

Recommendations referred to Cabinet Member for response:

- a) The Executive produced limited proposals for the task group to scrutinise, resulting in the review becoming more of a more policy development exercise.
- b) There was little evidence for proposals or opportunities for meaningful public consultation over the future of the Waste Service.
- c) The scrutiny exercise did not allow or encourage any innovative thinking.
- d) The question why, other authorities such as Cotswold District Council could achieve recycling levels of over 60%, when all options put to the task group indicated a recycling rate in the low 40%.

ESC. Response to Waste Task Group.

Following the Committee's decision to endorse the minority report my responses to the four areas of commentary are as follows;

- (a) I was under the impression the reports had provided all the information requested.
- (b) I presented a report on a draft communications strategy to the meeting on 22nd. October and under Agenda item No.17 at the Cabinet meeting on the 24th.November I agreed the consultation should take place early in 2010.
- (c) Officers were present at all Task Group meetings to provide members with additional information or requests about other possible service options.
- (d) The Task Group received and discussed information on services offered by the most successful recycling authorities in England. Like a number of other high recycling LAs Cotswold DC offers services such as garden and food waste collection and these were included in the costed options considered by the Task Group and included in the final report.

Since your meeting in January preparation for the consultation has been underway, however with the latest conflicting policy statements it was decided to delay the consultation until after the general election.