

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 17 SEPTEMBER 2010

**Statement from: Cllr C L Strange, Executive Councillor for
Waste Services & LSP Coordination**

As we enter the autumn months, county residents continue to support the drive on recycling. Whilst it is good to see us edging towards our goal of 55% recycling by 2015, some flexibility from DEFRA regarding classification of schools rubbish would be helpful - a matter to be raised with the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

One of Lincolnshire's secondary schools, Queen Elizabeths at Gainsborough, are to be congratulated on a private scheme they have set up in conjunction with an outside contractor. They are currently recycling around 70% of their rubbish, under the direction of their caretaker Mr Williamson. Schools are a hotbed of good practice when it comes to green issues, and we should do all we can to remove the government bureaucracy that makes it so expensive for them to commit to the sensible world of rubbish recycling that all of us wish to see.

As per our planned timetable, we are very pleased to be able to report we received our three final tenders on 18th August from our two bidders Shanks/Wheelabrator Consortium and Waste Recycling Group (WRG). The project team will need the rest of September and part of October to complete a thorough evaluation, before taking a final Evaluation Report to a Special Meeting of the Executive to be held on 19th October to appoint our Preferred Bidder. Through the hard work of the project team, we are confident that we will meet our 2013/14 Landfill Diversion Target as set by Brussels - a fantastic performance given where we were only a couple of years ago.

The procurement team are currently investigating sites for the four transfer stations, necessary 'to bulk up' and feed the new plant at Hykeham. Locations have been evaluated as being the best possible as far as distance and road quality are concerned. However, the sites are subject to the normal planning process, and we will consult with worried residents.

I strongly advise anybody who wants to know more about the construction and operation of a site to visit our site at Louth, - Sean Kent will be pleased to arrange for someone to show you around.

Work at the Rasens Household Waste Recycling site should complete at the end of October and, whilst this is one of our smallest sites (constructed on a single level), it will provide an outlet for residents who currently have to travel to Gainsborough, Lincoln or Louth.

Finally, we have decided to suspend negotiations on the Stamford Household Waste Recycling site until after we have had time to evaluate the outcome of the autumn spending review.

LSPs

Leaders and Chief Executives from Lincolnshire's County and District Councils met recently to discuss the future of partnership working in the county in light of changes taking place at national and regional level.

Discussions focused on the need to radically reshape the work that we do together on an agreed set of priorities while, at the same time, being mindful of our statutory obligations. A proposal is being developed for consultation with all councils and other partners.

Cllr Martin Hill has subsequently written to District Council Leaders to clarify the County Council's position regarding Local Strategic Partnerships hosted at district level.

I will endeavour to keep members informed as further progress is made.