources and schools.

Under new Materials Recovery Facility Regulations, from October 2014, companies handling over 1000 tonnes of materials would be required to provide samples of inputs and outputs. She also reported that Birmingham City Council had issued a statement, that it was confident it could achieve the required standards of the WFD through its newly introduced dual stream system.

Finally, reference was made to the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) publication expected in May that would provide a route map or checklist that authorities could use in ensuring robust processes to comply with the new waste regulations.

Comment was made about the reduction in the quality of materials presented at commercial recycling centres. There was discussion about the requirements for each district and borough council to comply with the new regulations and it was suggested that this issue be added to each authority's risk registers. The risks for district/borough councils were higher than those for the County Council, but it was noted that this could impact on recycling and therefore increase waste levels and associated costs. It was questioned whether guidance could be sought from the LGA or Defra, but was felt the WRAP route map would be more helpful. It was suggested that regular

updates be provided to the Partnership. Once the WRAP route map was issued, a further officer meeting would be arranged.

Resolved

That the Waste Partnership notes the report and that this item is included on the agenda for every meeting.

9. Any urgent items

None.

The meeting closed at 15:35

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Chair