

TITLE	Waste and Recycling Update
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 17 October 2018
WARD	None Specific
LEAD OFFICER	Andrew Moulton, Assistant Director, Governance

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Overview and Scrutiny is one of the checks and balances which ensure that the Council and its partners make and implement effective decisions. It is a key element in the decision making process which ensures transparency and accountability.

The Council continues to provide a weekly waste and recycling collection service.

The EU Waste Framework Directive 2008 set a target of 50% waste recycling and re-use by 2020. This target has been introduced into UK law and will remain in place following Brexit.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to consider:

- a) the re3 Waste Strategy, approved by the Executive on 27 September 2018;
- b) the Officer response to the specific questions on waste and recycling agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 23 May 2018;
- c) any other issues relating to the waste and recycling service and the operation of the re3 Partnership.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

At its meeting on 23 May 2018 the Committee considered the quarterly Council Plan Performance Monitoring report.

In relation to the waste and recycling indicators in the report Members asked a number of questions and requested a more detailed report on the service including the proposed actions which would enable the Council to meet the Government's 50% recycling target by 2020.

In the meantime, the Council's Executive agreed the new re3 Waste Strategy at its meeting on 27 September 2018.

Background

At its meeting in May 2018 the Committee considered the quarterly Council Plan Performance Monitoring report.

In relation to the waste and recycling indicators Members asked a number of questions and requested a more detailed report on the service including the proposed actions which would enable the Council to meet the Government's 50% recycling target by 2010. The questions raised by Members are set out below.

Performance Indicator - Kgs of residual household waste per household and Percentage of household waste reused, recycled and composted.

- What was the breakdown between residual waste sent to landfill and waste to energy;
- What were the cost implications of the measures proposed to move the Council to the 50% recycling target by 2020;
- Was there a net cost for the green waste service or did the service break even?
- Some Welsh Councils achieved recycling levels of 70%. Was this due to a more innovative approach or a different reporting system?
- What was the impact on recycling of the significant reduction in printed newspapers, magazines, etc?
- Could wet materials, e.g. newspapers, card, etc be recycled or were they sent to landfill?
- What were the cost and service implications of adding lids to the recycling boxes?

Officers will submit a presentation to the 17 October Committee meeting with information which answers these questions and provides further information on the Council's plan to meet the 50% recycling target.

In the meantime, at its meeting on 27 September 2018, the Council's Executive approved the re3 Waste Strategy for 2018/20. A copy of the Executive report and the re3 Strategy are attached for information.

Consideration of the re3 Strategy may also generate further Member questions for discussion at the meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	NA	NA	NA
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	NA	NA	NA
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	NA	NA	NA

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

To be considered as part of the discussions.

Cross-Council Implications

Overview and Scrutiny impacts on all Council services and the work of key partners.

List of Background Papers

Report to the Executive on 27 September 2018

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