

# Warwickshire Waste Partnership

18<sup>th</sup> June 2014

## Waste Partners Report

### Recommendations

- (1) The Waste Partnership is asked to acknowledge the work being undertaken in each partner authority.

### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the various waste initiatives taking place in each authority area.
- 1.2 Authorities work together on communications initiatives where there is an associated benefit.

### 2.0 North Warwickshire Borough Council

- 2.1 Verbal update to be provided at the meeting.

### 3.0 Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

- 3.1 Following positive negotiations with Palm Recycling agreement was reached on the removal of their contractual requirement to provide a recycling service for flats in the borough. The recycling service for flats will now be provided by the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and 1100 recycling bins are being rolled out to all complexes to give them some recycling capacity. Two large scale trials are being introduced to assess the capacity requirements, pending the switch of the residual collections to a fortnightly frequency. This has included the purchase of small recycling sacks for each flat to store their recyclable material.
- 3.2 With the introduction of a new sampling protocol at the MRF we have seen an increase in contamination and are working with Palm Recycling on a programme of awareness focused on non-targeted material.
- 3.3 The County initiative of putting stickers on the bins is now nearing completion, and we have not seen any increase in the number of comments or complaints. The effectiveness of the bin stickers in encouraging better awareness will be assessed as part of the forthcoming door to door surveys.

- 3.4 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council have now replaced the contamination sticker with a new contamination bin tag. The use of a bin tag was very effective during the Christmas period to inform residents about their collection days.
- 3.5 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council have obtained some additional resource through the appointment of a Recycling & Education Officer to support the waste strategy. The officer is presently developing a communication and media plan, with a recycling initiative based around the football world cup the first priority.
- 3.6 The residual collection rounds have now been restructured and reduced from 6 to 5 as part of the Councils efficiency savings. The restructure has significantly improved the productivity of the rounds maximising the working day.
- 3.7 A fundamental review of street cleansing is being undertaken with the purpose of optimising operational areas and a move to zones with an agreed inspection and scoring methodology to reduce over cleansing in some areas, especially around the town centres. This is to ensure better use of existing resources and improve operational flexibility.

#### **4.0 Rugby Borough Council**

- 4.1 A communication campaign is in the planning stage, the aim of the campaign is to increase the tonnage and quality of materials for recycling. The campaign entitled 'Recycle Right for Rugby' will consist of a service instruction leaflet being delivered to all homes to serve as a reminder as to what materials are and are not acceptable within the blue lid bin. A series of road-shows will also be carried out, together with use of alternative media via the Rugby App and Twitter account.
- 4.2 Garden and food waste will be targeted during the campaign, with the aim of getting more food waste out of the residual bins and into the green bins.
- 4.3 WCC has funded new Agripa signage for all the Borough collections vehicles focussing on food waste.
- 4.4 Mattresses from bulky waste collections are delivered to Hunters Lane HWRC and subsequently delivered to HMP Onley for recycling.

#### **5.0 Warwick District Council**

##### **5.1 Student Departure**

Warwick District Council are finalising the approach to take to minimise any waste issues during and following the departure of students from the district. All student properties will be provided with advice as to the best way to

recycle any unwanted materials and reduce the amount of waste arising when they come to leave their rented accommodation. We are working in conjunction with our contractors and a local charity to provide various options to students.

## **5.2 Stickers of bins and recycling boxes**

The third party contractor has been employed by Warwickshire County Council to undertake the sticking of the refuse and green waste bins together with the recycling boxes. At the time of writing this will be undertaken using a four week timescale.

## **5.3 Waste Planning Guidance**

Warwick District Council is producing a waste planning guidance document in conjunction with both internal and County Council planning colleagues. This document will enable developers to be clear on what we require from properties with regards to bin storage facilities and the various distances for bin handling stipulated in national guidance.

## **5.4 Communications Plan**

Warwick District Council have produced an Internal and External Communication Plan in conjunction with our internal media team to proactively understand the costs and benefits of our various initiatives i.e. raising awareness of initiatives and promotions in line with WDC contributions to the Warwickshire Waste Strategy.

## **5.5 Requirements under Waste England and Wales Regulations 2011**

Warwick District Council attended a seminar in London organised by a national working group comprising of local authority waste networks, the London Waste and Recycling Board and WRAP. It was to “road test” a route map to understanding the requirements of the Waste Regulations In particular it focused on Regulation 13, which concerns the separate collection of glass, metal, paper and plastic and whether Waste Collection Authorities collection services abide by the requirements.

## **6.0 Stratford District Council**

6.1 Officers have recently negotiated with our contractors Biffa to roll out a new waste and recycling collection fleet in 2015 to include 360 degree cameras and in-cab technology to protect operatives, improve efficiency of collection service and greatly enhance communication processes. This exercise will also give us the opportunity to carry out route optimisation.

6.2 A bulky waste collection service is scheduled to be carried out in 2014/15. SDC are offering an open invitation to the other WCAs in Warwickshire to carry this out as a joint project.

6.3 A similar project is being planned for 2014/15 to review communal waste collection provision in the district to enhance the service (incorporating garden and food waste collections where appropriate). As above, other WCAs are

invited to partake in the project which aims to promote and increase other reuse options and divert as much as possible from landfill.

- 6.4 An initiative to include new resident packs in kitchen caddies is being trialled from June 2014. Caddies with information packs will be delivered to new residents alongside wheeled bins. This will have the dual benefit of promoting and increasing food waste diversion from landfill.
- 6.5 A very successful in-house Systems Thinking process review has been completed. The review focused on missed collections and how they are reported and handled and has resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of issues and has freed up capacity for the Council's contact centre, back-office team and contractor.
- 6.6 Officers have recently contributed to a national officer group, led by the London Waste and Recycling Board, to develop and test a route map for TEEP assessment in response to the recycling separate collection legislation

## **7.0 Warwickshire County Council**

- 7.1 Work is taking place on the following tenders:
- i. Re-use shops and HWRCs – A tender for the operation of all 6 HWRC re-use shops and 2 HWRCs (Stockton and Wellesbourne including their reuse shops) will take place in early summer.
  - ii. Residual waste disposal contracts – A contingency contract for the disposal of residual waste from the Stratford area, should current facilities close for any reason will be procured later in the year.
  - iii. HWRC Recyclables – A tender for the sale of paper, card, cardboard and mixed soft plastic from Warwickshire HWRCs has been awarded via an e-auction. The tender was successful in obtaining best value for these recyclables, and will be showcased as a case study by Improvement & Efficiency West Midlands (IEWM).
- 7.2 Additional staff will be performing a meet and greet service and issuing leaflets to users of the HWRCs from June to October 2014 in an attempt to increase recycling rates
- 7.3 The data from the most recent waste analysis is now available (an update is provided in a separate report). Food waste has again been show as a large contributor of kerbside residual waste and thus a campaign to reduce this will begin shortly.
- 7.4 Warwickshire Thrift Week, inspired by the national Festival of Thrift, took place in March. The week was a success with 71 local events taking place across the county. Two other county councils have expressed an interest in collaborating on the proposed 2015 Thrift Week.

- 7.5 A series of home composting workshops have been taking place across the County, with more planned. So far more than 650 residents have attended workshop sessions.
- 7.6 Nappies – A free two week trial of washable nappies is now available to parents and carers in Warwickshire. This enables them to try different styles of washable nappies before making the decision to buy. 15 parents have used the trial since it was launched at the end of February.
- 7.7 The development of Lower House Farm HWRC and Waste Transfer Station in partnership with Staffordshire County Council was Highly Commended in the Excellence in Public Procurement Awards 2014/15 in the Collaborative Procurement of the Year category. The scheme is now shortlisted in the Awards for Excellence in Recycling & Waste Management 2014 plus the National Recycling Awards 2014.
- 7.8 A revised leaflet on reducing junk mail will soon be available.

## Background Papers

1. None

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