

Warwickshire Waste Partnership

16th December 2015

Annual Progress Report for Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy

Recommendations

That the draft report is approved (subject to any amendments necessary).

1.0 Background

1.1 Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy was adopted by the Warwickshire Waste Partnership in October 2005 and updated by the Partnership in December 2013.

1.2 As part of the update process it was agreed that the Partnership would publish an annual report highlighting progress against the targets agreed in the Strategy.

2.0 Objectives and reporting

2.1 Six objectives were identified in the updated Strategy, these are as follows:-

- (i) Reduce the amount of waste generated in Warwickshire.
- (ii) Develop integrated, sustainable solutions for managing waste in Warwickshire.
- (iii) Meet and exceed national re-use, recycling and composting targets.
- (iv) Work in partnership with each other and other stakeholders to produce and implement the Strategy.
- (v) Encourage public participation in the implementation and review of the Waste Strategy.
- (vi) Regularly review and update the Strategy and Implementation programme.

2.2 A short report has been prepared which summarises progress against the targets (refer to **Appendix A**). The report also provides a brief summary of the general progress being made towards implementing aspects of the Waste Strategy.

3.0 Targets

3.1 The key targets in the strategy are:

- i. Aim to reduce residual household waste to 311kg per household, per year, by 2020 (NI 191)
- ii. Aim to achieve countywide re-use, recycling and composting targets of 65% by 2020 (NI 192)

4.0 Key points

- 4.1 The number of households for 2014/15 has not been updated yet due to a delay in updating waste data flow nationally, so the household figure for 2013/14 has been used when calculating performance. The number of households has in previous years increased by approximately 1300 per annum, so the fact that no increase has yet been applied for 2014/15 calculation means that the current actual figure of 493kg household waste per household, is more likely to be 490kg. This is still outside of the annual NI191 target of 460kg although compares favourably when considered against the local authority CIPFA family group average of 533.05kg.
- 4.2 The total amount of household waste produced in Warwickshire in 2014/15 was 260,714 tonnes compared to 256,857 tonnes in 2013/14.
- 4.3 Food waste was still seen to be the major component of residual waste in 2015 at 2.42 kg per household per week (2.97 kg/hh/wk in 2014). Although correct capture rates of food waste within the green wheeled bin has increased from 12% in 2014 to 16% in 2015.
- 4.4 There were no major service changes to the collection services across the county during 2014/15; however improvements have been made to make services more efficient. At the HWRCs, a new contract with Age UK Warwickshire sees 8 re-use shops operated by the organisation.
- 4.5 Recent waste arising data showed that total waste generated by households nationally saw a year on year increase of 3.7% in the 12 months ending in December 2014. In Warwickshire the increase is 1.5%, but has been offset overall once the municipal waste has been included, to bring it down to 0.5%.
- 4.6 The 'waste from households' national recycling rate (including composting and preparing for reuse), was 44.8 per cent in the 12 months to December 2014, up from 44.2 per cent in the previous 12 month period to December 2013. While not directly comparable to the national 'waste from households' recycling rate (due to reporting differences), the Partnership was able to achieve its expected annual countywide re-use, recycling and composting target of 54% in 2014/15 (the actual rate achieved was 54.2%).

- 4.7 Whilst it is positive that the recycling rate has increased in Warwickshire, there have been a number of issues within recycling markets over the last 12 months, not least reducing oil prices and a drop in the demand for paper which have led to steadily decreasing prices for materials. There has also been greater demand for higher quality materials, causing problems for some members of the partnership.
- 4.8 Nationally there has been a 14.8% drop in the amount of waste sent to landfill and a 31.7% increase in the amount of waste sent to incineration, when comparing 2014 to 2013. In Warwickshire the amount of household waste sent to landfill decreased by 27,019 tonnes (42%) and the amount of waste sent for energy recovery increased by 26,517 tonnes (47%).
- 4.9 The Partnership did not achieve the annual target of 460.40 kg of residual waste per household per year; however progress was achieved in diverting food waste from the residual bin to the green bin.

5.0 Next steps

- 5.1 While the Partnership did increase the amount of material re-used, recycled, composted or recovered there is still work to do, as the recent waste composition analysis showed 58.6% of collected residual waste could have been recycled at the kerbside – the equivalent of 3.48hh/wk. The potentially recyclable waste is largely made up of four material types; food waste 70%, paper 7%, plastic 5% and card/cardboard 5%.
- 5.2 Waste management officers from across the six authorities continue to plan and carry out a wide range of work in 2015/16 that aims to positively influence the key targets of the joint municipal waste strategy. Work areas include educational initiatives such as the 'grey to green' campaign and door to door/HWRC canvassing, as well as the annual waste composition analysis, and a county wide review of wheeled bin policy covering CIL.

Background papers

1. Waste Strategy Update, Warwickshire Waste Partnership – 03 December, 2013
2. Waste Strategy Implementation Annual Targets and Key Work Areas, Warwickshire Waste Partnership – 11 March, 2014
3. Summary of progress against targets in Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy – 17 December 2014

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