

## **Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee Proposed Work Plan**

Report of the Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste

***Please note that the following recommendation is subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.***

**Recommendation: That the Committee considers and adopts the proposed Work Plan as outlined in this report initially to 2020.**

### **1. Summary**

This report identifies the key areas of work identified from the Terms of Reference, which it is recommended will form the basis of the Committee's Work Plan initially to 2020.

### **2. Introduction**

The terms of reference identified below have been developed to shape the direction of travel of the Committee's work with a view to focussing on strategic waste management issues within Devon and Torbay

1. To promote sustainable, cost effective and efficient service delivery through a shared approach to resource and waste management in Devon (and Torbay?).
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.

Appendix 1 shows how each council has made progress against these terms to date and the plans they are proposing to put in place in the future.

### 3. Work Plan

The table at Appendix 2 shows a draft Work Plan which identifies some proposed areas of work to be progressed over the next 3 years.

At each October committee meeting the budget for the following year will need to be set. It is proposed that overall performance from the previous year be also reported to this autumn meeting. This will include waste arisings, reuse and recycling rates and the effectiveness of the behavioural change, communications, schools education and community engagement initiatives that have been carried out that year, as well as previous budget out-turn.

At the future February and June meetings the agenda has the potential to be more flexible to consider any new strategic issues that arise e.g. changes to legislation, government policy, fiscal interventions. Suggestions for the next year are included within this report.

### 4. Resource and Waste Management Strategies

#### Areas for Action

Term of reference 2 identifies the need to take ownership of and be responsible for the development, implementation and review of the Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon Action Plan. The Strategy is due to be reviewed in 2018 but in the meantime the key areas below need to be developed to progress implementation of the policies:-

- **The waste hierarchy** – decisions need to be in line with the waste hierarchy, increasing the percentage of waste that is dealt with towards the top of the hierarchy. A hierarchy test needs to be applied to all proposed policies, schemes and systems
- **Targets** - Strategy waste growth, recycling and waste reduction targets have not been met in the last 3 years and need reviewing.
- **Harmonisation of waste collection regimes** - The Strategy policies state that the authorities need to maximise the potential to work together. Hence consideration of a date A needs to be discussed for the harmonisation of collection methods and material types. i.e. working towards the aligned option. There is further scope for joint contracts and procurement to maximise income and market share. The bulky household waste policies need to be discussed further to try to agree to a consistent approach.
- **Waste reduction** - The Policy defines that Local Authorities will work in partnership to produce the minimum amount of waste and promote and support high profile waste minimisation behavioural change and education campaigns. A new Community Engagement Project has begun this year and a waste arisings working group will be presenting its findings. Good progress has been made under the Don't let Devon go to waste banner, however, a specific strategy for waste prevention and reuse needs to be developed and agreed across the Authorities.
- **Reuse** - Reuse is an exciting area for progress and recent developments include the joint funding through WRAP and then DAWRRC of a Reuse officer who has stimulated Re-use by implementing a Reuse Directory, Reuse kits, Repair workshops, a Reuse Forum. However there is much more to do in this important area.
- **Recycling** - The shared savings mechanism is designed to reduce overall waste arisings and stimulate an increase in the recycling rate and the nearer all authorities get to an aligned service, with consistent policies on types of bins, frequencies, side waste and enforcement policies, the easier it will be to provide communications that apply to all Devon and Torbay residents.
- **Organic Strategy** - New contracts have been tendered for composting of garden waste, leaf sweepings and anaerobic digestion of food waste. There is a gradual trend towards weekly

food waste collection and charged for garden waste. Further support needs to be considered for home composting given its positive impact on lowering waste arisings.

- **Residual waste** - Most residual waste now goes to one of the Energy Recovery Plants in Exeter and Plymouth. Only waste from North Devon, Torridge and part of Mid Devon continues to go to landfill. It is envisaged that all of Devon's residual waste will be treated through non landfill solutions within the next year or so.

## **5. Conclusion**

It is recommended that the draft Work Plan as set out in Appendix 2 is approved and the progress against each recommendation is reviewed and reported on an annual basis.

## **6. Financial Considerations**

The Committee will:

- Consider and adopt funding policies for the Committee's Budget;
- Administer payments from the Committee's Budget in accordance with the County Council's Financial Regulations to finance waste management activities;
- Receive accounts relating to Joint Schemes and;
- Consider the annual budget for the Committee.

## **7. Sustainability Considerations**

The Committee's work will be central to sustainable waste management practice and will ensure that as much waste as possible is managed at the higher end of the waste hierarchy

## **8. Equality Considerations**

There are no equality issues arising from this report.

## **9. Legal Considerations**

The implications/consequences of the recommendation have been taken into account in preparing the report.

## **10. Risk Management Considerations**

Risks associated with Work Plan initiatives will be considered once the Work Plan is approved.

## **11. Public Health Impact**

There are no immediate Public health impacts related to this committee report.

David Whitton  
Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste

## **Electoral Divisions: All**



Term of reference	Exeter CC	Mid Devon DC	North Devon DC	Teignbridge DC	Torbay Council	Devon CC	West Devon	South Hams	Torrige DC	East Devon DC
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Joint working with Mid Devon to sell non contracted material together. (2016)</li> <li>ii) Processing commingled trade recycling materials from Mid Devon (already happening)</li> <li>iii) County Wide Contracts for sale of paper, textiles, glass</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Joint working with Exeter to sell non contracted material together. (2016)</li> <li>ii) Joint procurement of new containers with Teignbridge (2015)</li> <li>iii) County Wide Contracts for sale of paper, textiles, glass</li> <li>iv) Joint clinical collection contract with North Devon and Torrige</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) County wide contracts for the sale of paper, glass and textiles</li> <li>ii) Joint clinical waste contract with Mid Devon and Torrige</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Joint procurement of new containers with Mid Devon (2015)</li> <li>ii) County Wide Contracts for sale of paper, textiles, glass and haulage</li> <li>iii) Development of incab/back office system (Bartec/Collective) in conjunction with Exeter CC via STRATA.</li> </ul>	n/a due to JVC contract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Manage county wide contracts for textiles, glass, haulage, paper</li> <li>ii) Look at Countywide contracts for card and plastic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Joint management, administration and enforcement of waste services with South Hams.</li> <li>ii) Considering joint clinical collections with South Hams.</li> <li>iii) Working towards joining County Wide Contracts for sale of paper and glass</li> <li>iv) County wide contract for textiles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Joint management, administration and enforcement of waste services with West Devon.</li> <li>2) Considering joint clinical collections with West Devon.</li> <li>3) Working towards joining County Wide Contracts for sale of glass.</li> <li>4) County wide contract for textiles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Joint clinical waste collection contract with North Devon and Mid Devon.</li> <li>ii) Post service review work towards joining County Wide contracts for recyclable material.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Manage county wide contracts for textiles, glass, haulage, paper</li> </ul>
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Addition of 0.6 FTE additional Recycling Officer, concentrating on social media, university liaison and improving written communications</li> <li>ii) Recycling Officer work-shadowing Community Development consultant to improve engage with communities in low-recycling areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Introduction of Compulsory recycling policy (2015)</li> <li>ii) Employment of 1 full time enforcement officer for recycling (2015)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Proposed service changes will require an enforcement team of x 5 posts</li> <li>ii) Introduction of a zero side waste policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Support for Waste Education work through visits to TDC bulking and transfer station</li> <li>ii) Employment of 1 full time compliance officer for recycling (ongoing)</li> <li>iv) Provision of annual 'Recycling Guide' to all households in district including specific day and dates of collections (ongoing)</li> <li>v) Provision of low cost home composters and supporting materials (book, dvd) (ongoing)</li> <li>vi) Christmas waste radio/media campaign and summer roadshows (ongoing)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Funding Resource futures to work with Torbay Council's recycling officer in local schools</li> <li>ii) Funding Green Points initiative (2015)</li> <li>iii) Funding Metal Matters campaign (2015)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Lead on DLDGTW with Communications Action Plan</li> <li>ii) Implement a Community Engagement Project in Mid Devon and potentially out to North Devon and Torrige</li> <li>iii) Retender Schools education Contract</li> <li>iv) Asses business case for all campaigns</li> <li>v) Assist districts with specific needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii) Waste education delivered through area-specific locality officers</li> <li>iv) Enforcement delivered through locality and enforcement officers.</li> <li>iii) Subsidised compost bins currently supplied. Structured campaign to promote home and community composting during introduction of charged garden service (subject to final Member agreement).</li> <li>iv) Continue to promote real nappies.</li> <li>v) Recycling guides delivered annually to all households.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Waste education delivered through area-specific locality officers</li> <li>2) Enforcement delivered through locality and enforcement officers</li> <li>3) Continue to promote real nappies.</li> <li>4) Recycling guides delivered annually to all households.</li> <li>5) Subsidised compost bins currently supplied.</li> <li>6) Recycling guides delivered annually to all households.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Introduction of monitoring systems to allow collection crews to report on waste and recycling presented late for collection more effectively</li> <li>ii) Strengthen working links with enhanced Environmental Protection team to more effectively target Schedule 2 waste related offences and presentation of waste early.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Addition of an additional R&amp;WO (2015)</li> <li>ii) Addition of a Recycling Advisor as part of the Recycling &amp; Waste Collection Contract (Part-Time SUEZ employee)</li> <li>iii) Analysis of waste collection data and R&amp;WO assigned to collection rounds by region (East / Central / West)</li> <li>iv) On-going presence at shows and events (Tour of Britain etc)</li> </ul>
6. To consider and adopt funding policies for the Committee's Budget.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
7. To administer payments from the budget, and to finance waste management activities.	n./a	n./a	n./a	n./a	n./a		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**Work Plan Proposal**

**Subjects which could be considered at Committee**

- Waste arisings
- Waste collection service /consistent recycling
- Organic waste strategy
- Management of Healthcare waste
- Shared savings scheme
- Budget setting and review
- Waste data/performance
- Communication and Education Strategy
- Review Waste Management Strategy/Action Plan
- Trade waste review – review current services and consider new opportunities
- Circular Economy Package
- Waste Prevention and Reuse Strategy
- Review Joint Contract arrangements and consider new opportunities
- Invited Speakers

**Draft Work Plan for 2016 and 2017**

Committee	Proposed Subjects for discussion
June 2016	1) Constitution 2) Work Plan 3) Shared savings
October 2016	1) Budget setting and review 2) Waste Data/Performance
February 2017	1) Adopt Waste Prevention and Reuse Strategy 2) Review Joint Contract arrangements and consider new opportunities
June 2017	1) Review Waste Management Strategy/Action Plan 2) Trade waste review – review current services and consider new opportunities
October 2017	1) Budget setting and review 2) Waste Data/Performance