

Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods) (Introduced by the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods)	Executive Cabinet	3 September 2009

## **LANCASHIRE WASTE STRATEGY “RUBBISH TO RESOURCES” 2008 TO 2020**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To inform members of the recent revision of the Lancashire Waste Management Strategy and the subsequent implications for Chorley Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. Members to approve the adoption of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Lancashire 2008-2020, ‘Rubbish to Resources’.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **(If the recommendations are accepted)**

3. To ensure Chorley continues to achieve high recycling rates and continues to be an active member of the successful Lancashire Waste Partnership.

### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

4. If the Council does not adopt the Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Lancashire, the Council risks falling outside the existing arrangements of the Lancashire Waste Partnership with the subsequent termination of our Cost Share Agreement with Lancashire County Council.

### **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

5. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region		Develop local solutions to climate change.	✓
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances		Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	
Involving people in their communities		Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	✓

## BACKGROUND

6. The Lancashire Waste Partnership comprises the County Council, the two unitary Authorities and the twelve District Councils. All of these Authorities developed and adopted the Lancashire Municipal Waste Strategy 2001 – 2020. The Strategy contained challenging targets including reducing waste growth by 0.5% per annum, recycling and composting 40% of all waste by 2005 and 56% by 2015 and reducing the amount of biodegradable waste going to landfill to 10% by 2010.
7. Chorley is performing well in response to the aforementioned targets and has met those required of the current strategy period. Over 47% of waste is recycled and total waste arising going to landfill have reduced from 24,826 tonnes to 21,256 tonnes per year over the past four years.
8. The Lancashire Municipal Waste Strategy 2001 – 2020 was subject to a five year review following its initial adoption. In 2006 the process began with a Lancashire wide citizen consultation on the proposed revisions being undertaken during 2008 and direct consultations with members of the Lancashire Waste Partnership and environmental agencies.

## NEW STRATEGY FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT

9. The Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Lancashire 2008 - 2020 provides a framework for the Lancashire Waste Partnership. It contains guidance to ensure that sustainable policies are developed and engaged; it contains performance standards and challenging targets, with clear objectives and actions to achieve them.
10. The vision and objectives for the new Strategy are underpinned by the following philosophy,  
  
*“To promote a culture whereby waste is recognised as a resource and there is acceptance of responsibility for minimising its production and maximising its recovery.”*
11. The key focus for the new Strategy - ‘Rubbish to Resources’ - is to respect rubbish as a resource, as something rather than nothing and which can, if appropriately managed, be a valuable commodity. The management of waste is exceptionally important and one which is needed to ensure the sustainability of our environment. To that end, the Strategy adopts an approach in line with the waste hierarchy:
  1. Reduce
  2. Re-use
  3. Recycle & Compost
  4. Recover Energy
  5. Dispose in Landfills
12. A number of challenging targets are contained within the Strategy in line with the waste hierarchy. A target has been set to reduce waste growth to 0% per annum. This will be achieved through awareness raising and education, using both National and Regional campaigns, and through supporting initiatives such as home composting, real nappies and re-use schemes. Chorley Council has participated in, and supported, a number of these campaigns including the Love Food, Hate Waste campaign, which encourages residents to reduce the amount of food they throw away. The Council will continue to participate in such schemes where priority action is required.
13. As the Strategy is a revision of a previous version, a number of targets contained in that are still relevant and applicable. The target for recycling and composting 56% of waste by 2015 is one, whilst there is now included a further target to achieve 61% recycling across Lancashire by 2020. This will be achieved in part by extending the three-stream waste

collection service (waste for composting, dry recyclables and waste which cannot be recycled) to all households.

14. The drive to achieve these targets in Chorley has been led by the requirements of the new waste management contract which was implemented in April 2009. The contract was awarded on that basis that the appointed contractor, Veolia, will drive forward improvement to meet the aforementioned recycling targets (56% by 2015), by way of introducing a collection service that was designed to meet the Council's needs and one which will improve customer satisfaction and customer participation.
15. By September 2009, 99.8% of households in Chorley will have access to the current three stream recycling service. Properties currently on a weekly refuse collection will move to alternate weekly collections over the next few months, with less than 100 properties remaining on weekly collections.
16. The Strategy also contains a requirement to collect food waste for composting new waste plant operations come into effect from the summer of 2010. The frequency of collection and container type is to be determined by each Authority and information that has been collected from the current food waste trial to 5,000 households in parts of Chorley, Astley Village, Eccleston and Mawdesley will be used to design the best scheme for Chorley. There are different methods of collection and residents in Chorley are putting their food waste in their brown bin with garden waste. Provision for a food waste collection service to all properties in Chorley has been included within the new waste management contract.
17. Lancashire County Council is the Waste Disposal Authority for Lancashire. Through a Private Finance Initiative (PFI), the County Council have procured three new waste plants via operation by a company called Global Renewables Lancashire Ltd. The Leyland Waste Technology Park is one of three waste plants and all waste and recycling from Chorley will be sent there for treatment or bulking up to pass to reprocessors.
18. Lancashire County Council adopted the revised Strategy on 1 May 2009 and all members of the Lancashire Waste Partnership, including Chorley Council, are required to formally adopt the Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Lancashire 2008 – 2020.

## IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

19. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Corporate Directors' comments are included:

Finance	✓	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	

## COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION AND IMPROVEMENT)

20. A summary of the targets and key actions required of the Municipal Waste Strategy for Lancashire in respect of risk and financial implications are as follows:

TARGETS & KEY ACTIONS	DETAILS & BUDGET IMPLICATIONS
Reduce and stabilise waste to 0% growth each year.	The risk for household waste growth lies with LCC, however as a collection authority we contribute to this target through the waste collection service we provide and the regular messages we provide our customers on the waste hierarchy – reduce, reuse, recycle.
Provide a three-stream collection to all households.	Three-stream collection already in place supported by the LCC cost sharing agreement. Collection will be extended to include collection of food waste for composting. This will be covered by the Veolia contract once the Leyland Waste Technology park is operational (due in July 2010). There is a capital cost associated with the issue of new containers to households and which has been submitted for consideration in the future capital programme. (Please see also Paragraph 22 below).
Recycle & compost 56% of all municipal waste by 2015.	Support for Waste Collection Authorities will continue under the LCC cost sharing scheme. This target is written into the current waste collection contract and the risk lies with the contractor.
Recycle & compost 61% of all municipal waste by 2020.	Support for Waste Collection Authorities will continue under the LCC cost sharing scheme.
From 2010 all waste services we provide will offer a segregated recycling collection service.	This specifically relates to business/trade and council/municipal buildings. Currently no trade waste collection service provided by CBC schools and recycling in Council buildings is already provided.
From 2010 separate ‘recycling’ litter bins will be provided in our major town & city centres.	Recycling bins are already in place in Chorley town centre with a programme to increase on demand.
Recover 81% of all municipal waste by 2015.	This relates to the introduction of Mechanical Biological Treatment at the Leyland Waste Technology Park and therefore is a Lancashire County Council function/risk.
Recover 88% of all municipal waste by 2020.	This relates to the introduction of Mechanical Biological Treatment at the Leyland Waste Technology Park and therefore is a Lancashire County Council function/risk.
<b>Targets/Actions not specific to Waste Collection Authority</b>	
Create new native woodland across Lancashire. The creation of an additional 1,200 hectares of woodland cover by 2032 representing an additional 2.5 million trees planted.	This is an LCC commitment
Achieve an average of 16,000 tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> each year at 2020.	This is an LCC commitment

Establish a minimum of 10 hectares per year of new woodland on derelict, underused, neglected and other marginal land.	This is an LCC commitment
From 2010 to reuse, recycle or compost 70% of all waste delivered to each Household Waste Recycling Centre	This is an LCC commitment
Divert 80% of municipal waste away from landfill by 2010	This relates to the introduction of Mechanical Biological Treatment at the Leyland Waste Technology Park and therefore is a Lancashire County Council function/risk.
Divert 88% of municipal waste away from landfill by 2020	This relates to the introduction of Mechanical Biological Treatment at the Leyland Waste Technology Park and therefore is a Lancashire County Council function/risk.

21. From an overall perspective, it is also important to note that failure to meet Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) targets will result in financial penalties of £150 to be enforced for every tonne taken to landfill in excess of the permitted amount. With the adoption of the Lancashire Waste Strategy it is anticipated that these targets will be met and financial penalties will not be incurred. Currently the Waste Disposal Authority (LCC) owns this risk and associated costs. However, the contribution made by District Councils in the provision of collection services that promote recycling and waste minimisation contribute to the avoidance of LATS through the arrangements that the Lancashire Waste Partnership provides for.
22. All targets and key actions are either currently accommodated or the responsibility of Lancashire County Council apart from the target to **'provide a three stream collection to all households.'** This will involve extending the service to include food waste collection for composting. This will result in increased capital costs associated with the issue of new containers to households. The total additional capital costs are estimated to be in the region of £60k. It is intended to finance this by obtaining approval to vire £45k from another scheme and increasing the Capital Programme by £15k. There may be revenue implications for the Council in the region of £22k if it is decided to provide bags. If bags are provided as a one-off provision and replacements charged for thereafter, then this cost could be financed from within existing resources using virement from the Revenue Contributions to Capital budget. If bags were to be provided on an on-going basis, however, this will impact on the Council's budget in future years.

ISHBEL MURRAY  
CORPORATE DIRECTOR (NEIGHBOURHOODS)

Background Papers			
Document	Date	File	Place of Inspection
"Rubbish to Resources" Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Lancashire 2008 to 2020	May 2009	Electronic pdf copy	Attachment to report

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Jo Oliver/Ishbel Murray	5737	25 June 2009	NE/ Jo