

## **CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER**

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Cleaner, Greener, Safer on:-

**WEDNESDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2011**

following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Sherrington	Executive Member for Cleaner, Greener, Safer
Councillor Morgan	Main Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor D. Wilkinson (as deputy for Councillor Rothwell)	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Mr. S. Young	Assistant Director of Environmental Services
Mr. M. Hoban	Neighbourhood Services Manager, Waste
Ms. R. Baxter	Head of Service
Mrs. S. Bailey	Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **14. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS**

The Director of Chief Executive's Department submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Member.

**The Executive Member NOTED the report.**

### **15. TRADE WASTE MINIMISATION AND RECYCLING INITIATIVES**

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which outlined the current trade waste service provided by the

Council and put forward various proposed initiatives to improve the efficiency of the service and divert waste away from landfill.

The report reminded the Executive Member that Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 placed a statutory duty on Councils to arrange for the collection of trade waste, if requested, by the occupier of premises in its area. Councils were able to charge for its collection and any disposal costs passed on to the Waste Disposal Authority.

In addition, Schedule 2 of the Controlled Waste Regulation 1992 listed those items of household waste for which a charge for collection could be made. However, the Council was not entitled to make a charge for the disposal of this waste. This was currently under review.

The current Trade Waste collection arrangements were provided in house by the Environmental Services Waste and Fleet Management Division. This service was also responsible for the collection of Schedule 2 household waste. The Council did not however currently operate a collection service for recyclable materials for commercial customers.

In addition, the Council currently offered a recycling service to schedule 2 premises free of charge that were offered containers for the recycling of mixed pulpables and co-mingled dry recyclables.

The report went on to highlight in particular the following issues:-

- the need to reduce the amount of trade waste currently being sent to landfill and ensure the trade waste service operated as efficiently as possible;
- the gradual reduction of the Council's trade waste collection service over the years due to increased competition, particularly the loss of higher value contracts;

- the tonnage of trade waste collected had reduced significantly between 2006/7 and 2010/11 which reflected the reduction in contracts and the changing profile of the contracts;
- the costs associated with the disposal of trade waste were rising and ways to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and increase the amount of waste recycled needed to be identified to avoid large price increases;
- it was important to work closely with Schedule 2 premises to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and increase the amount recycled.'

In order to address the above issues, the report put forward a number of recommendations, as follows:

- a letter be sent to all businesses in the Borough explaining the duty of care arrangements – this would help reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill by encouraging those businesses that were operating illegally to sign up for a trade waste contract. A sample letter was attached at Appendix 1 to the report;
- an audit of the current collection lists which would ensure that only the bins belonging to businesses that were paying for the service were collected;
- an update of Council trade waste web pages and marketing material for the service to encourage business;
- the provision of recycling bins to trade customers as part of existing waste and recycling collection rounds to encourage them to recycle; and

- the possibility be explored of limiting schools to a maximum tonnage of free waste disposal based on the number of pupils in the school.

If approved and implemented in 2011/12, the recommendations would enable data to be collected which would give an evidence based recommendation for the future delivery of the service in 2012/13 and make the service sustainable in future years.

**The Executive Member for Cleaner, Greener, Safer  
APPROVED –**

**The recommendations in relation to trade waste, as detailed in the report now submitted.**

**16. CLEANER, GREENER AND SUSTAINABILITY  
STRATEGY 2012-2015**

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which put forward an updated version of the draft Strategy for the development of a cleaner, greener and more sustainable Bolton.

The draft Strategy had been prepared in consultation with partners and a range of stakeholders and reflected a new approach in view of the reduced resources that would be available to the Council over the coming years.

The four new principles regarding the delivery of the cleaner, greener and sustainable vision were to:-

- maintain the cleanliness of public spaces;
- maintain parks and open spaces and continue to encourage visitors to destination parks;
- minimise the levels of waste and increase recycling initiatives; and
- reduce impact on the Borough's environment.

Full details of each of the priorities were provided in the report together with key targets which would be used to measure performance.

An Action Plan detailing the activity supporting the draft Strategy over the next few years was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

The draft Strategy also stressed the importance of extended partnership working, particularly with the voluntary and community sector, to increase the capacity to deliver real improvements at a neighbourhood level.

### **The Executive Member APPROVED –**

**The draft Cleaner, Greener and Sustainable Strategy, as detailed in the report now submitted.**

## **17. DEFRA – HOUSEHOLD REWARD AND RECOGNITION SCHEME UPDATE**

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which updated the Executive Member on the DEFRA proposals for a Household reward and recognition scheme.

The report advised the Executive Member that DEFRA had made funding available to local authorities to trial new schemes that rewarded or recognised communities who adopted positive behaviour towards managing their waste. Bolton Council had been successful in bidding for such monies and had secured £110,000, a fifth of the national pot available.

In this regard, the report advised that the funding would be utilised towards the purchase and development of software and hardware for in-cab technology. The remainder would be spent on communication and staffing to ensure the success of the scheme.

The in-cab technology would increase efficiency by providing live information to the Council's Contact Centre and in turn,

improve information available to councillors and customers when making enquiries regarding collections.

Full details of how the scheme would operate, together with information on how residents, schools and communities could become involved and rewarded, were provided in the report.

It was anticipated that the incentive scheme would help the Council to achieve its aims of increasing and encouraging participation in recycling.

**The Executive Member APPROVED –**

**The DEFRA Household reward and recognition scheme proposals, as outlined in the report now submitted.**