

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....24th April 2008

1. Title of Item/Report

Review of Waste Management & Recycling

2. Record of the Decision

Members considered a report which set out the findings and recommendations from the Environment Select Committee's scrutiny review of Wastes Management and Recycling. There was a slight change of wording made to a recommendation in the Select Committee's report.

A comprehensive scrutiny review of waste management took place during 2004/05 which identified further work for the Select Committee to undertake including a review of the outcome of the kerbside plastics and cardboard recycling trial. In addition, there had been a number of national and local developments as well as stretching new national performance indicators.

The overall aim of the review was to achieve real improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of waste collection and disposal services and to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill sites, whilst maintaining or improving customer satisfaction in the service.

RESOLVED that:-

(1) the preferred means of 'recycling' was to sustain domestic kerbside sorting supplemented by bringing sites already available in the Borough and the Household Waste Recycling Centre.

(2) extension of the range of materials collected through the kerbside collection service Borough-wide by phased introduction of plastics and cardboard as quickly as possible; the precise details of the phasing to be determined by operational considerations however the trial areas should be included as early as possible.

(3) as far as possible, the carbon impact of the use of items collected for recycling in the Borough is minimised. (This resolution would be dependant upon operational capacity and funding availability to be determined by Cabinet)

(4) Officers would investigate options for suitable containers to include:

- o Full option appraisal and extensive consultation (to include home sorting and storage centres)
- o Identification of appropriate solutions for individual areas recognising that different options may be suitable for different areas of the Borough
- Options of linking to design colleges, local manufacturing etc.

(5) the collection of 'side' waste would be discontinued as soon as possible to dovetail with the expansion of the kerbside recycling service and that this would be supported by education and enforcement activity.

(6) the provision of Community Skips would be discontinued at the end of the current contract (March 2009) to further encourage the responsible disposal of waste in the Borough and that Officers would investigate whether any changes could be made to the Bulky Waste collection payments system to make payments easier to make and the potential for occasional special community collections.

(7) the Local Development Framework and supporting development documents would reflect the need to include sustainable Waste Management Obligations to ensure that any new developments contained appropriate waste and recycling facilities provision and storage and that planning officers were made aware of the importance of such facilities.

(8) the success of the consultation undertaken as part of the exercise and the ongoing public support for the waste collection service was acknowledged.

(9) the excellent award winning work and activities of the waste awareness service and on-street/door canvassing team was recognised whilst acknowledging that there was more targeted activity required on continued education and engagement to secure the long-term sustainability of wastes management.

(10) Officers would prepare a waste awareness and education strategy to include recycling, waste reduction and responsible waste disposal, linked where appropriate to national campaigns; the campaign would target manufacturers and retailers and that Officers would report proposals to the Environment Select Committee in 3 months.

(11) Officers would explore options for funding through appropriate bodies such as the regional improvement partnership, WRAP, DEFRA, etc to deliver the waste awareness and education strategy.

(12) there would be a review of the impact of the extended recycling scheme six months from its introduction to inform a Cabinet decision on any further changes to collection frequencies or other changes that may be necessary.

(13) the Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy – Implementation Plan approved.

(14) the Tees Valley Directors of Environment would undertake a review into the developing options for dealing with food waste including a review into the operational and financial impacts of using appropriate new technologies. (The Select Committee offered support to this in any way it can and requested regular feedback on developments.)

(15) it was noted that the necessary changes would undoubtedly need workforce reconfiguration and that extensive consultation would be required in implementing new practices and procedures.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The topic was identified for review by the Scrutiny Liaison Forum at its meeting held in January 2007. A comprehensive scrutiny review of waste management took place during 2004/05 which identified further work for the Select Committee to undertake including a review of the outcome of the kerbside plastics and cardboard recycling trial. In addition, there had been a number of national and local developments, as well as stretching new national performance indicators, which made this review timely to complete.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By no later than midnight on Friday, 2nd May 2008

Proper Officer  
28 April 2008