

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SCRAIP)**

**Report Title: Making Waste Work for Maidstone Review**

**Report of Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Date of Publication: Dates to report back to Committee:**

<b>Update</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Completed?</b>	<b>Note</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>			6 months after publication
2 <sup>nd</sup>			12 months after publication
3 <sup>rd</sup>			

<b>Recommendation<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Cabinet Member<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Response<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Timetable<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Lead Officer<sup>5</sup></b>
1. That the Waste Team present the Cabinet Member with an options report regarding the replacement of bins for flats, terraced housing and houses of multiple occupancy to move forward with waste and recycling and food collection in line with the rest of the borough;	Councillor Ring	<p>The majority of communal households which can accommodate recycling bins have been provided with the appropriate containers. In some cases the communal recycling bins have been repeatedly contaminated with non-recyclable waste and therefore have been removed.</p> <p>As part of the new contract, it is anticipated that communal food waste collections will be introduced where space allows and where the bins are used correctly. Evidence from other boroughs and previous experience in Maidstone shows that it will not be viable to provide separate food and recycling collections to all flats.</p> <p>The new contract looks to standardise the majority of collections across the</p>	Min. 12 months as needs to fit with the new contract timetable – start date of 30 July 2013	Jennifer Gosling

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		<p>partnership area – Maidstone, Ashford and Swale.</p> <p>For exempt houses i.e. have a black sack collection, the provision of food waste is currently under review as very few of these properties “opted in” to the service since January 2011.</p> <p>Proposals to develop the services currently offered to flats, HMOs and exempt properties (black sack collections) will be provided to the Cabinet Member for approval.</p>		
2. That residents are kept informed about the progress of recycling developments in the borough during the lifetime of the waste contract;		<p>The waste team will continue to publicise developments to the service and recycling achievements to residents. Information will continue to be distributed to all households annually as well as timely updates in the Borough Update.</p> <p>The waste team is about to launch the new “Recycle for Maidstone” App for iPhone and Android mobile phone devices. This free App will allow up-to-date news and information to be provided to residents who download it. This will improve the service’s ability to communicate with residents.</p>	July 2013 – October 2023	Jennifer Gosling
3. That we continue our food waste		Food waste education and promotion will be retained as a key element of the	Ongoing – 12 months?	Jennifer Gosling

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<p>education and promotion of recycling, including a feature in the Borough Update outlining how much food is thrown away in Maidstone;</p>		<p>communication plan and will be included as part of roadshows, school workshops and information in the Borough Update.</p> <p>Updates on how much food is thrown away as well as Love Food Hate Waste tips will be included in the Borough Update.</p>		
<p>4. That flexible and cost effective options in relation to the use of new technologies and changes to collectables should be included in the terms of the new waste contract. It should also include a proactive clause for partners to explore opportunities in the market;</p>		<p>The specification of the new contract has already been produced and provided to bidders as part of the procurement of the Mid Kent Joint Waste Contract.</p> <p>The specification includes the use of real time information to improve the customer experience of the service but is not prescriptive to allow potential contractors to offer innovative approaches to technology, collections and developing new partnerships with third parties.</p>	<p>Already completed</p>	<p>Jennifer Gosling</p>
<p>5. That the reuse and</p>		<p>The Saturday freighter service has not been included as part of the new Mid Kent</p>	<p>July 2013 – in line for the</p>	<p>Jennifer Gosling</p>

<p>recycling of waste collected by the Freighter Service should be investigated by the Waste Team to include Green Waste which cannot be home composted;</p>		<p>Joint Waste Collection Contract to allow the council to retain flexibility for the future of this service.</p> <p>The Saturday freighter service has been reviewed in the past couple of months and there are no plans to change the current service provision. Without radically reviewing the purpose of the freighter, there is little opportunity or benefit of changing the current schedule.</p> <p>The Saturday freighter continues to conflict with the council's Waste Strategy which follows the principles of the waste hierarchy. Therefore sending waste for disposal should be the last resort and all opportunities to prevent waste, reuse items or recycle should be maximised. Unfortunately the current freighter service offers no option to separately collect recyclable or compostable waste.</p> <p>In order to recycle waste collected through the freighter, a split-bodied vehicle or multiple vehicles would be required to collect the waste. The council is exploring the possibility of purchasing a split-bodied vehicle as part of street cleansing's fleet replacement programme. This could enable the council to provide a collection of recyclable items or compostable items alongside the general waste.</p>	<p>end of the current collection contract</p>	
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		<p>Analysis of the waste taken to the freighter showed that very little was reusable and the recyclable element is so varied that separation of a single recyclable waste stream would offer little benefit.</p> <p>The waste team will continue to consider opportunities for developing the Saturday freighter service in line with the objectives of the Waste Strategy.</p>		
6. That the current usage of the Freighter service is monitored and the delivery of the service re-evaluated;		<p>The usage of the Saturday freighter continues to be monitored and analysis has been carried out on the potential options to amend the current schedule based on the usage. This has shown that very little can be changed to the current schedule and the opportunities for change would have little impact on the cost of the service.</p> <p>The service will continue to be monitored and any opportunities to change the service will be discussed with the Cabinet Member.</p>	Completed / ongoing monitoring	Jennifer Gosling
7. That in order to ensure that further opportunities created by the developments in		<p>The waste team will continue to develop productive partnerships with the third sector and waste disposal and treatment providers to seek opportunities for increasing recovery and recycling.</p>	12 months – start of new contract	Jennifer Gosling

<p>waste separation technology for reuse and recycling of materials such as wood and metal are not lost the Council actively monitors this area;</p>				
<p>8. That reuse and recycling of waste collected by the Bulky Collection should be investigated by the Waste Team, diverting from landfill by working with charities and other social partnerships;</p>		<p>The opportunities within the existing contract have been fully explored. Unfortunately the collection and separation of reusable items in a way that retains the integrity of the items is not possible with the current resources.</p> <p>Discussions with charitable organisations have shown that due to the variability of the items collected it is difficult to secure a reliable market for the items. Therefore the waste would have to be brought into the depot and at the present time the Environmental Permit would not be sufficient to cover this additional waste.</p> <p>In addition the current specification and level of resource means the contractor collects the majority of bulky items from outside residents' homes. This means that in bad weather the reusability of the waste is severely affected. There is no option to change the collection point to inside the property for the current</p>	<p>September 2013</p>	<p>Jennifer Gosling</p>

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		<p>contract.</p> <p>The waste team will continue to monitor the waste collected through the bulky collection and provide this to the third sector to help identify potential partners for reuse.</p> <p>Reuse and recycling of bulky waste has been included in the new contract encouraging potential bidders to identify and establish partnerships with the third sector. The new contract provides the opportunity to tailor the service to reuse and recycling, such as specialist vehicles and increased storage for items.</p>		
<p>9. That a service provided by NOAH enterprise for the collection of furniture and white goods from Maidstone Borough Council's bulky collection should be investigated;</p>		<p>NOAH Enterprise have confirmed that they will be able to arrange a bulk collection of reusable items however there would be a cost to the council for this and the council would have to identify a suitable storage location for the items.</p> <p>Analysis of the items actually collected through the bulky service has identified a discrepancy between the waste categorised as "reusable" by residents and actual reusable items. Far fewer items are considered reusable following collection, the main reason for this is the reusability of the items is substantially</p>	<p>July 2013</p>	<p>Jennifer Gosling</p>

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		affected by the waste being presented outside for collection.		
10. That the relevant select committee and department at Kent County Council be contacted and the model used by NOAH Enterprise should be highlighted;		Information about NOAH Enterprise will be provided to Kent County Council, highlighting the benefits such a scheme could have in Kent.	August 2012	Jennifer Gosling
11. That the use of the Gateway as a collection point for small items such as batteries, ink cartridges, energy saving light bulbs (containing mercury), small electrical items and plastic bottles should be explored with the		<p>The waste team have already implemented a battery collection point in the Gateway and will work with the Gateway Team to look at other collection opportunities, such as light bulbs and small electrical items.</p> <p>It is not recommended to consider items which are currently recyclable through the kerbside service such as plastic bottles, as this is unlikely to increase recycling.</p>	February 2013	Jennifer Gosling



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<p>involvement of local voluntary and charitable organisations;</p>				
<p>12. That Officers should continue to lobby for the standardisation of plastics used in products to make it easier for residents to recycle; and</p>		<p>The waste team will continue to work with industry organisations to lobby government for the standardisation of plastics.</p> <p>The council will respond to all government consultations relating to waste to ensure the views of local residents are voiced.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Jennifer Gosling</p>
<p>13. That during the course of the 10 year waste contract Maidstone Borough Council takes a lead role in developing a partnership with other Kent authorities to achieve best value for money in the collection and</p>		<p>Maidstone Borough Council will work with Kent County Council to ensure maximum value is gained from the recyclable material to benefit local taxpayers.</p> <p>Kent County Council is in the process of procuring sorting and treatment facilities for the waste generated in Mid Kent. This process looks to expand on the plastics which are acceptable for recycling.</p>	<p>October 2023</p>	<p>Jennifer Gosling</p>

selling of plastics.				
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**Notes on the completion of SCRAIP**

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<sup>1</sup> Report recommendations are listed as found in the report.

<sup>2</sup> Insert in this box the Cabinet Member whose portfolio the recommendation falls within.

<sup>3</sup> The Officer/Cabinet Member responsible for responding to the recommendation should indicate in this box either the acceptance or rejection of the recommendation.

**If the recommendation is rejected** an explanation for its rejection should be provided. The 'timetable' and 'lead officer' boxes can be left blank

**If the recommendation is accepted** an explanation of the action to be taken to implement the recommendation should be recorded in this box. Please also complete the 'timetable' and 'lead officer' boxes.

<sup>4</sup> The Officer/Cabinet Member responsible for responding to the recommendation should indicate in this box when the action in indicated in the previous box will be implemented.

<sup>5</sup> The Officer/Cabinet Member responsible for responding to the recommendation should indicate in this box the Officer responsible for the implementation of the action highlighted in the 'response' box.