



Cabinet

27TH January 2016

Item
10(i)

Report of	Head of Operational Services	Author	Chris Dowsing ☎ 282752
Title	Waste Vision		
Wards affected	All		

This report concerns the adoption of the Vision for how waste should be managed in the Borough.

1. Decision(s) Required

- 1.1 That Cabinet recommends adoption of the Vision for waste management set out in Appendix 1 by Full Council as part of the Council's policy framework at its meeting on the 17 February 2016.
- 1.2 That Cabinet agrees the timeframe set out in section 7 of this report for carrying out a public consultation on waste collection methods.
- 1.3 That Cabinet thanks the Waste Prevention and Recycling Options Appraisal Task and Finish Group for its work to date. The terms of reference of the group now being fulfilled, the Task and Finish Group will hereby come to an end.

2. Reasons for Decision(s)

- 2.1 Cabinet received a report updating it on the work of the Waste Prevention and Recycling Options Appraisal Task and Finish Group at its meeting on 14 October 2015. Cabinet identified that the Council needed to identify its desired outcomes for the management of waste and recycling going forward and the work of the group was paused, while the Vision for how waste should be managed was prepared.
- 2.2 As the Waste Vision forms part of the Council's policy framework, it will require adoption by Full Council.
- 2.3 The existing Terms of Reference for the Task and Finish group has been met and there are no further items of business that the group could currently contribute to.

3. Alternative Options

- 3.1 The Council last reviewed its waste strategy in 2008 and as such it requires updating to reflect the Council's current vision for the management of waste. The alternative to this is to not review the Council's objectives for the management of waste and recycling, which is not a desirable position in which to consider future options for the management of waste and recycling.
- 3.2 The Cabinet could consider retaining a Waste Task & Finish Group, but it would need to develop and agree new tasks for it to work on.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 At its meeting on the 14th October 2015 Cabinet received a report updating it on the work of the Waste Prevention and Recycling Options Appraisal Task and Finish Group. The group met on six occasions and received a wide range of detailed information on a variety of issues relating to the effective management of waste including what methods were used by the best performing authorities for recycling, barriers to recycling, incentives and behaviour change effects as well as other areas of interest.
- 4.2 The group also considered the methods and options for an effective public consultation which has helped to develop a programme for the consultation going forward. The group met its terms of reference and is thanked for its time and efforts in doing so.
- 4.3 It was proposed that Cabinet takes the opportunity to produce a new waste strategy that enables it to give a clear direction about the outcomes it is seeking to achieve for the management of waste and recycling. This is now being presented as a Waste Vision.
- 4.4 In line with the timetable set out in the previous report to Cabinet the Waste Vision was presented to Scrutiny Panel at its meeting 8th December 2015. Whilst there was concern over the detail of the document no substantive comments were made for the Cabinet to consider.

5. Proposals

- 5.1 It is proposed that following scrutiny of the Waste Vision Cabinet recommends to Full Council that the vision is adopted as part of the Council's Policy Framework. The vision provides a clear basis on which future decisions concerning how waste is managed in the Borough can be assessed.
- 5.2 Alongside the vision, a definitions document will be provided on the Council's website. This will provide links to a range of information and legislation around the management of waste and recycling that the Council also needs to consider or adhere to.

6. Strategic Plan References

- 6.1 This waste vision contributes to the strategic plan themes of:
- 'Welcoming' - improve sustainability, cleanliness and health to make the borough a place where people can grow and be proud to live
 - 'Vibrant' - work hard to shape our future, and develop a strong sense of community across the borough by enabling people and groups to take more ownership and responsibility for their quality of life.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 In order to inform Cabinet's considerations for the doorstep waste and recycling collection service in the Borough, Qa Research was commissioned to:
- 'Evaluate the views of a representative sample of residents regarding possible changes to recycling and refuse collection services in Colchester'
- 7.2 Qa conducted eight qualitative focus groups with residents across four separate locations in Colchester. As part of the commission, Qa would also undertake face to face surveys with 1,000 households that form a representative sample of the Borough and there will be an online survey, which all residents of the Borough will have access to.

This work is yet to be completed. It is proposed that this work is completed by Qa, in March and April 2016 so that the results can be reported back to Cabinet at its first full meeting of the new Municipal Year.

8. Publicity Considerations

- 8.1 If the Vision is agreed by the Cabinet and Full Council it will be publicised via the Council's website and provided to partner organisations.

9. Financial implications

- 9.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of the decisions in this report. Any financial implications arising as a result of any future work streams would be provided in future reports.

10. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

- 10.1 An updated Equality Impact Assessment for the Recycling and Waste service is available here <http://www.colchester.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=7734&p=0>

11. Community Safety Implications

- 11.1 There are no community safety, Health and Safety, and Risk Management implications as a result of this report.

VISION

The Council's vision for the future of waste management in the Borough is one where:

- Waste is managed in accordance with the waste hierarchy, so that waste is prevented and minimised where possible
- Reuse activity is encouraged in households and businesses
- Recycling activity increases the quantity of recyclable material and produces high quality materials that are required by reprocessors
- The environmental impacts of the whole system of waste management are minimised
- The recycling and waste collection service provided by the Council provides value for money for its customers