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To: The Chair and Members  
of the Devon Authorities  
Strategic Waste  
Committee

County Hall  
Topsham Road  
Exeter  
Devon  
EX2 4QD

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Date: 21 June 2022

Contact: Fred Whitehouse, 01392 381362

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### **DEVON AUTHORITIES STRATEGIC WASTE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, 29th June, 2022

A meeting of the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee is to be held on the above date at 2.15 pm at Council Chamber - County Hall to consider the following matters.

Phil Norrey  
Chief Executive

## **A G E N D A**

### **PART 1 - OPEN COMMITTEE**

1 **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

In accordance with the agreed protocol the Chair shall be a County Council or Torbay Council appointee with the Vice-Chair being a District Council appointee (both with Executive responsibility for waste management).

2 **Apologies for Absence**

3 **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2021, attached

4 **Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

Items which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

5 Terms of Reference (Pages 5 - 8)

The operating rules and Terms of Reference for the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee are attached, for information.

6 Budget Statement (Pages 9 - 12)

Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport (CET/22/7), attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

7 Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay - Options For Working Closer Together (Pages 13 - 18)

Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport (CET/22/7), attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

8 Waste Compositional Analysis: Update

Waste Client Officer (SWISCo, Torbay Council) to report

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

9 Projects funded by the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee Budget & the Lottery Funded Food Rescue Project

Presentations on:

(a) Waste and Recycling Advisors (WRA) contract

Recycling and Waste Officer, East Devon District Council

(b) Clean Devon

Senior Waste Manager (data and performance), Devon County Council

(c) Food Rescue project

Food Rescue Project Manager, Devon County Council

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

10 Future Meetings

19 October 2022  
23 February 2023

**PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS  
AND PUBLIC**

Nil.

*Members are reminded that Part II Reports contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). They need to be disposed of carefully and should be returned to the Democratic Services Officer at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.*

## **MEETINGS INFORMATION AND NOTES FOR VISITORS**

### **Getting to County Hall and Notes for Visitors**

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For full details of the Membership of a Committee, please [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and click on the name of the Committee you wish to see.

### **Committee Terms of Reference**

For the terms of reference for any Committee, please [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and click on the name of the Committee. Under purpose of Committee, the terms of reference will be listed. Terms of reference for all Committees are also detailed within Section 3b of [the Council's Constitution](#).

### **Access to Information**

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or background papers relating to an item on the agenda should contact the Clerk of the Meeting. To find this, [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and find the Committee. Under contact information (at the bottom of the page) the Clerk's name and contact details will be present. All [agenda, reports and minutes of any Committee are published on the Website](#)

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Members of the public may also use social media to report on proceedings.

### **Declarations of Interest for Members of the Council**

It is to be noted that Members of the Council must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

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**Induction Loop available**





## DEVON AUTHORITIES STRATEGIC WASTE COMMITTEE

14 October 2021

### Present:-

Councillors G Jung (Chair), D Harvey, C Leather, Daniel, A Dewhirst, C Slade, D Brown (Substitute) and J Atiya-Alla (Substitute)

### Apologies:-

Councillors R Croad, K Baldry and M Morey

### Members attending virtually via Microsoft Teams

Councillor N Pearson

\* 9

### **Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2021 be signed as a correct record.

\* 10

### **Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There was no item raised as a matter of urgency.

\* 11

### **Waste Performance Statistics 2020/21**

The Committee considered the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/21/58) which provided an overview of waste performance statistics for Devon and Torbay for 2020/21.

Highlights from the Report included a reduction in recycling rates across Devon from 56.6% to 55.3% which was attributed largely to the unprecedented circumstances surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic including the closure of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and subsequently reduced site capacities upon reopening, alongside changing waste behaviours, shopping habits and home working arrangements.

Despite reductions in recycling rates for some, Members were advised that Devon remained a high performing Waste Disposal Authority nationwide.

It was also explained that the Authority's Shared Savings Scheme, whereby savings resulting from investments in improved services were shared back with district councils, had been awarded the Best New Idea at the LARAC Conference 2021.

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Members' discussion points included the need to address the reduction in recycling rates, particularly in areas such as textiles that had seen a large decrease; and the importance of ascertaining the publication timelines of Government waste schemes to meet proposed implementation dates.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Jung, **SECONDED** by Councillor Dewhirst and

**RESOLVED** that

(a) the performance statistics for 2020/21 and the service continuity for residents through the Covid-19 pandemic be noted;

(b) the Committee continued to support DASWC authorities to provide comprehensive waste services for residents in accordance with the objectives outlines in the Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay (2020-2030); and

(c) congratulations be given for achieving the Best New Idea award at the 2021 LARAC Conference.

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## **Budget Proposal for 2022/23**

The Committee considered the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure and Waste (HIW/21/59) which summarised the options for the proposed funding allocations for 2022/23 and updated on the current position regarding the 2021/22 budget.

Highlights from the Report included:

- a £41,000 allocation to the Don't Let Devon Go To Waste campaign;
- the upcoming 2022 Waste Analysis which had been allocated a sum of £49,000. This money had been saved by the ending of Re-use Credits, which was agreed at the previous meeting of this Committee, and any underspend on Re-use Credits in 2021/22 could be allocated to this proposed sum; and
- that a pilot of the Waste Prevention Pack, to which £21,239 had been allocated by agreement of the Committee at the previous meeting, was being carried out in September / October.

Members' discussion points included:

- the logistics of the Waste Analysis scheme; and
- the importance of reducing litter, including how the general public could be incentivised to adopt a 'take it home' strategy, problems surrounding insurance and risk assessments for authority-backed litter



picking groups, and other potential solutions such as targeted education at school-age children and intelligent bin placement.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Slade, **SECONDED** by Councillor Atiya-Alla and

**RESOLVED** that

(a) the proposed budget for 2022/23 be agreed; and

(b) the 2021/22 budget position be noted.

\* **13**      **Waste Prevention Pack Update**

Members received a presentation by the Waste Client Officer (SWISCo), Torbay Council which provided an update on the Waste Prevention Pack.

The creation of the countywide Waste Prevention Pack had been agreed at the previous meeting of this Committee, funded by underspend from other programs. It aimed to reduce waste produced by first-time buyers and people moving home.

Members were advised that Officers had been in contact with estate agents to recruit them into the scheme, and that the pilot area had been expanded to cover all of Torquay and Paignton.

Member discussion centred around potential strategies to disseminate the information pack, including placing PDF copies on property search websites.

\* **14**      **Government Consultation Responses**

Members received an update from the Waste and Recycling Manager, East Devon District Council, on correspondence between the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee and Rebecca Pow MP. This was regarding the Consultation on Consistency in Household and Business Recycling in England.

The Committee was generally supportive of the proposals but expressed in strong terms their opposition to the proposed introduction of a free garden waste collection service. A response to the Committee's second letter had yet to be received.

Member discussion centred around the potential financial ramifications on districts, Torbay Council and Devon County Council as a whole should this proposal be implemented.

**NOTES:**

1. *Minutes should always be read in association with any Reports for a complete record.*

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14/10/21

2. *If the meeting has been webcast, it will be available to view on the [webcasting site](#) for up to 12 months from the date of the meeting*

\* **DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 2.21 pm and finished at 4.03 pm

## OPERATING RULES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE DEVON AUTHORITIES STRATEGIC WASTE COMMITTEE

### 1. Working Practices

1. The Committee is established under the provisions of Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972. The area in which the Committee is to exercise its authority is within the administrative areas of Devon County Council and Torbay Council.
2. The Committee shall comprise of one elected Member with Cabinet/Executive or 'portfolio' responsibility for waste management from each of the respective Authorities, appointed by each Authority. Each Authority will ensure that its appointed Committee Member is a member of its Cabinet or Executive. Each Authority will elect a named substitute with full voting rights to attend if the appointed Member of the committee is unable to attend.  
Each Authority should notify the Administering Authority in writing of any appointment of a Deputy Committee Member. Authorities may change their appointee (in line with that Council's own procedures) at any time and notify the Administering Authority in writing.
3. Each Member of the Joint Committee appointed by a constituent Council shall be entitled to one vote on all matters before the Joint Committee.

Voting rights shall be restricted to those local authorities which make a financial contribution to the Committee's budget.

4. The role of each Committee Member will be to attend meetings of the Committee, to vote on items of business, to commit to and make a positive contribution to the Joint Committee, and to act as a champion and ambassador for the Committee, seeking any necessary approvals from their Authority.
5. The Committee shall normally meet 3 times per year, with an annual presentation of statistical performance.

The quorum for a meeting of the joint committee is one quarter of the whole number of the committee

6. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected annually by the Committee; the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall rotate annually between the County Council and Torbay [as a group] and the District Councils [as a group], provided the relevant Committee Member represents a local authority with voting rights. Nominations for these posts may be stipulated by the constituent council or made and seconded by any Member of the Committee with all Members present holding voting rights being able to vote. The inaugural Chairman will be the County Council or Torbay Council appointee with the Vice Chairman being a District Council Member. This would then alternate, with a District Council Member as Chairman with a County Council or Torbay Member as Vice-Chairman and rotate annually.  
The County Council shall be the Administering Authority for the Committee. The County Council's Procedure Rules (Standing Orders) and Financial Regulations shall apply to the Committee's procedures and activities.

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7. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt other representatives to serve in a non-voting capacity. These would be Associate Members without voting rights but the ability to speak.
8. The County Treasurer shall hold a separate account for the Committee.

## 2. Terms of Reference

### **The purpose of the Committee is:-**

1. To promote sustainable, cost effective and efficient service delivery through a shared approach to resource and waste management in Devon.
2. To take ownership of and be responsible for the development, implementation and review of the Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon Action Plan.
3. To exercise those responsibilities delegated to the Committee and to make recommendations to the respective Authorities including through the Chief Executives and Leaders group on matters of strategic importance including future strategy, collection, treatment and disposal of wastes; and to implement and further develop initiatives as requested by this group and joint consultative committees.
4. To share resources wherever practicable, having due regard to the opportunities for economies of scale to ensure effective use of resources including joint procurement opportunities to deliver savings to the public purse.
5. To continue to develop and implement behavioural change & education initiatives to ensure that communities are well informed and are actively encouraged to maximise their opportunities for waste minimisation, reuse and recycling & composting.
6. To consider and adopt funding policies for the Committee's Budget.
7. To administer payments from the Committee's Budget in accordance with the County Council's Financial Regulations to finance waste management activities; to receive accounts relating to Joint Schemes; and to consider the annual budget for the Committee.

## 3. Working Arrangements

1. Funding the Committee
  - (a) The County Council will withhold an agreed percentage of the recycling credit payment due to the District Councils (credits paid to voluntary groups are excluded from this calculation), with additional contributions from Devon County Council and Torbay Council. This amount will be accounted for separately and held by the County Treasurer on behalf of the Committee. The amount withheld will be agreed by the Committee annually, and will be calculated to produce an agreed budget for supporting waste management projects in Devon. The contribution will be calculated by applying the agreed percentage of the applicable recycling

credit rate for the area. In the event that the amount withheld is insufficient to fund agreed countywide projects, the shortfall will be made up by an adjustment in the following financial year.

- (b) The Committee's budget will comprise the payments described in 1(a), plus existing balances held.

## 2. **Membership of the Committee**

If any of the parties wishes to cease making a financial contribution [as specified in paragraph 1(a) above], it shall be able to do so at the end of the financial year, on giving at least 6 months' prior written notice to that effect to each of the other parties and on such cessation and shall automatically cease to be (voting members) of the Committee from that date;

it shall be released from further contributions on condition that it accepts liability whether financial or otherwise for the effect of its action upon any commitments or other arrangements entered into in good faith by member authorities [on behalf of the Committee] with third parties prior to such cessation and shall automatically cease to be (voting members) of the Committee from any such agreed date.

- 3. Each party shall take out and maintain a public liability policy of insurance in respect of its activities as a member of the Committee in such sum and upon such terms as it shall see fit.
- 4. Reports for the Committee are to be considered by a Senior Waste Officer Group comprising of waste service managers from each of the respective Authorities which shall meet as required by the programme of Committee meetings. The Senior Waste Officer Group shall set up Working Parties as necessary to consider specific project areas, which will report back to the Senior Waste Officer Group and subsequently to Committee. A Recycling Officers' Forum, made up similarly, will report to the Senior Waste Officer Group on waste minimisation, re-use, recycling & composting initiatives and performance, and attend the Committee on an annual basis.
- 5. Minutes of the Committee shall be submitted to the relevant Cabinet/Executive or Committee of each constituent Council.
- 6. The County Council's Head of Service responsible for Waste shall collate annual recycling statistics for the Committee's consideration



## Budget Statement

Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

**Recommendation:** that

- (a) the position in relation to the 2021/22 underspend is noted; and
- (b) the proposal to return to the October committee to determine how this should be spent is approved.

### 1. Summary

The report details the outturn of the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee (DASWC) budget from 2021/22 and proposes that a decision on how to allocate the underspend is made at the October committee.

### 2. Introduction

The budget outturn for 2021/22 is shown below. The budget was for £192,000 and there was an underspend of £54,124 from 2020/21 to be added to that making a total of £246,124. The table shows a new underspend of £57,895 for 2021/22 and the reasons for this are detailed below.

	Budget 2021/22	Plus 2020/21 underspend	Total allocation 2021/22	Spend in 2021/22	Underspend
Waste and Recycling Advisors contract	95,000	0	95,000	92,678	2,322
Reuse Credits	25,000	29,039	54,039	43,936	10,103
Don't let Devon go to waste	41,000	21,235	62,235	46,146	16,089
Clean Devon	7,000	3,850	10,850	5,469	5,381
Waste Analysis	24,000	0	24,000	0	24,000
Totals	192,000	54,124	246,124	188,229	57,895

- £10,103 underspend on Reuse credits, this was due to the ongoing consequences of recovering from the Covid pandemic.
- £16,089 underspend on DLDGTW. This budget was made up of the £41,000 budget plus the underspend of £21,235 from the WRA contract and DLDGTW which was allocated for a Waste Prevention Guide (WPG). The WPG cost £14,601 so there was an underspend of £6,634 plus an underspend on itself DLDGTW of £9,455 simply because of fallout from Covid.

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- £2,322 underspend on WRA contract due to slightly reduced travel during the pandemic.
- £5,381 underspend on Clean Devon due to the cost of the fly tipping campaign being less than budgeted for.
- £24,000 “underspend” on Waste Analysis. The origin of this sum is the savings made from discontinuing the payment of Reuse Credits in 2022/23 following a reduced allocation of £25,000 in 2021/22. The committee agreed to carry this forward to 2022/23 to contribute to the cost of the Waste Compositional Analysis.

The 2022/23 budget is below.

Project	Budget
DLDGTW	41,000
WRA	98,860
Clean Devon	7,000
Waste Analysis	49,000
Total	195,860

### 3. Proposal

The underspend from 2021/22 is £57,895. It is proposed that further consideration be given to how this underspend could be allocated and a report is brought to the October committee for a decision as part of the overall budget 2023/24 setting report. Options could include allocating sums to the current projects, but could also, in line with the waste hierarchy, look at initiatives to reduce food waste and residual waste, and support for composting in schools and Repair Cafes & other re-use initiatives.

### 4. Options/Alternatives

The other option is to return the underspend to the top-slice and that will be considered as one of the options.

### 5. Strategic Plan

Responding to the climate emergency is the key area in the Devon Strategic Plan that this work relates to. Allocating funding in line with the waste hierarchy will assist residents to further reduce, reuse and recycle waste and conserve resources thereby aligning with the Strategic Plan’s aim of “Ensuring resources are used more efficiently by waste reduction, re-use and recycling”.



## 6. Financial Considerations

This is a budget update showing expenditure for 2021/22 and a proposal to consider how the underspend is allocated at a future meeting.

## 7. Legal Considerations

There are no specific legal considerations.

## 8. Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change)

The past and proposed expenditure in relation to the DASWC budgets for 2021/22 and 2022/23 will have a positive effect on the environment and climate change.

## 9. Equality Considerations

It is not considered that the proposals will result in any equality issues. They will be aimed at helping residents do more to reduce, reuse and recycle.

## 10. Risk Management Considerations

No risks have been identified.

## 11. Public Health Impact

Dealing with waste in a safe way in line with the waste hierarchy is a fundamental approach when allocating the DASWC budget. There are not expected to be any negative impacts on Public Health as a result of these proposals.

## 12. Summary

It is proposed that a decision on the allocation of the 2021/22 budget underspend is made in October after due consideration such that it has a significant impact on reducing residual waste and increasing reuse and recycling.

Meg Booth  
Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Electoral Divisions: All

### Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

Contact for Enquiries: Annette Dentith

Tel No: 01392 383190 Room: Matford 21, County Hall, Exeter

Background Paper	Date	File Reference
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Nil		
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Budget Statement - Final		
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## **Resource and Waste Strategy for Devon and Torbay – options for working closer together**

Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

**Recommendation:** that the committee approves the proposal to look at converging some elements of the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee authorities' services.

### **1. Summary**

Following on from the successful implementation of the Devon aligned option whereby authorities have aimed for the same service offer e.g. separately collected materials and frequency of collections, the authorities are now looking at elements of the services where there could be further convergence that would benefit both the service itself and potentially the residents of Devon and Torbay. This report looks at some of the options.

### **2. Introduction**

Since the review of the Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay (RWMS) in 2013 the authorities have been aiming to align key elements of their services. This is complex due to different contract periods and due to the historic and organic development of each service in each district and Torbay. Nevertheless, with the implementation of the Shared Savings Scheme (whereby the County Council shares its savings with any district making a significant change to their service which reduces the County Council's costs) most districts have modified their services to meet the aligned option. Diagrams 1 and 2 show how the services have aligned since 2013. There is no doubt that aligning services can bring cost savings to the public purse, and also other benefits such as allowing consistent communications across Devon and Torbay when encouraging residents to reduce, reuse and recycle and how to make better use of their recycling and residual waste services. This report looks into further alignment of elements of the services which would benefit service delivery, improve customer satisfaction and understanding, and facilitate consistent communications across Devon and Torbay.

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Diagram 1 - 2013

Progress toward the 'Aligned Option'					Version: 2013 (WRMS)
					
	Food Waste (Weekly)	Garden Waste (£/fortnightly)	Dry Recycling (Weekly)	Residue (fortnightly)	
<b>East Devon</b> ✓	✓	(£/O)	✓	✓	
Exeter	(X)	✓	(f)	✓	
Mid Devon	(m/f)	(m/f)	(f)	✓	
North Devon	(m/f)	(m/f)	✓	✓	
South Hams	(m/f)	(m/f)	(f)	✓	
Teignbridge	(m/f)	(m/f)	(f)	✓	
Torridge	(m/f)	(m/f)	✓	(w)	
West Devon	✓	(m/f)	✓	✓	
Torbay	✓	(X)	✓	✓	

YELLOW = aligned option / £ = charged service / m = mixed collection / f = fortnightly / w = wkly / X = N/A / O = Other

Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee

Diagram 2 – 2022

Progress toward the 'Aligned Option'					Version: May 2022
					
	Food Waste (Weekly)	Garden Waste (£/fortnightly)	Dry Recycling (Weekly)	Residue (fortnightly)	
<b>East Devon</b> ✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (3)	
Exeter	(X)	✓	(f)	✓	
Mid Devon	✓	✓	(f)	✓	
<b>North Devon</b> ✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
South Hams	(X)	(FOC)	✓	✓	
<b>Teignbridge</b> ✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Torridge</b> ✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>West Devon</b> ✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Torbay</b> ✓	✓	(£/O)	✓	✓	

YELLOW = aligned option / £ = charged service / m = mixed collection / f = fortnightly / 3 = 3wkly / X = N/A / O = Other

Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee

Note: South Hams – 50% of households have a kerbside sort weekly collection which includes food waste. 32% of households are on a comingled weekly recycling collection and that doesn't include food waste. 18% have a fortnightly sack recycling service. Exeter are starting to offer a small number of properties a food waste collection.

### 3. Proposal

At a workshop in May members and officers looked at a shortlist of proposals from more than 20 different service areas. The following table shows the areas which the authorities are planning to consider for early convergence.

Service area	Proposal	Notes
Garden Waste Collection Service	Suspension of two collection services at Christmas.	Most of the authorities suspend their service over the Christmas period. Alignment would avoid confusion for residents.
Core Collection vehicle types for kerbside residual and dry recycling	Work together to procure fleet when opportunities arise.	Using the same vehicles for collection services allows potential economies of scale for procurement and also sharing of best practice, training, maintenance and emergency operations. Exeter could not be party to kerbside sort vehicles currently due to having a different collection method.
A No Side Waste Policy	The majority of authorities have a “no side waste policy” and within the next 12 months all those with residual waste wheeled bins could implement this. A limit on the number of bags set out in relevant authorities could also be considered.	A “no side waste policy” encourages residents to recycle everything they can by encouraging them to use all of their bins correctly. Residual waste will therefore decrease if this policy is implemented enabling an increase in the recycling rate, and potentially an overall reduction in waste as residents realise they can reduce their waste.
Service Standards	Proposed alignments include: missed collection 48hrs, container delivery time 10 working days.	There are a range of standards across the authorities and to bring them into line would give a consistent customer experience across Devon and Torbay.
Material sales outlets	An annual check on membership of joint contracts and the potential for new joint contracts to be implemented.	The authorities can benefit from the option of joining countywide contracts for paper, glass, textiles and bulk haulage. Further economies of scale could be enabled by expanding to other materials & this needs to be reviewed regularly.

These options will be looked at further and introduced where agreed by all authorities to do so within the next 12 months.

## 4. Options/Alternatives

There are many other areas where convergence of services could be considered further and some of them are listed below. More work needs to be undertaken to assess the benefits of doing so and any proposals will be brought to a future committee for debate.

# Agenda Item 7

- Kerbside collection methods including bin capacity, colours, and provision of lids. Until the Government's proposals for Extended Producer Responsibility, Consistency and a Deposit Return Scheme are clear it is too soon to be changing collection services, however this will be considered at a later date.
- Bring Banks are placed around the county and there is potential for rationalising the provision of banks to specific locations and/or specific materials where they will benefit the public but also optimise the service the authorities provide.
- Bank Holiday working is practiced in some authorities but not others. A cost benefit analysis is proposed to better understand the options.
- Variability in charging. Authorities charge for a range of services including Bulky Household Waste, Garden Waste and replacement containers. These charges vary across the county for a variety of reasons. There may be potential to optimise charging regimes for ease of communication for example. However, until the Government gives clarity on the Consistency proposals this cannot easily be progressed.
- Communications to residents are provided by individual councils and also through Recycle Devon. Most councils use Incab technology which also provides the opportunity to understand better residents' recycling habits. The closer services are aligned the easier it is to offer countywide communications and this will enable better resident understanding & lead to improved waste reduction and greater recycling.
- Operational staff training and development is offered by all authorities. However, there is potential for sharing best practice for example via a countywide video.

## 5. Consultations

There has been no specific consultation on these proposals. However, the RWMS did have an associated consultation and when asked by what means waste reduction could be achieved, 52.2% agreed that this should be through operational service policies and 89.5% agreed this should be through community engagement. The proposals above will include both these means. See consultation results link in committee report Agenda Item 8 page 73 ([Public Pack](#)) [Agenda Document for Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee, 16/06/2021 14:15](#).

## 6. Strategic Plan

Responding to the climate emergency is the key area in the Devon Strategic Plan that this work relates to. The proposals will assist the authorities to further reduce, reuse and recycle waste and conserve resources thereby aligning with the Strategic Plan's aim of "Ensuring resources are used more efficiently by waste reduction, re-use and recycling".

## 7. Financial Considerations

There are not expected to be any significant costs associated with these proposals. If anything, there are likely to be reduced costs, for example, a no side waste policy should result in less residual waste and more recycling. Procurement costs could

also be reduced through sharing best practice in relation to vehicles for example, and material income could potentially be increased with joint contracts.

## **8. Legal Considerations**

There are no specific legal considerations.

## **9. Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change)**

The RWMS was accompanied by an Impact Assessment, see Agenda Item 8 page 75 ([Public Pack](#))[Agenda Document for Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee, 16/06/2021 14:15](#)

The work of the local authorities in relation to waste management is aimed at reducing, reusing and recycling waste, thereby reducing its environmental impact and its impact on Climate Change. It is considered that the proposals will result in positive impacts in relation to the environment and climate change, e.g. no side waste policy increases the public's understanding of the need to reduce waste and recycle correctly when accompanied by appropriate communications; sharing best practice in vehicle technology could lead to purchasing more sustainable vehicles.

## **10. Equality Considerations**

The RWMS was accompanied by an Impact Assessment, see link in paragraph 9 above.

Converging of some elements of local authority waste services will result in more consistent communications which will help all residents better understand how to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste. Inequality of services across Devon will be addressed as the work progresses, enabling improved customer service.

## **11. Risk Management Considerations**

No risks have been identified.

## **12. Public Health Impact**

Dealing with waste in a safe way in line with the waste hierarchy is a fundamental approach within the RWMS. There are not expected to be any negative impacts on Public Health as a result of these proposals.

## **13. Summary**

Converging of waste management services where appropriate will have cost benefits, environmental and climate change benefits as well as improving customer relations and services to residents. This work will build on the great progress already made in aligning services across Devon.

Meg Booth  
Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

# Agenda Item 7

Electoral Divisions: All

## **Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers**

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<b>Background Paper</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>File Reference</b>
Nil		
Resource and Waste Strategy for Devon and Torbay – options for working closer together - Final		