

27 September 2012**Agenda Item: 5****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR TRANSPORT, PROPERTY AND
ENVIRONMENT****PERFORMANCE REPORT – WASTE MANAGEMENT****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report provides information to the Committee on the performance of the Waste Management Group (WMG) in performing its role as statutory Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) for Nottinghamshire.

Information and Advice

2. Waste management is a service area within the County Council which is used by every one of the County's 780,000 residents. The WMG manages around 390,000 tonnes of Local Authority Collected Waste every year, of which around 80,000 tonnes is delivered to the network of 14 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) and 310,000 tonnes is collected from residential properties and businesses by the seven District and Borough Councils in Nottinghamshire in their role as statutory Waste Collection Authorities (WCA).
3. The County Council has a long term (to 31 March 2033) Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract with Veolia Environmental Services (VES) to manage the bulk of this waste, including operating the HWRC network, operating and maintaining the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Mansfield, and providing composting services and waste disposal arrangements, the latter through a subcontract for landfill provision with the company known as FCC.
4. Two other significant contracts are also used to manage waste streams in the County these being a long term contract (joint with Nottingham City Council) with FCC for the use of the Eastcroft Energy from Waste (EfW) plant to dispose of residual waste and with SRCL Limited for the disposal of separately collected clinical waste.
5. In addition the Council works extensively with the WCA, VES and Schools through its Schools Waste Action Club (SWAC) programme to minimise the amount of waste collected and maximise the levels of recycling and composting through targeted campaigns and initiatives.
6. All of these contracts and initiatives operate together, at an annual cost of circa £30m, to provide the overall waste management service, and deliver

levels of performance detailed in the performance report presented to Committee in an appendix attached to this narrative report.

Summary of Performance

7. **Appendix 1** shows current levels of performance for the service area, including a flow diagram that indicates how current performance measures link together, and summarises the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the service area.
8. Overall the service is performing well, with recycling and landfill diversion holding up well in the current difficult economic climate. In particular exceptional recycling levels (averaging over 75%) and customer satisfaction scores (98%) at the HWRC reflect the quality of the service provided through the PFI contract with VES. The service continues to work with a range of providers to minimise the amount of waste sent to landfill, and protect the authority from the impacts of landfill tax, which is currently increasing at £8/tonne/annum (equating to an additional annual budget requirement of £1.2m).

Analysis

9. Despite the introduction of charges for the collection of green waste by some WCA, and the continuation of very difficult economic conditions, the strategic plan action to “Reduce reliance on landfill for waste disposal” has been achieved (SBA11).
10. The two supporting performance indicators to SBA11, SBP14 “Residual household waste (per household)” and SBP15 “Municipal waste landfilled” have both been comfortably met due to a significant fall in the overall tonnage of municipal (local authority collected) waste generated in the County.
11. The Council is also working with Veolia on a number of waste minimisation projects (such as Love Food Hate Waste) in order to ensure as little waste as possible is generated in the County, and developing a Revised Project Plan to the PFI waste contract to minimise the amount of waste sent to landfill to protect the council from exposure to landfill tax increases.
12. The Council maintains exceptionally high levels of customer satisfaction through the HWRC service and is working with Veolia to improve signage and information at the sites and to extend the range of reuse and recycling facilities available. Given the current exceptional levels of customer satisfaction (98%), off-site satisfaction surveys are also being piloted to capture residents’ views away from the sites, including the views of non-users.
13. A number of proposed new performance indicators are also detailed in the flow diagram in **Appendix 1**. Members are asked to consider whether these indicators are appropriate to the needs of the Committee in assessing the effectiveness of the service.

Other Options Considered

14. None – this is an information report.

Reasons for Recommendations

15. Waste management is a significant area of spend for the Council, and has a major impact on the environmental and economic well being of the County. It is essential therefore that the Environment and Sustainability Committee is fully briefed on issues which impact on the delivery of the service.

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. 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

17. The monitoring of service performance will ensure that the circa £30m spent on waste management in Nottinghamshire every year will be used efficiently and effectively.

Implications for Service Users

18. The continued investment in waste management will ensure that quality standards are maintained and appropriate services provided to meet local needs.

Recommendation

1. That Committee note the contents of the report.

Mick Allen

Group Manager, Waste and Energy Management

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Mick Allen, Group Manager, Waste and Energy Management

Constitutional Comments

19. This report is for noting only.

Financial Comments

20. This report is for noting only. There are no direct financial implications contained in the report.

Background Papers

None.

Electoral Divisions

All