

Report for: ACTION



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	NO - Part I
Title	Textile Recycling Services - Options
Responsible Officer(s)	Craig Miller, Head of Community Protection & Enforcement Services
Contact officer, job title and phone number	Naomi Markham, Waste Strategy Manager Ext 2972
Member reporting	Cllr Carwyn Cox, Lead Member for Environmental Services
For Consideration By	Policy Committee
Date to be Considered	19 January 2016
Implementation Date if Not Called In	Not applicable
Affected Wards	All

REPORT SUMMARY

1. This report explores options to increase textile recycling in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.
2. It recommends changes to the way textiles are collected in the Royal Borough to make it easier and more convenient for residents to recycle clothing and shoes, increasing the amount of textiles recycled in the borough, reducing the amount of waste being sent for disposal.
3. The Policy Committee are invited to consider the paper and request officers to prepare a Cabinet report detailing options for consideration at March Cabinet:
 - A. A procurement exercise is carried out to secure one supplier of textiles recycling banks at recycling sites across the borough.
 - B. Expressions of interest are sought to provide a kerbside collection of clothing and shoes in partnership with the Royal Borough.
 - C. Expressions of interest are sought to provide a collection service and educational resources that can be offered to schools within the borough.

If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?

Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
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1. Additional opportunities to recycle unwanted shoes, clothing and other textiles, including items unsuitable for reuse.	1 September 2016
2. More convenient textile recycling services to residents direct from their own home.	1 September 2016
3. Improved educational opportunities and fundraising opportunities for local schools.	1 September 2016

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION: That Policy Committee:

- i. Consider the options set out in Paragraph 2.9 and agree recommended options.
- ii. Request that a report be presented to Cabinet setting out the options for enhanced textiles recycling services for consideration in March 2016.

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 There are currently only 17 textiles banks located within the Royal Borough and there is no collection service for this material.
- 2.2 The textile banks are provided by a number of organisations. These banks are spread across 8 recycling sites within the community. One provider, LM Barry, provide the council with an income from the textiles they collect, whilst some other charity providers of textiles banks claim recycling credits from the council for the material they collect, at a net cost. Traditionally local authorities have not directly contracted with textile bank providers and have instead allowed banks to be sited on their land under informal arrangements. This type of arrangement can lead to delays in full banks being cleared and limited data being received on the tonnage at textiles banks in the borough.
- 2.3 A recent study of waste composition in the Royal Borough showed that 4.8% of residual waste is textiles; 72% of these items (0.26kg/household/week) are reusable clothing and linen. The remainder would be recyclable. 4.8% of the residual waste is approximately equal to 3,400 tonnes, with 2,450 tonnes of reusable items being disposed of each year. If nothing is done this material will continue to be sent for disposal at a cost of approximately £300,000 a year (assuming energy from waste disposal).
- 2.4 Officers believe that an opportunity exists to improve textile bank provision under a more formal agreement. Income could be made from the sale of textiles from the bring banks, at current market rate, this is likely to be circa £200 per tonne.
- 2.5 Other local authorities have carried out similar exercises to increase textiles bank provision and income from textile banks in their areas. Eleven district councils in Hertfordshire jointly let a contract for textile bank provision in 2011. South East Wales Management Group, representing nine councils, let a similar contract in the same year. In 2012, a pan London contract was awarded for textiles bank provision in eight of the London Boroughs. London Borough of Hounslow, who were part of the pan London contract, now collect 75 tonnes of textiles per year through the contract. In addition they collect 80 tonnes per year

from a kerbside textiles collection operated as part of the kerbside sort collection of textiles in that area.

- 2.6 The Royal Borough could procure a contract for the provision of textile banks at recycling sites. This would mean that all the banks would be managed by the same provider, there would be contractual agreements in place for emptying of banks to avoid overflow of materials at the recycling sites. It is possible there would be income for all textiles collected. Based on the tonnage reported last year this would result in an income of approximately £7,000. Thought would need to be given to the current recycling credits arrangement and how this would be managed in any changes.
- 2.7 In order to provide residents with a more convenient service for the recycling of textiles, officers believe there is also an opportunity to work with a commercial or third sector operator to provide door to door collections of textiles.
- 2.8 In addition to improved provision of textile banks and door to door collection of textiles a third opportunity also exists to provide collections of textiles to schools. In this case schools would benefit from the recycling of textile by way of an income paid directly to the school for the material collected, with the weight of textiles contributing to the Borough's recycling rate.
- 2.9 Options that have been considered are shown in the table below:

Options 2, 5 and 6 are all recommended options and will work together to provide a more convenient and comprehensive service for residents to recycle their textiles.

Option	Implications	Saving pa (£) – provisional estimates
1. Do nothing, leave the current recycling site provision in place and do not provide any further opportunities for residents to recycle textiles. This option is not recommended	The information provided within this report suggests that there are opportunities for further textile recycling in the area, which would best be facilitated through improved facilities being made available.	No saving
2. Formalise arrangements for textile recycling banks at recycling sites in the borough to maximise reuse and recycling of textiles. Procure one supplier who will supply and empty textile banks at all recycling sites in the area, providing banks that will accept all clothing and shoes, whether or not they are in a reusable condition. This is a recommended option	Residents will benefit from recycling facilities for all unwanted clothing and shoes. The banks will provide a place to dispose of all items for reuse or recycling. Having a network of banks at all recycling sites that will accept the same materials, for recycling or reuse will make it easier for residents to understand what they can and cannot place in the banks. The Royal Borough will also benefit from an income for the textiles collected.	£7,000 pa income, based on current reported figures.

Option	Implications	Saving pa (£) – provisional estimates
<p>3. Provide a door to door collection of textiles through the current Waste and Allied Services contract. This service could be provided as a variation on the contract, at a cost to the council. However, based on WRAP research yields from this service are likely to be low, and the cost provided for this contract variation would not be covered by waste disposal savings.</p> <p>This is not a recommended option</p>	<p>Residents would benefit from a convenient door to door collection of textiles, however the cost of this option outweighs the benefits in terms of the amount of waste that would be diverted.</p>	<p>The financial information related to this option includes commercially sensitive details and would be provided as a part II item ordinarily.</p>
<p>4. Work in partnership with a commercial or third sector organisation to provide door to door collections of textiles to residents at no cost to the Royal Borough.</p> <p>There are large amounts of textiles in the waste stream, which a kerbside collection of textiles would help to reduce. Other textiles collections do take place in the borough already from registered charities, and one charity TRAIID (Textiles Recycling for Aid and International development) will offer an on demand collection of textiles from properties in the Windsor area of the borough.</p> <p>This is a recommended option.</p>	<p>Residents would benefit from a convenient door to door collection of residents, either by provision of sacks at regular points through the year or as an on demand collection. This will make it much easier for residents to recycle these items, without having to transport them to a recycling site.</p> <p>The Borough would benefit from increased diversion of textile material from disposal and associated savings on the waste disposal bill.</p>	<p>Up to £10,000 pa saving from waste disposal.</p>
<p>5. Work in partnership with a commercial or third sector operator to provide textile collection services to local schools.</p> <p>There are several organisations such as TRAIID, Bag2School and LMB Textiles, who offer schools collection, alongside an educational programme, which</p>	<p>.Schools will benefit from income based on the amount of materials collected, that they can use towards their own projects.</p> <p>Pupils benefit from assemblies, educational resources and key stage appropriate workshops, for instance sock monster workshops, to educate children about textiles reuse and</p>	<p>Savings would depend on uptake from schools but may be up to £5000 pa.</p>

Option	Implications	Saving pa (£) – provisional estimates
<p>act as a fundraiser for the schools in addition to diverting textiles from the waste stream. These do not appear to be used widely in the borough, but with a partnership in place could be advertised to local schools by RBWM to increase take up.</p> <p>These organisations will work with individual schools to provide a collection of textiles, which would be advertised to parents. This could take place on a specified day, where pupils are encouraged to bring unwanted clothing to school.</p> <p>This is a recommended option</p>	<p>recycling.</p> <p>Parents, carers and other members of the school community benefit from additional opportunities to recycle textiles in a way that is easy and convenient for them, by dropping the material at school.</p>	

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Reduction in textiles being disposed of as waste by changing the way textiles are collected in the area.

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
Additional textiles collected	Less than 50 tonnes of textiles collected per year.	50-70 tonnes of textiles collected per year.	71-100 tonnes of textiles collected per year.	More than 100 tonnes of textiles collected per year.	31 March 2017.

These outcomes are indicative at this stage but further outcomes are anticipated and will be determined for inclusion in a future cabinet paper should this be approved.

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS

Financial impact on the budget

4.1 The financial implications of each option are provided in the options table at point 2.9 above. A full financial appraisal will be undertaken for each option and presented within the Cabinet Report should Policy Committee be minded to approve the recommendations of this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The procurement of this contract would be undertaken within the Council's contract rules.

6. VALUE FOR MONEY

6.1 There is a potential to demonstrate an income from enhanced textiles recycling services. There is also potential to provide greater added value i.e. convenience for residents through a greater range and accessibility of textiles recycling options.

7. SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT APPRAISAL

7.1 Providing textiles recycling provision is a more sustainable way of managing this waste than it currently being disposed of. This moves the material up the waste hierarchy, with a focus on reuse and recycling where this is not possible.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 N/A

9. LINKS TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

9.1 The recommendations of this report link to the following strategic objectives:

Residents first

Improve the Environment, Economy and Transport

Value for Money

Deliver economic services

Increase non-Council Tax Revenue

Delivering Together

Enhanced Customer Services

Deliver Effective Services

10. EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY COHESION

10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required at this point.

11. STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None.

12. PROPERTY AND ASSETS

12.1 Textile recycling banks are currently placed on Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead owned land, it is not proposed to use any additional land.

13. ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS

13.1 None.

14. CONSULTATION

14.1 This report will be forwarded to Highways, Transport and Scrutiny Panel for review prior to consideration by Cabinet

15. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Date	Details
March 2016	Cabinet agree enhanced textile recycling services
April-June 2016	Procurement of enhanced textile recycling services
September 2016	Start of enhanced textile recycling services.

16. APPENDICES

16.1 None.

17. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

17.1 None.

18. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Cllr Bathurst	Principal Member for Policy	24/12/15		
Cllr Cox	Lead Member for Environmental Services	24/12/15	08/01/16	
Cllr Burbage	Leader of the Council	24/12/15		
Michaela Rizou	Cabinet Policy Assistant	24/12/15		
Simon Fletcher	Strategic Director for Operations and Customer Services	24/12/15		

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	Urgency item?
Non key decision	No

Full name of report author	Job title	Full contact no:
Naomi Markham	Waste Strategy Manager	01628 682972