

Adoption of Wiltshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To recommend the adoption of the Draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006 (JMWMS), incorporating amendments made in response to comments received during public consultation. The document has been produced by Wiltshire County Council, in joint consultation with the four Wiltshire district councils.
- 1.2 This report was presented to the Wiltshire County Council Cabinet on 17th March 2006, and is now being presented to all the Wiltshire district councils for approval.
- 1.3 A copy of the Draft JMWMS is attached at **Appendix 1**. A copy of the Supporting Document and reports on consultation can be viewed on the www.wasteinwiltshire.com website (click on 'Waste Management' then 'Waste Strategy').

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006 be adopted by this Council and confirmed to the Wiltshire Waste Partnership.**

3. Links to the Corporate Plan

- 3.1 Waste minimisation and recycling and partnership working are all the Council's corporate policies.

4. General Background Information

- 4.1 The draft JMWMS was considered by the Member Forum of the Wiltshire Waste Partnership (WWP) on 16th February, 2006. The Forum recommended that the Wiltshire Waste Collection and Disposal Authorities :-
 - 4.1.1 Adopt the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006 and endorse the Supporting Document , with reports being submitted for adoption before 21st July, 2006, to comply with the Environmental Assessment Regulations.
 - 4.1.2 Request the Waste Services Manager, Wiltshire County Council to send a copy of the adopted Strategy and the Supporting Document to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs.
- 4.2 The County Council adopted a Municipal Waste Management Strategy in 2002. The subsequent Waste Emissions Trading (WET) Act 2003 (Section 32) requires Waste Collection and Disposal Authorities in two tier areas of local Government to have in place a Joint Strategy for the Management of Municipal Waste and to send a copy to the Secretary of State.
- 4.3 The Wiltshire waste authorities are currently exempt from this requirement, due to their recycling performance against statutory targets in 2003-04 (WET Act Section 33). However, there are a number of reasons for producing a Joint Strategy now:-

- 4.3.1 The 2002 Strategy, although produced in consultation with the Waste Collection Authorities, is not a formal joint strategy and is now in need of updating.
 - 4.3.2 There is a need to provide up to date and long term objectives and targets for the WWP, to guide business plans and further service improvements.
 - 4.3.3 Exemption from the WET Act would end if its rather complex future requirements were not met. If no strategy was in place, it would be required urgently and production costs would have to be met.
 - 4.3.4 The JMWMS will be instrumental in making bids for Government support for future service improvements.
- 4.4 Work on an updated Strategy was commenced in March 2004. The main technical process used was an investigation of Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO), which was the recommended procedure at that time. Since then, the introduction of Environmental Assessment procedures has led to new rules, which will govern the production of future strategies. However, under the Regulations, strategies commenced before July 2004 and submitted for adoption before 21st July, 2006 can be adopted without the new environmental assessment procedures. The strategic issues normally covered by environmental assessment have been addressed during the BPEO process.

5. Proposed Amendments to the JMWMS

- 5.1 Following consultation the following amendments have been proposed.
- 5.1.1 One amendment is proposed to the Strategy Principles. This is to refer to the role of partnership working with the private sector in the provision of facilities (Principle 5).
 - 5.1.2 The other main amendments purposed are:
 - Addition of a table to the supporting text for Principle 1, illustrating the effect of the 1% waste minimisation target on waste tonnage and tonnage per head of population.
 - Clarification of the table in the supporting text to Principle 3, to focus on the forecast gap between a recycling target of 50% by 2020 and Wiltshire's LATS allowance.
- 5.2 Amendments to the Key Policies are:
- Policy 2** – to refer to increased public participation by means of information, education and incentivisation.
 - Policy 8** – to refer to the national planning context, as well as local and regional.
 - Policy 10** – to refer to Community Plans.
- 5.3 Updating of background information, in particular to reflect recent progress in waste collection and disposal services.

- 5.4 General corrections to and clarification of text.
- 5.5 Presentation of the “strategy chapter” (Chapter 8) as the JMWMS to be approved, with the updated consultation document being presented as the supporting technical report, to ensure that:
- 5.6 The strategy proposals and targets are presented briefly, as a focus for attention by members, officers, the waste industry and the public.
- 5.7 There is no pressure to update the JMWMS too frequently. The background report will inevitably become out of date before the proposals and targets need review.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The JMWMS is a high level strategy document which sets demanding joint aspirational targets for service improvement across the Wiltshire Waste Partnership. If the Councils in Wiltshire are to attain these targets there will be implications for the budgets and medium term financial plans of all the waste collection and disposal authorities. However, the main proposals are to meet statutory pooled recycling and composting targets of the Wiltshire Waste Partnership, not for one individual authority.
- 6.2 This authority will have to determine its own strategy for helping to meet the aspirations contained within the JMWMS. The details of budget implications are as yet unknown. However as this Council’s strategy is developed further reports will be brought to the Executive for consideration.

7. Community & Environmental Implications

- 7.1 The JMWMS has been subject to BPEO, which has identified the mix of services proposed as being the most advantageous in environmental terms.

8. Equal Opportunities Implications

- 8.1 There are none.

9. Human Resources Implications

- 9.1 There are none.

10. Legal Implications

- 10.1 A decision not to adopt the draft JMWMS at this stage would leave the Wiltshire Waste Authorities without an up to date Strategy. The advantages of such a Strategy are referred to above in paragraph 4.

Glossary of Terms

- JMWMS Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006
- WWP Wiltshire Waste Partnership
- WET Waste Emissions Trading
- BPEO Best Practicable Environmental Option
- LATS Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme

Documentation used in the preparation of this report:

- The Wiltshire County Council Cabinet report 17th March 2006 – Adoption of Wiltshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (Author Andy Conn Waste Services Manager WCC)– adapted to suit the North Wiltshire District Council format.

**REPORT OF THE CUSTOMER SERVICES STRATEGIC MANAGER TO EXECUTIVE –
15th JUNE 2006**

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