

CABINET
24 NOVEMBER 2009

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Executive Summary

To seek Cabinet approval to consult on options to improve and harmonise waste collection arrangements throughout the Council's area.

Proposal

That Cabinet approve that a consultation exercise on options for and implications of waste collection harmonisation is undertaken in early 2010.

Reason for Proposal

To seek the views of the Council's various stakeholders on options to harmonise waste collection services during early 2010.

GEORGE BATTEN
Corporate Director
Department for Transport, Environment and Leisure

CABINET
24 NOVEMBER 2009

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval to consult on options to improve and harmonise waste collection arrangements throughout the Council's area.

Background

2. The unification of the Councils of Wiltshire has brought together the statutory functions for the collection and disposal of waste. This allows a real opportunity to harmonise waste services and deliver a major 'step change' in waste management across the County.
3. Currently there are different standards and methods of waste collection operating in each of the Council's four areas. Residents expect uniform, efficient, high quality services throughout the County. It is therefore necessary to consider options to harmonise the arrangements for the collection of household waste.

Main Considerations for the Council

4. The Council has already undertaken a considerable amount of work to identify the opportunities to improve and harmonise waste collection services in Wiltshire. Prior to making a decision on a preferred option for harmonisation it is important to seek the views of the Council's stakeholders at a time when they can influence the decision making process.
5. The impact of waste disposal costs, the Landfill Tax and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme need to be detailed to allow informed stakeholder decisions to be made.
6. Plastic, card and food waste collections need to be considered with the implications and benefits to stakeholders identified.

Environmental Impact of the Proposal

7. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on the Council to arrange for the collection of household waste. All the options that are considered will enable the Council to comply with statutory requirements.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

8. There is no equalities impact arising from this proposal. The consultation will be open to all stakeholders.

Risk Assessment

9. A full risk assessment will be undertaken on all the options identified.

Financial Implications

10. All options identified will be fully costed and the financial implications identified. This will include the implications of potential changes to costs or waste disposal, the Landfill Tax and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme.

Legal Implications

11. All the options to be considered will enable the Council to comply with statutory requirements.

Options Considered

12. The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) was adopted by the Councils of Wiltshire in 2006. It is a partnership agreement detailing the aims and objectives for waste management in Wiltshire. It covers the period from 2006 to 2021. The JMWMS set a number of targets for recycling and composting.
- The JMWMS set a target to provide a kerbside recycling collection to at least 95% of Wiltshire households by 2010/11
 - The final target set by the JMWMS to support recycling was for all collections of residual waste to be fortnightly by 2010/11.
13. The Council has undertaken a considerable amount of work to identify the opportunities to harmonise and improve services. The matter was considered by the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Transition Board in March 2009 and an in-depth investigation was undertaken by the Waste Task Group between August and November 2009 which resolved:
- To recommend to the Cabinet Member the introduction of an Assorted Weekly Collection Service including a charged garden waste collection, with a 5 year implementation deadline for the introduction of kerbside collection of cardboard and plastic.
14. The findings from these investigations and the objectives of the JMWMS now need to be consolidated into clear and costed options for the consultation to enable the various Council stakeholders to identify their preferred options.

Conclusions

15. The unification of the Councils of Wiltshire has brought together the statutory functions for the collection and disposal of waste. This allows a real opportunity to harmonise waste services and deliver a major 'step change' in waste management.

16. Currently there are different standards and methods of waste collection operating in each of the Council's four areas. Householders expect uniform, efficient, high quality services throughout the County. It is therefore necessary to consider options to harmonise the arrangements for the collection of household waste.
17. The Council has already undertaken a considerable amount of work to identify the opportunities to improve and harmonise waste collection services in Wiltshire.
18. The impact of waste disposal costs, the Landfill Tax and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme need to be detailed to allow informed stakeholder decisions to be made.
19. Plastic, card and food waste collections need to be considered as options, with the implications and benefits to stakeholders identified.
20. The Council will consolidate the findings of the work undertaken into the opportunities and implications of harmonisation of waste collection services and clear options for consultation.

GEORGE BATTEN

Corporate Director

Department for Transport, Environment and Leisure

Report Author

Mark Smith

Service Director

Amenities and Leisure

(01225) 713767

11 November 2009

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None