

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting21st July 2008

1. Title of Item/Report

Wastes Management and Recycling

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the findings and recommendations from the Environment Select Committee's scrutiny review of Wastes Management and Recycling and presented the proposed plan for the implementation of the recommendations.

It was explained that Waste Management and Recycling was identified as a priority issue for review by the Scrutiny Liaison Forum in 2007, due to a number of key national and local developments including the publication of the Waste Strategy for England and the development of the Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy.

Previously, a comprehensive scrutiny review of waste management had taken place during 2004/05, which identified further work to be undertaken, including a review of the outcome of the kerbside plastics and cardboard recycling trial, which made the review timely to complete.

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

Members of Cabinet were informed that the main recommendations of the scrutiny review were to continue to provide a weekly waste collection service together with a fortnightly recycling collection service with the range of materials collected from the kerbside being extended to include plastics and cardboard.

Members felt that significant change was required if the authority was to achieve the new government targets set for 2010 and beyond.

In addition to NI 191, the joint waste management strategy was expected to set targets to reduce the amount of household waste produced per

head of population.

The implementation of the recommendations arising from the Environment Select Committee would undoubtedly support the Council's aim of bridging the gap between current recycling levels and national targets, whilst maintaining a first class service not generally provided across the country. The collection of new recycling materials along with a comprehensive programme of education and marketing campaigns, supported by targeted enforcement and the removal of side waste / multiple wheeled bin collections would have a positive impact upon the Council's overall recycling rates. Significant public support existed for the introduction of a plastic and cardboard recycling service, which was reflected in very high customer satisfaction ratings during the trial. A comprehensive analysis of the impact of a Borough wide service would be undertaken 12 months following the introduction of the final phase.

Members of Cabinet requested that officers produce and circulate to all Members a timetable for the implementation, including information on which streets in the borough fall into each phase of the implementation.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The revised staffing establishment at Appendix 2 of the report be approved.
2. The additional resource allocation detailed within the financial appraisal at Appendix 3 of the report be approved and included within the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan as identified in paragraph 20.
3. The continuation of the popular weekly refuse collection service, in conjunction with a wide selection of eight recyclable items collected at the kerbside. This level of service is not generally enjoyed in most parts of the country today be noted.
4. A comprehensive analysis of the impact of the Borough-wide service be undertaken 12 months after the introduction of the final phase and the results reported to Cabinet.

3. Reasons for the Decision

Waste Management and Recycling was identified as a priority issue for review by the Scrutiny Liaison Forum in 2007, due to a number of key national and local developments including the publication of the Waste Strategy for England and the development of the Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy.

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

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4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Various options considered by Environment Select Committee.

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

Not later than Midnight on Tuesday 29th July 2008

Proper Officer
23 July 2008