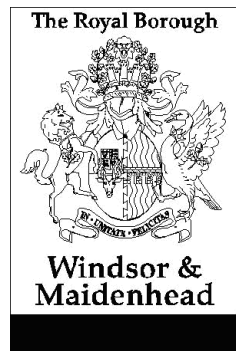


Report for: ACTION



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	NO - Part I
Title	Recycling Task and Finish Group Update
Responsible Officer(s)	Simon Fletcher, Strategic Director of Operations & Customer Services
Contact officer, job title and phone number	Craig Miller, Head of Community Protection & Enforcement Services
Member reporting	Cllr Carwyn Cox, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services
For Consideration By	Policy Committee
Date to be Considered	3 March 2016

REPORT SUMMARY

1. This report provides an update on the work of the Recycling Task and Finish Group to date and asks the Policy Committee to endorse the proposed Waste Work Programme for 2016/17.
2. The Task and Finish Group will continue to meet quarterly to review progress against the Waste Work Programme, set performance indicators and ensure projects are on track in achieving their objectives and delivering positive outcomes for residents.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION that the Policy Committee:

- i) **Endorse the proposed 2016/17 Waste Work Programme as set out at Table 1.**

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The Recycling Task and Finish Group was established in October 2015 following a report regarding recycling rates being submitted to the council's Policy Committee. The remit of the group was to look at options for increasing recycling rates in the Royal Borough.
- 2.2 Textile recycling was identified by the group as a potential area of opportunity. Textiles currently represent 4.8% of the residual waste collected in the Royal

Borough. A report was presented to the Policy Committee in January 2016 setting out potential options for enhancing textile recycling services, for example, the provision of kerbside collections and partnership working with a service provider to facilitate textile recycling and profit share arrangements with schools. The report recommended that the options be evaluated in full and the Policy Committee approved a recommendation for an options appraisal paper to be presented to Cabinet in March 2016.

- 2.3 Food waste has also been an area of focus and a campaign to increase food waste recycling in the Borough took place from September to November 2015. As part of this, 30,000 street level properties were visited by door to door canvassers, who spoke to residents to encourage them to use the food waste recycling collection service. In addition all street level properties received a delivery of food waste liners with an information leaflet on how to use the food waste collections. All rubbish bins also had a “No food waste” sticker applied under the lid to act as a nudge to remind residents to use the food waste collection service.
- 2.4 The food waste campaign resulted in 2,145 additional requests for food waste bins across the borough. Initial results from the campaign are very positive. In January 2016 the amount of food waste collected increased by 44% from the same month in 2015. This has been the highest amount of food waste collected in any one month since the start of the food waste collection service. 246 tonnes of food waste was collected in January 2016 compared to the previous highest monthly tonnage of 189 tonnes.
- 2.5 The Task and Finish Group also discussed recycling sites in the Royal Borough. Work has been carried out to refurbish all mixed recycling bins located at each site. The 85 bins are all now refurbished, with locking lids with an aperture for recycling to be deposited through. This mitigates contamination of the recycling from large and unwanted materials that can be readily fly tipped or disposed in containers with fully openable lids.
- 2.6 New signage has been applied to all bins to inform users which materials can be recycled at the sites. Specific work has been undertaken to the Eton Wick site as significant issues with misuse and fly tipping have been experienced in this location. The containers have been fitted with metal frames that further prevent the bins from being fully opened. The frames also provide extra space for signage and information setting out what materials can be recycled at the site.
- 2.6 The changes made to the recycling sites have increased the quality of the materials collected and have anecdotally reduced fly tipping at most sites according to local Community Champions and on ongoing monitoring of the sites by the Waste Team. The frame installed at Eton Wick has been particularly successful in this regard. As a result, further frames have been ordered which will be put in place at the Sunningdale and Windsor Leisure Centre sites; locations also experiencing problems with contaminated recycling and instances of fly tipping.
- 2.7 Work has also been undertaken to look at the arrangements currently in place for residents in the Windsor area of the Royal Borough to use Slough Borough Council’s Household Waste and Recycling Site (HWRC) in Chalvey. A payment is made to Slough for the use of this site. This is based on the percentage of waste that is believed to originate from the Royal Borough, previously 30%. Officers

arranged for an independent survey to be undertaken at Chalvey HWRC over seven day period in December 2015. The purpose was to check that the percentage remained current and valid. The survey identified that only 23.88% of the material accepted at this site originated from the Royal Borough. This amounts to a saving to the Royal Borough of approximately £50,000 per annum from 2016/17.

Next Steps

- 2.8 Table 1 below sets out a list of key projects that officers are proposing to explore during 2016/17. The Task and Finish Group will continue to meet quarterly to review progress against the Waste Work Programme, set performance indicators and ensure projects are on track in achieving their objectives and delivering positive outcomes for residents. Any proposals for policy development/change as well as key decisions will be scheduled for consideration and determination by Cabinet via the usual process.

Table 1 – Proposed 2016/17 Waste Work Programme		
Project:	By:	Comments:
Civic Amenity & HWRC site Use & Enhancement	Q1 – April 2016	<p>The operator of the site has highlighted concern about potential trade misuse of this facility.</p> <p>Objective: Improve/Enhance Civic Amenity Services.</p> <p>Next Significant Action: review waste acceptance arrangements and opportunities to enhance this service for residents.</p>
Recycling in Flats	Q2 – July 2016	<p>Successful recycling in flats can be difficult due to communal bin store arrangements and the practicalities and availability of space within the properties.</p> <p>Objective: Increase participation in recycling services by flatted property residents.</p> <p>Next Significant Action: review potential options to improve recycling performance within this property grouping.</p>
Food Waste Recycling – the future strategy	Q3 – October 2016	<p>Despite initial success in boosting food waste recycling in the Borough, this remains a core theme for the marketing activities and events of the Waste Team.</p> <p>Objective: Increase participation in the council's food recycling service and improve recycling rates.</p>

		<p>Next Significant Action: development of an ongoing strategy and programme of events to further support improvements in food waste recycling rates</p>
2017/18 Recycling Marketing Strategy	Q4 – January 2017	<p>This work will set out a marketing plan and will also consider different community events e.g. swap and sell or upcycling etc.</p> <p>Objective: Develop a marketing strategy with specific themes and activities tailored to need.</p> <p>Next Significant Action: Consider the strategy and themes for recycling marketing and resource deployment in 2017/18.</p>
Review of existing waste/recycling collection information to inform future recycling strategies in particular for food waste.	Q1 – June 2016	<p>Objective: Utilise existing waste and recycling collection information and data to inform future actions.</p> <p>Next Significant Action: Complete a review of waste and recycling collection data and identify trends and themes for use in determining future strategy and activity.</p>
Review of existing recycling site service.	Q2 – September 2016	<p>The council has 18 local recycling sites. A number of these experience issues with contamination or misuse.</p> <p>Objective: Determine whether the current service provision remains valid and identify potential options for alternative service provision.</p> <p>Next Significant Action: Review recycling site usage to identify patterns of use and undertake a customer feedback survey on current provision.</p>

Option	Comments
Members endorse the Recycling Task and Finish Group's Work and approves the future waste work programme.	This option is recommended.
Members do not endorse the Recycling Task and Finish Group's Work	This option is not recommended.

3. CONSULTATION

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Cllr Cox	Member for Environmental Services	19/02/16		
Cllr Bathurst	Chairman of the Policy Committee	22/02/16	23/02/16	
Simon Fletcher	Strategic Director of Operations & Customer Services	18/02/16	19/02/16	
Alison Alexander	Managing Director	19/02/16	19/02/16	
Craig Miller	Head of Community Protection & Enforcement	17/02/16	17/02/16	
David Scott	Head Governance, Partnerships, Performance & Policy	19/02/16		
Michaela Rizou	Cabinet Policy Assistant	19/02/16	19/02/16	
Mark Lampard	Finance Partner	19/02/16		

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	Urgency item?
Non key decision	No

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