

7th October 2016

Waste Programme - Update

Joint report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive and Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and Local Services

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with supporting information in advance of the update on the Council's Waste Programme.

Background

- 2 The work programme for Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee includes monitoring the delivery of the Council's waste strategy and performance. This is in relation to the objective of "Delivering a Sustainable Approach to Waste Management" within the Altogether Greener section of the Council Plan.
- 3 This work involves maintaining a sustainable approach to waste management in the face of reducing funding and challenging market conditions, along with monitoring of performance of the existing arrangements and new developments.

Update

- 4 An update on the progress of the waste programme will be presented by Alan Patrickson, Head of Projects and Business Services for the information of the committee.
- 5 The introduction of a subscription service for Garden Waste collection was a significant change to this popular service in 2015. The service is now in its second year of operation and this update will present the outcomes from a business and service perspective as well as a forward look to future developments.
- 6 A further update will be provided on the capital programme within the waste management service regarding replacing Thornley waste transfer station and Stainton Grove Household Waste Recycling Centre. Waste transfer stations are an essential link in the chain for waste management logistics, providing a tip off point for refuse collection vehicles where waste can be bulked into larger vehicles for efficient onward transportation.

- 7 Household waste collection is a central and essential service provided by the Council to every property in the County however it cannot remain static. New housing developments and other changing circumstances mean the service needs to flex from time to time. October 2016 will see some changes to routes in the East of the County, this update will cover the changes being made and the background work to ensure the change is as seamless as possible.
- 8 Finally, with continuing austerity, many councils are looking at changes to their waste management systems, including less frequent collections, in order to reduce costs and increase efficiency. This update will include a brief overview of some of the schemes being considered elsewhere and their applicability for County Durham.

Recommendation

- 9 It is recommended that the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the waste programme update.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - None

Staffing - None

Risk – None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – There are no equality and diversity issues to be considered as part of this update.

Accommodation – None

Crime and Disorder - None

Human Rights – none

Consultation – None.

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None.

Legal Implications –. None