

# Cabinet

14 October 2015



<b>Title</b>	Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (revision 2) 2015		
<b>Purpose of the report</b>	To make a decision		
<b>Report Author</b>	Sandy Muirhead		
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Colin Davis	<b>Confidential</b>	No
<b>Corporate Priority</b>	Delivering quality of life services		
<b>Cabinet Values</b>	Community and Accountability		
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p>Cabinet is asked to adopt the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (revision 2) 2015 in principle, but certain items in the Strategy, e.g. 6.3 work area 9, item 1 – changing the bin colour, and work area 11, item 2 – trade waste growth, which are subject to extra resourcing requirements, may not be deliverable, or deliverable within the set timescale. Officers, in conjunction with the Portfolio holder, will report to the Surrey Waste Partnership (SWP) that we will consider these actions as part of any future waste review and will only adopt if they are deemed appropriate and affordable. This is the suggested route forward, and with actions planned, we should meet the aspirations of the Strategy by 2020.</p>		

## 1. Key issues

- 1.1 This report introduces the revised joint waste management strategy (Annexe 1), which is recommended for adoption by the Cabinet.
- 1.2 The authorities in two-tier counties such as Surrey have different responsibilities for managing waste and recycling. The districts and boroughs are responsible for its collection and the county council is responsible for its treatment and disposal.
- 1.3 To ensure that the authorities work together to manage the waste in a coherent way, the law<sup>1</sup> requires two-tier areas to produce a joint strategy for management of municipal waste, and keep this under review.
- 1.4 In 2006, the Waste Members' Group of the Surrey Local Government Association (SLGA) produced the first Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Surrey, which was adopted by Spelthorne Borough Council

<sup>1</sup> Waste Emissions and Trading Act 2003

- 1.5 The SLGA Waste Members' Group then became Surrey Waste Partnership (SWP). This includes all of Surrey's authorities and is the main forum through which waste management matters are discussed and improvement actions are agreed. To reflect the dynamic nature of waste management in Surrey, SWP produced a revision of the joint strategy in 2010.
- 1.6 Again, much change has occurred since the 2010 revision and a second revision has now been prepared in order to ensure that our joint actions for the next ten years reflect the needs of our current times and aspirations for the future. This comprehensive revision includes a new aim, objectives and targets which are supported by a new set of specific and measurable actions.
- 1.7 The revised strategy was developed by combining the input of:
  - Officers and Members of Surrey Waste Partnership via a project steering group and scrutiny at Partnership meetings
  - Best practice examples of other joint waste strategies
  - A consultation of residents and other key stakeholders
- 1.8 The consultation exercise across Surrey took place between July and October 2014 and focused on identifying residents' barriers to reducing, reusing and recycling more of their waste. Other stakeholders included the waste management industry, businesses, environment and conservation groups and other local authorities. The feedback from the consultation was incorporated into the final draft of the strategy which is commended to you by Surrey Waste Partnership for adoption by Spelthorne Borough Council.
- 1.9 Much has been achieved since 2006, and Spelthorne Borough council has actively participated in partnership working, making it responsible for many of the successes. Surrey's recycling rate has increased from 31% in 06/07 to 52% in 2013/14 and waste to landfill has decreased from 67% to 11% in that timeframe. Spelthorne's recycling rate has increased from 18% in 2007 to 43.1% in 14/15. Spelthorne is not able to recycle via its materials recovery facility as many materials as some other authorities but for our higher quality and less contaminated recycling we pay a lower gate fee so maximising the value of the recycling credit we currently receive for each tonne of recycling.
- 1.10 Whilst progress has been made over the last few years Surrey wide we are now facing a number of serious challenges:-
  - Stalling performance
  - Changing legislation and regulation
  - Increasing population
  - Budget pressures
- 1.11 The strategy contains objectives and targets (SMART) which should enable us to address the challenges and move forward on rubbish and recycling aims for delivering a high quality cost effective service, working with others and maximising the value of waste.

## **2. Options analysis and proposal**

- 2.1 Not to adopt the strategy would not assist us in moving to increase our recycling rates and reduce household waste.
- 2.2 To adopt the strategy in its entirety provides us with a clear direction on how to reduce costs of rubbish and increase recycling and reuse rates as well as ensuring we meet new legislative requirements.
- 2.3 To adopt the strategy in principle but certain items in the strategy: e.g. 6.3 work area 9 item 1 – changing bin colour 6.3 and work area 11 item 2 – trade waste growth which are subject to extra resourcing requirements may not be deliverable or deliverable within the set timescale. Officers will report to the Surrey Waste Partnership (SWP) that we will consider these actions as part of any future waste review and will only adopt if they are deemed appropriate or affordable. This is the proposed route forward and with actions planned we should meet the aspirations of the strategy by 2020.

## **3. Financial implications**

- 3.1 None at this stage over and beyond current pressures on rubbish and recycling budgets.

## **4. Other considerations**

- 4.1 To deliver the strategy successfully, each partner, including Spelthorne Borough Council is required to develop an operational plan which delivers the actions. Delivery will be monitored annually, and the annual review will be considered by the Partnership. Being able to hold one another to account is key to realising the collective and individual benefits, whilst maintaining local responsibility for locally agreed operational plans is key to local governance.
- 4.2 SBC has a recycling action plan which we are currently implementing to assist in meeting the strategy's objectives, principally achieving 50% recycling rate by 2020. Examples of actions are:-
  - Food waste promotional campaigns and roadshows
  - Tackling contamination of recycling so reducing the chance of rejected loads which end up being burnt at over £100/tonne as opposed to normal gate fee of £13.52/tonne
  - Launch in March 15 of kerbside textiles collection service and a small waste electricals collection. to be added to in December 2015
  - Surrey Reuse Network now collecting all our bulky waste so majority is now recycled or reused rather than as previously going to landfill
  - Tackling hard to reach properties including flats with information, bin housing and visits to make recycling easier
  - Using Surrey Waste Partnership Funds to undertake detailed door stepping work of the lowest performing round in mid-October to understand the issues and encourage participation in recycling.
- 4.3 We are also undertaking a review of the service to identify opportunities to improve the service and make efficiency gains.
- 4.4 Targets and actions will be revised periodically during the life of the strategy, and a further revision of the whole document is anticipated as being necessary in 2019/20.

## **5. Timetable for implementation**

- 5.1 From 2015 the strategy will be delivered and plans have been developed at a local level for delivery.

**Background papers: There are none**

**Appendices: Appendix 1 Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy Revision 2 (2015)**