

MINUTES

Held on:	Tuesday 14 October 2014
Time:	11am
Place:	The Council Chamber, East Northamptonshire Council, Thrapston
Present:	<p>Councillors: Wendy Brackenbury (WB), Derek Capp (DC), Roger Glithero (RG), Sylvia Hobbs (SH), Marian Hollomon (MH), Richard Lewis (RL), Jake Vowles (JV), and Clive Wood (CW).</p> <p>Officers: Mike Deacon (MD) Head of Environmental Services, Charlotte Tompkins (CT) Waste Manager, Mike Bailey (MB) Waste Officer and Barbara Wiggins (BRW) Democratic Services Officer.</p>

Action

1.0 Apologies for absence

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Tony Boto and Pam Whiting

2.0 Minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2014 & Matters Arising

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2014 were approved as a true record.
- 2.2 It was noted that the "How Clean is my Street" project is now moving on to the next stage and the members that have expressed an interest in being involved have been given some dates for training. Members are asked to confirm this date as soon as possible.

ALL

3.0 Waste Contract Performance Update

- 3.1 The Working Party (WP) were provided with up to date information from MB.
- 3.2 Of the fly tip incidents found, 136 were reported and evidence was found in 31 cases; this had resulted in 7 £300 FPNs, 4 £75 FPNs, one warning notice and two cases referred to Legal Services. The remainder were in progress.
- 3.3 On the average time taken to investigate fly tips, of the 97 cases investigated, 91 were investigated the same or next day that they were reported.
- 3.4 Waste Management Officers were responsible for conducting investigations of all reported incidents of fly tipping. As many of the incidents related to material that does not contain evidence, the team try to ensure that any potential information which may lead to identification of the offender is followed up.
- 3.5 The figures for Qtr 1 on the amount of residual household waste sent for

- treatment or disposal was 52.60%. This was the non-recyclable waste collected on the household refuse rounds. Up to April 2014 the County Council arranged for this material to go for disposal at landfill. However, since then it has been sent for mechanical treatment to reduce the weight and mass going to landfill.
- 3.6 On the average time it took to remove fly tips, it took 2.31 days against a target of 1.5 days. However, four bank holidays had occurred during the period in question, which had pushed the average slightly. Over the same period 47% of fly tips were cleared the same or next day.
- 3.7 The number of reported missed collections had fallen. However, the number of reported missed collections for recycling fluctuated as residents would still record a missed collection when a container had been rejected for recycling. Performance of both was monitored on a monthly basis.
- 3.8 Dog fouling was still an issue within the district. There had been a slight increase compared to previous years, but it was hoped that the increased number of FPNs issued recently would help reduce the figures in future. Six cases were currently with Legal Services. MD noted the team's hard work in endeavouring to keep the District clean.
- 3.9 It was reported that the Green Dog Club membership continued to increase following a successful Press Release.
- 3.10 It was reported that there continued to be an increase in the amount of people joining the ENC Garden Waste Club. Currently the figure stood at 4250 members.
- 3.11 The Working Party noted that a successful prosecution regarding dog fouling had recently been reported in the Press, which helped public awareness. Out of 2 FPNs issued for fouling, one had been paid and payment for the other was being sought.
- 3.12 The team had issued 8 dog off lead warnings, 1 dog off lead FPN, 2 dog fouling FPNs, 28 S. 108 questionnaires for flytipping, 2 FPNs for littering and 1 warning notice for littering.
- 4.0 Northamptonshire Waste Partnership Update (to include residual Waste Project update)**
- 4.1 MD reminded the WP of the previous decision of the Policy & Resources Committee to withdraw from the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership. Following that, a request had been made to reinvest any reimbursement or dividend payable to ENC into continuing to support the Waste Education Team. That request had been turned down, therefore as of 1 April 2015 ENC would not have the benefit of the Waste Education Team in our schools or libraries.
- 4.2 Following discussion it was agreed that MD would prepare a report for a future Policy & Resources Committee to highlight the situation. MD
- 5.0 Waste Management Officer Development Report**
- 5.1 CT tabled an overview of officer operation reports.
- 5.2 Cllr. DC highlighted issues in his Ward and also reported that there had been

evidence of burning garden rubbish at the roadside.

- 5.3 CT particularly highlighted one case involving a large fly-tip. The house owner, where the rubbish had originated, had been interviewed under caution and had identified the builder responsible for the fly tip.
- 5.4 Discussion was held on the employment of waste carriers in general and the documentation they should hold to verify that they were certified to carry out that work.
- 5.5 MD highlighted the large amount of positive feedback that had been received about the work of the Council and it's contractor during the Women's Tour in the summer.

6.0 Implications of the new Waste Regulations (England & Wales) 2012, and the application of the Technical, Economic and Environmentally Practicable (TEEP) test

- 6.1 CT tabled a report which sought to inform members as to the method used to evaluate the current and alternate collection system, and the evaluation criteria used to evaluate each system with regard to the provisions of the Waste Regulations (England and Wales) 2012 and the application of the Technical, Economic and Environmentally Practicable (TEEP) test. CT requested Members confirmation that they were satisfied with the contents. The criteria had been designed to take account of the guidance given which asked collection authorities to consider certain questions, which were noted in the report, when considering the technical, environmental and economic practicability of making changes to waste collection. The report noted the evaluation criteria and the weightings identified to assess both the example and current collection systems. Members agreed to the criteria as reported.

7.0 Request to bid on DCLG Recycling Reward Scheme

- 7.1 CT tabled a reported to seek Members' approval to progress a bid against a Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Recycling Reward Scheme.
- 7.2 At the end of August the DCLG had announced it was introducing a £5million Recycling Reward Scheme. The scheme was intended to help local authorities who provide weekly residual waste and/or free weekly organic/food waste collections to incentivise households to increase recycling rates and reduce waste going to landfill.
- 7.3 Recycling reward schemes can vary. They can be focused on particular communities, schools, households in certain collection rounds or individuals. They may aim to achieve waste reduction or increases in recycling of particular materials such as plastics or food waste. Ultimately, the schemes are expected to result in increased recycling rates, higher quality recycling and reduced contamination, waste minimisation and less going to landfill, and customers feeling 'engaged' with recycling.
- 7.4 CT advised that if a decision was made to go ahead with a bid, then ENC would focus on food waste. The aim was to find rewards that were relevant to residents and promote the local economy. It was expected that this would take the form of vouchers or certain discounts.
- 7.5 Members agreed for a bid to be prepared and asked for a report to be

prepared for a future WRWP.

CT

8.0 Update on Recyclate Contamination

- 8.1 CT reported that monthly analysis was now being prepared. The latest figures showed just over 11% compared to last months figure of 12.6%. Disposable nappies and textiles caused the most problems. There was still more work to do but the figures were moving in the right direction.

9. Public Consultation on Changes to the Household Waste Recycling Centre Service

- 9.1 Cllr. WB noted that as she was also a County Councillor, an interest should be declared.

- 9.2 CT tabled information to inform Members of the public consultation process which the County Council had started relating to changes to their Household Waste Recycling Centre Service. Members did not support any option that reduced the number of working days HWRCs were open. Members were also concerned over the impact of any charges on trade users of the sites.

- 9.2 A list of options had been proposed by the County Council. One of the options was to close the Wollaston centre, which would mean an increase in traffic at Rushden and also may give rise to further fly tipping in the area. Other options included reducing opening hours and days.

- 9.3 It was agreed that CT would prepare a response to the consultation and send to Members of the WP before forwarding to the County Council.

CT

10. Any other business

- 10.1 JV noted that the visit to the Waterbeach recycling facility had been a success.

- 10.2 JV noted that recycling is major financial concern. There were risks for the Council if targets were not achieved. Our vehicle for communication had been lost with the demise of the Council's version of the NVN. Enquiries had been made about including information for residents when the annual letter relating council tax was sent out. Unfortunately that means of communication had been refused; therefore an alternative method of communication would need to be considered. MD was asked to have this matter raised at CMT

- 10.3 CT tabled a revised bin tag relating to recycling and a new poster regarding dog fouling.

11. Date of the next meeting

BW to liaise with MD/CT.

MD/CT/
BW

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.30pm