

# Warwickshire Waste Partnership

7 December 2022

## 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 2022.

### 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 North Warwickshire Borough Council has been nominated for 'Best Performer' and 'Most Improved Performer' at the prestigious APSE Awards at Blackpool on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022. North Warwickshire Borough Council was 'Best Performer' winner in 2021.
- 2.2 North Warwickshire Borough Council has received the first two of six new 26 tonne Refuse Collection Vehicles to replace the old fleet of six vehicles used on the Refuse and Recycling rounds, the three vehicles used on the Garden and Food Waste were replaced last year. All vehicles are fitted with a 360-degree camera system and an emergency sensor operated breaking system which will hopefully, eradicate reversing incidents.
- 2.3 North Warwickshire will speak at the APSE yearly seminar in the 'Refuse Workshop' on the topic of 'Reducing Contamination and Improving Recycling'.
- 2.4 Following a recruitment and training programme we have been successful in appointing new drivers to the role of Waste Team Leader. This will hopefully, provide us the necessary numbers without having to rely on Employment Agencies.
- 2.5 Our new in-cab system is going through all processes currently and should be up and running in the new year.

### **3.0 Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council**

#### **3.1 Refuse, Recycling and Street Cleansing**

- a) HGV training for operations 2 x staff passed and 2 x staff earmarked for tests later this year.
- b) Refuse and recycling collection route re-profiling start date scheduled for February 23.
- c) Currently assessing the short and medium term fleet replacement programme for waste operations with a need for an additional 7.5 tonne RCV and a 32 tonne hook loader (transfer station skips) a priority for 2023.
- d) Street cleansing review planned for 23/24 in line with our Building a Better Borough commitment, alongside internal and external riverside maintenance works, jet washing scheme provision.

#### **3.2 Enforcement**

- a) Environmental enforcement contract generally working well with District Enforcement. However, staff retention and recruitment issues have been a problem.
- b) District Enforcement officers undertaking joint enforcement initiatives with NBBC enforcement officer, housing officers and dog warden to target areas of anti-social behaviour within communities.
- c) Environmental enforcement for fly tipping and duty of care waste offences now being undertaken in house.
- d) Covert camera units received with preparations taking place for deployment protocols, hot spot locations and RIPA authorisations.
- e) Commitment on discussing a 'county wide' enforcement response team in line with our Building a better borough plan, to introduce a more standardised approach to enforcement for Warwickshire Waste Partners.

#### **3.4 Promotions/Communications**

- a) New Truck signage being used to target fly tipping enforcement with promotional material
- b) Preparation started for Christmas and New Year 2022 / 2023 with waste collection and disposal arrangements now finalised
- c) Preparations continue for communications plan to promote refuse and recycling collection changes as part of the round reconfiguration exercise.

- d) Enforcement education day undertaken in Nuneaton to answer questions on environmental enforcement, explain enforcement officer roles and why roles are important to stop littering, fly tipping etc. Further open days are being planned for other areas within NBBC including event days etc.
- e) Preparations now being undertaken to promote and communicate new garden waste collections year 23/24.

## **4.0 Rugby Borough Council**

- 4.1 Verbal update to be provided at the meeting.

## **5.0 Warwick District Council**

- 5.1 Warwick District Council are 3 months in on the new 123+ collection service, the Council has just received the waste tonnage data for August – October, so work is now underway to collate this to compare with the previous year. Most residents seem to have adapted to the new collections, in particular the feedback is that residents prefer the comingled collections! This now leaves time to focus on areas where residents have not adapted so well. These include some of our high-rise flats, HMOs, and university student properties.
- 5.2 Warwick District Council are working closely with our colleagues in Private Sector Housing and Warwick University to do weekly doorstepping in Leamington Spa where complaints are being received regarding waste accumulations and bins being presented on the wrong day. The team are explaining the 'do's and don'ts' of how the new waste collections work, ensuring they have the correct number bins for the number of people living there and encouraging them to download the app. Several warning letters have already been sent out and the combined approach of Engagement/Education and Enforcement as a last resort is showing some positive results, but due to resources it is slow going, so the Council are hoping to work even closer with the university on a waste education programme.
- 5.3 Warwick District Council has seen an increase in Flytipping over the last few months and will be creating a 'heat map' to show the hotspots in the district, which help to form a decision on additional signage and whether to install temporary CCTV to monitor and hopefully deter flytipping, following a short trial in Sydenham earlier in the year. The Council have also re-engaged with Rugby Borough Council once again to support in the waste enforcement activities, an update on this partnership will follow. There has also been an increase in household waste being dumped in/next to litter bins and we would be interested to hear from the other districts and boroughs if this is something they have encountered and how they have dealt with it.

## 6.0 Stratford-on-Avon District Council

- 6.1 The new joint Stratford District Council and Warwick District Council waste collection contract and the new Stratford District Council Street Cleansing Contract are both settling down well. The new food waste collection service is going very well with over 2,200 tonnes collected between 1<sup>st</sup> August and 31<sup>st</sup> October. There was also a significant reduction in the amount of residual waste collected during this period.
- 6.2 Fly-tipping has remained steady, but there has been a noticeable increase in fly-tipped white goods, especially fridges and freezers. There is also the occasional very large fly tip.
- 6.3 The bi-annual hot washing of the pavements in Stratford Town Centre has taken place.

## 7.0 Warwickshire County Council

### 7.1 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

- a) All the HWRCs are open and continue to operate with a 'live' booking system which prevents queueing. Booking will be important for evening out demand for visits over the busy holiday season. Reuse shops are open at all sites bar Stockton.
- b) Food waste transfer continues at Princes Drive and Burton Farm prior to transfer to the Severn Trent Green Power anaerobic digestion facility at Coleshill. 2233 tonnes of food waste were delivered August to October 2022.

### 7.2 Communication activities update:

- a) 8700 subscribers received the recent edition of the 'Warwickshire Recycles' e-newsletter.

Edition	Open rate	Click Rate
Pumpkin rescue	43.7%	1.6%
National Recycle Week	51.1%	6.1%

- b) Slim Your Bin has recruited 1,330 'bin dieters' onto its 4-week training programme. On a monthly basis 480 households are reporting their recycling and 360 are reducing their food waste. Users can now see how much carbon they have saved through their actions.
- c) Schools' waste reduction, composting and recycling activities in a face-to-face format have resumed this academic year. So far, 18 school visits have been visited or are lined up for this term and we are targeting to engage with at least 6000 pupils and their families this academic year. Last year we 'virtually' visited 24 schools and engaged with 6080 pupils.

- d) In-person home composting workshops will be run again in the spring. The draft schedule is in development:

Venue	Date
Bedworth Library	01/03/2023
Atherstone Library	01/03/2023
Kenilworth Library	TBC
Rugby Library	TBC
Stratford District	TBC
Online Workshop	TBC

We held a successful trial online, live workshop in October with 7 households attending, the technology worked, so we will organise mor next year. The YouTube Home Composting Workshop launched last year has been viewed 1859 times and feedback has been very positive.

Subsidised cold compost bins are available to purchase from the recycling centres and online. Subsidised hot compost bins, Green Johannas, are available online for home delivery. Sales of composting equipment so far this year are strong, with sales this year expected to better the high sales of last year.

We focussed on home composting at a green week event at Shipston in September, speaking to 30 households and showcasing a wormery made from repurposed red recycling boxes.

- e) We have spoken at 7 events in the past quarter in: Barford, Kenilworth, Rugby (2), Shipston, Warwick, Willoughby.
- f) All waste reduction behaviour change activity is promoted with regular posts on our social media accounts. We have 1014 followers on Twitter (@WarksRecycles) and 2598 Facebook followers (Warwickshire Recycles). Articles about reducing food waste, repair, Slim Your Bin, recycling, battery disposal, leaf composting and job vacancies were shared widely.

### 7.3 Procurement and Contracts update:

- a) A contract for the analysis of gas and water from waste management sites was awarded to Enitial Ltd.
- b) A contract for the bulk haulage of inert waste was awarded to Brinklow Quarry Ltd.
- c) Procurements currently taking place include residual waste recovery or disposal, metal recycling, waste composition and food waste reprocessing.

## 8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 None.

## 9.0 Next steps

9.1 Updates on progress to be provided at the March 2023 meeting.

## Background papers

None.

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