



Waste & Recycling Working Party

MINUTES

Held on:	17 January 2013
Time:	2.00pm
Place:	Room CHG2, East Northamptonshire Council, Thrapston
Present:	<p>Councillors: Glenn Harwood (Chairman) (GH), Tony Boto (TB), Sylvia Hobbs (SH), Roger Glithero (RG), Richard Lewis (RL), Steven North (SN), Wendy Brackenbury and Pam Whiting (PM)</p> <p>Officers: Mike Deacon (MD) Head of Environmental Services, Charlotte Tompkins (CT) Waste Manager, Mike Bailey (MB) Waste Officer and Zena Ireland (ZI) Administration Officer</p>

Action

1.0 Apologies for absence

- 1.1 Councillor Glenn Harwood opened the meeting; ZI confirmed that there were no apologies received.

2.0 Minutes of meeting held on 23 July 2012

- 2.1 CT is continuing to look into the various options for promoting the food waste collections that will be funded by the government award and will bring a report to a future working party meeting. **CT**
- 2.2 MD confirmed that the proposed subscription fee for the Council's Garden Waste Service for 2013/14 had been agreed by W&RWP and that it remains at £50.00 for residents.
- 2.3 MB had organised some provisional dates for Councillors to visit the Kier Depot at Chelveston; these are to be discussed under item 9 of the meeting.

3.0 Waste contract performance update

- 3.1 CT mentioned the recent press release that confirmed that the recently released government figures showed that ENC was 24th lowest out of 354 councils in England for total waste per person for 2011/12. In terms of residual waste ENC was the lowest in the county and ranked 60th in England; up from 160th in 2010/11.
- 3.2 MB provided the meeting with a paper showing the performance figures for Quarter 3 (October to December 2012). MB went through the indicators and explained the results.

- 3.3 CT raised the issue that over recent months, street cleansing standards had slipped. Reasons for this include failures on major items such as the street cleansing vehicles and in part to some difficulties Kier had been experiencing with supervision on this area of the contract. As a result of this, Kier have rescheduled the resources to make them more effective, something that as yet had not been revisited since the start of the new service. All street cleansing vehicles have now been fitted with trackers which mean tracking the actual work against the planned work is now more effective.
- 3.4 One of the main impact of this is an increase of streets which have an unacceptable level of detritus. N.B detritus comprises of small, broken down particles of synthetic and natural materials, The waste management officers are inspecting and logging locations where there is an unacceptable level as a remediation notice which falls in line with stage one of the default procedure of the contract.
- 3.5 MB stated that the missed collections were currently w target. December's figures were low as not all the calls had been logged yet so this might mean January's figures will be higher. GH asked if the computer tablets in the vehicles were not working; CT confirmed that they were but the system was being refined as it was a work in progress.
- 3.6 GH asked if the Waste Team had used the Contamination Enforcement Policy yet; CT stated that tags were being used on the bins when they were contaminated and the residents were correcting the issue at this early stage.
- 3.7 CT referred to the Waste Management Officer Operations Report that was handed out to Members. The report provided an update from Officers on their assigned areas, highlighting any particular issues. CT confirmed that this would be included in future meetings as part of an update on contract performance.
- 3.8 SN referred to issues had been mentioned in the update report concerning the lack of mechanical road sweepers. CT confirmed that during the start of the contract there was a high level of breakdowns of vehicles, but that Kier had now increased the number of street cleansing vehicles from two to four sweepers. The meeting discussed street cleansing across the district and the responsibilities of ENC and Kier staff.
- 3.9 Members wished to have it noted that they were concerned that the contractor was not taking more responsibility to ensure that street cleansing was carried out to an acceptable standard as per the contract. The Waste Team should continue to monitor the situation and take appropriate action where necessary.
- 3.10 PW stated that she had noticed an improvement in street cleansing in Higham Ferrers. She mentioned an abandoned vehicle that was reported to her by a resident in Raunds; MB confirmed that he was aware of the issue and that it should now have been removed.

4.0 Northamptonshire Waste Partnership (NWP) update

- 4.1 MD confirmed that the Service Level Agreement for the new Residual Waste Contract would be going to P&R Committee to be signed off. Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) have gone through the procurement process and have received no challenges to the awarding of the contract. GH asked if there would be any increase in costs for disposal of the waste as a result of the new contract. MD confirmed that this was being investigated further and that NNC

would address any increase in costs.

4.2 A recommendation is being referred to the next NWP Shadow Board meeting to reduce contributions for the next 3 years. It was also proposed that the money received from the Government for introducing weekly collections could be used to part fund the NWP's education projects. SN raised the point that if this is the case should there be a further reduction in the partnership monetary contributions.

4.3 MD is in the process of preparing a report for the NWP on how East Northamptonshire Council had set up and maintained a subscription based Garden Waste Service.

5.0 Update on kerbside collection of textiles

5.1 The meeting was provided with a report on the textiles collection scheme pilot that took place at the end of 2012. CT explained that the result was that it would be uneconomical for the Council to introduce a scheme to collect textiles.

5.2 The meeting agreed that ENC would not instigate a separate collection of textile material at this time. The Waste Team will look into additional locations to site textile collection banks to encourage use of these to reduce the amount of textiles materials found in the dry recycling stream.

6.0 Report on contract financial review

6.1 CT provided a confidential paper for the meeting on the annual contract financial review that took place at the end of 2012. The meeting was asked to consider the information and approve the recommendation.

6.2 At the meeting it had been received to recommend:

Members accepted the recommendation that the annual contract uplift and one off additional payment to Kier be approved.

7.0 Planned communications for 2013

7.1 MB provided the meeting with a draft plan of the proposed communication themes for 2013. These will be done in a variety of ways including in Nene Valley News and on the Council's website. The plan was endorsed by members

8.0 NWP policy on Clinical Waste

8.1 CT handed out the guidance produced by the NWP for Members to read on clinical waste. The document explained the difference between clinical and offensive waste and how they should be disposed of. WB asked whether the main impact for East Northamptonshire Council was that the PCT could now be asked to cover the disposal costs. CT confirmed that was correct and at present the Council covered these charges.

8.2 CT requested that they read the guidance and feedback any comments direct to her.

ALL

9.0 Dates for Depot visit

9.1 MB proposed two dates for visiting the depot at Chelveston. Unfortunately the

dates suggested were not convenient for the Members. MB to look for two dates in March 2013.

10. Date of next meeting

- 10.1 It was agreed that the next W&RWP meeting would be moved to Tuesday 30 April 2013; this will mean the performance figures will be available to be discussed.

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