CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

15 JANUARY, 2008

REPORT OF HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TRADE WASTE RECYCLING

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide Members with information on Trade Waste Collections and Recycling within Cannock Chase.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That Members note the contents of this report and the forthcoming trial of a Trade Waste Recycling Collection Scheme.

2.2 That in noting 2.1 above, that members receive a further report on the outcome of the trial at a future meeting of the committee.

3. Key Issues

3.1 Cannock Chase Council is required under EU Directives to divert as much waste as possible from landfill by reducing, reusing and recycling waste.

3.2 Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (section 52) Household Waste recycling credits are payable by the Waste Disposal Authority (Staffordshire County Council) to Cannock Chase District Council for every tonne of waste diverted from landfill through recycling.

3.3 Trade Waste recycling is not included within the recycling credits scheme.

3.4 As a Waste Collection Authority the Council has a duty under section 45(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange collection of trade waste. This requirement to arrange collection effectively means that the authority is responsible for the provision of trade waste collection even if it is collected by a private sector company. Therefore, trade waste either collected by a waste collection authority or a private sector company on the authority's behalf is municipal waste.

3.5 From 31st October 2007 new legislation came into force requiring businesses to pre-treat their waste i.e. sort recyclable materials from their residual waste It is anticipated that the directive must be fully implemented by July 2009.

3.6 The Environment Agency have stated that if a Local Authority is collecting trade waste as part of its Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) collection service, it will form part of the MSW stream and will be subject to statutory landfill diversion targets. However, trade waste collected as part of this service can be classed as treated.

3.7 Cannock Chase Council has developed household waste recycling initiatives particularly over the past two years and it would be a point of good practice for the Council to consider recycling initiatives for trade waste i.e. could the waste be recycled or recovered rather than disposing of the waste at landfill. The Environment Agency anticipates increases in landfill tax to drive even more waste towards alternative waste management options.

4. Proposed Trade Waste Recycling Collection Trials

4.1 The Council currently collects trade waste from approximately 100 premises, ranging from businesses with one wheelie bin (240 litres) to businesses with several Euro bins (1100 litres). A large proportion of the trade waste which is collected from these businesses is cardboard and paper.

4.2 It is proposed to undertake a trial with ten businesses across the district for three months (April 2008 to June 2008). A summary table of the businesses that have been subject to a recent waste audit has identified paper and cardboard as the main recyclable materials.

4.3 The table below shows the anticipated recycling tonnage from the 10 trial businesses to be 33.4 tonnes and the remaining 10.3 tonnes being taken to landfill.

Business Ref.	Frequency of Collection	Bin type and Quantity	Potential % of Paper and Cardboard	Potential Tonnes per Year of Paper and Cardboard (Diverted from Landfill)	Remaining Tonnes to Landfill
1	Fortnightly	1 x Euro = 1100 ltr	80%	1.8 tonnes	0.4 tonnes
2	Fortnightly	1 x Euro =1100 ltr	90%	2.0 tonnes	0.2 tonnes
3	Weekly	1 x Euro = 1100 ltr	80%	3.6 tonnes	0.9 tonnes
4	Weekly	1 x WBin = 240 ltr	60%	0.6 tonnes	0.4 tonnes
5	Weekly	1 x Wbin = 240 ltr	95%	1.0 tonnes	0.1 tonnes
6	Weekly	3 x WBin = 720 ltr	60%	1.8 tonnes	1.2 tonnes
7	Weekly	3 x Euro = 3300 ltr	90%	12.4 tonnes	1.4 tonnes
8	Weekly	2 x Euro = 2200 ltr	60%	5.5 tonnes	3.7 tonnes
9	Fortnightly	1 x Euro = 1100 ltr	90%	2.0 tonnes	0.2 tonnes
10	Weekly	1 x Euro = 1100 ltr	60%	2.7 tonnes	1.8 tonnes
			Total	33.4 tonnes	10.3 tonnes

4.4 At present the Council has a contract with Greenstar Ltd to take recyclable materials to its site at Burntwood, Staffs. The Council is required to pay a gate fee to Greenstar less a rebate from them for the value of the materials sold.

4.5 During the trial period waste audits will be undertaken on the remaining businesses waste to evaluate the types of materials and estimated tonnages available for a recyclable collection. The evaluation of the remaining businesses is likely to highlight that the recyclable materials will include glass, plastics, cans, paper and cardboard which is likely to have a different financial effect than the trial of only collecting paper and cardboard.

4.6 For the trial period only, the Council are able to supply extra reused bin containers to enable the businesses to separate their waste and it is anticipated that for this temporary period that the collection of cardboard and paper from the 10 businesses can be undertaken from within existing budgets.

5. Summary

5.1 Providing a recycling service to businesses which have current contracts with the Council would benefit the environment by diverting more waste from a landfill and, if it can be proved cost effective, then this will be another new initiative introduced by the Council.

5.2 Although any recycling tonnages will not be allowed to be included the Councils recycling percentages or recycling credits system, outcomes can be reported as further tonnages of waste that have been diverted from landfill and would contribute to Staffordshire's Local Area Agreement targets on recycling trade waste.

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Section 1

Background

On the 4th June 2007 the Environment Select Committee placed Trade Waste Recycling on the Select Committee work programme for 2007 / 08.

The Council has been collecting trade waste from local businesses for a number of years but there has been no provision for the collection of recyclable materials. It is important that the Council consider the provision of a recyclable collection for the current businesses which have contracts with the Council.

Very few Local Authorities in England recycle trade waste and of the authorities in Staffordshire, East Staffs BC collect cardboard and paper from approximately 40 – 50 businesses and Lichfield DC collect co-mingled recyclables from approximately 30 businesses.

The Council has a potential 100 current businesses who may wish to participate in trade recycling.

Section 2

Details of Matters to be Considered

The current information that is available for the percentage breakdown of materials that are delivered to the Poplars landfill site in Cannock show;

Municipal Household Waste 40%

Trade / industrial waste 40%

Soil 20%.

Waste collection authorities have a duty under section 45(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange to collect trade waste. This requirement to arrange trade waste collection (when requested) means that the authority is responsible for the waste generated even if it is collected by a private sector company. Therefore, commercial waste either collected by a waste collection authority or a private sector company on the authority's behalf is municipal waste.

As previously stated in the Background section of this report, very few Local Authorities in England recycle trade waste and of the authorities in Staffordshire, East Staffs BC collect cardboard and paper from approximately 40 – 50 businesses and Lichfield DC collect co-mingled recyclables from approximately 30 businesses.

Section 3

Contributions to CHASE

Waste Recycling contributes directly to the Council's **CHASE** objectives in enhancing and protecting the environment.

Section 4

Section 17 Implications

There are no identified implications in respect of crime prevention arising from this report.

Section 5

Human Rights Act Implications

There are no identified Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

Section 6

Data Protection Act Implications

There are no identified implications in respect of the Data Protection Act arising from this report.

Section 7

Risk Management Implications

There are no identified risk management implications arising from this report.

Section 8

Legal Implications

The European Union Landfill Directive set targets to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste which is landfilled and these have been transposed into domestic legislation by the Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002 (as amended).The Council is complying with the Regulations by extending recycling collections.

The Council has various legal obligations (which are set out throughout the report) in collecting and disposing of both domestic and trade waste. The pro-active steps taken by the Council in promoting recycling has enabled the Council to not only meet its current legal targets but remain on target in meeting future waste management and disposal aims.

Failure on the part of the Council to discharge its legal obligations and meet key targets will expose the Council to potential liability and penalty.

Section 9

Financial Implications

It is anticipated that for the trial period only, the collection of cardboard and paper will be made using existing resources.

If the trial was to be extended to all existing customers, a further report would have to be made to highlight all additional costs, as these would fall outside the current budget allocation.

Section 10

Human Resource Implications

There are no human resource implications arising directly from this report.

Section 11

Conclusions

If a Trade Waste Recycling Scheme is introduced then there will be a decrease in trade waste tonnages taken to landfill. In order to undertake such a scheme the proposed trial will help establish if it is cost effective to do so.