

Warwickshire Waste Partnership

9 December 2020

Waste Partners Report

Recommendation(s)

1. The Waste Partnership is asked to acknowledge the updates on the various waste activities taking place in each area since the last partnership meeting in September 2020.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the various waste activities taking place in each authority area.

2.0 North Warwickshire Borough Council

- 2.1 Refuse & Recycling Collections have settled down but there is still a strain on staffing due to Covid-19 and the arrival of Autumn has kept demand on the green waste service high.
- 2.2 Three new 26 tonne single-bodied vehicles have arrived and are in service and are already bringing additional capacity, reduced running costs and lower carbon emissions.
- 2.3 Next year's collection calendars have been finalised and are available online. Bin tags setting out Christmas collection arrangements are being distributed to every household. The green waste collection service will be suspended for a shorter period this year, just for the month of February.
- 2.4 Banners are being displayed on the sides of the refuse fleet focussed on Covid-19 messages with the aim of reducing rates in the borough and across Warwickshire.
- 2.5 Preparations are well underway for the introduction of garden waste charges in April 2021.

3.0 Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

3.1 Refuse, Recycling and Street Cleansing

- a) Reviewing new covid-19 measures and guidance for continued staff and visitor safety and all key servicing operating as normal currently.

- b) Risk assessments being continually updated and issued to all Gresham Road users and visitors.
- c) Environmental enforcement provision continuing for fly tipping utilising current covid-19 safeguards.
- d) Bulky waste collections working at full capacity.
- e) Waste collection round reconfiguration exercise ongoing.
- f) Fly tipping 'In cab' data capture and sharing process has commenced is being monitored.

3.2 Promotions/Communications

- a) Christmas and New Year 20/21 waste working schedules agreed and literature to be communicated to residents shortly.

3.3 Climate Change Emergency

- a) Vehicle procurement analysis continues to be driven by climate change commitment in conjunction with WCC ULEV strategy.

4.0 Rugby Borough Council

- 4.1 Continuing to respond to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency with regards to all refuse, recycling and cleansing services and safeguarding of key worker staff. Still working to the requirements of Covid secure Risk Assessments, government and industry guidance.
- 4.1 Review of commercial waste income for the first period of lockdown has been completed. Forecast income known to be 40% less than budgeted forecast.
- 4.2 November 2020 lockdown - Risk Assessments and business continuity plans under continuous review. A robust RBC Covid management protocol has been created and tested with 3 recent positive cases of Covid within the operational workforce. All 3 cases are from the same 'bubble' and contained to this single team. All RBC collection services are currently being delivered in full at the time of writing.
- 4.3 Implementation of in-cab technology in all refuse and recycling collection rounds is ongoing but expected to be delivered in January 2021.
- 4.4 Green waste subscriptions now 28,000 for 2020-21. Over 4000 additional subscriptions than in 2019-20 totals, largely due to lockdown. A fourth collection round was required to deal with this additional volume for the Summer and Autumn period.

- 4.5 As of November 2020, contamination of our Dry Mixed Recycling is currently 10%. Still work to do to drive this percentage down further but contamination has been decreasing each month since April 2019.
- 4.6 Review of RBC commercial waste service efficiency and effectiveness has recommenced, and a detailed appraisal undertaken regarding its value, possible development and future delivery.
- 4.7 Efficiency and effectiveness audit planned for the waste and recycling collection services. This follows the internal audits carried out in 2019 for the fleet management and green waste collection services. This Audit will take place later in the year and we will update future meetings regarding its progress and outcomes.
- 4.8 Planning for Christmas 2020 and New Year 2021 collections has been completed awaiting approval. All households will be again notified of service changes via detailed tags placed on bins prior to Christmas and further supported by information on the Council website, social media platforms and via the Rugby app.
- 4.9 RBC continue to liaise closely and take an active role in WPP working groups.
- 4.10 RBC continue to play an active and proactive role in the regional MRF project which is currently progressing through planning and procurement stages.

5.0 Warwick District Council

- 5.1 WDC have awarded both the Street Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance contracts to IDVerde. Both contracts will start on 1st April 2021.
- 5.2 WDC are in the process of agreeing an extension on our current waste contract with Suez until August 2022.
- 5.3 Work has started on writing and procuring a joint waste contract between SDC and WDC to start in August 2022, subject to approvals.
- 5.4 WDC are continuing to just remove fly-tips and not looking for evidence or taking any enforcement action. WDC hope to restart enforcement action in the New Year.
- 5.5 With the announcement of the second lockdown we have closed our skate parks but kept all play areas open. All services are continuing, and WDC are not planning to make any changes.
- 5.6 WDC now have an apprentice in the team – Daisy Killian. She will be helping us to prepare for our new contracts and increasing our communication with residents and other stakeholders.

6.0 Stratford-on-Avon District Council

- 6.1 SDC have continued to provide a full range of waste collection and street cleansing services throughout the pandemic. There has been a minor reduction in the quantity of general waste and recycling collected, but quantities are anticipated to have increased again due to lock down 2 and the closure of the hospitality industry again. Garden waste has seen a seasonal fall. The collection of recycling side waste has resumed but has not been publicised.
- 6.2 The number of fly tipping incidents continues to be high with 60 incidences in September compared to 21 in 2019
- 6.3 The start date for the chargeable garden waste service has been put back to 1st April 2021. Residents can sign-up to the service at a discounted rate from 11 January to 28 February 2021.
- 6.4 We have started the bi-annual review of the continued eligibility of residents receiving assisted collections.
- 6.5 Work on the tender for a new waste collection contract, in conjunction with WDC, to commence on 1 August 2022 is being undertaken.
- 6.6 Our social media posts have continued focusing on waste reduction, recycling and environmental messages.

7.0 Warwickshire County Council

- 7.1 Covid – 19
 - a) The Partnership has worked together throughout the Covid-19 pandemic to ensure the continuation of waste services across the County. Continuity of service in all areas has been maintained during the second lockdown phase.
 - b) HWRCs closed on March 24th and 6 reopened on Monday 18th May with a booking system to manage social distancing. The final two sites, Stockton and Wellesbourne, opened on 26th September. Seven reuse shops were reopened for a spell in late summer and early autumn; they are all currently shut. There are systems in place have ensured that visitors and staff are able to keep 2 metres apart, all waste streams are available, and queueing has been minimal. There are currently over 11,000 appointments available per week.
- 7.2 Pre-sorting of waste to increase reuse and recycling

The booking system has given us the opportunity to ask users of all sites to pre-sort their waste, both to increase reuse and recycling and to reduce time spent depositing waste on site. We are also sending an appointment reminder, which is another opportunity to prompt reference to the website to know what can be recycled and to pre-sort waste. Limiting the number of visitors at each site within

each time slot also helps site staff to monitor and provide advice to maximise recycling.

7.3 Communication activities update:

- a) 9,372 subscribers received the October edition of the 'Warwickshire Recycles' e-newsletter, with a 37% open rate and 6.8% click rate. It focussed on food waste and Halloween waste. The September edition focussed on the reinstatement of waste services, detailing how to access the recycling centres and reuse shops. The Christmas edition will be out in December.
- b) Slim Your Bin has recruited 1,188 'bin dieters' onto its 4-week training programme. We have added a module called Slim Your Bin Kids, packed with ideas for keeping children entertained with practical activities the bring home the waste minimisation message. We will be asking elected members from all local authorities to help to promote the scheme.
- c) The YouTube Home Composting Workshop launched in the spring has been viewed 634 times and feedback has been very positive. An updated version is in production for next year. Compost bins are available to purchase from the recycling centres, with a greater range of equipment available from the online shop for home delivery. Sales from both are strong.
- d) The countywide food waste recycling behaviour change campaign – In to Win, continues across the county. 5807 households are now signed up.
- e) All waste reduction behaviour change activity is promoted with regular posts on our social media accounts. Facebook followers have increased to 2,223 (Warwickshire Recycles), with 955 followers on Twitter (@WarksRecycles).

7.3 Procurement and Contracts update:

- a) The following contracts have been extended:
 - Linghall Landfill Disposal
 - Asbestos collection and disposal
- b) Upcoming extensions or those currently taking place are metal collection and recycling and glass collection and recycling.
- c) The following contracts have been awarded following a competitive process:
 - Paper and card collection and recycling has been awarded to Casepak
 - Haulage of kerbside waste has been awarded to Veolia
- d) Upcoming procurements or those currently taking place are tyres, garden waste composting.

- e) Work is also taking place to consider haulage provision as the contract ends Nov 2021.

8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 None.

9.0 Next steps

9.1 Updates on progress to be provided at the March 2021 meeting.

Background papers

None.

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): None

Other members: None