Progress Report – Review of Waste Management and Recycling

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date	Evidence of Progress 11.2.09	Assessment
1	That the preferred means of 'recycling' is to sustain domestic kerbside sorting supplemented by bring sites already available in the Borough and the Household Waste Recycling Centre.	J McCann	Nov 2008	Complete – analysis of collection practice has confirmed that the current practice of sorting different materials at the kerbside is the most efficient practice. Continual monitoring of Bring sites is undertaken to ensure that they are being used effectively as identify potential new locations and extensions to existing sites.	1
2	That a move be supported to extend the range of materials collected through the kerbside collection service Boroughwide 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.	J McCann	October 2008 April 2009 October 2009	Phase one of the plastic and cardboard collection service is complete and has been well received by residents, with a marked increase in participation of this service as well as the blue box collection service. Phase 2 is due to be launched as planned in April 2009 with the final phase introduced in October 2009.	1

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3	That, as far as possible, the carbon impact of the use of items collected for recycling in the Borough is minimised. (This recommendation is dependant upon operational capacity and funding availability to be determined by Cabinet)	J McCann		Complete – the majority of recycled kerbside material is recycled in the UK with the possible exception of some grades of plastics which are graded and sent abroad for reprocessing.	1
4	That Officers investigate options for suitable containers to include: - Full option appraisal and extensive consultation (to include home sorting and storage centres) - 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.	J McCann	April 2008 - Sept 2008	Full consultation on the use of the receptacles has been undertaken during 2008 which confirmed that residents were happy with the plastic and cardboard bag. The process was useful in identifying alternative receptacles for back lanes / properties with access difficulties which resulted in the procurement of plastic sacks and smaller boxes for some locations. Residents are also able to procure home recycling units from the Environment Centre via a range of suppliers. Local colleges and manufacturing companies were contacted to assess the potential of manufacturing recycling units although they have been unable to provide further assistance although we have identified a range of companies who can offer this service.	1

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5	That the collection of 'side' waste is discontinued as soon as possible to dovetail with the expansion of the kerbside recycling service and that this be supported by education and enforcement activity.	J McCann	October 2008 / April 2009 / October 2009	The collection of side waste is discontinued following the introduction of each of the 3 phases, backed up by an intensive enforcement and education programme to encourage residents to participate in the range of recycling services which are now available	2
6	That the provision of Community Skips is discontinued at the end of the current contract (March 2009) to further encourage the responsible disposal of waste in the Borough and that Officers investigate whether any changes can be made to the Bulky Waste collection payments system to make payments easier to make and the potential for occasional special community collections.	J McCann	April 2009	The community skip programme will be discontinued from April 2009 and the provider of this service has been notified.	1

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7	That the Local Development Framework and supporting development documents reflect the need to include sustainable Waste Management Obligations to ensure that any new developments contain appropriate waste and recycling facilities provision and storage and that planning officers are made aware of the importance of such facilities.	C Straughan	April 2008	Complete – all planning permissions must make adequate provision for adequate waste management obligations, including the provision of waste and recycling collection points in larger developments.	1
8	That the success of the consultation undertaken as part of this exercise and the ongoing public support for the waste collection service be acknowledged.	J McCann	2008	Noted	1
9	That the excellent award winning work and activities of the waste awareness service and on-street/door canvassing team be recognised whilst acknowledging that there is more targeted activity	J McCann	2008	Noted	1

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	required on continued education and engagement to secure the long-term sustainability of wastes management.				
10	That Officers prepare a waste awareness and education strategy to include recycling, waste reduction and responsible waste disposal, linked where appropriate to national campaigns; the campaign to target manufacturers and retailers and that Officers report proposals to the Environment Select Committee in 3 months.	J McCann	2008	Complete – Waste Awareness Officers are actively engaging with residents through participation in strategic locations to tie in with the launch of each phase. Best practice from national campaigns is being introduced into the waste awareness campaign.	1
11	That Officers explore options for funding through appropriate bodies such as the regional improvement partnership, WRAP, DEFRA, etc to deliver the waste awareness and education strategy.	J McCann	Ongoing	No specific SBC funding has been secured at the moment although Regional Improvement and Efficiency Programme (REIP) are looking at the potential of funding for a communication strategy to support community recycling and Eco Schools across the North East.	3

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12	That there is 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.	J McCann	Spring 2009	First review to be carried out Spring 2009. A final review will be carried out once all phases have been implemented 6 months after the launch of the final phase in Spring 2010.	2
13	That the Committee recommends the Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy – Implementation Plan to Cabinet for adoption/approval.	J McCann	2008	Approved by Cabinet October 2008	1
14	That the Tees Valley Directors of Environment 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 wishes to offer support to this in any way it can and requests regular feedback on developments.)	J McCann	2009- 2012	Ongoing – This will ne a longer term project	3

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15	That it be noted that the necessary changes will undoubtedly need workforce reconfiguration and that extensive consultation will be required in implementing new practices and procedures.	J McCann	October 2008	Implemented – workforce configuration has started with 18 Refuse and Recycling staff leaving the authority with 7 still to leave later this year.	1