

PORTFOLIO – ENVIRONMENT & COASTAL SERVICES

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL - 8 SEPTEMBER 2022

WASTE PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That the Panel note the Waste Programme update.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 In response to national and regional changes in waste management strategy and approach, as well as a desire to ensure that local goals are met, the Council has developed a new Waste Strategy.

2.2 The Government has completed four new waste consultations, and in November 2021 NFDC approved a new Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy paving the way for service changes.

2.3 The new Waste Strategy was considered by the Panel in June 2022, and then approved by Cabinet and Council in July 2022, paving the way for changes to the waste and recycling collection system including:

- A weekly separate collection of food waste
- Dry recycling collected in a reusable bag (paper and card) and a wheeled bin (glass, plastic, metal), both of which are collected on the alternate week to general waste
- General waste collected in a wheeled bin on the alternate week to dry recycling
- Collection of garden waste every two weeks in a wheeled bin

2.4 This report provides a short update on the new Waste Strategy and implementation planning.

3. UPDATE ON NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

3.1 The Government's National Waste Strategy, "Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England" was published in December 2018. Since then, there have been two periods of national consultation, and many of the measures proposed by Government in that strategy have been incorporated into the Environment Act 2021. The full implications of the Act, as well as information on details that are yet to be confirmed by Government, was explored in the January 2022 report to the Panel (see background papers for more information).

3.2 At the time of writing the Council is still awaiting most of Government's response to the last round of consultations that closed in July 2021. Some information regarding the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) has been released, the key headlines are listed below:

- EPR will fund the full net cost of dealing with packaging waste by April 2024 for Local Authorities (subject to no delays)
- All UK local authorities must calculate service costs to determine how 'efficient and effective' they are.
- There will be standardised processes looking at each Council's actual costs and performance metrics versus 'best in class' cost and performance metrics. A technical assessment will also take place to account for specific local circumstances

- Local Authorities assessed as 'not sufficiently efficient and/or effective' will be subject to an improvement plan and notified of future deductions from the expected modelled funding.
 - Glass will be included within the scope for EPR (and will not be part of a future Deposit Return Scheme, which will just focus on plastic bottles and metal cans)
- 3.3 An 'all in' Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) will be introduced. This means that drinks containers of any size will be within scope, but it will focus on plastic, metal and exclude glass, which will instead come within scope for EPR funding.
- 3.4 Plastic film recycling to be in place by March 2027 for local authorities and businesses.
- 3.5 There are no further timescales available for the Government's full response to the consultations on DRS or Consistency.

4. OTHER UPDATES

- 4.1 Procurement is underway for a new operations ICT operations system, which will include route planning, workflows and better customer experience, with the aim of having new supplier in place early 2023.
- 4.2 Feedback from Government is also awaited, following the last round of consultations which closed in July 2021. It is hoped that this feedback will provide some clarity on future funding and timescales for new national initiatives and legislation.
- 4.3 Work with Hampshire partners on future financial arrangements between the Waste Collection Authorities and HCC as the Waste Disposal Authority, will also continue – these discussions in themselves are at least partially dependent on the Government feedback described above.
- 4.4 Work is now underway on detailed implementation planning for the new service. This includes:
 - Confirming the vehicle and plant replacement programme for the new service. Lead times for supply of refuse vehicles have increased from 26 to 54 weeks since 2019
 - Planning the phasing and rolling out of the new service
 - The council is working with HCC colleagues to confirm the timeline for the new MRF that would facilitate the move to twin stream recycling collections
 - For the interim period before frontline service change we will be implementing elements of our waste reduction plan and improving communications to encourage less waste generation and greater levels of recycling.

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Background Papers:

[Waste Strategy Update to Panel, January 2022](#)