

Scrutiny Committee

26 January 2016

Waste Management Partnership

Progress Report



Lead Member: Councillor Mullineaux

Lead Officer: Mark Gaffney

Waste Management Partnership Progress Report

1. Background

This report provides members of the Scrutiny Committee with an update on the progress of the Waste Management Partnership.

2. Progress

a) Overall Position

Following the procurement process a new partner FCC was engaged with the new partnership commencing in June 2015. Good progress has been made building a working relationship with the new partner and good levels of performance have been maintained throughout a seamless mobilization period.

b) Areas of Significant Progress/Achievement

- High recycling performance.
- Good collection rate performance.
- High take up of education programme.
- Procurement process and implementation was completed within timescales providing significant budget savings whilst maintaining service levels
- Good levels of customer satisfaction.

c) Areas for Further Action

- Expiry of the Cost Sharing Agreement in March 2018.
- Possible refresh of the Lancashire Waste Partnership Waste Strategy.

3.0 Progress against Key Actions/Projects

3.1 Recycling Performance

Recycling performance continues to demonstrate high performance even though the figure has dropped slightly for 2014/15.

	% Recycled
2009/10	44.96%
2010/11	47.66%
2011/12	48.22%
2012/13	48.90%
2013/14	50.50%
2014/15	49.40%

3.2 Collection Performance

Collection performance remains high with the number of missed bins/containers being very low. Current performance is as follows:

	% Collection Rate	Number missed per 100,000 Collections
Grey Bins	99.975 %	25
Blue Bins/Green Boxes	99.966 %	34
Brown Bins	99.992 %	8

3.3 Trade Waste

The Council provides a commercial or trade waste service and currently has a customer base of just over 500 bins in the borough. The customers tend to be those smaller customers which are of less interest to some of the larger waste companies.

18% of the Council's 429 customers recycle.

3.4 Lancashire Waste Partnership (LWP)

The Council is part of the Lancashire Waste Partnership which includes the county council and all other unitary and district councils. The partnership works to the Lancashire Waste Strategy which includes key targets and actions for waste management in Lancashire.

LCC, through the LWP has funded a review of all collection authority services. This review is ongoing in conjunction with WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) and consultants AMEC. The findings of this review are expected in March 2016.

The LWP works to the Lancashire Waste Strategy. The strategy is due to be refreshed which is likely to happen following the conclusion of the Lancashire wide review.

3.5 Cost Sharing Agreement

Through the Lancashire Waste Partnership all districts receive cost sharing payments from LCC.

LCC has reviewed and extended the 10 year Cost Sharing Agreement which will now expire at the end of March 2018. LCC has also stated that the agreement will not be renewed when it expires. Discussions are continuing across the county. These discussions will be informed by the outcomes from the waste collection review detailed in 3.4 above

3.6 Education Programme

An integrated Neighbourhood Services education programme is in place. As part of the programme Neighbourhood Officers visit primary schools in the borough and talk to year 3 (key stage 1) and year 6 (key stage 2) pupils. The talks inform the children about the environmental services that the Council provides, including:

Street cleansing/litter picking
Grounds maintenance/parks
Waste – reduce/reuse/recycle

Dog control orders and responsible dog ownership

The officer invites the children to think about their local area, and what they can do to help keep it a clean, green and safe place. Many of these talks have been followed up by the school taking part in local litter picks/informing parents about picking up dog waste and introducing additional recycling collections at school. The visits commence after the beginning of the new school year.

All of the primary schools in the borough are included in the programme.

3.7 Waste Mobilisation

The 10 year partnership with Amey expired in June 2015. The partnership has produced significant cost efficiencies for the Council during the period of the partnership whilst enhancing and improving the service.

The procurement process for a new service provider and partner resulted in the appointment of FCC Environmental. The new contract commenced in June 2015. The mobilisation period has been seamless with no impact on service levels. The mobilisation was well resourced and implemented to a high standard with crucial elements such as IT systems being in place and functioning at the commencement date of the new contract.

3.8 Cost Savings

The procurement process and appointment of FCC has resulted in significant efficiency savings for the Council. These equate to £600,000 per annum which over a potential contract period of 14 years would result in savings of £8,400,000.

3.9 Procurement of Waste Vehicles

Six new waste vehicles were included in the capital programme for 2015/16 at a value of over £1M. This was a major procurement project and was carried out in line with the requirements of FCC, the new waste partner.

The vehicles have now been delivered and put into service.

This is a significant investment into the Council's front line services.

4.0 Customer Satisfaction

The Council's corporate survey demonstrated high levels of customer satisfaction with the waste service. The results showed a 92% satisfaction level.

5.0 Conclusion

It is considered that the Waste Partnership is making good progress and achieving good levels of performance. The first 6 months has been a promising start for FCC which gives an excellent platform to build and develop the partnership further for the longer term benefits to both the Council and FCC.