

AGENDA ITEM NO.

JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TRANSITIONAL BOARD 25TH APRIL 2008

Transitional Waste Scrutiny Task Group

Interim Report - April 2008

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the JOSTB on the work of its Transitional Waste Scrutiny Task Group.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

2. In respect of the waste collection and recycling services provided in Wiltshire:
 - a) To identify current service provision, standards and performance
 - b) To identify desired service provision, standards and performance for the new Wiltshire Council
 - c) To identify any anticipated issues or problems associated with the transition to the new Wiltshire Council.
 - d) To identify and recommend to the Implementation Executive preferred service delivery arrangements for the new Wiltshire Council.

MEETINGS

3.
 - March 13 – Scoping of the Review
 - March 20 – Tracy Carter (AD Operations WCC) - Joint Programme Lead
Andy Conn (WCC) - Waste Services Manager
Mr Toby Sturgis (WCC) - Cabinet Member for Waste & Planning
 - April 7 -

EVIDENCE

4. The key goals of the Transitional Waste Board are:
 - a) Remove inefficiencies' in the two tier structure
 - b) Increase LA capacity to cope with change
 - c) Increase public trust in municipal waste management
5. The Board had created 5 sub-groups to realise these targets:
 - i) Data & Performance Work Stream
 - ii) Transition – Collection & Disposal Service
 - iii) Transformation – Collection & Disposal Service
 - iv) Promotional Service for Waste
 - v) Enforcement & Regulation (Waste)
6. Each sub-project had a Project Initiation Document, with the overarching PID to be completed in early April. The fact that the 5 Councils already had an effective joint working relationship through the Wiltshire Waste Partnership had provided a head-start.
7. There was a clear distinction between what would take place pre and post April 2009 i.e. transformation v transition. Milestones had been set for both the short and long term, reflecting what would need to take place to meet the key goals.
8. By June 2008 the Waste Board was expected to identify waste related expenditure by the 5 authorities to feed into the budget setting process for 2009-10. Other June 2008 targets include identification of pre-2009 efficiencies and the appointment of an interim management structure.
9. Harmonisation of the service was scheduled for April 2011, with the new Council determining its waste service for the county.
10. The key risks identified by the Board were:
 - i) Public expectations are higher than can be afforded
 - ii) Proposed savings are not achievable with the planned levels of service
 - iii) Significant industrial action by employees
 - iv) Drop in standards & performance during change process
 - v) Resources unable, in practice, to give the time necessary

Conclusions

11. The working relationships developed through the Wiltshire Waste Partnership has provided the Waste Transition Project Board with a strong platform to deliver transition and transformation of its service.

12. The project is in its earliest stages, with PIDs just developed or being finalised. There is clear recognition of the associated risks and milestones have been set in advance of a finalised project plan.
13. The task group is keen to continue its role in monitoring delivery and see June as a key date for the project. Transformation is a longer term goal but the task group is equally committed to ensuring that scrutiny is involved in reviewing the development of these plans.

Recommendation

14. **The JOSTB is asked to :**
 - **endorse the interim report of the Transitional Waste Scrutiny Task Group**
 - **approve the Transitional Waste Scrutiny Task Group to continue in its role of holding the Transitional Waste Project Board to account**