

12 February 2015

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR TRANSPORT, PROPERTY AND ENVIRONMENT

Revised EU Waste Framework Directive - TEEP Assessment

Purpose of the Report

1. This report is to inform Members of new regulations that came in to force on 1 January 2015 under the revised EU Waste Framework Directive.
2. Members are asked to approve the outcome of the revised EU Waste Framework Directive TEEP assessment for the County Council.

Information and Advice

Background

3. The revised EU Waste Framework Directive requires the UK to take measures to promote high quality recycling. This includes a specific requirement, by 1 January 2015, to set up separate collections of paper, plastic, metal and glass as a minimum. The aim of this is to increase the quality of recycled material by reducing contamination.
4. Therefore, co-mingled collection will be permissible after 1 January 2015 only where it provides high quality recyclates or if that is not the case, where separate collection is not technically, economically or environmentally practicable (TEEP). The waste collector has to be able to prove that it has assessed whether the recyclates it is producing are of the necessary quality for reprocessing (the "Necessity Test"), or that it is not TEEP for it to collect paper, glass, plastics and metals separately.
5. The requirement applies to any organisation collecting waste - whether local authority or commercial collector, and includes commercial waste as well as household waste. It covers kerbside collections, bring sites and recycling centres.
6. The TEEP assessment included in Appendix 1 covers collections from the kerbside, bring sites and recycling centres.
7. Members should note that the regulations only apply directly to the County Council for undertaking the collection of the four waste streams at Recycling Centres; each District and Borough Council has carried out an assessment for their own collection methods and will need to obtain any necessary approvals to the outcome of the TEEP assessment through their own authorities.

8. The Environment Agency will be enforcing the regulations and has advised it will be doing this from 31 March 2015.

Summary

9. A working group of district and County Council officers was established through the Joint Waste Management Committee to ensure a consistent and collaborative approach to the TEEP assessment for Nottinghamshire.
10. For the County Council's Recycling Centres the outcome of the Necessity Test indicated that a TEEP assessment was not required as the Council's current collection system is compliant with the regulations. The four waste streams are already collected separately and the intention is that the Council will continue to offer separate bring banks for the material streams at Recycling Centres. However; a TEEP assessment was carried out for completeness.
11. The Necessity Test and TEEP assessment for the kerbside collections and bring sites will be concluded by the individual District and Borough Councils as stated above. However, below is an outline of the TEEP assessment in Appendix 1.
12. Kerbside collection system:
 - i. The County Council and Veolia are of the view that the current co-mingled kerbside collection system provides high quality recyclates, however the Council took the prudent view that any analysis of material may not categorically prove either way that a separate collection would improve quality. Therefore a TEEP assessment was carried out.
 - ii. The outcome of the TEEP assessment showed the current collection system is compliant with the regulations. Although a source segregated collection is technically practicable, and is not environmentally or economically practicable. Therefore it is intended that the existing co-mingled dry kerbside recyclable collection will continue.
13. Bring site collection system:
 - i. For the current bring site collection system: the outcome of the necessity test and TEEP assessment is compliant with the regulations. The four waste streams are already collected separately, therefore it is intended that separate bring banks will be offered, where required, in order to support the co-mingled dry recyclable collection and that separate collections of glass will continue either from kerbside or bring site provision.
14. The Group Manager of Waste and Energy and the Group Manager of Legal and Democratic Services have confirmed the County Councils assessment report complies with the requirements of the TEEP assessment under the revised EU Waste Framework Directive.

Next steps

15. The District and Borough councils will be considering the outcome of the assessments individually.

Other Options Considered

16. None. It is a legislative requirement for the County Council to undertake a TEEP assessment.

Reasons for Recommendations

17. The revised EU Waste Framework Directive requires the Council to carry out a TEEP assessment of the current collections systems of paper, metal, plastic and glass at Recycling Centres.

Statutory and Policy Implications

18. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

19. Based on the outcome of the necessity test and TEEP assessment concluding that the existing collection systems are compliant with the regulations, there are no financial implications because the intention is that there will be no change to current collection methods.

Implications for Service Users

20. Based on the outcome of the necessity test and TEEP assessment concluding that the existing collection systems are compliant with the regulations, there are no implications for service users because the intention is that there will be no change to current collection methods.

Recommendation

21. That Committee approve the outcome of the revised EU Waste Framework Directive TEEP assessment for the County Council.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments [HD – 29/01/2015]

22. The decision falls within the terms of reference for Environment and Sustainability Committee.

Financial Comments [DJK 30/01/2015]

23. There are no direct financial implications contained in the report.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Divisions

All