Review of the Council's Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Strategic Review: Scope

Purpose of the review	To consider the work undertaken so far of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Strategic Review.				
	To examine how the Council's approach to the delivery of HWRCs could look in the future in order to deliver a sustainable service that also provides the best possible service to Nottinghamshire residents.				
Anticipated outcome(s)	To make recommendations to be considered by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment in the formulation of the final recommendations arising from the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Strategic Review.				

Background

At the meeting of the Place Select Committee held on 5 July 2023 members received a report that provided an update on the progress of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Strategic Review.

In January 2022, the Transport and Environment Committee gave approval to undertake a Strategic Review of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) network in Nottinghamshire to ensure that individual facilities and the wider network are fit for the future, in light of the impact of proposed changes to kerbside collections needed to meet the statutory obligations of the Resources and Waste Strategy (RWS) and the impending Environment Act (EA), as well as assessing the impact of housing growth across Nottinghamshire.

The following were agreed as the scope for the review:

- To assess the condition and potential of the current network of 12 HWRCs using appropriate assessment criteria i.e., scope for development, accessibility, suitability of location/surrounding land use, household coverage, travel times/distances, environmental impact, meeting RWS requirements and affordability.
- To recommend a core long-term network of HWRCs for the county, including consideration of the above criteria, the need to replace those sites that have a limited life span, and any opportunities for providing sites in new locations to serve key areas of the county.
- Identify strategic locations of any new HWRCs.
- Consider the issues of cross border usage and trade waste.
 Assess the potential to expand the reuse offer.

At the meeting it was noted that the recommendations that had subsequently been identified still required additional analysis to fully understand the implications of any changes. It was also noted that the Government was also seeking to fundamentally overhaul the waste system through the Resources and Waste Strategy and the impending Environment Act.

The full impacts from these policy changes are not yet known as Government has yet to announce the outcome of the consultations. The delay in setting the national policy framework, had also meant that it had not been possible to finalise the HWRC Strategic Review in the original timescales.

As a result of the discussion that took place it was resolved:

That the following issues raised by the Committee in its consideration of the progress report on the

Household Waste Recycling Centre Strategic Review be progressed:

- a) That a scrutiny task and finish working group be established to carry out further scrutiny on, and to feed into the work being carried out on the review of Household Waste Recycling Centre provision.
- b) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in consultation with officers create a scope that will determine the work of the task and finish working group.

Key lines of enquiry	To gain an understanding of the findings of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Strategic Review to date. The stirr and the standard of the material invalidations and the standard of the stand						
	 To gain an understanding of the potential implications on the delivery of HWRCs due to the changes to the waste system through the Resources and Waste Strategy and the impending Environment Act and associated Government policy. 						
	 To gain an understanding of the current HWRC network and to consider how the network could look in the future: eg range of materials accepted, opening times, accessibility etc. 						
	To review how the HWRC service could be delivered in the future within the current contractual framework to improve the efficiency and performance.						
Links to the council's corporate plan	"Protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint"						
Methodology	Desktop research						
	Information briefings from the Interim Service Director – Place and Communities, and the Group Manager - Place Commissioning						
	Interviews with the Cabinet Member and the Deputy Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment						
	Benchmarking activity with other similar Councils						
Key background papers							
Evidence to be provided by	Cabinet Member – Transport and Environment Interim Corporate Director - Place Interim Service Director - Place and Communities Group Manager - Place Commissioning						
Timetable	Evidence gathering meetings to be arranged						
	The group's report and recommendations to be considered at the Place Select Committee December 2023						
Reporting mechanism	The recommendations from the review will be considered at a meeting of the Place Select Committee in advance of the recommendations being submitted a a meeting of Cabinet for their consideration.						