

Warwickshire Waste Partnership

15 March 2023

Waste Partners Report

Recommendation

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 December 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 All new trucks (6) have now been delivered, few teething problems, but on all rounds.
- 2.2 New in-cab is fitted and will hopefully, go live (phase 1) on 21/02/23. This will include residual and recycling. Phase 2 will cover green waste, trade and rural.
- 2.3 To coincide with going live with phase 2 NWBC are trialling a new vehicles w/c 21/02/23 which if successful will probably be the new trade vehicle. NWBC are also looking at a new 7.5 tonne vehicle which will be assigned to rural rounds which will relieve pressure on urban rounds and assist in allowing some expansion with new builds.

3.0 Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

3.1 Refuse, Recycling and Street Cleansing

- a) HGV training for operations 4 x staff passed.
- b) Inter departmental works assistance increasing for river clearance, littering and waste removal.
- c) Staff training completed in January 2023 with ongoing training scheduling taking place for 2023/24.

- d) Street cleansing review planned for 23/24 in line with our Building a Better Borough commitment.
- e) Preparations being made to commence recycling material feedstick into the new Sherbourne MRF.

3.2 Enforcement

- a) Environmental enforcement contract generally working well with District Enforcement. Education playing a key part in prevention of offences with further open days and schools talks being planned.

3.3 Promotions/Communications

- a) Preparation started for Christmas and New Year 2023 / 2024 collections.
- b) Preparations now being undertaken to promote and communicate new garden waste collections year 23/24.

4.0 Rugby Borough Council

- 4.1 The in-cab system for domestic and recycling rounds are going through process currently and should be up and running by the end of May 2023.
- 4.2 Fly tipping has increased by about 10% from this time last year, a slight increase in asbestos waste has been noticed.
- 4.3 9 new refuse collection vehicles have been ordered through the fleet replacement programme for waste and recycling operations.
- 4.4 Staff training completed in January 2023 (cost of living crisis – looking out for vulnerable people situations) with an ongoing training schedule taking place throughout 2023 (the safe operation of using bin lift equipment taking place, after a fatality at Coventry City Council).
- 4.5 Interviews schedule in February 2023 for new post of Development Officer at RBC.

5.0 Warwick District Council

- 5.1 Warwick District Council are over 6 months into the 123+ collection service, most residents seem to have adapted to the new collections, in particular the feedback continues to be positive about the comingled collections and a weekly food waste collection.
- 5.2 Warwick District Council are now introducing food waste collections at suitable communal sites.

- 5.3 Warwick District Council are creating a new Waste Education and Enforcement Officer post, initially for 2 years. This post will initially concentrate on work in areas of the district where the 123+ collection service has not yet settled down, in Leamington town centre, with a high concentration of flats, terraced properties, HMO and university student properties. Issues at our high-rise flats have settled down.
- 5.4 The new post will also work closely with Warwick University as they have kindly agreed to contribute to the salary for 2 years.
- 5.5 Warwick District Council has seen an increase in flytipping over the last few months, particularly of black bags on the highway, however the overall tonnage is lower. The software used by North Warwickshire for their heat maps was not one that Warwick District uses, so work is underway by ICT and the performance officer withing the Contract Services Team to create a monthly, quarterly, and annual heat map.
- 5.6 Rugby was unable to provide waste enforcement for us, so we have taken this 'in-house' as part of the new role and will monitor this before making decision as to whether to make this role permanent or outsource to a private contractor.
- 5.7 Warwick District Council now have 3 Area Contract Officers with our third one joining the team in January, this has allowed us to increase our monitoring and inspections across the district of our street cleansing, grounds maintenance and building cleaning contract – with the purpose of improving the cleanliness and safety of our district.
- 5.8 Warwick District Council have a 1-page advert promoting the 123+ service in the Council Tax booklet that will be 'hitting the mats' in March. There is also 2 community talks coming up and hope the new role will be able to offer these more widely across the district to schools and other community groups, to help raise awareness of the 123+ service, recycling, waste reduction and anti-littering messages. Over 13,000 garden waste permits have been sold by the end of February.

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 continues to be very popular. We are now looking to extend this to communal properties.
- 6.2 Garden waste subscriptions for 2023/24 have opened and there were over 14,000 permits sold in January.
- 6.3 The biannual review of the continued eligibility of residents receiving assisted collections has been completed.

- 6.4 Fly-tipping has remained steady, but there has been a noticeable increase in fly-tipped asbestos waste.
- 6.5 The bi-annual hot washing of the pavements in Stratford Town Centre will be taking place for Shakespeare's Birthday Celebrations in April.

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 as the weather improves. 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. 3980 tonnes of food waste were delivered August to December 2022.
- c) Warwickshire County Council are currently unable to accept upholstered seating at Shipston, Stockton and Wellesbourne. This is due to us now not sending this waste to landfill.

7.2 Communication activities update:

- a) 8680 subscribers received the recent edition of the 'Warwickshire Recycles' e-newsletter.

Edition	Open rate	Click Rate
Sustainable Christmas – food waste reduction, waste-free gifting, Christmas tree recycling	43.9%	11.9%
February / March – food portions, home composting workshops, electricals recycling	49.4%	3.9%

- b) Slim Your Bin has recruited 1,329 'bin dieters' onto its 4-week training programme. On a monthly basis 390 households are reporting their recycling and 260 are reducing their food waste. Users can now see how much carbon they have saved through their actions. NBBC slimmers gained the most points and nominated Myton Hospice for the annual charity donation.
- c) Schools' waste reduction, composting and recycling activities in a face-to-face format have resumed this academic year. 18 school visits were carried out last term and 15 are lined up for this term – we are targeting to engage with at least 6000 pupils and their families this academic year.

- 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
Napton Village Hall	25/03/2023
Rugby Library	18/04/2023
Kenilworth Library	22/04/2023
Online Workshop	05/2023

The YouTube Home Composting Workshop launched last year has been viewed 1891 times and feedback has been very positive.

Subsidised cold compost bins are available to purchase from Princes Drive 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 offer talks about waste reduction and home composting to community groups and will be out an about in the community in the spring and summer.

- e) All waste reduction behaviour change activity is promoted with regular posts on our social media accounts. We have 1024 followers on Twitter (@WarksRecycles) and 2618 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) Procurements currently taking place include residual waste recovery / disposal and metal recycling from HWRCs.
- b) Upcoming procurements/projects in 2023 include food waste reprocessing, operation and bulk haulage from Lower House Farm, other bulk haulage, waste composition and plasterboard reprocessing.

8.0 Financial Implications

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Next steps

- 9.1 Updates on progress to be provided at the June 2023 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