

Cabinet

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Geoff Silver
Head of Environmental Services
gsilver@salisbury.gov.uk

Report

Cllr Brown Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport

IMPROVING WASTE MANAGEMENT & MEETING RECYCLING TARGETS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Improving Waste Management is one of the Council's six Political Priorities. The purpose of this report is to show how the recycling element of the waste management service will be delivered over the next four financial years, and raise awareness of capacity issues affecting the waste collection service.
- 1.2 Members will recall that the CPA inspection team gave feedback at the end of its inspection, and expressed doubts over the Council's ability to match its ambitious recycling target if we did not receive DEFRA grant. This paper addresses that issue.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Cabinet adopted a Strategy for Waste Minimisation, Re-Use and Recycling in March 2003 following an extensive Scrutiny review and the target is to recycle 31% of household waste by 2010. To make sure that the strategy can be delivered it is important for the Council to have a clear plan for meeting the recycling target. This needs to specify the methods to be employed to remove material from the waste stream for recycling and how this work will be financed.
- 2.2 The cornerstones of the Council's recycling strategy are :
 - Kerbside collection of dry recyclable materials.
 - Collection of green waste.
 - Mini-recycling centres/community recycling schemes.
 - Education and publicity.
- 2.3 From 2004/2005 onwards considerable emphasis is placed on joint Salisbury District Council/Wiltshire Waste Partnership Kerbside collection schemes for dry recyclable materials and green waste in urban areas. This will enable us to go for growth in recycling

services and possibly have access to funding from DEFRA in the future under new proposals to reward high performing local authorities.

- 2.4 Our plan also includes substantial expansion of the network of mini recycling centres and community recycling schemes. This will play an important part in improving recycling facilities and services, particularly to rural communities where kerbside collection is likely to be highly inefficient.

3. MEETING RECYCLING TARGETS

- 3.1 The plan for achieving the recycling target is set out in Appendix I. This shows the projected growth in recycling services over the next four years and how this will be financed. It is predicted that we could in fact reach a recycling rate of 34% by 2007/2008.

4. EDUCATION & PUBLICITY

- 4.1 A programme of education and publicity is provided directly by the Council and jointly with South Wiltshire Agenda 21 and the Wiltshire Waste Partnership.
- 4.2 Promotion of the new kerbside collection services for recyclable materials will involve the Wiltshire Waste Partnership, as the services are rolled out, to obtain the maximum benefit from joint working in Wiltshire. However, as pressure for new initiatives for waste minimisation, re-use and recycling grows the Council may need to review the Recycling Officer and Public Relations resources available to the service.

5. RESIDUAL WASTE COLLECTION

- 5.1 The Council faces a major challenge to maintain a reliable and affordable waste collection service throughout the district in the light of increasing waste tonnages nationally and areas of new housing development locally. Reducing waste by minimisation and re-use initiatives, and increasing the amount which is recycled, are essential and will assist us to maintain the collection of residual household waste within existing resources.
- 5.2 However, as an indicator of the pressure on the service at the moment, a spare vehicle with a driver and loader is being deployed at least three days a week to keep up with household waste collection schedules. If no action is taken, at current levels of growth, it is estimated that an additional refuse collection vehicle and crew will be required permanently by the end of 2004 at a cost of £100,000 per annum.
- 5.3 As well as pushing ahead with waste recycling initiatives the Council will also need to consider changing some aspects of the current household waste collection service to release capacity to absorb new areas of housing development, and this has been examined by the Best Value Review of Street Services which will be reported to the Cabinet.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The funding requirements for the various elements of the recycling plan are set out in Appendix I. Most of these funding requirements are covered through the Wiltshire Waste Partnership, approved SDC revenue and capital budgets, the SDC Medium Term Financial Strategy or DEFRA one off grant.
- 6.2 There is, however, one part of the service plan which is not budgeted for and that is the setting up costs for the introduction of kerbside collections for garden waste in Salisbury, Wilton, Laverstock, Amesbury and Durrington. It was originally intended that this would be financed through a joint SDC/Wiltshire Waste Partnership bid to DEFRA, but that bid was unsuccessful.
- 6.3 The setting up costs for the green waste service include the purchase and distribution of special garden waste sacks for householders, educational materials, advertising and promotion. It is estimated that the cost of implementing this service could be up to £75,000 depending upon the type of sack chosen, and the number of sacks required.
- 6.4 The kerbside collection of green waste is an important element of the waste recycling strategy but as there is currently no provision for this in the revenue budget, a supplementary estimate of up to £75,000 will be required if the service is to be provided.

7. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

- 7.1 The plan for expanding waste recycling services from 2004 to 2008 contained in Appendix I be approved.
- 7.2 A supplementary estimate of up to £75,000 for the setting up costs of the kerbside collection of green waste be approved.

8. Implications

- 8.1 Financial Implications: For 2004/05 the cost of the waste strategy is all contained within existing budgets with the exception of a non-recurring £75,000 revenue which if approved will need to be taken from reserves. For 2005/06 and beyond all the growth in spending associated with the waste strategy is contained within the current medium term financial strategy.
- 8.2 Legal: The Council has a duty to collect household waste and meet recycling targets.
- 8.3 Personnel: Contained in the report.
- 8.4 Environmental: Contained in the report.
- 8.5 Community Safety: Nil
- 8.6 Wards affected: All
- 8.7 Consultation: Extensive consultation was undertaken during the review of the Strategy for Waste Minimisation, Re-use and recycling by the Environment & Transport Scrutiny Panel.

RECYCLING STRATEGY**Estimated Growth in Recycling and Funding Arrangements**

Projected growth in recycling services	Finance/resources	Total % recycled
2003/2004 Baseline		16%
2004/2005		
Introduce kerbside collection of glass, cans, paper, cardboard & textiles to 27,000 households in Salisbury, Wilton, Laverstock, Amesbury & Durrington using special purpose vehicles.	Wiltshire County Council / Hills Waste funding for first year costs through Wiltshire Waste Partnership.	3%
Introduce kerbside collection of garden waste in Salisbury, Wilton, Laverstock, Amesbury & Durrington.	Existing SDC vehicles and crews moved from paper & cardboard collection & one off SDC funding of up to £75K for first year costs.	2%
Commence enhanced servicing of mini recycling centres/community recycling schemes using SDC special purpose vehicle.	£63K Defra one-off grant for 2004/2005.	1%
Develop new mini recycling centres.	£6K From SDC existing capital programme.	
Acquire special purpose vehicle for removal of fly tipping.	£14K recurring revenue funding from SDC.	22%
Estimated % of household waste recycled for 2004/05		
2005/2006		
Full year operation of SDC/WWP kerbside collection of glass, cans, paper, cardboard & textiles to 27,000 households in Salisbury, Wilton, Laverstock, Amesbury & Durrington using special purpose vehicles.	Additional £125K recurring revenue funding from SDC towards on-going running costs (SDC Medium Term Financial Strategy).	3%
Full year operation of kerbside collection of garden waste in Salisbury, Wilton, Laverstock, Amesbury & Durrington.	Existing SDC vehicles and crews moved from paper & cardboard collection.	2%
Develop additional mini recycling centres/community recycling schemes. Special purpose vehicle to collect fly tipped green waste and metal separately.	Additional £68K recurring revenue funding from SDC to fund running costs (SDC Medium Term Financial Strategy).	1%
Estimated % of household waste recycled for 2005/06		
		28%

<p>2006/2007</p> <p>Introduce kerbside collection of glass, cans, paper, cardboard & textiles to 9,000 households using a special purpose vehicle.</p> <p>Expand the kerbside collection of garden waste.</p> <p>Estimated % of household waste recycled for 2006/07</p>	<p>Additional £125K recurring revenue funding from SDC towards on-going running costs (SDC Medium Term Financial Strategy).</p> <p>Further SDC vehicle(s) and crew(s) moved from paper & cardboard collection.</p>	<p>2%</p> <p>1%</p> <p>31%</p>
<p>2007/2008</p> <p>Introduce kerbside collection of glass, cans, paper, cardboard & textiles to 9,000 households using a special purpose vehicle.</p> <p>Expand the kerbside collection of garden waste.</p> <p>Estimated % of household waste recycled for 2007/08</p>	<p>Additional £125K recurring revenue funding from SDC towards on-going running costs (SDC Medium Term Financial Strategy).</p> <p>Further SDC vehicle(s) and crew(s) moved from paper & cardboard collection.</p>	<p>2%</p> <p>1%</p> <p>34%</p>