

Report of Director of Communities and Environment

Report to Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities)

Date: 4th December 2017

Subject: The future of the waste and recycling strategy for Leeds

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. This report provides a brief summary of the proposals set out within the report to the Executive Board on 15th November 2017 on the future of the waste strategy for Leeds (see Appendix A).
2. The report provides an opportunity for initial consultation with Scrutiny Board Members at the outset of the development of this strategy, inviting comments from Members on the issues and proposals covered within the Executive Board report.

Recommendations

Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) is recommended to:

1. Note the contents of this report, and the attached Executive Board report at Appendix A, including the outline programme for the development of a revised Leeds Waste Strategy;
2. Comment on the context and issues relating to the Council's waste and recycling strategy, and the areas and options to be considered and assessed as a part of the proposed options appraisal exercise.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report provides a brief summary of the proposals set out within the report to the Executive Board on 15th November 2017 on the future of the waste strategy for Leeds (see Appendix A). The report provides an opportunity for initial consultation with Scrutiny Board Members at the outset of the development of this strategy.

2. Background information

- 2.1 On 15th November 2017, Executive Board received a report on the future of the waste strategy for Leeds, which provided an overview of current recycling performance, of the local, national and European policy context, and of the opportunities and challenges relating to the main potential waste streams for recycling.
- 2.2 At the meeting, Executive Board gave its support to the proposed detailed appraisal of kerbside recycling options to be carried out with support provided by the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP), Executive Board also approved the outline programme for the development of the revised strategy, including public consultation. The full report is attached at Appendix A.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 Scrutiny Board Members are requested to comment on the issues covered within the Executive Board report, and in particular the areas to be covered within the options appraisal work which is now getting underway. Although not intended to be an exhaustive list, it is planned that this appraisal will include an assessment of the following:
- Collection models for targeting new kerbside recycling streams such as food waste and glass;
 - The impact of further reducing residual waste capacity, including on the local environment, and the full costs to the Council;
 - The business case for the delivery of additional recycling services;
 - Consideration of the need for investment in new processing infrastructure, whether led directly by the Council or coming forward from the market as a result of the materials tonnages being collected and made available by the Council;
 - The consideration of an expansion of differential recycling services across Leeds to support the Locality agenda in our most deprived communities, whilst continuing to drive up recycling rates.
- 3.2 The outline programme for the development of a revised Leeds Waste Strategy is as follows:
- Executive Board approval of principles/programme – November 2017;
 - Scrutiny Board consultation – December 2017;
 - Completion of technical options appraisal – Spring 2018
 - Public consultation (proportionate to the nature and scale of proposals) – Summer 2018;
 - Revised Leeds Waste Strategy to Executive Board – Autumn 2018.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 This and the attached Executive Board report have been developed in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability.
- 4.1.2 The Executive Board report has also been informed by engagement with DEFRA, WRAP and a range of industry partners.
- 4.1.3 Any significant changes to services would be subject to public consultation, and this is included within the programme for the development of a revised Leeds Waste Strategy.
- 4.1.4 Presentation of this report to Scrutiny Board represents an initial stage of Member consultation at the outset of the process to develop a revised waste strategy for Leeds.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

- 4.2.1 A full equality and diversity assessment will be carried out on conclusion of the options appraisal work proposed in the Executive Board report and prior to returning to the Executive Board with a revised waste strategy.

4.3 Council policies and best council plan

- 4.3.1 Dealing effectively with the city's waste, increasing recycling and reducing carbon emissions support the Best Council Plan 2017/18 priorities around Low Carbon, Health and Wellbeing and Resilient Communities and the 'Best City' outcomes for everyone in Leeds to live within clean and well-cared for places. In addition, one of the Best Council Plan key performance indicators is to 'increase waste recycled'. The options appraisal work and resulting development of the waste and recycling strategy also support our Best Council ambition to be a more efficient and enterprising organisation.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The proposed options appraisal work is fully funded by WRAP. Clearly, the resource implications associated with the development of the Council's waste and recycling strategy are potentially very significant, and these will be fully assessed through the planned options appraisal work.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

- 4.5.1 There are no specific legal or access to information implications associated with this report. Clearly, the legislative implications of any specific future service proposals will need to be taken into account fully in the development of a revised waste strategy.
- 4.5.2 This report is not subject to call-in

4.6 Risk management

- 4.6.1 The risks in relation to the Council's waste strategy and the achievement of future waste and recycling targets are summarised within the attached report to the Executive Board at Appendix A.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The report to Executive Board in November 2017 sets out the context, opportunities and challenges in relation to increasing recycling and the development of the waste strategy for Leeds.
- 5.2 This report to Scrutiny Board provides an opportunity for initial consultation with Members at the outset of the development of this strategy.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) is recommended to:
 - 6.1.1 Note the contents of this report, and the attached Executive Board report at Appendix A, including the outline programme for the development of a revised Leeds Waste Strategy;
 - 6.1.2 Comment on the context and issues relating to the Council's waste and recycling strategy, and the areas and options to be considered and assessed as a part of the proposed options appraisal exercise.

7. Background documents¹

- 7.1 There are no background documents.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.