



Report of the Director of City Services

Executive Board

Date: 9th February 2007

Subject: Establishment of a Leaders Waste Strategy Review Group

Electoral wards affected:

Specific implications for:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the gap

Eligible for call In

Not eligible for call in
(details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Further to a resolution made by the Council at the Extraordinary Council Meeting on the 13th December 2006 this report recommends the establishment of a Leaders Review Group to review the implementation of the approved Integrated Waste Strategy for Leeds 2005-2035 and to advise the Executive Board.

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Executive Board's approval for the establishment of a Group Leaders' forum to review the implementation of the approved Integrated Waste Strategy for Leeds 2005-2035 and to advise the Executive Board.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 At its meeting in December 2005 the Executive Board approved a draft Integrated Waste Strategy for consultation. Following public consultation the final strategy was adopted by the Executive Board on the 18th October 2006. At the Council Meeting on 13th December 2006, Council resolved that officers bring forward proposals for a Group Leaders' forum to review the implementation of the approved Integrated Waste Strategy and to advise the Executive Board.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 It has been proposed that a forum should be established for the purpose of reviewing the implementation of the approved Waste Strategy and tendering advice to the Executive Board. It is further proposed that the membership of the forum be the Leaders, or their nominee, from the Liberal Democrats, the Conservatives, Labour, the Greens and the Morley Borough Independents.
- 3.2 The forum established would have the single purpose set out in paragraph 3.1 above. It would not be a decision making body nor would it scrutinize the decisions of the Executive Board. The structure of the forum best fit for purpose is therefore a Working Party rather than a Committee or Sub-committee.
- 3.3 The constitution of a Working Party means that it can meet at short notice without the requirements to publish an agenda five days in advance of its meetings, would meet in private without the requirements to admit the public, and would not be subject to the rules regarding political balance. It is, consequently, a flexible and responsive structure.
- 3.4 Terms of reference for the group are set out in Appendix 1.

4 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 There are no particular implications for council policy or governance. Whether a body is a committee or a working party depends primarily on the subjective intention of the local authority that establishes it. Although widespread use of such groups is not considered good practice they are perfectly legitimate in circumstances such as outlined in this report.

5 Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1 There are no particular legal and resource issues. The Working Party can be supported by officers from within current resources.

6 Conclusions

- 6.1 It would be appropriate and beneficial for there to be established a forum to monitor the implementation of the approved Waste Strategy and to tender advice in that regard to the Executive Board.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 That a Working Party comprised of the Leaders for the time being of the political groups represented on the council, or their nominees, be established for the purpose of monitoring the implementation of the approved Waste Strategy and tendering advice to the Executive Board.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Overall Purpose

To monitor the implementation of the approved Integrated Waste Strategy for Leeds 2005-2035 and to advise the Executive Board.

Terms of Reference

1. To monitor, review and challenge progress on the implementation of the Waste Strategy and associated action plan;
2. To review the delivery of the performance targets set out within the Waste Strategy;
3. To receive information and reports on the implementation of the policies contained within the Waste Strategy;
4. To consider future developments and enhancements to the Waste Strategy action plan;
5. To consider the Council's strategy for ensuring that the targets associated with the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) are met;
6. To review the Council's proposals for funding the implementation of the Waste Strategy;
7. To report and make recommendations to the Executive Board as appropriate.

Key Links

- Waste Strategy Programme Board
- Waste Strategy Group
- Climate Change Strategy Board
- Scrutiny Board – Environment and Community Safety
- Executive Board

There may be areas in which there is an overlap with the remit of the relevant Scrutiny Board. Arrangements will be made to consult with this Board where appropriate.

Frequency of Meetings

Meetings are to take place as appropriate.

Membership

Membership will consist of the Leaders, or their nominee, of the Liberal Democrats, the Conservatives, Labour, the Greens and the Morley Borough Independents. The Executive Member responsible for the Waste Strategy would be an Ex-officio member of the group.

Decision Making

Decisions in relation to the Waste Strategy and related services rest with the Executive Member for City Services and the Council's Executive Board, except where delegated to the Director of City Services