

Report of Director of Communities and Environment

Report to Executive Board

Date: 15th November 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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 sets out the proposed programme for the development of an updated Leeds Waste Strategy, providing an update on the local and national context, and discussing some of the key issues for consideration in terms of the Council's future ambitions and the achievement of targets.
2. Leeds has achieved huge improvements in recycling performance over the last decade, with the recycling rate of 22.3% in 2006/7 climbing to a high of 43.7% in 2013/14. However, household waste recycling performance nationally has stalled and even slipped backwards in the last few years, and this is reflected in the Leeds position, with a rate of 38.5% achieved in 2016/17.
3. The Council's recent programme of recycling communications and engagement has delivered a number of improvements, and a selection of case studies are attached to the report at Appendix 1 providing examples of recent initiatives to increase the capture of items for re-use and to secure greater public engagement in recycling.
4. However, due to pressures such as the rapidly changing commercial context which impacts on the global market for recyclable materials, the 50% target by 2020 will not be met without investment in additional recycling services and further reductions in residual waste, and potentially also the delivery of local treatment infrastructure.
5. With the main drivers and targets for waste and recycling in recent years originating in EU legislation, Brexit may lead to changes to the UK's strategy and priorities

6. In this context, the report outlines the detailed appraisal work to be undertaken on the options for the Council's kerbside recycling strategy, and seeks approval from Executive Board to the guiding principles and proposed programme for the development of this strategy.
7. This more detailed options modelling and appraisal work is now required to establish more fully the costs, risks and benefits of these and potentially other opportunities. To this end, the Council has secured funding via the DEFRA sponsored Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) for a major piece of consultancy to assess kerbside recycling options. This project is due to be concluded in Spring 2018.
8. Executive Board are recommended to support the strategic consideration of all options as a part of the proposed exercise. Although not intended to be an exhaustive list, this will include an assessment of:
 - 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 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.
9. The proposed outline programme for the development of a revised 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 (with scale to be determined by nature of proposals) – Summer 2018;
 - Revised Leeds Waste Strategy to Executive Board – Autumn 2018.

Recommendations

Executive Board is recommended to:

1. Note the contents of this report, in particular the context and issues relating to the Council's waste and recycling strategy;
2. Support the areas and options to be considered and assessed (as per section 5.3 of this report) as a part of the proposed options appraisal exercise, to be led by the Chief Waste Management Officer;
3. Approve, in principle, the outline programme at section 5.5 for the development of a revised Leeds Waste Strategy, including public consultation, with the detail to be agreed subsequently with the Director of Communities and Environment.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposed programme for the development of a revised waste and recycling strategy for Leeds. It provides an update on the local and national context, and discusses some of the key issues for consideration in terms of the Council's future ambitions and the achievement of targets.
- 1.2 The report outlines the detailed appraisal work to be undertaken on the options for the Council's kerbside recycling strategy, and seeks approval from Executive Board to the guiding principles and proposed programme for the development of this strategy.

2. Background information

2.1 Local context

- 2.1.1 In November 2015, Executive Board agreed to a revised target to recycle 50% of household waste by 2020, bringing the City in line with the national target. The report considered by the Executive Board acknowledged the current financial climate and the impact that this has had in terms of the funding available to introduce new recycling services, and set out a medium term strategy focused on maximising the performance of existing capacity and infrastructure through a programme of service improvement, communications and engagement.
- 2.1.2 Leeds City Council achieved a recycling rate of 38.5% for 2016/17. The Council has compared very favourably with the other Core Cities in recent years, with performance reaching a high of 43.7% in 2013/14. However, consistent with the national picture, recycling has stalled and we have seen a 5% (i.e. percentage point) decline over the last three years.
- 2.1.3 Although kerbside recycling levels have increased during this time, a reduction in the level of recycling being achieved through the treatment of residual, black bin waste has been the main factor in the downturn in Leeds' performance. Most recently this has been due to the initial problems experienced by Veolia in their mechanical pre-treatment of this waste stream since the Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility (RERF) commenced operations during 2015. In addition to this, the global market for recyclable materials, most notably paper, card and plastics, has seen a significant downturn and this is further impeding the achievement of recycling targets.
- 2.1.4 Since the last Executive Board report, a substantial 'invest to save' programme of communications and engagement has been, and continues to be, delivered, aimed at supporting residents and securing greater public engagement to support increases in recycling. This has combined a focus on getting the basics right around what can be recycled, with a range of targeted campaign work and more innovative schemes. A number of case studies summarising a selection of this work are attached at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.1.5 In terms of performance impacts observed since the start of the campaign work in Spring 2016, some improvements have been observed in terms of recycling tonnages captured, although the full impacts will be realised over the longer-term through sustained messages and engagement activities. The main performance improvement registered has been a reduction in the proportion of non-accepted materials arising in the green bins, which has fallen by around 10% in the last 12 months compared to the preceding period. These improvements all have a significant financial impact, with a saving of around £90-100 per tonne through

diverting recyclables from the black bin to recycling, and similarly from reducing contaminating material in the green bins.

- 2.1.6 However, whilst this sustained communications and engagement programme is expected to continue to deliver improvements, and whilst Veolia are investing significant resources in measures to address their recycling shortfall and to reach the contractual target, it seems clear that, without the introduction of additional services, the 50% recycling target will not be reached. Given the current financial position for local government, the delivery of additional service poses a significant challenge.
- 2.1.7 In determining next steps, it is therefore important, not only to consider the achievement of the recycling target as an end in itself, but also to revisit the improvements and developments that will provide the greatest environmental benefit and are the most financially sustainable, and to review how this fits with the latest national policy direction.

2.2 National and European context

- 2.2.1 Over the last decade or more, national recycling performance targets have been driven primarily by targets set out within the EU Waste Framework Directive. The EU Landfill Directive was also the driver for the Government's introduction of the Landfill Tax escalator which has been instrumental in incentivising increases in recycling and energy recovery.
- 2.2.2 The European Commission's most recent 'Circular Economy' proposals suggest a range of future waste and recycling targets for Member States:
- A target for recycling 65% of municipal waste by 2030;
 - A target for recycling 75% of packaging waste by 2030;
 - A target to reduce landfill to a maximum of 10% of all waste by 2030.
- 2.2.3 Clearly the above recycling targets will be extremely challenging, especially when considering that the UK will struggle to meet the existing 50% recycling target by 2020.
- 2.2.4 Post Brexit, the vast majority of EU legislation that affects the UK, such as waste and recycling legislation, is likely to be transposed into UK law in what has become known as the 'Great Repeal Bill'. This means that, while the policies and targets defined by the Waste Framework Directive and other EU waste directives are currently enshrined in UK law, it may be that these are altered or amended once the UK leaves the EU. The expectation in the short-term is that the UK will adhere to the current EU targets, but in the medium-term it is possible that the UK will implement its own national framework for waste and recycling.
- 2.2.5 Whilst reducing the environmental impact of waste will doubtless remain a priority nationally, it is important that Leeds clearly defines its aims and objectives for waste, and so seeks to influence any change in national legislation. This should be based on a more holistic assessment of the environmental performance of options rather than the focus being on simply maximising the capture of tonnages which count towards a recycling indicator, irrespective of the overall environmental benefit.
- 2.2.6 In terms of the recycling streams that the Council currently captures and which technically count towards the performance indicator, these materials and their collection systems and subsequent treatment methods will have variable

environmental benefits, and recycling as an end in itself should arguably not always be assumed to be the best option.

- 2.2.7 Conversely, there are elements of the domestic waste stream which are currently being recycled (for example post-incineration metals and inert materials) which do not technically count towards the accepted national performance indicator, and which therefore the Council does not declare as recycling. This is in spite of the fact that other EU countries count some of these elements towards their published recycling rates.
- 2.2.8 There is also significant pressure currently from global materials reprocessing markets for higher quality materials, resulting in the values of lower quality recyclables deteriorating. China has historically been one of the biggest consumers and importers of these materials, but with their 'Green Fence' and 'National Sword' initiatives of recent years, they are demanding higher quality materials, and this is impacting significantly on global markets. This is a factor being cited as presenting a significant challenge to many of the Council's current waste disposal and treatment contractors, and is making itself felt financially to the Council through its contracts. This situation has highlighted the lack of reprocessing capacity in the UK for these materials and our reliance on overseas markets.

3. Main issues

3.1 Waste hierarchy and waste reduction

- 3.1.1 The main principle of EU and national waste policy is around moving the management of waste up the 'waste hierarchy'. The 'waste hierarchy' options (in descending order of environment benefit) are as follows:
- Reduction;
 - Re-use;
 - Recycling;
 - (Energy) Recovery;
 - Disposal
- 3.1.2 Although existing policy acknowledges that there may be exceptions based on a full life-cycle assessment of treatment options, the most beneficial options are to reduce and then re-use waste, thus preventing it from arising in the first place. Recycling, whilst generally beneficial, and certainly preferable to disposal, is not without its environmental impact, both in terms of the environmental effects of collections and the sometimes energy intensive processing of materials required.
- 3.1.3 Although the Council continues to make local efforts to encourage waste reduction through initiatives such as supporting the 'Love Food, Hate Waste' campaign, promoting home composting and its 'real nappies' scheme, waste prevention is most effectively addressed at national and Government level through developing legislation around packaging and producer responsibility, and working with major manufacturers and retailers who have such a significant influence over consumer behaviours. The 'Circular Economy' proposals are generating an increasing emphasis on innovation in the design and manufacture stages of products so as to maximise their life and minimise waste.
- 3.1.4 Having said this, waste generation is also clearly influenced at a local level by the Council's waste collection systems and the amount of capacity that it provides to

residents. Evidence suggests that residents will expand with their waste generation according to the capacity and containers with which they are provided, and conversely, when capacity is reduced, overall waste generated falls.

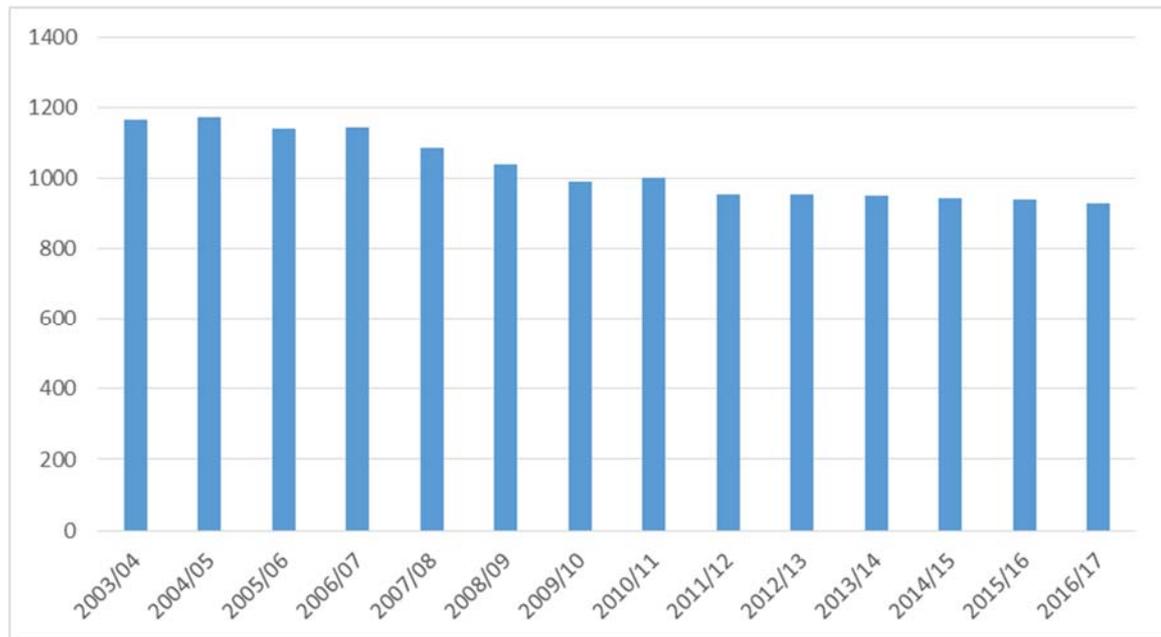
3.2 Re-use and the Third Sector

- 3.2.1 The Third Sector is significantly involved in waste re-use, intercepting waste items that might otherwise have been disposed of and giving them a second life, but also providing significant social benefits through the provision of employment and volunteering opportunities to disadvantaged groups, supply of goods to low income residents or organisation of community projects contributing to community cohesion.
- 3.2.2 The Council has developed a wide range of Third Sector partnerships, in particular with Leeds based organisations involved with the re-use of furniture, paint and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). The Council is seeking to invest in providing further support to Third Sector organisations providing benefits within Leeds so as to maximise their potential influence and the social value associated with their activities.
- 3.2.3 Of particular note is the development of a second re-use shop in the west of the city in Kirkstall to complement the existing shop at the East Leeds household waste recycling site in Seacroft. This has been delivered as a part of the wider £5.2m redevelopment of the Kirksall Road recycling site and waste transfer station, and was opened to the public in March 2017. The new re-use shop is run by the third sector charity Revive, and has proved very popular and successful, capturing a wide range of waste items for re-use and providing a range of additional social benefits. A case study providing a summary of the key facts and performance areas for the re-use shop is attached at Appendix 1.

3.3 Residual Waste Capacity

- 3.3.1 In the mid to late 1990s, the Council introduced wheeled bins across the City to all suitable properties. As well as providing greater convenience for residents, this also reduced the level of manual handling required for refuse collectors and enabled increases in productivity. However, this also provided an increase in waste storage capacity, and a review of historical waste data suggests that the introduction of wheeled bins has contributed, together with an increase in consumer packaging, to an overall increase in waste generation.
- 3.3.2 More recently, the introduction of a 'no side waste' policy (i.e. no additional black bags next to bins) alongside the roll-out of alternate weekly collections of black and green bins has gone some way towards ensuring that residents maximise the use of their increased recycling capacity and do not generate excessive quantities of waste. As these regimes have been implemented, overall levels of domestic waste and recycling being generated per household have fallen (see Figure 1 below).

Figure 1 – Total Domestic Waste (kg per household, per year)



3.3.3 There is still a high level of recyclable material being disposed of via the black bin. If this could be captured, there may be scope to further reduce the capacity of residual waste provision to residents. In some local authorities, a case has been made that, if sufficient kerbside recycling services are provided and used, then 240 litres of black bin waste capacity per fortnight exceeds what may be required.

3.4 Garden waste collections

3.4.1 Brown bin collections of garden waste are now offered to around 210,000 properties (61%) in Leeds. Kerbside collected garden waste is the single biggest contributor to the recycling indicator, representing over a quarter of household waste recycling.

3.4.2 This service was introduced at a time when weekly black bin collections were provided city-wide in Leeds, thus enabling significant quantities of garden waste to be disposed of via the black bins and subsequently landfilled at significant cost, both financially and environmentally. The principle was therefore around diversion of garden waste from the black bin, hence the policy now to only provide one brown bin per property and not to provide unlimited free kerbside collection and disposal of garden waste for residents.

3.4.3 With the introduction of alternate weekly collections across the vast majority of the City (along with a 'no side waste' policy) now limiting the available space in black bins for garden waste, it could be argued that the principles underlying the brown bin collection service have changed. For example, one conclusion could be that this service is now serving to generate additional waste, and additional cost to the Council in collection and disposal, which might otherwise be prevented or recycled by other means (e.g. home composting or via the Household Waste Recycling Centres).

3.5 Glass recycling collections

- 3.5.1 The Council provides a network of around 350 sites where banks for recycling glass (amongst other materials) are located, capturing around 9,000 tonnes of glass in 2016/17. Leeds does not provide a kerbside collection (other than from communal recycling bins at a range of multi-occupancy properties across the City). Kerbside collections of glass are provided by a significant number of local authorities, and it is estimated that there still remains a further 13,000 tonnes of glass in the black bin waste in Leeds. If half of this could be captured, this could add over 2% (i.e. percentage points) to the recycling rate.
- 3.5.2 There are a range of ways in which glass could be captured at the kerbside. Although to combine glass with the other mixed dry recyclables collected in the green bins would minimise the collection costs, and although there are examples of authorities who have adopted this method, Leeds has opted not to go down this route to date given the expected negative impact on the quality of the other materials, particularly paper, and the Council's subsequent ability to comply with legislative requirements set out in the Waste Regulations. This is reinforced by the current increasing market quality requirements and the falling market values for materials such as paper, card and plastics, and to include glass within the mix of materials would inevitably push up costs through the Council's Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) contract. Consideration also needs to be given to the fact that simply adding further recyclable materials to the green bin would clearly reduce the capacity for existing recyclable materials.
- 3.5.3 Other alternatives range between providing a separate stand-alone glass collection service, which would cost an estimated £1.9m per annum if provided city-wide, and variations on providing residents with multiple containers in order to partially or fully separate out the current green bin materials. These latter options would be more complex and onerous for residents, and could require fundamental changes in terms of the configuration of the refuse collection service's staffing, fleet and logistics. Although treatment costs for the materials would be minimised, and income enhanced, this would be partially, if not wholly, offset by the additional collection costs.
- 3.5.4 The majority of those authorities that have introduced kerbside glass collections will have done so before the severe financial constraints of recent years, or will have relied on Government funding in order to make enhancements to services affordable. Some authorities, such as Kirklees, have even withdrawn their kerbside glass collection service recently due to affordability. However, further appraisal work is in progress to quantify the benefits and costs of the options, and in order to identify ways in which this material could be captured affordably.

3.6 Food waste and anaerobic digestion (AD)

- 3.6.1 Food waste is the other major component of the black bin waste for which the Council does not currently offer recycling facilities, other than the weekly collections provided to over 12,500 properties in the Rothwell area. This service could provide an increase in the recycling rate of an estimated 6-7% (i.e. percentage points) if rolled out to suitable properties city-wide.
- 3.6.2 The Council has commissioned detailed feasibility work to assess how food waste collections could be delivered more affordably and such that this stimulates the development of local anaerobic digestion treatment capacity together with the associated renewable energy generation. Options considered have included the co-

collection of food waste with other materials in split-bodied vehicles, and partnering with neighbouring councils to reduce the costs for any single authority in capturing sufficient food waste to bring forward an AD facility.

- 3.6.3 Modelling has shown that there nevertheless remains a substantial cost attached to the introduction of food waste collections, even taking account of the avoided black bin waste disposal costs. This is estimated at over £3m per annum if rolled out city-wide in Leeds. However, unlike garden waste and glass, this is a waste stream for which there is no alternative recycling facility (such as household waste sites and recycling banks), and for this reason could arguably be seen as a priority material for investment.

3.7 **Plastics recycling**

- 3.7.1 Leeds City Council has focused to date on targeting those plastics for which there are secure reprocessing outlets, namely types 1 (PET), 2 (HDPE) and 4 (LDPE). Over the years the Council has worked to give the public confidence that the materials they separate at home for recycling are indeed being recycled, and believes that this currently remains the optimum range.
- 3.7.2 There is theoretically scope to extend the range of plastics accepted at the kerbside, thus also arguably simplifying messages. However, this brings a greater risk that the markets may fail for the more problematic plastic types, with the public then diligently separating materials for recycling which may subsequently be landfilled or incinerated.
- 3.7.3 The current EU Packaging Directive targets require the recycling of particular materials, but make no requirements for the use of recycled material in product manufacture. This means that secondary material re-processors have to compete in a volatile market that is often undermined by lower cost virgin materials.
- 3.7.4 UK plastics reprocessors have been experiencing severe difficulties as a result of recent slumps in oil prices which have made virgin plastic cheaper than the recycled product. This could lead to the closure of important UK plastic reprocessing facilities, removing capacity and diminishing the business case for plastic collection. This is likely to increase overseas export, running counter to the 'proximity principle' for sustainable waste management.
- 3.7.5 Another issue impacting on a decision to expand the range of materials accepted in the green bins is the costs of the subsequent separation of the materials. Leeds City Council's fully co-mingled collection system for the dry recyclables (paper, card, cans, plastics, aerosols) means that this material has to go to the relevant contractor for extensive processing to separate it back out into the various streams for onward sale and reprocessing. Whilst this is not an absolute barrier to an expansion of the mix of materials, the additional cost to the Council due to the additional processing required must be taken into consideration.
- 3.7.6 If new materials introduced are of value and an income can be generated from their onward sale, then this will serve to offset these additional processing costs. However, if their market value is relatively low (as can be the case with other plastic types) or falls significantly, perhaps even attracting a cost for reprocessing rather than an income, or if markets fail altogether and high disposal costs are incurred, then this will have a significant financial impact for the Council.
- 3.7.7 Alongside this, the Government is exploring further measures to increase producer responsibility for the disposal costs of products. In October 2017, the Environment

Secretary launched a consultation on the possibility of introducing a drinks container deposit scheme to target 'on the go' materials such as plastic bottles. Schemes of this kind could potentially serve to increase recycling, reduce waste and reduce waste disposal costs to local authorities.

3.8 Recycling from black bin waste

- 3.8.1 With all black bin waste now delivered to the Veolia RERF for processing, this is where any recycling from this waste stream will need to be achieved. In spite of the initial problems experienced by Veolia with the mechanical pre-treatment element of the facility, and the subsequent shortfall in recycling, 2017/18 performance has seen some improvement.
- 3.8.2 The RERF has been highly successful in all other respects, diverting over 99% of waste accepted at the plant from landfill, generating enough electricity to power over 22,000 homes and providing a reduction in carbon emissions equivalent to taking around 29,000 cars off the road each year. The energy efficiency and carbon performance of the plant will be enhanced still further with the development of the Council's planned district heating scheme.

3.9 Options appraisal

- 3.9.1 Further more detailed options modelling and appraisal work is now required to establish more fully the costs, risks and benefits of the range of options discussed above. To this end, Leeds City Council has secured funding via the DEFRA funded Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) for a major piece of consultancy to assess these kerbside recycling options. WRAP are supporting the Council as a part of their agenda to promote greater harmonisation of recycling services across England, thus also increasing a level of reprocessing demand that will stimulate the development of more local infrastructure.
- 3.9.2 This WRAP funded study is now getting underway, and is due to be concluded in the Spring of 2018.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 This report has been developed in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability.
- 4.1.2 The 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.

4.2 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 this report and prior to returning to 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 At this point there are no resource implications arising from this report. 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 implications associated with the proposals and recommendations in this report. However, the existing UK and EU waste legislation (and targets contained therein), the emerging legislation which will drive forward Circular Economy strategy and targets, and the potential impacts of Brexit on the UK's adoption of these targets, will need to be taken into account fully in the development of a revised waste strategy.

4.6 Risk management

- 4.6.1 As it stands, central government has not specified any consequences for local authorities for a failure to meet the current 50% national target by 2020, and Brexit will presumably remove the threat of the EU penalising the UK. In any event, the most recent published recycling rate for England is at 43% (2015/16), with half of all local authorities below this level, and the position for Leeds in respect of the risk of not meeting the national target is typical of that for the vast majority of councils across the country.
- 4.6.2 However, it seems likely that the EU Circular Economy principles will be adopted by the UK, and Leeds City Council's waste and recycling strategy ambitions should seek to reflect and keep pace with this.
- 4.6.3 The Final Business Case for PFI credits in support of the RERF project was predicated on the achievement of a 50% recycling target. Again, DEFRA have not stated an intention to impose any consequences associated with a failure to meet this target (although this remains a technical possibility), but have requested an annual report from the Council on its recycling strategy progress.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 It is clear that in order to achieve our waste and recycling ambitions, consideration needs to be given to the introduction of additional recycling services to residents or introducing measures to reduce the generation of residual waste, or potentially a combination of the two. The expansion of recycling may also need to be supported by the development of new local treatment infrastructure.
- 5.2 Delivery of additional recycling services, whilst providing increases in recycling, could lead to an increase in overall waste generation without the introduction of corresponding restrictions in residual waste capacity. Furthermore, there will be additional costs associated with new recycling services, and to be sustainable financially these may need to be off-set by reductions in the costs of residual waste treatment. A greater focus on waste reduction and re-use will therefore need to be a feature of any revised strategy
- 5.3 Further, more detailed, options modelling and appraisal work is now required to establish more fully the costs, risks and benefits of the strategy options. Although not intended to be an exhaustive list, this should 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;
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- 5.4 The Council has now secured resource via WRAP for a major piece of consultancy to assess the kerbside recycling options.
- 5.5 The proposed 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.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Executive Board are recommended to:
- 6.1.1 Note the contents of this report, in particular the context and issues relating to the Council's waste and recycling strategy;

- 6.1.2 Support the areas and options to be considered and assessed (as per section 5.3 of this report) as a part of the proposed options appraisal exercise, to be led by the Chief Waste Management Officer;
- 6.1.3 Approve, in principle, the outline programme at section 5.5 for the development of a revised Leeds Waste Strategy, including public consultation, with the detail to be agreed subsequently with the Director of Communities and Environment.

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.