

## DEVON AUTHORITIES STRATEGIC WASTE COMMITTEE

7 FEBRUARY 2018

Present:-

Councillors Wood (Chair), A Davis (Vice-Chair), K Lake, R Sampson, T Wright, R Cann and C Eginton

Apologies:-

Councillors M King and R Gilbert

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**Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2017 be signed as a correct record.

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**Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There was no item raised as a matter of urgency.

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**Chair's Announcements**

The Chair made the following announcements, namely:-

- (a) that Mr Hipkins attended the meeting in his capacity as a Co-opted Member of the Council's Standards Committee to observe and monitor compliance with the Council's ethical governance framework.
- (b) an invitation was extended to the Committee to attend the Recycle Devon Thank You Awards for Recycling Heroes, taking place on 16 March 2018 at 2.00pm at County Hall.

\* 22

**Waste Compositional Analysis - October 2017**

The Committee received the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/18/4) setting out the results of the Waste Compositional Analysis carried out on residual waste in October 2017, compared with the analysis carried out in 2012.

The Chief Officer advised that Devon was the top county in the UK for residual waste disposed of per house in 2016/17 and ranked third in the recycling league at 55.7% which was good news for Devon in highlighting the significant in-roads that had been made into reducing, reusing, recycling and composting household waste, which meant reduced costs and reduced environmental impact of waste management.

The Chief Officer further reported, however, that one of the key findings in Devon indicated that there was still a significant amount of food waste in the residual bins. The percentage of food waste in residual waste varied across districts. In Devon and Torbay, 83.7% and 79.5% respectively, was deemed avoidable waste.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Wood, **SECONDED** by Councillor Davis and

**RESOLVED** that the Report be noted and that its data be used to inform future behavioural change work and service changes; and that a waste compositional analysis be carried out every five years, subject to the availability of funding.

\* **23**      **Waste Education**

The Committee received the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/18/4) which presented Devon's Waste Education Strategy and Action Plan and a summary of the Waste Education Programme available to schools. The Strategy's aim was to promote and encourage learning and practical action to reduce waste and improve resource efficiency in Devon's schools and their surrounding communities.

The Chief Officer explained the Waste Action Support Programme (WASP), which aimed to engage schools with targeted workshops and assemblies, with Whitchurch Primary School and Withercombe Raleigh Primary School highlighted as being examples of good practice, having significantly increased their recycling and composting rates.

The Chief Officer further advised that the Council had worked with contractors and Waste Collection Authorities to offer school visits to Recycling Centres and Energy from Waste facilities in both Plymouth and Exeter. Resources included a Zone Website <http://zone.recycledevon.org>, a Sustainability Bulletin and Waste and Recycling collection provisions in schools. Further, following the recent publication of the Government's new Litter Strategy for England and the increased public interest in plastics, the Waste Education team would be promoting the litter resources to both schools and community groups, such as scouts and guides.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Wood, **SECONDED** by Councillor Davis and

**RESOLVED** that the Committee endorse the new Waste Education Strategy and Action Plan.

\* **24**      **Community Action Groups Devon (CAG Devon)**

The Committee received the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/18/5) summarising the CAG Devon project, which was a Community Engagement project providing support to community groups, schools and individuals in organising community events and projects in Tiverton and the surrounding area. Resource Futures were awarded the Council's contract in May 2016 for development of the community project.

The Report highlighted the work that Resource Futures had undertaken with Oxford County Council in developing an online tool, Resource CIT and explained that the data collected via this tool had been used to create an infographic showing that the project was already making good progress working with the local communities of Mid Devon.

The Committee also received a presentation delivered by the Community Engagement Co-ordinator for Resource Futures, Ruth Leonard-Williams, highlighting, in particular, close working with Tiverton Area Communities Transition (TACT); Repair Cafes, Sewing Sessions and the Refill Devon initiative. Information was available on the website at [www.cagdevon.org.uk](http://www.cagdevon.org.uk).

\* **25**      **Hot Topic: Plastics**

The Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste reported on the Hot Topic of Plastics which highlighted the following, in particular:

- types of plastic recycled and amounts collected in 2016/17;
- impact of China and impact on Devon's plastic markets;
- DEFRA 25 Year Environment Plan;
- work with the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP);
- charging at household waste and recycling centres; and
- fly tipping data.

A copy of the presentation would be circulated to Members.

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**Future meetings**

27 June 2018 and 17 October 2018.

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

The Meeting started at 2.15 pm and finished at 3.38 pm

