

## RURAL ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

7th MARCH 2012

### REPORT OF HEAD OF REGULATORY SERVICES

#### LEICESTERSHIRE MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY UPDATE 2011

##### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update 2011
- 1.2 Following recommendation by Leicestershire's Environment Board, to request the Council to adopt the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update 2011.

##### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **Members endorse and agree the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update (LMWMS) 2011**

##### 3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The first LMWMS was adopted by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) in 2002. The LMWMS was significantly revised in 2006, covering the period up to 2020.
- 3.2 Since 2006, the LWP has made significant improvements in performance, including increasing recycling and composting performance (National Indicator 192) from 42.68% in 2006/07 to 54.02% in 2010/11.
- 3.3 It was intended that the LMWMS would be subject to a major review every 5 years. As scheduled, the review of the LMWMS began in 2009. However, the process was subsequently put on hold for a number of months pending the outcome of the Government Review of Waste Policy in England and Leicestershire County Council's decision on whether to proceed with the long term waste treatment procurement project following the withdrawal of Private Finance Initiative (PFI) credits in October 2010, as part of the comprehensive spending review.
- 3.4 In September 2011, the Member Steering Group of the LWP supported a revised approach to the completion of the review of the LMWMS. The revised approach included the production of an 'updated' LMWMS and the retention of the 2006 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This approach allows the LWP to refresh its commitment to joint working and performance improvement without the need for a resource intensive full scale review.
- 3.5 The update was undertaken by officers with the support of an external consultant providing quality assurance and technical advice. In addition, the consultant carried out a screening process and found that there was 'no significant environmental impact from the update to the Strategy' and therefore a new SEA was not required. The statutory consultees (the Environment Agency, English Heritage and Natural England) were consulted for their endorsement of this assessment. A response was received from Natural England,

supporting the assessment. The determination that an SEA is not required, the reasons behind this decision and the supporting response from Natural England have been included within a Determination Report, which is publicly available from the Partnership website ([www.lesswaste.org.uk](http://www.lesswaste.org.uk)).

### 3.6 **Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update**

The attached LMWMS update (Appendix 1) remains broadly consistent with the 2006 Strategy, although the document has been substantially restructured. The update retains the targets from the 2006 LMWMS, including the target to recycle or compost 58% of Local Authority Collected Waste by 2017.

### 3.7 The main areas of change are outlined below:

- a) All performance figures have been updated to reflect the latest audited data (2010/11).
- b) There have been a number of changes in legislation and policy since the 2006 LMWMS was adopted. The update takes account of these changes including:
  - the inclusion of the updated waste hierarchy, in line with the revised EU Waste Framework Directive;
  - the Government Review of Waste Policy in England 2011, allowing for the expansion of trade waste collection services;
  - the planned removal of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) after the end of the 2012/13 scheme year.
- c) Minor modifications have been made to the Vision and Strategy Objectives, and a new Strategy Objective has been added reflecting the increasing importance of carbon as a driver for waste management services.

***Objective 12: Continually seek to reduce carbon emissions, including the potential for renewable or low carbon energy generation to improve the impact of the service on climate change.***

- d) A new waste prevention indicator has been added (kilogrammes of household waste per household) as a gauge of the success of waste prevention and reuse activities. The LWP aims to achieve a continuous improvement (i.e. a year on year decrease) against this indicator.
- e) The residual waste treatment and disposal section has been substantially rewritten to reflect changes including the withdrawal of the PFI credits for the County Council's long term waste treatment procurement project and the planned removal of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) at the end of 2012/13. The LMWMS update remains 'non-technology specific'. The update commits the County Council to develop a Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan to assess future requirements for treatment / disposal capacity for the county's residual waste for the period up to 2020.

The update allows for the expansion of trade waste collection services (particularly to small and medium size enterprises) following the planned removal of the LATS. The LATS has been a barrier to local authorities increasing services provision.

### 3.8 The Leicestershire Environment Board recommended the updated LMWMS for adoption by each Partner Authority on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

3.9 The updated Strategy will be supported by a detailed Action Plan setting out how the LWP will achieve its strategic objectives. The Action Plan will be developed by the Partnership's officer group and presented to a future meeting of the Leicestershire Environment Board for endorsement.

4.0 **POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no direct policy or corporate implications as a direct result of this report

5.0 **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no direct financial or resource implications as a direct result of this report

6.0 **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS**

6.1 There are no direct legal implications as a direct result of this report

7.0 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

7.1 There are no direct community safety implications as a result of this report

8.0 **EQUALITIES**

8.1 The Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) carried out for the 2006 LMWMS has been updated to reflect the changes in the new document. The EIA does not identify any equality barriers being caused as a result of the update of the LMWMS.

9.0 **RISKS**

9.1 *To consider and give any Risks related to this report and if there are risks to complete the tables below. If there are no risks identified, then delete the table*

Probability  
↓

Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D				
Very Low E	1			
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic

Impact  
→

Risk No.	Description
1	The strategy revision is not supported by all partnership members .

9.2 ...

## 10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 To consider and give any climate change implications relating to this report

## 11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 Leicestershire County Council have carried out the statutory consultation requirements of the strategy revision which included statutory proactive consultation with County Parishes and other similar bodies and organisations as well as a period of web based public consultation open to all residents of the County .

## 12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All wards within the Borough receive waste management services and the strategy revision therefore affects all wards within Leicestershire.

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Date:                     17/02/2012

Appendices :            Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy – Update 2011

Background Papers:    None

Reference :              None