

Partnership Name: Rotters

Lead Member: Cllr O Hedley

Lead Officer: Gary Hutchinson

Corporate Plan Priority: To Make Teesdale a Cleaner, Greener Place

Dates covered by the report: April 2008 – November 2008

Progress Report

Rotters was issued with a total grant of £53K in April 2008 by Teesdale District Council. It comprised £38K for expansion of the green waste collection service and £15K to pilot a kitchen waste collection service. A series of meetings has been arranged with Rotters in December 2008 to define and measure the progress, in detail, for both areas.

Rotters used the funding effectively and invested in the green waste service, expanding the service into the east of the district, which has had a notable impact on recycling performance. This was achieved by increasing residents' participation in the recycling initiative. It is in this capacity that Rotters service complements the council's own streetcare services.

New National Indicators were introduced from April 2008. NI 192 measures the % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting with a target of 32.70% set for 2008/2009. Rotters play a significant contributory role in achieving this target. At the end of September 2008 the indicator was exceeding target performing at 37.71% due in part to the high green waste tonnages collected through the summer months by Rotters. Although less green waste will be collected through the winter months the NI 192 performance will fall but is still expected to meet the year end target of 32.70%.

The aim of the kitchen waste recycling pilot was to further increase the range of recycling materials collected thus improve the recycling rate, improve service delivery and reduce the amount of residual waste sent to landfill sites.

A notable advancement in the strengthening of the service arrangements between Teesdale District Council and Rotters was the signing of a partnership working agreement between the two parties. This clarified expectations on both sides and should facilitate a more positive and productive working arrangement. It should also continue to improve value for money from the service. Rotters highlighted certain areas in the agreement that might require amendment.

Certain concerns have been expressed by Rotters regarding Local Government Re-organisation. Discussions are continuing on this matter but the final arrangements remain unclear as at 30th November 2008.

