# **Public Document Pack**



County Offices Newland Lincoln LN1 1YL

3 March 2016

### **Environmental Scrutiny Committee**

A meeting of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee will be held on Friday, 11 March 2016 at 10.00 am in Committee Room One, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

Tony McArdle Chief Executive

<u>Membership of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee</u> (11 Members of the Council)

Councillors C L Strange (Chairman), Mrs V C Ayling (Vice-Chairman), A M Austin, C J T H Brewis, A Bridges, M Brookes, J R Marriott, N M Murray, C R Oxby, C Pain and R A Renshaw

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA FRIDAY, 11 MARCH 2016

	FRIDAY, 11 MARCH 2016	
ltem	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members	
2	Declarations of Members' Interests	
3	Minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee held on 29 January 2016	5 - 16
4	Announcements by the Executive Councillors and Senior Officers	
5	<b>Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre</b> (To receive a report from Sean Kent, Group Manager – Environmental Services, which invites the Committee to consider and comment on the recommendations set out within the report prior to the decision of the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling and the Executive Councillor for Finance and Property on 18 March 2016)	r t I
6	Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits (To receive a report from Sean Kent, Group Manager – Environmental Services, which invites the Committee to consider and comment on the proposed changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits prior to the decision of the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling on 11 March 2016)	- - f 1
7	Household Waste Recycling Centres - Future Challenges (To receive a presentation from Sean Kent, Group Manager – Environmental Services, providing information on the future challenges of Household Waste Recycling Centres)	
8	<b>Climate Local Annual Review 2015</b> (To receive a report from Doug Robinson, Sustainability Team Leader, which highlights the progress made in 2015 following the signing of the Climate Local Commitment in 2012. The Climate Local Action Plan demonstrates continued commitment to reducing the Council's carbon footprint and adapting to the effects	; ; )

#### 9 Update on Lincolnshire Energy Switching Scheme (LESS)

of climate change)

(To receive a report from Doug Robinson, Sustainability Team Leader, which invites the Committee to consider and comment on the report and highlight support for the continuation of the Lincolnshire Energy Switching Scheme (LESS), a joint exercise between Lincolnshire County Council and District Councils to promote and facilitate collective switching to potentially reduce household energy bills)

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#### 10 Street Lighting Transformation Project

(To receive a report from Richard Hardesty, Senior Project Leader, which provides an update on the Street Lighting Transformation Project, commenced following the evaluation of budget reduction options to ensure that street lighting in Lincolnshire was more efficient, sustainable and relevant for the county)

### 11 District Heating Project Progress Report

(To receive a report from Mike Reed, Environment Team Leader, which provides the Committee with an update on the District Heating project, the purpose of the project is to utilise heat produced by the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in North Hykeham)

### 12 Council Business Plan 2015-2016 Performance Report, 107 - 126 Quarter 3

(To receive a report from Sean Kent, Group Manager – Environmental Services, which invites the Committee to review, scrutinise and comment on Quarter 3 key performance information relevant to the work of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee)

**13 Environmental Scrutiny Committee Work Programme** 127 - 132 (To receive a report Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year)

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Business of the I	meeting			
<ul> <li>Any special array</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Copies of reports</li> </ul>				
Contact details set out above.				
All papers for council meetings are available on: <u>www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords</u>				

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### ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 29 JANUARY 2016

### PRESENT: COUNCILLOR C L STRANGE (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors Mrs V C Ayling (Vice-Chairman), A M Austin, A Bridges, M Brookes, J R Marriott, C R Oxby, C Pain and R A Renshaw.

Councillors: M S Jones, S M Tweedale and C J Davie (Executive Support Councillor for Economic Development, Environment, Planning & Tourism) attended the meeting as observers.

Officers in attendance:-

Katrina Cope (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Paul Dimbleby (Tactical Support Manager, Anglian Water), Michelle Grady (Head of Finance (Communities)), David Hickman (Environment Commissioner), Brian Kane (Anglian Water), Sean Kent (Group Manager, Environment Services), Daniel Steel (Scrutiny Officer) and Steve Willis (Chief Operating Officer, Development Services).

#### 52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N M Murray and C J T H Brewis.

#### 53 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest declared at this point in the meeting.

#### 54 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4 DECEMBER 2015

#### RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2015 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### 55 <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND CHIEF</u> <u>OPERATING OFFICER</u>

The Executive Councillor for Economic Development, Environment, Planning and Tourism advised the Environmental Scrutiny Committee of the following items:-

• That during the following week he was meeting with the Chief Executive of the Environment Agency to discuss issues pertaining to Lincolnshire;

- That Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board were discussing the potential for taking on responsibility for the Black Sluice Pumping Station from the Environment Agency; and
- That a four year funding package had been secured for the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which would need to be match-funded locally.

The Committee asked the Executive Councillor the following questions:-

- The Lincolnshire situation regarding anaerobic digesters. The Committee noted that there were a number in Lincolnshire, some were farm based; and some were industrial based. Some applications were dealt with by District Councils, some by the County Council. It was felt that this created grey areas, the ideal situation would be for the County to deal with applications under the Waste and Mineral Plan, with District's acting as a consultee. It was highlighted that if the proposed devolution bid was successful, better joint working would be happening;
- A member of the Committee asked the Executive Councillor if he could raise with the Chief Executive of the Environment Agency, the issue of the River Steeping. The Executive Councillor advised that the meeting was for more strategic matters such as the impact of the winter storms and long term planning.

### 56 WATER RECYCLING CENTRES UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Committee with a summary of the situation regarding odours from Ingoldmells, Spalding and Fishtoft Water Recycling Centres (previously Sewage Treatment Works).

The Committee received a joint verbal update from Paul Dimbleby (Tactical Support Manager, Anglian Water) and Brian Kane (Anglian Water), which provided the Committee with an update with regard to odours at each of the three premises below:-

### Ingoldmells Water Recycling Centre

The Committee were advised that they had received nine odour complaints relating to Ingoldmells, and that no complaints had been received since August 2015. The complaints received had been received from two properties, investigations had then identified that the source of the odours were localised issues in the sewer networks and not from the Water Recycling Centre. One of the properties was on a caravan site and the other was upstream from a section of sewer that had been prone to partial blockage with grease and fat discharge from local trade premises. As a result Anglian Water had increased the frequency of cleaning this particular length of sewer and as a result had not received and further complaints.

The report also highlighted that Anglian Water had invested almost £1,000,000 at the Ingoldmells Recycling Centre and the Ingoldmells Sewerage Network. Details relating to the works carried out were shown within the report presented.

It was also highlighted that community engagement had taken place and a resident's group odour meeting would be held later in the year.

#### Spalding Water Recycling Centre

It was reported that there had been six odour complaints relating to the Spalding Water Recycling Centre during 2015, (two in July, one in August, two in October and one in November). The complaints had been reported by two nearby commercial properties. The Committee were advised that the six complaints had been linked to Anglian Water having the temporary loss of one of their on-site chemical septicity treatments, or the increased sludge on-site as a result of high loads received from food traders which had increased production before Christmas. The problems had been rectified within 24/48 hours.

The Committee noted that the Spalding Recycling Centre had during 2015 been running on a trial, which had involved mixing iron rich sludge from other water recycling centres with sludge produced on site at Spalding. The trial had been successful in significantly reducing the amount of odorous sulphide gas released during sludge dewatering. It was reported that funding had now been obtained to install an iron dosing system on site.

In conclusion, the Committee was advised that Anglian water continued to review the location and volumes of chemical used in the light of samples results, of their odour monitoring and any customer complaints. The Committee was advised that works had identified a location where the discharges from two factories had combined to rapidly produce septic conditions in the downstream sewers and ultimately at Spalding Water Recycling Centre. It was hoped to address this issue by installing an additional nitrate dosing system at the Springfields pumping station. This works was at an early stage and would require the purchase of additional land on which to site the chemical storage tank.

#### **Fishtoft Water Recycling Centre**

The Committee was advised that during the last twelve months Anglian Water had received a number of odour complaints from one property located to the south of the Fishtoft Water Recycling Centre. As a result odour logging had taken place, but no odour was recorded or logged. Anglian Water was now odour logging on site around the Water Recycling Centre to try and identify if any odours were being generated. It was noted that regular communication was being maintained with the customer and the local Customer Liaison Manager.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following points:-

• Trade waste with particular reference being made to the discharging of fat down the sewer. It was noted that fat could be collected by a third party. If fat was discharged then it should be collected by a fat trap on the premises. Anglian Water did however work with trade premises with their 'Keeping Clear Programme'. Some reference was also made to enforcement procedures.

The Committee were advised that Anglian Water did work alongside District Councils to sort issues out. Some of the Committee felt it was important to keep a watching brief on issues and comment on applications so that proper measures can be put in place through planning conditions;

- One member highlighted that as a resident of Spalding, the odour issue was not as obvious as it had been, and the purchase of the land for the chemical storage tank would help the issue further;
- Some members of the Committee welcomed the positive professional response made by Anglian Water to the complaints highlighted in the report;
- That Lincolnshire had the ability to work well with partner agencies. Going forward this would be a bonus for Lincolnshire, as partnership working would be an important factor that would bring money into Lincolnshire;
- The local member for Fishtoft highlighted to the Committee that there had been complaints made to the parish council relating to the storage of sewage cake. The Committee were advised that some confusion had arisen and the complaints had been in respect of Boston Water Recycling Centre, rather than Fishtoft. Another local Member informed the Committee that this had been an ongoing issue before 2013. As a result, the Committee requested that a report on the Boston Water Recycling Centre and any other centre where complaints had been received within the last 12 months being presented to a future meeting of the Committee;
- That consideration should be given to future residents meetings in Ingoldmells being held at appropriate times to fit in with the holiday season. The Tactical Support Manager, Anglian Water advised that historically a follow up meeting was usually held in October; and
- The committee were advised that sewage cake was a bi-product of sewage treatment works, which was used as a fertiliser, once it had been processed. The cake was temporarily stored on site until it could be processed further at either Kings Lyn or Grimsby. A request was made to the Anglian Water representative for a letter to be sent to Clerk of the Fishtoft Parish Council advising them that the issue was being investigated.

### RESOLVED

- 1. That the report be noted.
- 2. That a further report be received to a future meeting of the Committee relating to all Water Recycling Centres who had received complaints over the last twelve months. That an update also be received with regard to the position relating to the Boston Water Recycling Centre.

#### 57 LINCOLNSHIRE ENERGY SWITCH SCHEME

The Committee received a verbal presentation from Steve Willis, Chief Operating Officer, which provided information in relation to the Lincolnshire Energy Switch Scheme.

The Committee were advised that collective energy switching was a way for communities to try and get cheaper gas and electricity tariffs from energy suppliers, rather than just switching energy provider as an individual.

All a resident needed to do was to register their interest in the scheme to look for a cheaper energy tariff. At the end of the registration period which was reported as being 1 February, an auction was the held on the 2 February with energy suppliers to find out which one would provide the best price.

It was reported that in the most recent auction held in May 2015, the average saving per household to take up their offer was £220.85, and 3,000 householders had expressed an interest to date.

Members were advised that a further report would be presented to the next meeting advising the Committee of the outcome of the February auction.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following issues:-

- One member enquired with the IT problems were residents still able to register up to the deadline. Officers agreed to look in to this matter;
- Clarification was given that the County Council did not underwrite the arrangement; it only acted as a broker in this matter. One member suggested that residents would have more confidence in such a scheme with the County Council being involved;
- Some concern was expressed that signed up to the scheme involved using IT, which the elderly and more vulnerable people in the community did not always have access to;
- Clarification was given that once the auction had been completed, and an offer was made, it was up to the individual if they accepted, or not;
- Some members felt that the systems needed to be promoted more, particularly to those without access to IT. A suggestion was made that better promotion needed to be done by an article in County News.

#### RESOLVED

- 1. That the verbal update be noted.
- 2. That a update report on the Lincolnshire Energy Switch Scheme be presented to the next meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee.

#### 58 REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2016/17

Consideration was given to a report from Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment and Economy, which described the budget proposals arising from the Local Government Finance Settlement, issued on 17 December 2015; and its implications for the commissioning strategy Sustaining & Developing Prosperity through Infrastructure, which included the following activities:-

• Waste;

- Flood & water Risk Management;
- Natural Environment;
- Sustainability; and
- Planning

Member received an introduction to the budget proposal from Michelle Grady (Head of Finance – Communities). Background details relating to the budget were shown on page 11 of the report presented. It was highlighted that the budget proposals reflected the level of government funding available to the Council and the proposal to increase Council Tax in 2016/17 by 3.95%. For the second year running, the Council was only able to set a one year budget. This was as a result of the continued reductions in government funding, growing cost pressures from demand led services and the Council's responsibility from 2016/17 to pay staff and contractors the National Living Wage.

The budget proposals made by the Executive therefore had taken a mixed approach to meeting the current challenges of reduced levels of local government funding. It was highlighted that during the next twelve months the Council would have to explore further opportunities to bridge the gap between the funding available and levels of expenditure.

Information relating to the Proposed Revenue Budget for 2016/17 for Protecting & Sustaining the Environment was circulated to members at the meeting.

Councillor Marc Jones the Executive Councillor with responsibility for Finance and Property advised that a series of seven budget consultation meetings had been held around the County in January 2016, to get feedback on the proposed budget. It was also reported that the Council had consulted with representatives of businesses, District Councils, Police and other partner organisations; and that the budget proposals had been published on the Council's website and members of the public had been invited to comment on the proposals accordingly.

It was noted that the collectable amount of Business Rates collected by the seven District Council's in Lincolnshire; and a top up grant from Central Government would still not be enough to cover local authority spending in the area. It was noted further that only 10% of the business rates collected locally was passed on to the Council.

Steve Willis (Chief Operating Officer) presented to the Committee the Proposed Revenue Budget for 2016/17, for Protecting and Sustaining the Environment. It was reported that currently the Council spent £22.467m revenue and £6.65m of capital expenditure delivering waste management services, planning, flood and water risk management, the natural and built environment and carbon emissions.

#### Waste Management

The Committee were advised that Waste Management was a statutory provision, and therefore the function had to be undertaken. The disposal cost and the cost for provision of waste treatment amounted to £15m. It was noted that there was an expectation that a saving could be made in 2016/17 from dry recycling, however, a

change in market prices for materials had resulted in the activity creating a cost pressure of £1.100m. The options for savings within the service were the cessation of voluntary recycling credits; stopping the Saturday supplementary services at Long Sutton; Stamford and Mablethorpe; Cessation of residents using North Lincs Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) at Kirton Lindsey and Barnetby top; the proposed closing of Leadenham and Whisby (HWRC's); looking at the countywide long term position; and looking to 'Invest to Save' opportunities for non-Lincolnshire County Council owned HWRcs at Boston and Kirby-on-Bain. The proposed budget for Waste Management for 2016/17 was £20,539,000.

#### Carbon Management

The Committee was advised that the original budget for 2015/16 was £206,000 and that options were being looked at reducing the budget by £48,000. The options were to with draw the service or look reducing the service. This would obviously have an impact and officers highlighted the areas that could be affected. These were:-

- The Councils inability to fulfil its agreed commitment to the Carbon Management Plan to reduce carbon emissions by 22% by March 2018;
- Loss of the statutory function on reporting Greenhouse Gas Emissions;
- Reputational damage for Lincolnshire County Council failing to take a lead on carbon reduction;
- Not able to find sustainable technologies savings;
- The inability to manage the £1m Salix Revolving Fund;
- Limited capacity to generate funding for investment; and
- Little, or no supervision of the SCoRE graduates.

The proposed budget for 2016/17 was £163,000.

### Protecting & enhancing the natural & built environment

The Committee was advised that the original budget for 2015/16 was £336,000 and the proposed savings for 2016/17 was £67,000.

It was reported that the options with regard to Public Rights of Way and Picnic & Coastal Access Sites and Natural Environment were:

- To stop the Improvement Plan for Rights of Way this would then have an impact on the delivering of effective network realignments or improvements;
- To stop the Parish Paths Partnership; This would impact on the network of volunteers currently used to help inspect rights of way
- Reduce the number of full time staff; and
- A reduction in service standards for statutory rights of ways maintenance, volunteers and enforcement. The impact of a reduction to standards could result in increased risks and liabilities from reduced maintenance; more enforcement and the likelihood of increased legal action against the Council;
- The potential options relating to Picnic and Coastal Access Sites were to lease/close all picnic sites at Legbourne, Stickney, Long Sutton, Tattershall

and Willingham Woods and lease/sell off land; and the possibility also of withdrawing from maintaining Coastal Access Sites. The impact highlighted there would be a loss of income from concessions; decommissioning costs associated with the more popular sites; the inability to contribute to the wider environmental access programmes; and the increased liability and reputational damage due to unmaintained sites;

 The options highlighted for Natural Environment were reported as being to withdraw the service; maintain the service but with limited staff and budget, but withdraw from standing commitments such as the Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Council owned sites; or maintain Wolds (AONB) with only a single officer and a very limited budget. The impacts highlighted from the options were: limited local policy input; and no national input or influence and support for Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) economic growth and targets; loss of £5.00 for every £1.00 not spent by the Council on environmental projects; loss of partnership contributions and reduced support for the visitor economy and for generating external funding.

The proposed budget for 2016/17 was £280,000.

#### Flood Risk Management

The Committee was advised that the proposed budget for 2016/17 was £1, 283,000, and that savings for 2016/17 had been identified as being £90,000 as the only way that this could be achieved was to reduce service levels. The impact from the savings could result in an increase in the risk of flooding; a decrease in Section 19 investigations; a reduction in policy influence locally and nationally; reduced investments in local works; slower and fewer responses to planning applications; loss of leading national reputation and reduced capacity to generate external funding.

#### Sustainable Planning

The Committee was advised that the proposed budget for 21016 /17 for Sustainable Planning was £1,044,000; and that the savings identified for 2016/17 were £144,000.

The savings options highlighted were a reduction in planning enforcement; reduced capacity to process planning applications; reduced policy input into the Local Plan making process; reduced transport policy planning and reduced service standards. Some of the impacts from the options could result in the failure to meet government targets and the loss of decision making powers; the potential for more unauthorised activities; more environmental impact; no pro-active monitoring of sites; and delay on the Waste and Mineral Local Plan preparation, and limited input in to the District Local Plans.

Also, the Committee was advised that with regard to Heritage and Archaeology, the options for reduction would result in a reduced level of service; reduced support for the Historic Environment Record; and the potential to increase charging to District for services on planning applications. The reductions would then impact policy input;

responses to planning applications; reduced community engagement and involvement; loss of existing externally funding arrangements and little capacity to generate external funding.

The Committee were advised that the budget proposals would be considered by the Executive at their meeting on 2 February 2015.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following issues:-

- Concern was expressed in relation to the proposed cuts to Flood & Water Risk Management, as it was felt that this was a high priority area, which would have a big impact on local residents. The Committee were advised that there would be an impact, but each area had to look for savings and the professional recommendations presented were what was achievable;
- The Committee expressed concern that the proposed reductions would reduce the national reputation of Lincolnshire as an area of excellence with regard to Flood & Water Risk Management and Planning;
- One member highlighted North Kesteven District Council had considered the issue of the Leadenham Household Waste Recycling Centre and advised that that the Council's Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Waste would be receiving representation in respect of this matter. (Note: Councillor R Oxby wished his interest to be noted, as a member of North Kesteven District Council). A further member enquired whether there was a possibility of retaining either site. Officers advised that with the closures there were still two sites available within the radius of 12 miles at Lincoln and Sleaford for residents to use. It was also noted that the improvement costs necessary for Environmental Agency permits did not make the sites viable. Reference was also made to the potential for increased fly tipping or illegal waste dumping and the impact this would have on other areas of local government such as District Councils. Officers advised that there was no evidence of increased fly tipping in a situation where a HWRC had been closed;
- The Committee offered support to the need to review and consider delivering services in a different and innovative way such as through effective commissioning, the use of charitable trusts, or greater recharging for services;
- Lobbying with regard to Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as Lincolnshire was underfunded with regard to this matter;
- Concern was expressed with regard to the need for transitional arrangements surrounding the proposed budget reductions and the impact on other Councils at District and Parish levels;
- Some concerns was also expressed with regard to the proposed reduction in staffing levels to sustainable planning, and the impact this would have on the Council's ability to have a strong effective voice in local planning matters, and making sure that the Council could continue to put forward effective bids to secure additional funding for major projects; and
- The Committee also raised their concern to proposed cuts to Planning and the risks this would result in should the Council be required to respond to high impact applications, for example fracking and highlighted the need for effective use of reduced resources.

In conclusion, most members of the Committee supported the budget proposals put forward for 2016/17. However, Councillor Mrs V Ayling wished it to be recorded that she did not support the proposed budget for 2016/17, as a result of the proposed cuts to Flood and Risk Management.

#### RESOLVED

- 1. That the report be noted.
- 2. That Environmental Scrutiny Committee supported the budget presented and that comments raised from the Environmental Scrutiny Committee be forwarded on to the Executive for consideration at its meeting on the 2 February 2016.

(Note: Councillor Mrs V Ayling wished it to be recorded that she did not support the proposed budget for 2016/17, as a result of the proposed cuts to Flood and Risk Management)

### 59 ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report from Richard Wills, Director responsible for Democratic Services, which invited the Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year.

Daniel Steel, (Scrutiny Officer), presented the report to the Committee, highlighting to members that from today's meeting, two items would be added to the forward plan for 11 March 2016, these were:

- Water Recycling Centres Update (for centres who had received complaints during the last 12 months period – specific requested was made for the Boston Water Recycling Centre); and
- Update on the Lincolnshire Energy Switching Scheme for 11 March 2016 meeting.

The Scrutiny Officer also advised that since the last meeting, a further item had been added to the Committees work programme for 11 March 2016, which was a Capital Appraisal for Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre (A pre-decision scrutiny item for Executive Councillor Decision on 18 March 2016).

The Chairman explained to the Committee that as a result of the increased items on the Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee, whether members of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee would support increases to the number of Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee meetings; and a reduction to the number of Environmental Scrutiny meetings.

The Committee agreed for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in association with officers to re-adjust the scheduled meeting dates; and report back to the next meeting of the Committee (11 March 2016) their proposals.

#### RESOLVED

- 1. That the report be noted and that the Appendix A as presented be agreed subject to the inclusion of the two items detailed above.
- 2. That a report be presented to the 11 March 2016 meeting detailing the way forward with regard to Flood and Drainage and Environmental Scrutiny Committee meeting dates.

The meeting closed at 12.26 pm.

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**Policy and Scrutiny** 

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment & Economy		
Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	11 March 2016	
Subject:	Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre	

### Summary:

This report invites the Environmental Scrutiny Committee Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling and the Executive Councillor for Finance and Property on 18 March 2016. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillors as part of their consideration of this item.

### Recommendation(s):

- To consider the attached report and to determine whether the Committee supports the recommendation(s) to the Executive Councillors as set out in the report.
- 2) To agree any additional comments to be passed to the Executive Councillors in relation to this item.

### 1. Background

The Executive Councillor(s) for Waste and Recycling and Finance and Property are due to consider a report on the Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre. The full report to the Executive Councillor(s) is attached (Appendix 1) to this report.

### 2. Conclusion

Following consideration of the attached report, the Committee is requested to consider whether it supports the recommendation(s) in the report and whether it wishes to make any additional comments to the Executive Councillors.

### 3. Consultation

### a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

### 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report			
APPENDIX 1	Report to Executive Councillor for Finance and Property and Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling on Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre.		

## 5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Sean Kent, who can be contacted on 01522 554833 or sean.kent@lincolnshire.gov.uk



**Executive Councillor** 

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment & Economy			
	Councillor M S Jones, Executive Councillor for Finance and Property		
Report to:	Councillor R A Shore, Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling		
Date:	18 March 2016		
Subject:	Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre		
Decision Reference:	1010713		
Key decision?	Yes		

### Summary:

This report seeks two separate decisions as follows:

- approval from the Executive Councillor for Waste & Recycling for the Council to fulfil its duty under section 51(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 through the construction and operation from 1 April 2017 of a Council-owned Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in Boston rather than to contract for the provision of such a centre from a third party as happens at present; and
- approval from the Executive Councillor for Finance and Property of the scheme appraisal for the capital expenditure in accordance with paragraph B9 of the Financial Regulations forming part of the Council's Constitution

A new HWRC site at Nursery Road, Boston Riverside Industrial Estate, Boston will replace the service contract that is currently in place in the town but due to expire on 31st March 2017.

Providing a Lincolnshire County Council owned facility will guarantee the service in Boston and provide 'an-invest to save' opportunity, with an expected payback of 5.3 years.

A site is in the process of being purchased off Nursery Road, Boston Riverside Industrial Estate, Boston and a HWRC can be constructed to a higher specification than the privately owned facility that is expensive to provide.

The total cost of the scheme is £1.50m and it is proposed that the site be operational by 1st April 2017.

### Recommendation(s):

- 1. That the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling:
  - a) approves the construction and operation by the Council from 1 April 2017 of a household waste recycling centre in Boston in place of the existing privately owned facility; and
  - b) delegates to the Executive Director for Environment and Economy, in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling, authority to take all decisions necessary to give effect to the decision.
- 2. That the Executive Councillor for Finance and Property approves the scheme appraisal for the capital expenditure required to implement paragraph 1 above.

### Alternatives Considered:

1. Do not construct a HWRC in Boston and continue with the provision of the present privately operated HWRC.

The advantages and disadvantages of this option are addressed in the report.

2. Not to provide a HWRC in Boston.

The Council is under a statutory duty to arrange for places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste. The duty includes an obligation to ensure that such places are in the area of the authority or reasonably accessible to persons resident in their area.

If there was not a HWRC in Boston, this would be outside of the 12 mile policy HWRC provision (Appendix A), the nearest facility in Lincolnshire would be at Spalding. In addition to the inconvenience that this would cause residents it would also potentially add to the Council's costs in disposing of the waste.

Further, HWRCs play a vital role in meeting the Council's aspirations for recycling of waste and in the absence of a HWRC in Boston, levels of recycling would be adversely affected.

#### Reasons for Recommendation:

The recommendation that approval is given for the construction of a HWRC at Nursery Road, Boston Riverside Industrial Estate, Boston at a total scheme cost of £1.50m to guarantee the provision of an exemplar HWRC service in Boston.

The pay-back period for a new HWRC would be 5.3 years depending on the expected quantities, disposal costs and income streams of the various presented waste streams, including the cost of capital repayment interest.

The present site is open 7 days a week due to the previous recognition that there was no provided green waste service by Boston Borough Council. There is now a Borough wide green waste service provision. Consequently, there is the potential for additional savings by aligning the present 7 day opening to 4 day opening for a new site, which will be in line with the 12 mile policy.

The justification to construct a site is not only for financial reasons but to ensure the continuation of the service in the area as required by the 12 mile HWRC policy.

To enable service commencement on 1st April 2017, planning permission is required as soon as possible to allow sufficient time for the construction of the site.

Maintaining the current service could potentially leave the area without provision should the sole supplier decide not to retender or could leave the Council open to inflated cost.

Constructing a new site gives the Council an opportunity to improve the operational service to a standard comparable to other parts of the county. It will also be better placed to cope with increased usage if the population increases and more waste is produced.

#### 1. Introduction

This report discusses the business case for the construction of a Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in Boston. This process can be justified on an 'invest to save' basis as long term revenue savings will be made. Lincolnshire County Council currently has to rely on a privately owned HWRC and there are no guarantees that that service will always be available.

#### 2. Background

The existing purpose built HWRC on Slippery Gowt is privately owned and LCC has a service contract which costs £670,000 per year. The site was purpose built as a HWRC on land adjacent to the landfill site and the high operating cost reflects the high cost of construction.

Boston HWRC is the most expensive HWRC in the county. As a comparison, the LCC owned HWRC at Great Northern Terrace in Lincoln receives 20% more material than Boston and operates at the cost of £496,000 per year. Spalding HWRC receives a similar amount of material to Boston at a total annual cost of £395,000.

The service provision of LCC owned HWRCs is currently being looked at with the aspiration to provide a single large contract from 2017 for LCC owned sites. At the moment the contracts are for external suppliers to staff and manage LCC's facilities with separate material disposal and haulage contracts in place. The aspiration is to

have all these contracts in one large contract which should create economies of scale and operational efficiencies. However this larger contract cannot include privately owned HWRCs, such as Boston.

### 3. Proposals

Land is available on Nursery Road, Riverside Industrial Estate which would be suitable for a HWRC and a preliminary design is shown in Appendix B. It is expected that the plot could be purchased, planning permission awarded and construction could be completed to ensure a new operational HWRC by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, when the existing service contract expires.

An estimate of £1.5m for providing an LCC facility includes:

•	Land	£210k
•	Surveys	£25k
•	Utilities	£25k
•	Main Works	£1m
•	Compactors	£180k
•	Containers	£60k

The cost of staffing the site could be estimated from a similar sized facility at Spalding which costs £395k per year to operate, including compaction.

Using the figures above, a comparison of the present privately owned facility at Boston (if this included compaction) and Spalding over several years, shows that the cost of LCC building a facility should pay for itself by year 5.3 and after that some  $\pounds$ 300k per year could be saved.

These projected savings are conservative and could be even more considerable due to the following points:

- 1. LCC owning the facility would enable the service to be brought within the scope of the larger HWRC contract which is being commissioned by April 2017, introducing more economies of scale.
- 2. A new facility would also lend itself to the introduction of compacting equipment which reduces transport costs through fewer haulage trips, as up to three times more material can be compacted into a container. The existing facility does not currently have this capability and would not easily lend itself to compactors being introduced as significant engineering works would be required. To retro fit compactors to the existing private site would be extremely costly as the site is split level whereby material is deposited into containers from above. LCC's preferred design is a flat site with compactors which are accessed from ground level.

On-going discussions have taken place with the present Contractor about the sale of their site. In order to protect LCC interests to have control over the provision of a HWRC in Boston by April 2017, it is prudent to progress the approval process of a LCC owned HWRC, without expending money, whilst engaging with the present

Contractor over selling of their site. This will help to ensure that LCC keeps its options open and can make an informed decision, at the appropriate time.

### 4. Legal Issues

#### Equality Act 2010

The Council's duty under the Equality Act 2010 needs to be taken into account when coming to a decision.

The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

(1) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;

(2) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(3) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it: <u>Equality Act 2010 s 149(1)</u>. The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation: s 149(7).

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

(1) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;

(2) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

(3) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

(4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

(5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding.

(6) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

This duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process.

Household Waste Recycling Centres are open and available for use by all members of the public regardless of protected characteristics. It is recognised that people with certain protected characteristics such as older people and disabled people may experience more difficulty than others in using the sites. To mitigate this, staff are available on site to assist any member of the public who may be unable to use the facility due to a protected characteristic including age and disability.

In reaching a decision, the Council must also have regard to the Lincolnshire Child Poverty Strategy, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Health & Well Being Strategy.

#### Child Poverty Strategy

The Lincolnshire Child Poverty Strategy has the followings four strategic themes:

- Economic poverty
- Poverty of access
- Poverty of aspiration
- Best use of resources

Following due consideration it is not considered that this proposal has any link to or impact on the Lincolnshire Child Poverty Strategy.

### <u>JSNA</u>

A Household Waste Recycling Centre offers the opportunity to the public to dispose of unwanted items originating from their household.

#### Health & Well Being Strategy

A Household Waste Recycling Centre offers the opportunity to the public to dispose of unwanted items originating from their household.

In respect of both the JSNA and the JHWS, the availability of the facility improves the environment and therefore the wellbeing of residents

#### 5. Recommendation

The recommendation is that a £1.5m capital budget is provided on an 'invest to save basis' to construct a HWRC at Boston and create long term cost savings. It is expected that this will save at least **£300k** every year, so the pay-back period is expected to be 5.3 years depending on the expected quantities, disposal costs and income streams of the various presented waste streams, including the cost of capital repayment interest.

As there is now a Boston Borough Council wide green waste service provision, there is the potential for additional savings by aligning the present 7 day opening to 4 day opening for a LCC owned site, which will be in line with the 12 mile policy.

The 'dual track' approach of progressing LCCs approval for a new HWRC whilst engaging with the present Contractor, will help to ensure that we continue to have a HWRC service in the Boston area from April 2017, as required by the 12 mile HWRC policy.

The assumption made in this report is that the present contractor would wish to tender for a future service and that such a tender would be at the same price as previously tendered. There is also a risk that if the present contractor declined to tender this would leave Boston without a HWRC. There is also a risk that the present contractor tenders but increases their price accordingly.

However it must be highlighted that the available land would have to be secured immediately and design work to start straight away to allow a Planning submission in April 2016. Any delay will require the current service provision to be procured along similar lines to the existing privately operated contract.

### 6. Legal Comments:

The Council has a statutory duty under section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange for places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and to dispose of the waste deposited at those places.

The Council must by law secure that:

- (a) each site is situated either within the area of the Council or so as to be reasonably accessible to persons resident in its area
- (b) each site is available at all reasonable times including at least one period on the Saturday or Sunday; and
- (c) each site is available for the deposit of waste free of charge

The matters to which the Executive Councillors must have regard in reaching their decisions are set out in the Report.

The decision is consistent with the Policy Framework and within the remit of the Executive Councillors if it is within the budget

### 7. Resource Comments:

The currently approved capital programme includes the relevant funding required for the establishment of a Boston HWRC as set out in the report recommendation. Accepting this recommendation will also enable future revenue savings to be realised.

### 8. Consultation

### a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes

### b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

### c) Scrutiny Comments

The Environmental Scrutiny Committee is to consider this report on the 11<sup>th</sup> March.

### d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

### 9. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report		
APPENDIX A	HWRC 12 mile policy report	
APPENDIX B	Boston HWRC Site Plan	

### 10. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Sean Kent, who can be contacted on 01522 554833 or sean.kent@lincolnshire.gov.uk



### Open Report on behalf of the Executive Director for Communities

Report to:	Executive
Date:	10 January 2012
Subject:	Revision of policy for the Provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres
Decision Reference:	01976
Key decision?	Yes

### Summary:

To allow the Executive to consider and make a policy decision to revise the current policy of the distance of a household from a Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC). The current policy provides that the majority of households (90%) should be within 7 miles radius of a HWRC. The proposed revision provides that the majority of households (95%) should be within 12 miles radius of a HWRC.

To make a policy decision to continue to support South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) and East Lindsey District Council (ELDC) financially, by way of supplementary payments for the Stamford and Mablethorpe areas respectively.

#### Recommendation(s):

- To adopt a policy to provide for the majority (95%) of households to be within a 12 mile radius of a HWRC. This change to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.
- 2. To discontinue all supplementary payments with the exception of supplementary payments to ELDC and SKDC to provide an on the ground recycling service at Mablethorpe and Stamford respectively. This change to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

#### Alternatives Considered:

The alternatives considered were:

- 1. The continuation of the 7 mile radius policy.
- 2. The continuation of supplementary payments.
- 3. No supplementary services to be provided.

#### Reasons for Recommendation:

The proposed new policy provides for a HWRC service that 95% of residents can access within 12 miles from their home; this is considered reasonable and affordable.

The continuation of the supplementary services payments to Mablethorpe and Stamford are considered an appropriate measure.

#### 1. Background

Following due consideration and recommendation from the Waste Policy Development Group, the Council adopted a policy in 2007 that 90% of households in Lincolnshire should be within a 7 mile radius of a HWRC.

For the County Council to comply with this policy there was a requirement for an additional four facilities to be built at Middle Rasen, Stamford, Mablethorpe and Long Sutton.

Construction has been completed on the Middle Rasen site and this was opened in March 2011.

Despite the consideration of numerous different locations, it has not proved possible to acquire suitable land for a HWRC at Stamford, Mablethorpe or Long Sutton.

With the changing economic circumstances that are now facing the County Council, that being pressures on its Capital Programme and the need to meet core offer savings it is now appropriate for the Council to review its HWRC policy.

#### Distance to HWRCs

Appendix A shows the current 7 mile radius policy.

This highlights the requirement for the four additional HWRCs that were identified when the policy was adopted in 2007.

Appendix B shows the coverage of the County based on both the proposal of a 12 mile radius and supplementary payments.

The adoption of this 12 mile radius policy ensures that over 95% of the population will fall within a 12 mile radius of a HWRC. There would be a choice of HWRCs available to residents in certain areas where there is overlap.

#### Supplementary Service Payments

As a part of the 2007 policy, it was also agreed on the recommendation of the former Waste Policy Development Group to make payments to the District Councils, related to the households falling outside the seven mile radius to a HWRC, until such time as the additional facilities were provided. These payments were based on the number of properties outside of the 7 mile radius and on the provision that the District Council used the funds to increase recycling of household waste.

This resulted in the following payments in 2011/12:

East Lindsey DC	£51,170
South Holland DC	£40,284

The payment to West Lindsey was stopped as the Rasens HWRC facility opened in March 2011.

The County Council also pays for a supplementary service in Stamford on a weekly basis. The cost of this service for 2011/12 is expected to be £49,600.

It is appropriate that the Council should now review whether to continue to make these payments.

#### Proposed Supplementary Service Payments

If the present 7 mile policy is retained, then the County Council in principle would continue to make supplementary payments. If the adopted policy is for 12 mile radius, then the logic would be that the Council would no longer continue to pay Supplementary Service Payments

However, in recognition of the large towns of Stamford and Mablethorpe, it is recommended that they will be offered direct support from the County Council through supplementary payments to both South Kesteven and East Lindsey District Councils respectively. The justification for doing so being, that both towns are sizeable in population, are on the margins of the 12m radius, and if the Council had sufficient funds it could justify the development of new HWRCs in both of these towns. This direct support is proposed to be given to SKDC and ELDC, for the provision of supplementary operational services in lieu of a HWRC in these towns.

It is recommended that save for the two locations above, all other previously agreed Supplementary Service Payments are stopped. It is proposed to implement this change from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

Under the Equality Act 2010, in its decision making, the Executive must be aware of the special duties the Council owes to persons who have a protected characteristic. In particular the Executive must take into account the risk of any adverse impact arising from the decision on people with protected characteristics and any measures to mitigate that impact before it takes its decision. An initial impact analysis has been written and is attached at Appendix C that indicates that there are no concerns that a change in policy would have an adverse impact on people with protected characteristics. The rationale being that the policy continues to provide the opportunity for residents to gain reasonable access to a recycling centre, albeit that some residents in certain areas may have to continue to travel further than was expected under the current policy. The service will still continue to provide help for residents by way of on-site staff.

### 2. Conclusion

The County Council is facing a challenging future in terms of allocating increasingly scarce resources to capital schemes, and especially towards facilities such as HWRCs.

The proposals outlined in this report will enable the County Council to continue providing first class recycling and disposal opportunities for Lincolnshire residents, whilst recognising current financial restraints and achieving budget targets.

### 3. Legal Comments:

Under Section 51 of the EPA 1990 the Council has a duty to arrange for places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste. The recommended amendment to the Council's policy will continue to enable the Council to meet its statutory obligations.

The Council's duty under the Equality Act 2010 needs to be taken into account by the Executive when coming to a decision;

The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

(1) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the <u>Equality Act 2010</u>;

(2) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(3) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it: <u>Equality Act 2010 s 149(1)</u>. The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation: s 149(7).

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

(1) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;

(2) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

(3) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

(4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

(5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding.

(6) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

The recommendations are lawful and within the Executive's remit.

#### 4. Resource Comments:

Approval of this report will change the Council's policy to 95% of Lincolnshire residents living within 12 miles of a Household Waste Recycling Centre. This change in policy better reflects the Council's affordability in not being able to provide more Household Waste Recycling Centres required under the current policy, but whilst continuing to provide a reasonable level of service and enabling the financing of some supplementary services.

#### 5. Consultation

#### a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes

### b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

#### c) Scrutiny Comments

Environmental Scrutiny Committee from Friday 8th July 2011.

That the Executive be informed that the Committee supports:-

- 1. The proposal to change the current policy which provides that the majority of households should be within seven miles distance of a Household Waste Recycling Centre to twelve miles of a Household Waste Recycling Centre.
- 2. The cessation of supplementary payments to those District Councils where there are significant households not within the policy distance to a Household Waste Recycling Centre.

### d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

The proposal could increase emissions from vehicle usage as a result of residents having to travel further to access a HWRC and have an impact on waste and recycling if the increased travel distances to a HWRC deter residents from using the facilities.

It is not possible to measure the actual impact of this change as usage of these sites is determined entirely by residents who use them as and when required. Indeed the need to travel further may reduce the actual number of visits made through an increase in the amount of waste carried each time.

The recycling performance at Lincolnshire HWRCs remains consistently high and it is not expected that this change will in any way significantly affect that level of performance as the same opportunities to divert waste from landfill will be retained.

### 6. Appendices

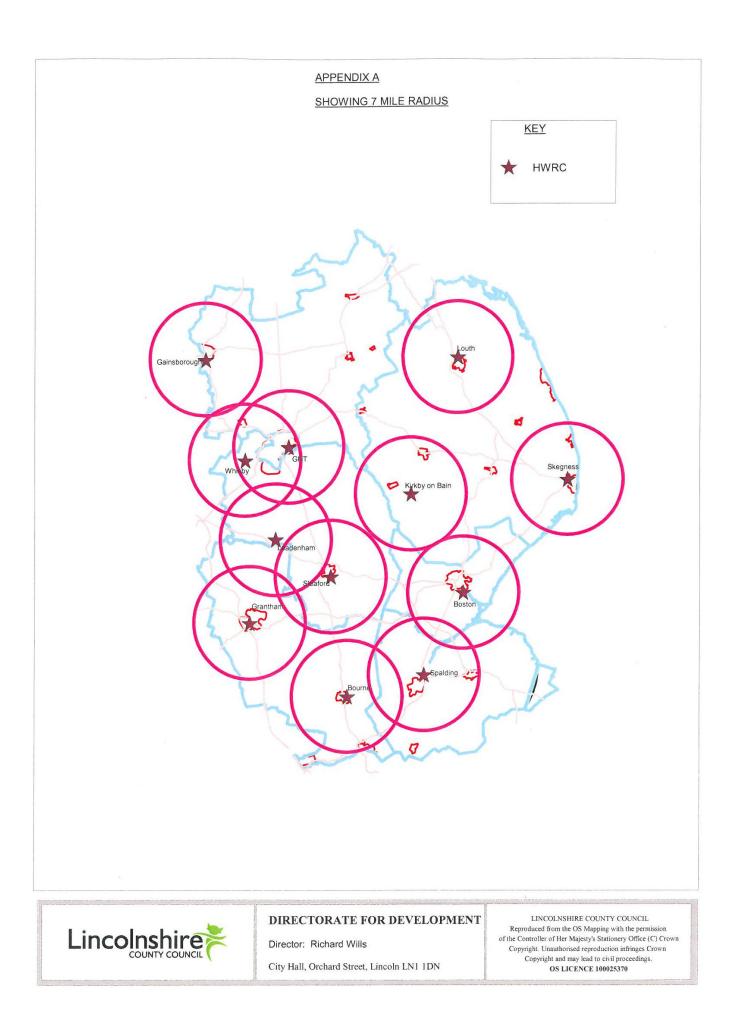
These are listed below and attached at the back of the report		
Appendix A Map of HWRCs within a 7 mile radius		
Appendix B	Map of HWRCs within a 12 mile radius	
Appendix C	Initial Equality Impact Assessment	

### 7. Background Papers

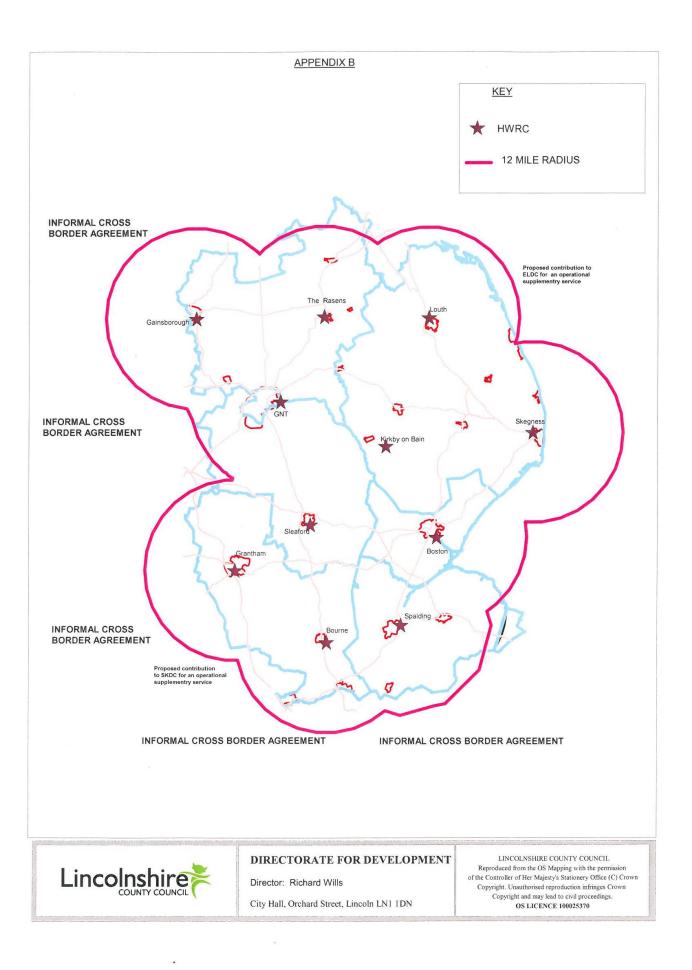
The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title Where the document can be viewed	
Waste Policy	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Record System
Development Group	
19th February 2007	

This report was written by Richard Belfield, who can be contacted on 01522 554848 or richard.belfield@lincolnshire.gov.uk



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Directorate	Service	Person responsible for the assessment:	Date assessment completed:
Communities	Environmental Services	Sean Kent	December 2011
Title of the revised service being assessed	Provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres		
The status of the revised service	Proposed		
1.) What are the aims, objectives and purpose of the revised service ?	The changes proposed to the policy are required to reflect the Authority's affordability of the further provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres across the county. The Authority will continue to meet statutory responsibilities and maintains the high level of service currently provided. HWRC's also play an important role in meeting waste diversion targets from landfill and contribute to the high recycling performance in Lincolnshire.		
2.) Does the revised service support other objectives of the Council?	<ul> <li>Yes. This change supports the Lincolnshire County Council Organisational Strategy 2011- 2015 and the County Council's purpose of:</li> <li>investing in infrastructure and the provision of services;</li> <li>outcomes based on our communities' needs;</li> <li>promoting community wellbeing and resilience;</li> <li>influencing, coordinating and supporting other organisations that contribute to the life of Lincolnshire.</li> </ul>		



3.) Who is intended to benefit from the revised service, and in what way?	The proposed changes to the policy for the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres is required in order for the Authority to work within an affordable budget. Statutory requirements are exceeded as only two Household Waste Recycling Centres are necessary. The revised policy will provide 95% of the public with access to a HWRC within a 12 mile radius.				
4.) What outcomes are anticipated from the revised service being in place?	<ul> <li>To continue delivering the Waste Services objectives of: minimising the weight of waste produced per head of population; increase reuse, recycling and composting; reduce the amount of waste that is landfilled.</li> <li>The Authority will recognise that Stamford and Mablethorpe, being in the fringes of the 12 miles radius and being highly populated centres will be provided alternatives to a HWRC through contributions to South Kesteven and East Lindsey councils respectively. These supplementary payments will provided to enable on the ground recycling services to be developed within both the towns.</li> </ul>				
	Community		Staff		Partners
5.) Who are the main stakeholders of this revised service?	<ul><li>Public</li><li>HWRC Site Operators</li></ul>		<ul> <li>Staff in Environmer Services</li> <li>Support Staff</li> </ul>	nt	<ul> <li>District and Parish Councils</li> <li>Lincolnshire Waste Partnership</li> </ul>
6.) Are there any concerns that the revised service <i>could</i> have a negative	Νο				



What evidence (actual data or assumptions) do you have to support this?	HWRC sites are op	impact upon service users. en and available to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religious entation. Staff are available on site to assist elderly or disabled users.
7.) Are there any concerns that the revised service <i>could</i> have a negative impact with regard to gender?	Νο	
What evidence (actual data or assumptions) do you have to support this?	HWRC sites are op	impact upon service users. en and available to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religious entation. Staff are available on site to assist elderly or disabled users.
8.) Are there any concerns that the revised service <i>could</i> have a negative impact with regard to disability?	No .	
What evidence (actual data or assumptions) do you have to support this?	HWRC sites are op	impact upon service users. en and available to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religious entation. Staff are available on site to assist elderly or disabled users.
9.) Are there any concerns that the revised service <i>could</i> have a negative impact with regard to age?	Νο	



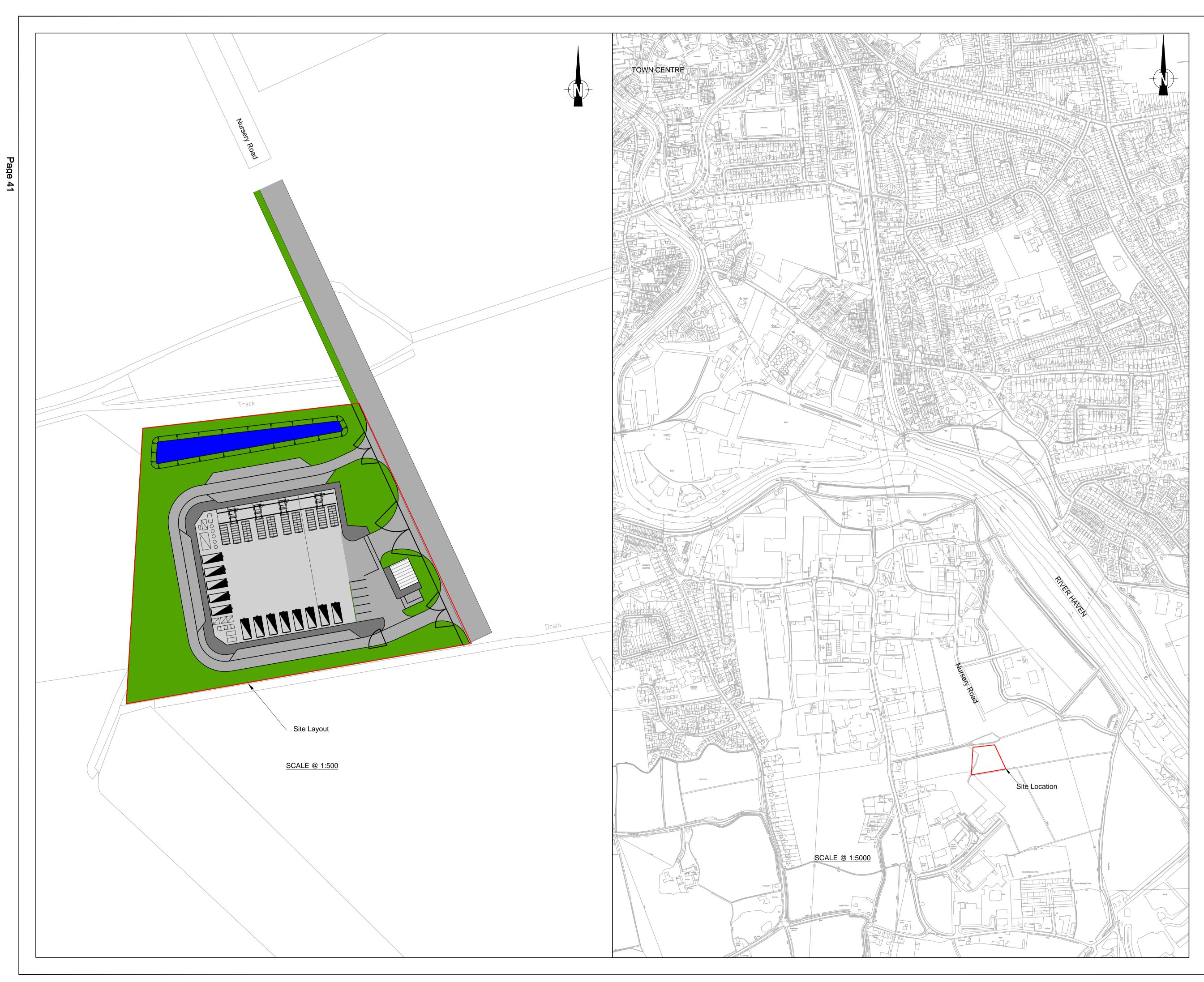
What evidence (actual data or assumptions) do you have to support this?	HWRC sites are op	impact for service users. Den and available to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religious entation. Staff are available on site to assist elderly or disabled users.
10.) Are there any concerns that the revised service <i>could</i> have a negative impact with regard to religion/belief?	Νο	
What evidence (actual data or assumptions) do you have to support this?	HWRC sites are op	impact for service users. Den and available to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religious entation. Staff are available on site to assist elderly or disabled users.
11.) Are there any concerns that the revised service <i>could</i> have a negative impact with regard to sexual orientation?	No	
What evidence (actual data or assumptions) do you have to support this?	HWRC sites are op	impact for service users. Den and available to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religious entation. Staff are available on site to assist elderly or disabled users.
12.) Could the negative impact you have identified in questions 6-11 lead to the potential for <i>adverse</i> impact if the revised service is implemented?	No	



Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group? Or any other reason?	N/A		
Can the impact be mitigated by existing means?	Yes		
If yes, what actions will you undertake to mitigate these impacts and revise the revised service?	The current level	of staffing available to assist users is being maintaine	ed at all sites.
13.) As a result of your assessment, and any actions undertaken, should the restructure proceed to a partial impact assessment?	No	If yes, the date of completion for the partial assessment	N/A
Has this assessment been undertaken by a minimum of two staff?	Yes	Has this assessment been scrutinised by your Directorate Steering Group?	No



	the revised service is new, or requires a decision by Councillors to revise, has this Equality npact Assessment been included with the report?		Yes	
Have any actions diversity action p	identified in this assessment been inclue lan?	ded in your servic	e equality and	N/A
Completed by:	Sean Kent and Ian Taylor	Signed off by:	Richard E	Belfield



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**Policy and Scrutiny** 

E	Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, xecutive Director for Environment & Economy
Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee
Date:	11 March 2016
Subject:	Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits

#### Summary:

This report invites the Environmental Scrutiny Committee Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling on 11 March 2016. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be considered by the Executive Councillor following the meeting.

## Recommendation(s):

- To consider the attached report and to determine whether the Committee supports the recommendation(s) to the Executive Councillors as set out in the report.
- 2) To agree any additional comments to be considered by the Executive Councillor in relation to this item.

#### 1. Background

The Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling is due to consider a report on the Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits. The full report to the Executive Councillor is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

#### 2. Conclusion

Following consideration of the attached report, the Committee is requested to consider whether it supports the recommendation(s) in the report and whether it wishes to make any additional comments to the Executive Councillor.

#### 3. Consultation

## a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

## 4. Appendices

These are listed l	pelow and attached at the back of the report
	Report to Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling on Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits.

## 5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Sean Kent, who can be contacted on 01522 554833 or sean.kent@lincolnshire.gov.uk



**Executive Councillor** 

	pen Report on behalf of Richard Wills, tive Director for Environment & Economy
Report to:	Councillor R A Shore, Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling
Date:	11 March 2016
Subject:	Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits
Decision Reference:	1010967
Key decision?	Νο

## Summary:

This report seek approval from the Executive Councillor for Waste & Recycling for the Council to changes to the way in which the Council fulfils its duty under Section 51(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange for places to be provided at which person resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited. Such places are known as Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

In exercise of that duty the Council currently makes a number of arrangements which it is proposed to terminate in order to meet the budget approved at Full Council on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016. These are (with saving in brackets):

- Voluntary recycling credits (circa £100k).
- Saturday supplementary services at Long Sutton (circa £40k), Stamford (circa £50k) and Mablethorpe (circa £70k).
- Use by LCC residents of North Lincolnshire Council's HWRCs at Kirton Lindsey and Barnetby Top (£26k).
- Provision of Leadenham HWRC (circa £25k staffing) which would require additional investment costs due to operational safety considerations of circa £50k and EA permit improvements costs of circa £150k. Provision of Whisby HWRC (circa £50k staffing). These sites do not fit under the current Council 12 mile policy for HWRCs.

## Recommendation(s):

That the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling:

- a) Approves the removal of voluntary recycling credits as described in the Report.
- b) Approves the discontinuance of Saturday supplementary services at Long Sutton, Stamford and Mablethorpe.
- c) Approves the discontinuance of payments by LCC to secure the use by LCC residents' of North Lincolnshire Council's HWRCs at Kirton Lindsey and Barnetby Top.
- d) Approves the closure of the LCC HWRCs at Leadenham and Whisby.

in each case from 31 March 2016; and

e) Delegates to the Executive Director for Environment and Economy, in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Waste and Recycling, authority to take all decisions necessary to give effect to the decision.

## Alternatives Considered:

1. Do not approve the changes

The advantages and disadvantages of this option are addressed in the report.

## Reasons for Recommendation:

1. Waste Services needs to play its part in the County Council goal to continue to deliver high class priority services within extreme Government funding cuts. The stopping of the identified services is consistent with the Council's existing policy on access to HWRCs and in those circumstances it is appropriate to take the opportunities of revenue savings to provide significant budget reductions, which will assist in the County Council trying to meet the reduced Government funds.

## 1.0 Introduction

The process of finding savings from Waste budgets to contribute to the financial challenge faced by the Council identified that £15 million of the Waste Service budget is governed by the waste that is presented to us for disposal through Household Waste Recycling Centres and kerbside collections by the District Councils over which the County Council has no control. Additionally, the Mixed Dry

Recycling has presently placed a substantial cost pressure of circa £3 million on the budget.

Consequently, possible savings on the remaining budget have to be made from areas where the Council is in a position to influence the cost of providing services including areas where it has some degree of discretion in relation to the level of service it provides: As a result the following areas were identified:

- Cessation of recycling credits to voluntary organisations (circa £100k).
- Cessation of Saturday supplementary services at Long Sutton (circa £40k), Stamford (circa £50k) and Mablethorpe (circa £70k).
- Cessation of LCC residents using North Lincolnshire HWRCs at Kirton Lindsey and Barnetby Top (£26k).
- Provision of Leadenham HWRC (circa £25k staffing) which would require additional investment costs due to operational safety considerations of circa £50k and EA permit improvements costs of circa £150k. Provision of Whisby HWRC (circa £50k staffing). These sites do not fit under the current Council 12 mile policy for HWRCs.

This Report invites the Executive Councillor to approve these changes. Each of the proposals is described in more detail below.

The legal context in which the decision falls to be taken is the Council's statutory duty under Section 51(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange for places to be provided at which person resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited.

Under section 51(2)(a) of the 1990 Act, each such place must be situated in the Council's area or so as to be reasonably accessible to persons resident in the area. Therefore the Council must provide such places it has a wide degree of discretion in determining how many such places there should be and where they should be situated.

On 10 January 2012 the Executive resolved that such places should be provided against a policy that 95% of residents should be within 12 miles of a HWRC. No proposals are made to amend that policy and all of the proposals set out in this Report are consistent with it. It is the policy context in which this decision is to be taken.

## 2.0 Recycling Credits to Voluntary Organisations

Lincolnshire County Council presently runs a third party recycling credit scheme and a third party reuse credit scheme. These schemes are voluntary (DEFRA guidance describes them as being a "Power" rather than a "Duty") and have been in operation for a number of years. The credits can be claimed by community, charity, voluntary and not for profit organisations and schools, who recycle or reuse materials such as furniture and textiles, therefore diverting it from final disposal, which up until recently would be destined for landfill. The credit is an amount paid per tonne of household material that is recycled or reused, and historically this would have been related to financial savings made for not sending this material to landfill. This amount was capped by central government after the introduction of the landfill tax escalator but still rises by 3% each year, and currently in 2015/16 stands at £43.73 per tonne. Registered groups claim this amount in addition to the income that they gain from the sale of materials collected. Material values range from around £10 per tonne for mixed glass, to more than £300 per tonne for textiles.

When the scheme was implemented all waste that wasn't recycled was disposed of to landfill, but because of the Energy from Waste facility, this situation has now changed. The recycling credit amount may therefore be higher than the actual disposal cost paid by LCC.

Some Waste Disposal Authorities do not provide voluntary recycling credit schemes, as it is not a duty to provide this service – which could thus be seen simply as a charitable donation. These authorities include some of the best performing WDAs such as Oxfordshire and Suffolk. A number of other authorities have revised, withdrawn, or are reviewing their voluntary recycling credit schemes as a result of budget constraints. There are several different ways that schemes have been revised, including:

- Limiting the materials that can be claimed for for example Nottinghamshire don't allow claims for materials already collected at kerbside.
- Limiting the amount of money that can be claimed for certain materials for example Staffordshire limit the amount paid per tonne for textiles (which generate a huge income from recyclers) to £10.
- Limiting the quantity of material that can be claimed for by each organisation.

## 2.1 Recommendation

The voluntary recycling credit scheme has been a useful addition to the Council's armoury for encouraging recycling and re-use while there has been money available. Simultaneously it has provided a means by which voluntary groups could supplement their own resources.

In the current financial climate, however, it is difficult to justify such voluntary payments. Those organisations who wish to re-cycle will still be able to do so and to make money where they can from the sale of the materials. Although the voluntary organisations provided an easy means for people to recycle and to benefit their communities in the process, the overall impact of the schemes on recycling performance in the county was negligible.

The Council's HWRC policy provides sites where residents of the county can deposit waste in such a way as to ensure recycling opportunities are maximised. It is therefore recommended that this scheme is stopped from the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 and the organisations duly informed.

## 3.0 Leadenham HWRC

Presently in relation to Leadenham HWRC:

- it offers fairly basic recycling opportunities;
- disposal costs have risen since the adjacent landfill site was closed;
- the site is small, has no compaction so haulage costs are higher;
- there are health & safety concerns around the use of gantries to access the containers;
- it has no scope for expansion;
- is not owned by LCC and is an additional centre which is not required under the 12 mile policy limit.

This HWRC was only previously retained to alleviate pressure at the former small Sleaford HWRC, but now there is a new and larger first class LCC owned HWRC in Sleaford which was opened in April 2013 at a build cost of around £1m.

The Environment Agency has indicated that a closed drainage system will need to be installed at the site for an Operating Permit (OP) to be issued, which will allow the site to operate from 1 April 2016. The expected cost of the fully compliant works required for this OP is circa £150k, with an expected additional £50k being required to bring the site up to expected LCC standards, such as a new welfare facility, although it will still not have any compaction in place. The operating owners have confirmed LCC would have to pay for these costs through a capital charge, or alternatively via an increase in the revenue costs of the site.

The current contract ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, and planning permission would be required to make the necessary changes at the site to obtain an OP. The operating owners are also expecting a minimum of a five year contract to make the undertaking worthwhile and the Council would need to make a similarly long term commitment to justify the capital expenditure.

In the circumstances it would not be appropriate for the Council to be entering into such a significant capital investment and long term revenue commitment when the newly built Sleaford site is within the 12 mile policy, is owned by the Council and is of a high standard without a requirement for capital investment.

## 3.1 Recommendation

It is recommended that due to the expected high capital costs, poor site provision and the location being an additional Centre which is not required under the present 12 mile policy, the Leadenham HWRC is closed from the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

Consequently, notice will need to be formally given to the Owners and the public duly informed.

## 4.0 Whisby HWRC

Whisby HWRC offers a small site with limited service provision, no compaction, and due to the layout and size of the site no scope for expansion and the site is an additional facility which is not required under the 12 mile radius policy. The site is also not open at the peak times of Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

The owners are still progressing the changing of the opening times with both the landowner and site operator, to Friday through to Monday, to be in-line with the majority of other HWRCs in Lincolnshire. This is expected to require planning permission and the site operator has indicated they will expect LCC to meet all costs through an increased site management fee. Any change to the site opening times to cover the Saturday and Sunday openings would also increase the HWRC revenue costs.

## 4.1 Recommendation

It is recommended that due to the changed opening time increasing costs, the limited site provision and this being an additional Centre which is not required under the present 12 mile policy, that Whisby HWRC is closed from the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

Consequently, notice will need to be formally given to the Owners and the public can be duly informed.

#### 5.0 Saturday Supplementary Services

In consideration of providing a HWRC service at Stamford, Long Sutton and Mablethorpe, LCC has been paying for a Saturday supplementary service.

LCC pays SKDC £50k to provide a Saturday supplementary service in Stamford, which consists of a residual and a green waste refuse collection vehicle being available for the public to use accordingly. There is a service level agreement and SKDC have confirmed that they would want the full 6 month notice period if the service was to be stopped. Consequently, LCC would need to inform them at the earliest opportunity to minimise the amount of spend past 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

LCC pays SHDC £40k to operate a service collecting residual and garden wastes covering the areas around Long Sutton, operating all year round (albeit on a reduced frequency in the winter). This service is provided by a mix of SHDC and private contractor vehicles and is contracted to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

LCC provides a contractor £70k to provide a service in Mablethorpe, collecting residual, recycling and garden wastes, and this is also contracted to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

## 5.1 Recommendation

While all the supplementary services are well received and used by the public they have been provided as an additional service provision over and above the provision of HWRCs within a 12 mile radius, but in these difficult budget times that provision needs to be reviewed.

It is therefore recommended that the Stamford, Long Sutton and Mablethorpe Saturday supplementary services are stopped from the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

Consequently, notice will need to be formally given to SKDC, SHDC and the Mablethorpe contractor and the public can be duly informed.

## 6.0 North Lincolnshire Council

The County Council has for a number of years made payments to North Lincolnshire Council to allow Lincolnshire residents to make use of the out of county HWRCs at Kirton Lindsey and Barnetby Top. Payments were made toward both the running costs of the sites and disposal costs.

Again these payments are not necessary to comply with the Council's statutory responsibility or the 12 mile policy as the HWRC at Market Rasen and Gainsborough, are within the 12 miles of the policy.

It is not considered possible to stop Lincolnshire residents from using these facilities, but North Lincolnshire Council have confirmed that if LCC stop paying towards the costs of the sites then they will consider installing signage to discourage cross border usage.

#### 6.1 Recommendation

It is recommended that the payment of £26k is stopped from the 31<sup>st</sup> March and North Lincolnshire Council are duly informed and engaged to minimise the impacts, in consideration of the evolving Devolution working relationships.

#### 7. Legal Issues

## 7.1 Equality Act 2010

The Council's duty under the Equality Act 2010 needs to be taken into account when coming to a decision.

The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- 1) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- 2) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

3) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it: Equality Act 2010 s 149(1). The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation: s 149(7).

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- 1) Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- 3) Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life, or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic, and persons who do not share it, involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

This duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified, consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process.

An Equality Impact Analysis (EIA) has been prepared and is attached at Appendix A. This identifies that there is a potential differential impact on certain groups with a protected characteristic who may have to travel further to reach a Household Waste Recycling Centre than they currently do.

No specific mitigation has been identified. However, the distances involved are those that all other residents of Lincolnshire are faced with and are consistent with the Council's12 mile policy adopted in 2012. The HWRCs are open and available for use by all members of the public regardless of protected characteristics. Staff are available on site to assist any member of the public who may be unable to use the facility due to any protected characteristic including age or disability.

In reaching a decision, the Council must also have regard to the Lincolnshire Child Poverty Strategy, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Health & Well Being Strategy.

## 7.2 Child Poverty Strategy

The Lincolnshire Child Poverty Strategy has the followings four strategic themes:

- Economic poverty
- Poverty of access
- Poverty of aspiration
- Best use of resources

Following due consideration it is not considered that this proposal has any link to, or impact on, the Lincolnshire Child Poverty Strategy.

# 7.3 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council has an obligation to have regard to both the JSNA and JHWS in exercising its functions.

In this case, although Leadenham and Whisby Household Waste Recycling Centres and the supplementary services considered in this Report offer the opportunity to the public to dispose of unwanted items originating from their household and thereby contribute to environmental wellbeing, that opportunity will still be provided through the other HWRCs in accordance with the Council's policy.

## 7.4 Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area.

Whilst the Council has received representations that the removal of these services will lead to increased fly-tipping it is not considered that there is any evidence for this. HWRCs will still be available within 12 miles in accordance with the Council's policy. It is not considered justifiable for such additional services to be provided at a time of significant financial challenge in order to prevent the risk of fly-tipping and that such behaviour should be challenged through appropriate education and enforcement activity.

## 8. Recommendation

Waste Services needs to play its part in the County Council goal to continue to deliver high class priority services within extreme Government funding cuts. The stopping of the identified services and the potential opportunities of revenue savings will both provide significant budget reductions, which will assist in the County Council trying to meet the reduced Government funds.

In January 2012 the Executive adopted a policy that 95% of Lincolnshire residents should be within 12 miles of a HWRC. None of the proposals set out in this Report breach that policy. Indeed each of the services referred to in this Report is supplementary to the policy and removal of the services places residents currently able to access those services in the same position as all other residents of the County.

In the difficult financial circumstances that the Council faces it is considered that such supplementary provision is neither affordable nor fair when the money spent on providing such supplementary services in Waste means that less money is available in other service areas.

## 9. Legal Comments:

The Council's obligations under section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 are set out in the Report. The recommendations are compliant with those obligations and acceptance of those recommendations would be lawful.

The matters to be taken into account by the Executive Councillor are set out in the Report.

The decision is consistent with the Policy Framework and within the remit of the Executive Councillor if it is within the budget.

## **10. Resource Comments:**

Over recent and future years the Council has been required to make significant savings to its revenue budget due to a decrease in available Government funding.

As part of the Council's budget setting process, Waste Services has been required to make savings within its budget to contribute to the overall savings required. The savings identified in this report will generate c £0.361m of revenue savings by terminating a number of recycling arrangements."

## 11. Consultation

## a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Countywide

## b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

## c) Scrutiny Comments

The Environmental Scrutiny Committee has considered these proposals at its workshop on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and at its meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

The Environmental Scrutiny Committee will consider this report at its meeting on 11 March 2016. Comments from the Committee will be considered by the Executive Councillor.

## d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

See Equality Impact Analysis at Appendix A

## 12. Appendices

These are liste	d below and attached at the back of the report
APPENDIX A	Equality Impact Analysis

## 13. Background Papers

The following background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report:

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Household Waste Recycling Centres 12 mile policy report, January 2012.	

This report was written by Sean Kent, who can be contacted on 01522 554833 or sean.kent@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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## Equality Impact Analysis to enable informed decisions

#### The purpose of this document is to:-

- I. help decision makers fulfil their duties under the Equality Act 2010 and
- II. for you to evidence the positive and adverse impacts of the proposed change on people with protected characteristics and ways to mitigate or eliminate any adverse impacts.

## Using this form

This form must be updated and reviewed as your evidence on a proposal for a project/service change/policy/commissioning of a service or decommissioning of a service evolves taking into account any consultation feedback, significant changes to the proposals and data to support impacts of proposed changes. The key findings of the most up to date version of the Equality Impact Analysis must be explained in the report to the decision maker and the Equality Impact Analysis must be attached to the decision making report.

## \*\*Please make sure you read the information below so that you understand what is required under the Equality Act 2010\*\*

## **Equality Act 2010**

The Equality Act 2010 applies to both our workforce and our customers. Under the Equality Act 2010, decision makers are under a personal duty, to have due (that is proportionate) regard to the need to protect and promote the interests of persons with protected characteristics.

## Protected characteristics

The protected characteristics under the Act are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation.

## Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010

Section 149 requires a public authority to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by/or under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share those characteristics
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The purpose of Section 149 is to get decision makers to consider the impact their decisions may or will have on those with protected characteristics and by evidencing the impacts on people with protected characteristics decision makers should be able to demonstrate 'due regard'.

#### Decision makers duty under the Act

Having had careful regard to the Equality Impact Analysis, and also the consultation responses, decision makers are under a personal duty to have due regard to the need to protect and promote the interests of persons with protected characteristics (see above) and to:-

- (i) consider and analyse how the decision is likely to affect those with protected characteristics, in practical terms,
- (ii) remove any unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other prohibited conduct,
- (iii) consider whether practical steps should be taken to mitigate or avoid any adverse consequences that the decision is likely to have, for persons with protected characteristics and, indeed, to consider whether the decision should not be taken at all, in the interests of persons with protected characteristics,
- (iv) consider whether steps should be taken to advance equality, foster good relations and generally promote the interests of persons with protected characteristics, either by varying the recommended decision or by taking some other decision.

## **Conducting an Impact Analysis**

The Equality Impact Analysis is a process to identify the impact or likely impact a project, proposed service change, commissioning, decommissioning or policy will have on people with protected characteristics listed above. It should be considered at the beginning of the decision making process.

#### The Lead Officer responsibility

This is the person writing the report for the decision maker. It is the responsibility of the Lead Officer to make sure that the Equality Impact Analysis is robust and proportionate to the decision being taken.

#### **Summary of findings**

Page

You must provide a clear and concise summary of the key findings of this Equality Impact Analysis in the decision making report and attach this Equality Impact Analysis to the report.

## Impact – definition

An impact is an intentional or unintentional lasting consequence or significant change to people's lives brought about by an action or series of actions.

#### How much detail to include?

The Equality Impact Analysis should be proportionate to the impact of proposed change. In deciding this asking simple questions "Who might be affected by this decision?" "Which protected characteristics might be affected?" and "How might they be affected?" will help you consider the extent to which you already have evidence, information and data, and where there are gaps that you will need to explore. Ensure the source and date of any existing data is referenced.

You must consider both obvious and any less obvious impacts. Engaging with people with the protected characteristics will help you to identify less obvious impacts as these groups share their perspectives with you.

A given proposal may have a positive impact on one or more protected characteristics and have an adverse impact on others. You must capture these differences in this form to help decision makers to arrive at a view as to where the balance of advantage or disadvantage lies. If an adverse impact is unavoidable then it must be clearly justified and recorded as such, with an explanation as to why no steps can be taken to avoid the impact. Consequences must be included.

**Proposals for more than one option** If more than one option is being proposed you must ensure that the Equality Impact Analysis covers all options. Depending on the circumstances, it may be more appropriate to complete an Equality Impact Analysis for each option.

The information you provide in this form must be sufficient to allow the decision maker to fulfil their role as above. You must include the latest version of the Equality Impact Analysis with the report to the decision maker. Please be aware that the information in this form must be able to stand up to legal challenge.

## **Background Information**

	Title of the policy / project / service being considered	Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and voluntary recycling credits	Person / people completing analysis	Sean Kent
	Service Area	Environmental Services	Lead Officer	Sean Kent
	Who is the decision maker?	Cllr Reg Shore, Executive Councillor for Waste & Recycling	How was the Equality Impact Analysis undertaken?	Consideration of the present 12 mile HWRC policy and the voluntary recycling provision
	Date of meeting when decision will be made	11/03/2016	Version control	2
	Is this proposed change to an existing policy/service/project or is it new?	Existing policy/service/project	LCC directly delivered, commissioned, re-commissioned or de- commissioned?	De-commissioned
	Describe the proposed change	additional facilities to the requirement of S Recycling Centre. There are still 11 Househ by the policy, in consideration of the ident	-	hin 12 miles of a Household Waste nshire which provide coverage as required
			vision of non-statutory Saturday supplement re in lieu of the provision of a Household Wa	
			ments to North Lincolnshire Council regardir rnetby Top by residents of West Lindsey Dis ket Rasen.	
E¢		The proposed changes are to stop voluntant the required budget reductions.	ry groups recycling credit payments as this is	a discretionary service, in consideration

The Authority will continue to meet statutory responsibilities and strive to continue the high level of service currently provided.
---

## **Evidencing the impacts**

In this section you will explain the difference that proposed changes are likely to make on people with protected characteristics. To help you do this first consider the impacts the proposed changes may have on people without protected characteristics before then considering the impacts the proposed changes may have on people with protected characteristics.

You must evidence here who will benefit and how they will benefit. If there are no benefits that you can identify please state 'No perceived benefit' under the relevant protected characteristic. You can add sub categories under the protected characteristics to make clear the impacts. For example under Age you may have considered the impact on 0-5 year olds or people aged 65 and over, under Race you may have considered Eastern European migrants, under Sex you may have considered specific impacts on men.

#### Data to support impacts of proposed changes

When considering the equality impact of a decision it is important to know who the people are that will be affected by any change.

#### Population data and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

The Lincolnshire Research Observatory (LRO) holds a range of population data by the protected characteristics. This can help put a decision into context. Visit the LRO website and its population theme page by following this link: <u>http://www.research-lincs.org.uk</u> If you cannot find what you are looking for, or need more information, please contact the LRO team. You will also find information about the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment on the LRO website.

## Workforce profiles

You can obtain information by many of the protected characteristics for the Council's workforce and comparisons with the labour market on the <u>Council's website</u>. As of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, managers can obtain workforce profile data by the protected characteristics for their specific areas using Agresso.

## Positive impacts

The proposed change may have the following positive impacts on persons with protected characteristics – If no positive impact, please state 'no positive impact'.

Age	No positive impact
Disability	No positive impact
Gender reassignment	No positive impact
Marriage and civil partnership	No positive impact
Pregnancy and maternity	No positive impact
Race	No positive impact
Religion or belief	No positive impact

Sex	No positive impact
Sexual orientation	No positive impact

	If you have identified positive impacts for other groups not specifically covered by the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 you can include them here if it will help the decision maker to make an informed decision.
-	None
oage	
<sup>9</sup> 64	

#### Adverse/negative impacts

You must evidence how people with protected characteristics will be adversely impacted and any proposed mitigation to reduce or eliminate adverse impacts. An adverse impact causes disadvantage or exclusion. If such an impact is identified please state how, as far as possible, it is justified; eliminated; minimised or counter balanced by other measures.

If there are no adverse impacts that you can identify please state 'No perceived adverse impact' under the relevant protected characteristic.

Negative impacts of the proposed change and practical steps to mitigate or avoid any adverse consequences on people with protected characteristics are detailed below. If you have not identified any mitigating action to reduce an adverse impact please state 'No mitigating action identified'.

Page 65	Age	<ul> <li>Impact – older people may potentially have to travel further to deposit waste in a HWRC. This is likely to be more difficult for them than it would be for a person without the same protected characteristic.</li> <li>Mitigation – No specific mitigation. However, the Council provides 11 good quality HWRCs within a 12 mile radius which have facilities which are more extensive and easier to use than the facilities it is proposed to remove. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics and staff are available on site to assist all users including elderly or disabled users l</li> </ul>		
•	Disability	<ul> <li>Impact – Disabled people may potentially have to travel further to deposit waste in a HWRC. This is likely to be more difficult for them than it would be for a person without the same protected characteristic.</li> <li>Mitigation – No specific mitigation. However, the Council provides 11 good quality HWRCs within a 12 mile radius which have facilities which are more extensive and easier to use than the facilities it is proposed to remove. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics and staff are available on site to assist all users including elderly or disabled users.</li> </ul>		
	Gender reassignment	No impact identified. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics		

Marriage and civil partnership	No impact identified. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics		
Pregnancy and maternity	See Sex below		
Race	No impact identified. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics		
Religion or belief	No impact identified. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics		
Sex	<ul> <li>Impact – Pregnant women and women with young children may potentially have to travel further to deposit waste in a HWRC. This is likely to be more difficult for them than it would be for a person without the same protected characteristic.</li> <li>Mitigation – No specific mitigation. However, the Council provides 11 good quality HWRCs within a 12 mile radius which have facilities which are more extensive and easier to use than the facilities it is proposed to remove. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics and staff are available on site to assist all users including women with small children.</li> </ul>		
Sexual orientation	No impact identified. The sites are open and available to all regardless of protected characteristics		

If you have identified negative impacts for other groups not specifically covered by the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 you can include them here if it will help the decision maker to make an informed decision.

None

## Stakeholders

Stake holders are people or groups who may be directly affected (primary stakeholders) and indirectly affected (secondary stakeholders)

You must evidence here who you involved in gathering your evidence about benefits, adverse impacts and practical steps to mitigate or avoid any adverse consequences. You must be confident that any engagement was meaningful. The Community engagement team can help you to do this and you can contact them at <u>consultation@lincolnshire.gov.uk</u>

State clearly what (if any) consultation or engagement activity took place by stating who you involved when compiling this EIA under the protected characteristics. Include organisations you invited and organisations who attended, the date(s) they were involved and method of involvement i.e. Equality Impact Analysis workshop/email/telephone conversation/meeting/consultation. State clearly the objectives of the EIA consultation and findings from the EIA consultation under each of the protected characteristics. If you have not covered any of the protected characteristics please state the reasons why they were not consulted/engaged.

## Objective(s) of the EIA consultation/engagement activity

The Authority's budget cuts proposals across all Services have been the subject of consultation throughout the County at public meetings. These have allowed the public the opportunity to raise their concerns and questions regarding the budget proposals, including the Waste Services proposals. Apart from these briefings, no specific consultation has been carried out in relation to these proposals or to the equality impacts of them. The provision of HWRCs is a universal service in the sense that although they may generally serve a particular catchment they are available to the public at large both within and outside that catchment. There is no duty to provide the countywide voluntary recycling credits services, which could thus be seen simply as a charitable donation. The HWRC service is provided to all Lincolnshire residents and there is no identifiable grouping who by virtue of their relationship to the service might be expected to be consulted on the change. This is particularly the case when the change is one that brings the HWRC services in these areas into line with a 12 mile policy that applies to the whole of the county and which is itself lawful and has been in place since 2012.

## Who was involved in the EIA consultation/engagement activity? Detail any findings identified by the protected characteristic

Ī	Age	N/A
	Disability	N/A
-	Gender reassignment	N/A
	,	
Ŋ		
Page 69	Marriage and civil partnership	N/A
69		
-		
	Pregnancy and maternity	N/A
-	Race	N/A
Ī	Religion or belief	N/A

Sex	N/A
Sexual orientation	N/A
should have been involved in producing this version of the Equality Impact Analysis has been involved in a meaningful way? The purpose is to make sure you have got the perspective of all the protected	Yes
implemented how will you undertake evaluation of the benefits and how effective the actions to reduce adverse	There are no identified benefits as this is reduction in the Waste Services provision. Any potential for adverse impacts will be monitored through analysis of usage figures from the Council's remaining HWRCs
	Sex Sex Sexual orientation Are you confident that everyone who should have been involved in producing this version of the Equality Impact Analysis has been involved in a meaningful way? The purpose is to make sure you have got the perspective of all the protected characteristics. Once the changes have been implemented how will you undertake evaluation of the benefits and how effective the actions to reduce adverse impacts have been?

Further Details	
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Are you handling personal data?	No
	If yes, please give details.

ag	Actions required	Action	Lead officer	Timescale
	analysis for on-going monitoring of	N/A	Sean Kent	N/A
	impacts.			
	Signed off by	Select.	Date	02/03/2016

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# Agenda Item 7



# **Policy and Scrutiny**

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment & Economy				
Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee			
Date:	11 March 2016			
Subject: Household Waste Recycling Centres – Future Challenges				

#### Summary:

This report informs the Committee that Sean Kent, Group Manager Environmental Services will be making a presentation at the meeting with a view to briefing Councillors on the future challenges in respect of the Household Waste Recycling Centres. This report is an early briefing and will be followed by a more detailed briefing later in 2016.

#### Recommendation(s):

The Committee is invited to consider and comment on this report the presentation.

# 1. Background

Sean Kent, Group Manager Environmental Services will be making a presentation to the meeting of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee. The presentation will provide an early briefing update on the future challenges in respect of the Household Waste Recycling Centres and will be followed by a more detailed briefing later in 2016.

#### 2. Conclusion

To consider and comment on the presentation.

#### 3. Consultation

#### a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable.

#### 4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report. This report was written by Sean Kent, who can be contacted on 01522 554833 or sean.kent@lincolnshire.gov.uk

# Agenda Item 8



**Policy and Scrutiny** 

	Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director of Environment and Economy		
Report to:	Environment Scrutiny Committee		

Date:	11 March 2016
Subject:	Climate Local Annual Review 2015

# Summary:

This report is the 2015 annual review of our Action Plan required following our signing of the Climate Local commitment in August 2012. The Climate Local Action Plan demonstrates our continuing commitment to both reducing our carbon footprint, and adapting to the effects of climate change.

Actions have progressed under all six overarching themes:

- Increasing local resilience to climate change
- Building a low-carbon sector and supporting green jobs
- Creating an accessible Lincolnshire with low carbon transport system
- · Reducing energy consumption in our own activities
- Promote energy and resource efficiency and alleviate fuel poverty
- Reducing waste to landfill

This report highlights progress in 2015 and adds planned future action. The full report is Appended.

#### Actions Required:

The Environment Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider and comment on the Climate Local Annual Review 2015.

# 1. Background

Climate Local is a Local Government Association initiative to drive, inspire and support council action on climate change. It aims to support councils in reducing their carbon emissions, and increasing their resilience to the effects of climate change. Climate Local is the successor of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. Almost 100 local authorities have signed up to Climate Local. Lincolnshire County Council signed the commitment in 2012.

In 2014, our first action plan was published to demonstrate the commitment of Lincolnshire County Council to both reducing its carbon footprint, and adapting to the ever more severe and frequent effects of climate change on our communities.

This annual review of 2015 demonstrates LCC's continued commitment to these objectives.

# 2. Conclusion

This year's update shows continued progress towards many of the objectives set. Several projects have now been completed. During 2014/15 significant structural and staffing changes have resulted in a number of project changes. The scale and or scope of some projects have been reduced and others have ceased entirely. However a number of the projects completed during 2015 have made a significant contribution to meeting the overall objectives of the climate local plan. Amongst them is the Sustain project and provisional figures show the project has met and in some cases exceeded the success measures put in place. This includes securing  $\pounds343,000$  in gross value added, and  $\pounds1,587,000$  of investment.

Looking forward key future actions include -

- Roll out climate change risk assessment
- First call for Structural fund schemes has been made and work is underway to support low carbon economy bids
- Bids will be made to continue sustainable travel work
- Continued investment under the Council's Carbon Management Plan including £5,000,000 investment in street lighting energy efficiency (full report to be considered as agenda item for this meeting)
- Considering how best to continue of the Lincolnshire Energy Switching scheme and fuel poverty schemes
- Next stages of the District heat network study will be completed by December 2016

Climate Local enables the County Council to demonstrate leadership to our communities, stakeholders and peers, and to Government and other national stakeholders.

# 3. Consultation

# a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

# 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report			
APPENDIX A	Annual Update 2015		

# 5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Douglas Robinson, who can be contacted on (01522) 554816 or douglas.robinson@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

#### **APPENDIX A**

# Lincolnshire County Council Climate Local Annual Review 2015



Climate Local is a joint Government/LGA initiative to drive, inspire and support council action on climate change. It aims to support councils in reducing their carbon emissions, and increasing their resilience to the effects of climate change. Climate Local is the successor of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. Almost 100 local authorities have signed up to Climate Local. Lincolnshire County Council signed the commitment in 2012.

Our action plan is structured using 6 overarching outcomes<sup>1</sup>:

- Increased local resilience to the changing climate through developing community resilience plans, awareness raising and training
- A thriving low-carbon sector and further investment attracted to support low carbon growth and green jobs
- An accessible Lincolnshire with a low carbon transport system
- Carbon emissions tackled and energy reduced in our own activities, and working with other organisations, communities and individuals to do so
- Working with partners to promote energy and resource efficiency, reduce energy dependency and alleviate fuel poverty
- Reducing waste to landfill through increased recycling, waste minimisation awareness raising and campaigns, and Energy from Waste

In 2014, an action plan was published to demonstrate the commitment of Lincolnshire County Council to both reducing its carbon footprint, and adapting to the ever more severe and frequent effects of climate change on our communities.

This annual review demonstrates LCC's continued commitment to these objectives. Activity has progressed under all six overarching commitments, and stakeholders have provided updates with details of progress. Furthermore, in some areas new projects are being developed which improve our resilience to the effects of climate change and reduce our carbon footprint and these have been added.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is important to note that some specific actions that appear under these commitment headings may be relevant to demonstrating other commitments; there is likely to be overlap in some themes. Therefore, these commitments should not be considered in isolation.

Examples of progress include:

- Continued implementation of Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy and community resilience initiatives
- Successful completion of Sustain project, exceeding targets
- Increases in train service and patronage; increases in bus and cycle usage and completion of private sector travel plans in LN6 project area
- Delivery of the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan is ahead of schedule
- 6.2% reduction in Council carbon emissions 2014/5
- Lincolnshire Energy Switching scheme savings accrued by householders for all switches to date is over £600,000; an average of over £200 annual savings per household
- The Energy from Waste plant creates enough electricity to power over 19,700 homes and first two stages of heat study are completed

We will commit to monitoring our performance against these actions and reporting annually on progress. We will also annually refresh this list of actions to ensure they are up-to-date and reflect local priorities.

1. Commitment: Increasing local resilience to the changing climate through developing community					
resilience plans, awareness r	resilience plans, awareness raising and training				
Specific actions	Measure	Timescale Update 2016			
Embed climate risk assessment and adaptation planning into LCC service delivery Deliver initiatives outlined in the Natural	<ul> <li>% of actions in LCC's Draft Adaptation Action Plan completed</li> <li>Lincolnshire Wolds AONB</li> </ul>	April 2017- Roll out of the climate Change risk assessment 20162013-2020- Delivery of AONB Management Plan is on			
Environment Strategy to ensure an increase in biodiversity, a natural environment that is resilient to climate change, and residents better understand the environment.	<ul> <li>Management Plan delivered</li> <li>Implemented the Lincolnshire</li> <li>Biodiversity Action Plan and</li> <li>progress monitored robustly</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Delivery of AGNB Management Plan is on schedule.</li> <li>Delivery of LBAP is on track as part of Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership's Nature Strategy.</li> </ul>			
Deliver initiatives outlined in the Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy to ensure that flood impacts and risks are reduced, flood risk management services meet local needs, and communities are better able to protect themselves.	<ul> <li>Partnership Communications and Engagement Strategy established</li> <li>Shoreline Management Plan implemented</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Annually</li> <li>The EA have been tasked by emergency planning to do more engagement with the local community. The coastal awareness campaign is not being undertaken this year.</li> <li>The EA are still working on a long term plan for Saltfleet to Gibraltar point</li> <li>Local prioritisation criteria for local flood risk schemes are still being developed, including carbon reduction score.</li> </ul>			
Lincolnshire Resilience Forum will increase overall community resilience and flood awareness training and guidance for the residents of Lincolnshire. Lincolnshire County Council Emergency Planning & Business Continuity Unit together with its partners under the umbrella of the	<ul> <li>90% of people recognise the risk of coastal flooding</li> <li>80% of people at risk registered for FWD</li> <li>60% of individuals have a flood plan</li> <li>100% of highest risk communities have community</li> </ul>	Ongoing - The coastal campaign continues each October to March coinciding with the winter storm season promoting flood risk and awareness on the coastal strip of the county going a stage further by calling on residents to make a call (register for the Environment Agency FloodLine service), make a plan (personal flood plan for the householder and family to follow in times of flood).			

Lincolnshire Resilience Forum will increase overall awareness of the impact of flooding/emergency as part of the ever changing climatic conditions we face today. Communities, schools and SME's will be encouraged to develop simple and effective community emergency plans, schools critical incident plans and SME's business continuity plans in order they can mitigate the effects of a crisis and recover to a new state of normality as quickly as possible.	<ul> <li>90% of people recognise the risk of coastal flooding and know what to do if it were to occur</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>East coast Evacuation routes have now been formally marked out along the coast allowing for efficient and affective mass evacuation in the event of a Storm surge and potential breach to our sea defences. Signage has been distributed along 13 different routes in all 3 coastal districts; all have received publicity.</li> <li>It remains that 90% of people living along the coast of Lincolnshire should know the risks and then know what to do should these occur however we are still not confident that this figure has been achieved which is why work continues</li> <li>Although 80% of residents along the coastal strip were reported to be signed up to FWD this figure has dropped significantly due to many factors which is why this area of work is now being redeveloped to understand why this cannot be maintained</li> <li>Community emergency planning groups and plans continue to be developed and encouraged throughout Lincolnshire – a further 154 communities have been identified as being at risk from all forms of flooding (rivers and seas, surface water, ground water). Targets have been set to engage with, encourage and support the development of at least 25% of these communities to have fully functioning community emergency planning groups and plans. This target is currently on target and will be achieved by the end of January 2017.</li> </ul>
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Specific action(s)	Measure	Timescale	Update 2016
Achieve the objectives of the Sustain Lincolnshire phase 2 programme.	<ul> <li>46 businesses improving their performance</li> <li>18 businesses engaged in new collaborations</li> <li>£500,000 Gross Value Added</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>The project is now complete and a ful evaluation is due shortly. Provisional figures are as follows:</li> <li>110 businesses received 12hrs+ of suppor with 52 business improving their performance</li> <li>£343,062 Gross Value Added</li> <li>£1,587,490 of investment secured</li> </ul>
Complete the building of the 'CaNeBuZo' carbon Neutral Business Zone and fill the units with local businesses. Ensure other buildings in the county are upgraded to improve energy efficiency and increase renewable energy production.	<ul> <li>Businesses occupying every business unit at the CaNeBuZo site</li> <li>Gibraltar Point Visitor Centre is being refurbished, with solar panels and heat recovery systems.</li> </ul>	2015	<ul> <li>A total of six out of the seven units are now left to local businesses.</li> <li>An electric car charging point has been installed at the site.</li> <li>Skegness Business Centre energy efficiency scheme completed</li> </ul>
Ensure the Structural and Investment Funds allocations within the ERDF and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development meet the thematic objectives, including low carbon, protecting the environment & promoting resource efficiency, and promoting sustainable transport, as well as building sustainable communities.	- Allocation of funds to projects that meet thematic objectives relating to reducing carbon emissions and increasing community resilience.		Funding has been allocated under 3 themes: - Supporting the shift towards a low carbor economy in all sectors (£16,656,000) - Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management (£5,527,000) -Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency (£4,804,000)

	No contracts have been awarded to date. Projects that have been submitted to date are subject to a rigorous appraisal process before funding can be allocated.
	Work is ongoing with GLLEP on developing low carbon projects

3. Commitment: Create an accessible Lincolnshire with a low carbon transport system				
Specific action(s)	Measure	Timescale	Update 2016	
<ul> <li>Ensure that the Local Transport Plan (LTP) continues to provide an overarching outline of transport initiatives and policy across the council</li> <li>Ensure the Lincs2Work Travel Plan targets are met- <ul> <li>Increase LCC staff use of sustainable modes of transport</li> <li>Ensure all staff are aware of their sustainable travel options</li> <li>Reduce the County Council's business mileage</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4<sup>th</sup> LTP published April 2013- to be kept under review</li> <li>5<sup>th</sup> LTP developed in 2022/23</li> <li>Reduction in number of employees who drive to work alone from 44% to 38%</li> <li>Increase LCC staff public transport usage from 5% to 7%</li> <li>Increase in number of employees who cycle to work from 8% to 10%</li> <li>Increase car sharing from 5% of employees to 8%</li> <li>Decrease total LCC business mileage by 1%</li> </ul>	2022-23	<ul> <li>Uncertainties around funding have led to the indefinite postponement of the implementation plan.</li> <li>Schemes to encourage movement by sustainable modes of travel continue to be pursued as funding permits.</li> <li>Staff survey deferred until March 2016 due to workplace moves</li> <li>Figures for staff modes of travel use will be available in May 2016.</li> <li>Events were held in 2015 to encourage sustainable travel to work.</li> <li>Workplace Challenge in January, Lincs Cycle Challenge in June and a bicycle maintenance clinic World Environment Day in October.</li> <li>The car share scheme in operation at County Offices is fully subscribed.</li> <li>Pool bikes are available at County Offices, Crown House and Witham Park House.</li> </ul>	
Continue to successfully deliver the Access LN6 project, removing barriers to residents and members of staff in local businesses travelling sustainably in the LN6 area of Lincoln.	<ul> <li>Increased train, bus and cycle usage</li> <li>Reduced traffic congestion in the LN6 area</li> <li>Behaviour shifts in local</li> </ul>	March 2015	Access LN6 project came to a close in March 2015; Access Lincoln started in April 2015 as a legacy project Access LN6 outcomes included	
	businesses and schools		- In February 2015, train patronage had increased by 144% over the 2009/10	

As a result of the Superfast Broadband rollout, Lincolnshire will be 'greener' and more sustainable, with reduced need to travel through the growth of more flexible working patterns, greater take-up of 'online' service, and exchange of information.	<ul> <li>Reduction in Lincolnshire's carbon emissions</li> <li>Help the county meet the challenging targets set in the recent 4<sup>th</sup> Carbon Budget.</li> <li>Engage with 10 Tier 1</li> </ul>	Summer 2016 March 2014	<ul> <li>baseline.</li> <li>Train services have increased with an additional 14 services per day to and from Lincoln, all of which now stop at Hykeham station</li> <li>Cycle trips have increased by an average of 39.1% over 3 main routes, with trips along Station Road increasing by 77.3% over the baseline.</li> <li>Bus patronage on the 44/44a, a service expanded by Access LN6, increased by an average of 17%, or an extra 7000 people, per calendar month over the 2011/12 baseline</li> <li>90 travel plans completed by March 2015</li> <li>The project has now provided faster broadband capability to 147K premises and is on schedule to complete by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016</li> <li>Average download speed still exceed anticipated</li> <li>A second phase of the programme (Phase 2) will commence in January 2016 where we will attempt to meet the second Government objective of 95% Superfast coverage across the county</li> </ul>
provide support and funding for initiatives that enable members of staff to travel sustainably to work.	businesses and 30 Tier 2 businesses		businesses from March 2015.

Specific action	Measure	Timescale	Update 2016
Ensure Traffic signal and street lighting improvements are made.	Reduction in energy consumption and costs	2017	<ul> <li>Approximately £6.5M has been allocated for street lighting upgrades; that start from April 2016</li> </ul>
Ensure LCC achieves its target of reducing its carbon emissions by 22% by 2018 through: - Continuing to deliver energy efficiency savings through the Salix revolving	- All money returned to Salix fund to be re-allocated each year	Ongoing	- £1,753,487 spend to date, giving an annual saving of 1865 tonnes of CO2 and reduction in consumption of £364,600
<ul> <li>savings through the Saix revolving fund of £1 million.</li> <li>Ensuring the success of the SCoRE programme (Behaviour change; boiler optimisation &amp; boiler room insulation; revolving fund investment)</li> <li>Providing support to the SAGE network of green workplace volunteers</li> <li>Ensuring that carbon management becomes an organisational priority in its decision making</li> <li>Implementing a new data storage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Recruit and engage with 90 schools per year</li> </ul>	August 2016	<ul> <li>Over 200 schools have now been engaged with the SCoRE programme</li> <li>2016 is due to be the final year for SCoRE phase 1</li> <li>Discussions are ongoing regarding funding for a phase 2 programme.</li> <li>The scheme has won various awards (Green Apple Award, Ashden Award, Public Sector Sustainability and shortlisted for the 2016 Local Government Chronicle awards).</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>solution</li> <li>Implementing boiler optimisation in LCC property where appropriate</li> <li>Upgrading lighting in LCC property</li> <li>Property rationalisation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased number of proactive SAGE volunteers</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<ul> <li>Due to budget reductions and staffing changes the SAGE scheme has been inactive over the last year.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Include the carbon reduction target in LCC's Business Plan,</li> </ul>	Ongoing	- Quarterly reporting in Council Business Plan indicator on Carbon Management

other high level strategies and key policies		Plan progress - 2014/15 energy consumption has been reduced by 6.2%
<ul> <li>Energy consumption and costs integrated into property occupancy decisions</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<ul> <li>Energy audits for Keily House completed; programmed for Lancaster House, Newland, Orchard House.</li> </ul>

Specific action(s)	Measure	Timescale	Update 2016	
<ul> <li>In partnership with Districts, implement</li> <li>Lincolnshire's Affordable Warmth Strategy,</li> <li>under the following headings: <ol> <li>Raising awareness of fuel poverty and its solutions</li> <li>Targeting actions at fuel poor households</li> <li>Improving the energy efficiency of all housing tenures</li> <li>Maximising the income of households at risk from fuel poverty</li> <li>Improving access to fuel services and renewable energy</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Affordable Warmth Strategy includes specific measures and actions to complete.</li> </ul>	December 2016	<ul> <li>Affordable Warmth Strategy is being re-written during 2016 to incorporate the Fuel Poverty Action Plan.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Actions from the Fuel Poverty Action Plan include:</li> <li>Trading Standards projects to raise awareness of EPCs</li> <li>Continue to deliver an accreditation scheme for private landlords across the county.</li> <li>Develop an enhanced housing conditions database to target domestic energy efficiency opportunities</li> <li>Implement the collective switching scheme</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Officers to raise awareness of EPCs among landlords and tenants</li> <li>Promote the Lincolnshire landlord accreditation scheme</li> <li>Stock modelling exercise commissioned</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<ul> <li>Lincolnshire Central Heating Fund scheme is being developed with grant from DECC to provide first time installation of central heating for around 180 fuel poor households.</li> <li>Funding from Lincolnshire County Council and the Lincolnshire Community Foundation enabled Responders to Warmth to continue as a Community Interest Company.</li> </ul>	

Warmth			<ul> <li>exercise to incorporate Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) data is ongoing in partnership with the BRE (Building Research Establishment). Bulk EPC data is to be purchased through DCLG.</li> <li>Discussions on domestic EPC enforcement between Trading Standards and district councils have been ongoing.</li> <li>DASH Services is commissioned by district councils to deliver a landlord accreditation scheme.</li> <li>The collective energy switching scheme is to be recommissioned following the end of the Local Government Association (LGA) framework.</li> </ul>
Develop a County Energy Policy that seeks to increase energy security and maximise benefits to the local economy, whilst minimising impacts	- Adopted	January 2017	<ul> <li>Work will be ongoing throughout 2016 to meet this aim.</li> </ul>

# 6. Commitment: Reducing waste to landfill through increased recycling, waste minimisation awareness raising and campaigns, and Energy from Waste

Specific action(s)	Measure	Timescale	Update 2016
Work with other members of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership to update the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) including assessment of carbon impacts, and waste minimisation through education and related schemes such as Real Nappy Campaign, Recycling/Reuse credits, Composting bins	- JMWMS completed	2014	<ul> <li>Production of the JMWMS is likely to be a commissioning role in the future and could start later this year depending upon resource availability.</li> <li>Real nappies and recycling credits are being cut or stopped as budget savings</li> <li>Composters are currently still available</li> </ul>
Generate electricity from Energy from Waste and seek to exploit opportunity for renewable heat	<ul> <li>Amount of electricity and heat generated annually</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	Annually reported	<ul> <li>The EFW generated 81013MWh of electricity, which based on 2014 average household consumption is roughly 19,700 homes.</li> <li>Stages 1 and 2 of the district heat network investigations have been carried out. It is expected that stage 3 will being in summer 2016 and will complete by December 2016.</li> </ul>



**Policy and Scrutiny** 

# Open Report on behalf of Executive Director for Environment and Economy and Director of Public Health

Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee
Date:	11 March 2016
Subject:	Update on Lincolnshire Energy Switching Scheme (LESS)

# Summary:

The Lincolnshire Energy Switching Scheme (LESS) is a joint exercise by Lincolnshire County Council and District Councils to promote and facilitate collective switching, potentially reducing households' energy bills.

To date there have been 6 completed rounds; the current round acceptance phase is open until 15 March 2016. The report details numbers involved and the savings made.

The Local Government Association Framework under which the scheme is run has now expired. Compliant ways of continuing the scheme are currently being explored.

# Actions Required:

The Committee is invited to consider and comment on the report and highlight support for the continuation of the Lincolnshire Energy Switching Scheme.

# 1. Background

A collective switch is where a trusted intermediary (e.g., a Council or consumer organisation such as Which etc.) runs an auction for energy firms to bid to provide special tariffs. Reducing energy bills through rationalised tariff rates was an objective from the Lincolnshire Affordable Warmth Strategy 2010. The strategy is currently due for review and actions renewed. Although collective switching does not exclusively target fuel poor households they do benefit from participating in such schemes.

A Lincolnshire Councils run collective switching scheme was first investigated as an action from the Fuel Poverty Task and Finish group in 2012. Current activity is led by WLDC with communications having been coordinated by NKDC, BBC and currently SKDC. A procurement exercise with the Local Government Association (LGA), Procurement Lincolnshire and North East Procurement Organisation (NEPO) established the LGA framework and was operational for two years.

A key component of the framework was that all energy suppliers had to offer a prepayment tariff to be able to offer a direct debit tariff. Registrations did not commit consumers to switching; they could make a decision once their personalised offer had been generated. Most registrations were made through the website form, but facilities were available for residents to register at their local district council offices or via a telephone service. Call centre registration service has been provided in every round.

Seven Lincolnshire Energy Switching Schemes have been run, with a total of 11,500 registrations. Over 3000 households have switched suppliers, a switching rate of 27% across the six completed switching cycles. (*February 2016 auction is still sending out offers and the acceptance phase is open until March 15<sup>th</sup> 2016*). This is seen as a good average conversion rate, but we did achieve 38% in February 2015 and 32% in October 2015 which are very good. Total household savings are estimated at over £600,000. On average most households save between £180 - £230 by switching to the collective switch tariff. Household savings are likely to be redirected into the local economy, with the associated economic benefits.

The scheme is cost neutral to run, with the HELP group coordinating activity. The referral fees paid by 'iChoosr' after consumers have switched covers the cost of marketing and telephone registration services. Any surplus funds are directed towards future campaigns and actions in the Affordable Warmth Strategy.

The LGA framework was not extended and so Lincolnshire will not be participating in anymore rounds of switching once the acceptance phase of the February 2016 scheme has been completed. Procurement Lincolnshire have advised that if Lincolnshire councils, through HELP, want to continue to offer residents a local switching scheme then expressions of interest should be sought from the few switching scheme providers. Depending on the outcome, HELP would have the option of establishing a direct relationship with a single provider, or running a procurement exercise to award a contract to a winning provider. Lincolnshire councils do not procure any services, they act as the conduit to register residents and validate the switching schemes with their reputations.

Council approval would be required before any further schemes could be established.

The LESS scheme has benefited many households across the county and that has included some fuel poor households. Although the scheme has raised awareness of switching there are still significant numbers of households who have never switched energy tariff and would benefit enormously. There is anecdotal evidence of households that have negotiated better energy deals for themselves and made savings as a consequence of knowing about the Lincolnshire Energy Switch even if they have not switched through the scheme.

# 2. Conclusion

Reducing household energy costs is an important element of the affordable warmth agenda. Long term reductions can be made through improvement to buildings and these are most likely to be maintained. Tariff optimisation has value in terms of ensuring that consumers are not paying more than necessary for their energy needs. Consumers need to switch regularly to maintain the savings and a local council approved scheme helps to reassure residents that they are making a good choice in a market that can be very confusing.

Given the credibility that has been established through LESS it would be a retrograde step if Lincolnshire Councils are no longer able to promote and facilitate switching. As mentioned above steps are being taken to ensure that the scheme can continue.

# 3. Consultation

# a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

# 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report		
APPENDIX A	Lincolnshire County Council Website information on LESS	
APPENDIX B	Lincolnshire Energy Switch Scheme statistics	

# 5. Background Papers

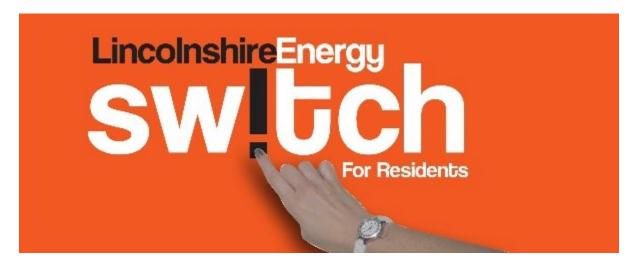
No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Douglas Robinson, who can be contacted on (01522) 554816 or douglas.robinson@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

#### Lincolnshire County Council Website information on LESS

# Lincolnshire Energy Switch

You could save hundreds of pounds on your energy bills by joining our collective energy switch.



Collective energy switching is a way for communities to try and get cheaper gas and electricity tariffs from energy suppliers. Rather than switching provider as an individual, you can do it together and save money. The Lincolnshire Energy Switch is part of a wider scheme operating across the country.

If you haven't switched energy supplier in the last few years, you are likely to see the biggest savings. However, those who switch regularly can still benefit too. In the most recent auction, held in May 2015, the average saving per household to take up their offer was £220.85.

#### How to register

You can register online until the end of 1st February 2016.

#### What information you need

To register with the Lincolnshire Energy Switch, you will need your annual energy statement or latest energy bill(s). You will need to provide information on your current tariff and energy consumption, as well as your preferred method of payment. If you are on a pre-payment meter you can still take part and hopefully benefit from a cheaper tariff too.

There is no obligation to switch suppliers after you have registered; if you do not like the offer you can choose to decline and play no further part. There are plans to run more schemes in the future so if you would like take part at a later date, you can save your information and it will automatically be re-submitted.

# How the Lincolnshire Energy Switch works

- 1. Residents register their interest in the scheme to look for a cheaper energy tariff. All you need is your annual energy statement or latest energy bills and contact details. It is free to register and there is no obligation to switch.
- 2. At the end of the registration period an auction will be held on 2nd February 2016 with energy suppliers to find out which one will provide the best price to supply energy to the households that have registered.
- 3. You will be sent a personal offer from 12th February 2016 it is up to you whether you accept it and choose to switch or not. If you decide to switch you will need to do so by Monday 15th March 2016.

The more people who register, the bigger the potential savings for everyone.

#### Don't use gas for heating?

If you use heating oil, have you considered joining an oil bulk buying scheme? For further information visit the <u>Community Lincs Community Oil Buying Scheme web</u> page.

#### **Related Pages**

• Time running out to join Lincolnshire Energy Switch Scheme

#### **Related Links**

Lincolnshire County Council is not responsible for the content of external weblinks.

- **Big Community Switch**
- Community Lincs Oil Buying Scheme

#### Lincolnshire Energy Switch Scheme statistics

All LES Auctions	Total number of registrations	Registered post auction	Final registrants including re invites	Total number of switchers	Switching rates	LES average individual savings	LES total estimated householder savings
February 14 Auction	4035		4035	1041	26%	£186.00	£193,626.00
June 14 Auction	1105		1105	209	18.9%	£210.10	£43,911.00
October 14 Auction	1276	239	1515	460	28%	£187.00	£86,020.00
February 15 Auction	883	897	1780	525	38%	£218.73	£114,833.25
June 15 Auction	510	733	1244	339	27.2%	£226.05	£76,404.90
October 15 Auction	583	771	1354	438	32.3%	£218.61	£101,293.26
February 16 Auction <sup>1</sup>	711	371	1082	224	20.7%		
Totals	8916	2640	11033	3012			£616,088.41

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> February auction process ongoing to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016 so figures are not final but latest available



**Policy and Scrutiny** 

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director of Environment and Economy		
Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee	

# Subject: Street Lighting Transformation Project

# Summary:

As a result of evaluating budget reduction options a scheme has been developed to ensure that LCC's system of 68,000 street lights is more efficient, sustainable and relevant for Lincolnshire.

This will be achieved through a combination of LED conversions with dimming, part night lighting and some switch offs designed to save  $\pounds$ 1.77M annually and reduce emissions by 6,254 tonnes for an approved capital investment of  $\pounds$ 6.4M. This is an invest to save project with a pay back period of 3.6 years. A presentation of the main features of the scheme will be given at Committee.

Members will recall that such actions have featured regularly in discussions relating to our Carbon Management Plan (CMP). The scheme is a welcome development and will contribute significantly to the Council 2013-8 CMP target to reduce emissions by 22%.

# Recommendation(s):

The Committee is invited to consider and comment on the Street Lighting Transformation Project update.

# 1. Background

- 1.1 Over the last decade, there has been an ongoing programme in Lincolnshire to increase the efficiency of the County's street lighting stock, comprising of 68,000 units, utilising existing budgets and some investment from the internally managed Salix fund. This has had some impact on the sustainability of street lighting, although limited by the budget available to invest.
- 1.2 A capital investment of the size proposed in the Street Lighting Transformation project, in addition to normal budgets, will give the opportunity to significantly reduce energy consumption and the associated revenue costs. This will also support the authority's carbon management

objectives by providing a significant reduction in the carbon footprint of the street lighting asset.

- 1.3 The Street Lighting Transformation project will, starting with an holistic approach to the entire street lighting stock, work through the hierarchy identified in the street lighting policy considering the level of investment available.
- 1.4 Capital investment in both LED technology and photocells for part-night lighting will enable the overall analysis referred to in paragraph 1.3 above, allowing the Council to introduce dimming or part night lighting on individual highway links

#### Energy Management

1.5 Lincolnshire's highway lighting currently consumes approximately 26 million Kwh per annum. Energy prices are notoriously variable, even using the professionally managed energy-purchase scheme operated by ESPO. A significant reduction in energy consumption, estimated at 12.5 million Kwh per annum, through reducing street lighting and investing in LED technology will reduce exposure to variations in energy prices.

#### Carbon management

1.6 In the baseline year of 2011/12, street lighting contributed 16% of the Council's greenhouse gas emissions through energy consumption. Any reduction in energy consumption by street lighting would correspondingly reduce this.

#### Budgets and finance

- 1.7 Ongoing budget reviews have identified street lighting energy and maintenance as areas where significant revenue budget savings could be made through reducing street lighting and investing in new LED technologies. The proposed capital investment is expected to optimize the balance of revenue savings against service impact.
- 1.8 The combination of changes are designed to:
  - Save £1.7M revenue funding per year
  - Reduce LCC's carbon footprint by 6,254 tonnes
  - Reduce LCC's electricity consumption by 12.5M Kwh per year.
  - Reduce Light Pollution
  - Reduce ongoing maintenance needs.
- 1.9 The programme of work is due to commence in April 2016 and be completed by 31 March 2017 at which point the savings will be realised.
- 1.10 In 2007 Lincolnshire County Council signed the Nottingham Declaration on climate change committing to tackle the causes and effects of a changing climate. In 2013 it signed the successor Climate Local commitment. To fulfil

those commitments and in support of 'Protecting and sustaining the environment' and 'Enablers and support to the Council's outcomes' Commissioning strategies the Council has agreed two Carbon Management Plans. The current Plan covers the period 2013-18 and seeks to reduce our emissions (from 2011-12 baselines) by 22%.

1.11 The projects identified in the plan had the potential to reduce our emissions by 13,946 tonnes of CO2 per annum and would achieve 76% of the targeted reduction measured against the 2011-12 baseline. It was agreed that regular review would take place to identify further opportunities with key stakeholders. This scheme is a very good example of this and achieves 1/3 of the 5 year target of 18,000 tonnes reduction on CO2 in one scheme.

#### 2. Conclusion

The proposed Street Lighting Transformation project will enable Lincolnshire County Council to ensure that its system of street lighting is more efficient, sustainable and relevant for Lincolnshire.

This invest to save project, with a payback period of 3.6 years, will enable the council to accelerate the savings relating to street lighting both from a financial and carbon management perspective.

#### 3. Consultation

#### a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

#### 4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Richard Hardesty, who can be contacted on 01522 550393 or richard.hardesty@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

# Agenda Item 11



**Policy and Scrutiny** 

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director of Environment and Economy		
Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	11 March 2016	
Subject:	<b>District Heating Project Progress Report</b>	

# Summary

This report provides an update on the District Heating project, the purpose of which is to utilise heat which is produced by the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in North Hykeham.

#### Actions Required:

The Committee is invited to consider and comment on the District Heating Project Progress Report.

# 1. Background

The EfW facility in North Hykeham incinerates approximately 150,000 tonnes of the county's waste every year. This process enables around 11MW of electricity to be generated which is currently sold back to the National Grid. Around 10MW of heat energy is also produced but this is not being utilised and is being vented into the environment.

The District Heating project hopes to utilise this lost heat and circulate it to local buildings in the form of a Heat Network. Such heat would be sold to the end user and would be a replacement for a historical energy supply such as gas.

In 2015 Environmental Services successfully bid for funding from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) grant from the Heat Network Delivery Funding (HNDU). The purpose of this fund was to appoint a specialist consultant to carry out a Greater Lincoln Energy Study and in 2015 Element Energy (EE) were appointed. The scope of the study would be to see if it is feasible to progress with a District Heating project and if so, how best to achieve it. The study would also look at cooling and private electricity wire possibilities.

# 2. Conclusion

EE have a 9 month contract to undertake 2 study stages which will look at the following:

- Stage 1 Energy Mapping Study.
- Stage 2 Energy Master Planning Study.

**Stage 1** is now complete and EE have collected data on energy demand in the Greater Lincoln area. A database of potential heat users has been developed (Heat Map) showing locations and density of energy zones. This has involved consultation with property owners.

**Stage 2** began in October and has focussed on more detailed scenarios being produced. Seven distinct areas have been analysed with economic assessments carried out to establish the viability of DH for those potential end users. The southernmost area extends to Witham St Hughes and the northern most extends to the city centre incorporating the County Hospital and the Prison. These two properties represent the largest anchor loads. The third largest loads are the University and surrounding commercial developments.

EE will now analyse the different data and make further contacts with potential users to establish if it economically viable for a potential switch to DH. One of the main economic restrictions around viability is the distance of the end user from the EfW plant. Up to 70% of the cost of DH is in providing the pipe network and therefore locations closer to EfW may be more realistic around the Teal Park and LN6 area. However all options are still being considered.

The issue around feasibility is that there must be a financial benefit to a customer of switching from being an existing gas user to DH. This is ordinarily achieved by buying the heat at a rate lower than the gas market price. The capital outlay of providing the pipe network, pump station and back up boiler by the authority along with the operating cost must be offset by the sale of heat to customers. Long term commitments can be difficult to obtain with small scale developments but properties such as hotels and leisure centres are ideal for this type of energy.

# 3. Consultation

# a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

# 4. Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

This report was written by Mike Reed who can be contacted on 01522 552396, or mike.reed@lincolnshire.co.uk.



**Policy and Scrutiny** 

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director of Environment and Economy		
Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	11 March 2016	
Subject: Council Business Plan 2015 - 2016 Performance Report, Quarter Three		

#### Summary

This report provides key performance information that is relevant to the work of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee.

# Actions Required:

The Committee is invited to review, scrutinise and comment on Quarter 3 performance.

# 1. Background

The appendices to this report provide the Committee with the performance information relating to the remit of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee.

#### Council Business Plan 2015/2016

The Council Business Plan 2015/16 was approved by the County Council in February 2015 and has been organised around the 17 commissioning strategies. Performance measures have been identified for each commissioning strategy and the following five Council Business measures are in the remit of this Committee:

	Measure	Notes
1.	CO <sup>2</sup> Reductions from County Council Activity	Reported Annually
2.	Lincolnshire CO <sup>2</sup> Reductions	Reported Annually
3.	Waste Sent to Landfill	Measured Quarterly
4.	Household Waste Recycled	Measured Quarterly
5.	Green Waste Composted	Measured Quarterly

Appendix A includes information on the performance against the three measures which are reported quarterly. Information on the remaining two measures will be reported at the time the information is available.

#### Customer Satisfaction Information

Appendix B provides a breakdown of the Quarter 3 customer satisfaction information for the services which come under the remit of this Committee.

#### 2. Conclusion

The Committee is invited to review, scrutinise and comment on Quarter 3 performance.

#### 3. Consultation

#### a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

#### 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report			
APPENDIX A Quarter 3 Performance			
	(1 October to 31 December 2015)		
APPENDIX B	Quarter 3 Customer Satisfaction Information		

#### 5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Sean Kent, who can be contacted on 01522 554833 or Sean.Kent@lincolnshire.co.uk.

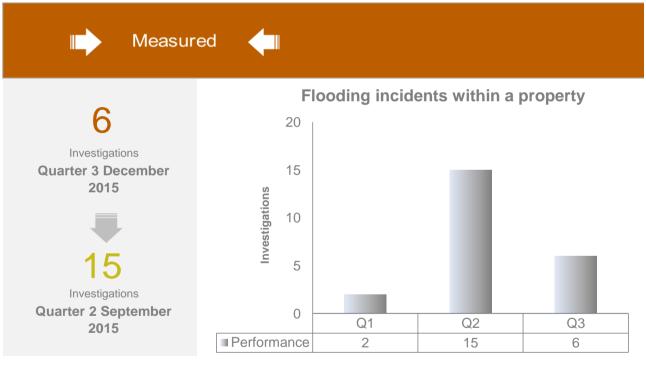


## **Businesses Are Supported to Grow**

Reduce the risk of flooding

## Flooding incidents within a property

This measure is calculated on the basis of the number of formal investigations undertaken by the County Council under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 where the incident involves flooding within a property from any source, although under the Act the County Council only has a responsibility for local flood risk i.e. from surface water, groundwater or ordinary watercourses. Lincolnshire County Council has interpreted a flooding incident to be any in which one or more domestic properties are flooded internally.



#### About the latest performance

The Q3 figure for flood investigations (six investigations affecting 6 properties) is significantly lower than the Q2 figure (15 flood investigations affecting 41 properties), and reflects the seasonal change in the occurrence of intense rainfall events which typically contribute to surface water flooding. Comparison with the same period last year is interesting as no internal flooding at all was reported in Q3 in 2014/15, emphasising the random nature of surface water flooding.

#### Further details

This is a new measure for 2015-16 therefore historical data is not available

#### About the target

This measure is reported to provide context to the outcome reduce the risk of flooding. It is not appropriate to set a target for this measure.

#### About the target range

A target range is not applicable as this is a contextual measure.

#### About benchmarking

This measure is local to Lincolnshire as each Local Flood Authority (Unitary and County Councils) defines a flood incident as they consider appropriate.





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# **Businesses Are Supported to Grow**

Reduce carbon emissions

## CO2 reductions from County Council activity

Carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  is a greenhouse gas which contributes, along with other gasses, to global warming and the resulting climate change.

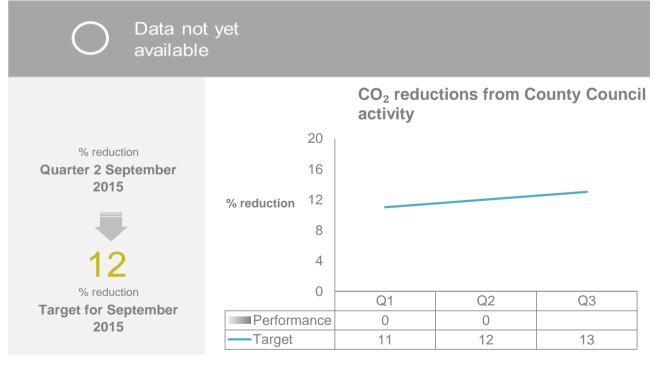
The County Council is no different to any other organisation in that its activities use energy and emit significant amounts of these gasses.

The main activities involved (both Council and their long term partners) that generate these emissions are:-

- \* Use of buildings (heating & lighting)
- \* Use of vehicles (fuel)
- \* Street lighting (electricity)

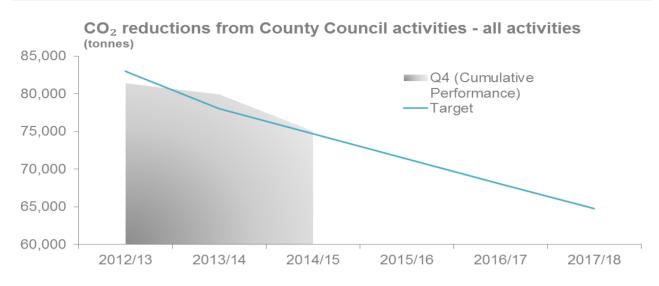
County Council annual carbon dioxide emissions were calculated in 2011/12 and the baseline figure was reported as 83,006 tonnes.

The Council has adopted a target reduction of 22% over a 6 year period, reducing the emission down by 18,261 tonnes to 64,745 tonnes by 31st March 2018.

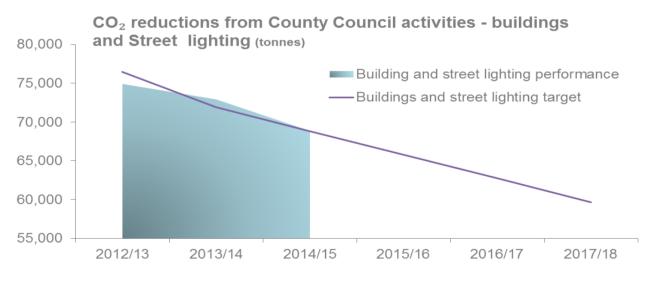


#### About the latest performance

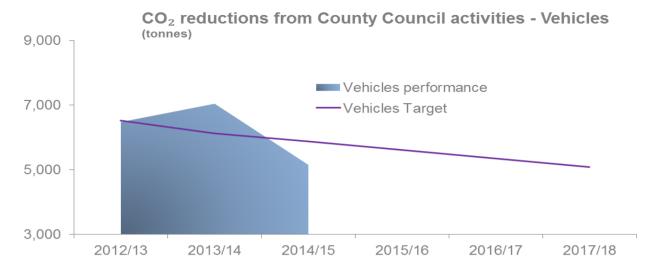
#### Further details



Measure Name	CO <sub>2</sub> red	CO <sub>2</sub> reductions from County Council activity							
Total	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18			
Q4 (Cumulative Performance)	81,382	79,924	74,989						
Target	83,006	78,026	74,705	71,385	68,065	64,745			



Measure Name	CO <sub>2</sub> reductions from County Council activity							
Buildings	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18		
Q4 (Cumulative Performance)	74,908	72,883	68,829					
Target	76,490	71,900	68,841	65,781	62,722	59,662		



Measure Name	CO <sub>2</sub> reductions from County Council activity							
Vehicles	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18		
Q4 (Cumulative Performance)	6,474	7,042	5,160					
Target	6,516	6,125	5,865	5,604	5,343	5,083		

#### About the target

County Council annual carbon dioxide emissions were calculated in 2011/12 and the baseline figure was reported as 83,006 tonnes.

The Council have adopted a target reduction of 22% over a 6 year period, reducing the emission down by 18,261 tonnes to 64,745 tonnes by 31st March 2018.

About the target range

There is no target range for this measure as the target is based on a reduction of 22% over a 6 year period.

About benchmarking

This measure is local to Lincolnshire and therefore is not benchmarked against any other area.



# Businesses Are Supported to Grow

Increase recycling

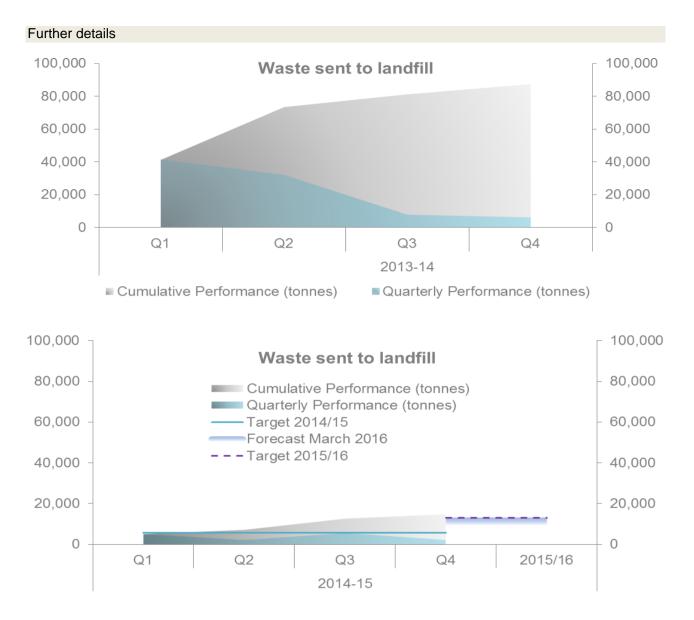
### Waste sent to landfill

The tonnage of waste collected by either the County or District Councils which was sent to landfill.



#### About the latest performance

This is an estimate until final figures have been verified by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (due in May). Our Energy from Waste facility continues to receive the vast majority of the waste that would previously have gone to landfill. Since no further major change in our landfill tonnage is expected in the next few years, it has been recommended that this indicator is no longer reported on after the end of 2015/16.



Measure Name	Waste se	Vaste sent to landfill							
	2013-14				2014-15	5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2015/ 2016
Quarterly									
Performance	41,361	32,022	7,858	6,183	5,033	2,047	5,485	2,076	
(tonnes)									
Cumulative									
Performance	41,361	73,383	81,241	87,424	5,033	7,080	12,565	14,641	
(tonnes)									
Target					5,630	5,630	5,630	5,630	13,000
Forecast (March 2016)									11,100

#### About the target

It is estimated that we have 163,000 tonnes of residual (non-recycled) waste. We aim to send 150,000 tonnes to Energy from Waste, leaving 13,000 tonnes to go to landfill.

#### About the target range

A small percentage change in overall residual waste could lead to a much larger change in landfilling, so a wide target range has been set.

#### About benchmarking

As tonnage of waste landfilled depends on the size of a Local Authority, comparisons with other councils is not meaningful.

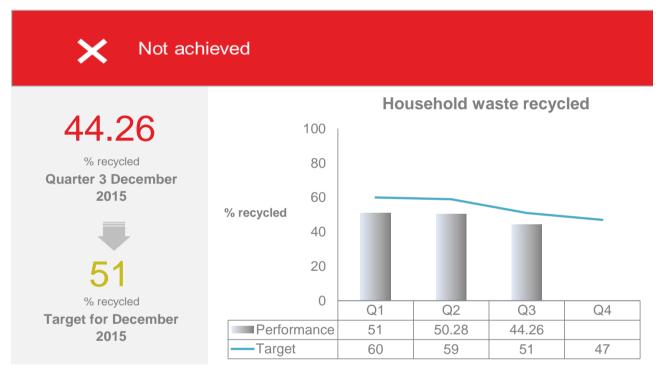


## Businesses Are Supported to Grow

Increase recycling

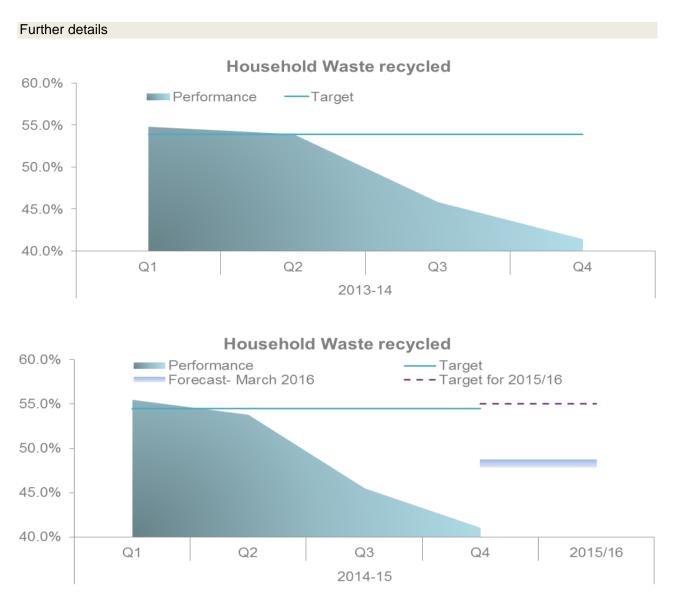
### Household waste recycled

The percentage of waste collected by either the County or District Councils which was reused, recycled or composted.



#### About the latest performance

This is an estimate until final figures have been verified by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (due in May). As described in the "green waste composted" measure, we have received less waste for composting than in 2014. Also, we continue to see a higher level of recyclables rejected as contamination than last year due to a change in the legislation introducing a more stringent sampling regime than in the past. Work is ongoing with our Waste Collection Authority partners to identify a new long-term target, and how we can best work together to achieve it.



Measure Name	Househo	Household waste recycled							
	2013-14				2014-15				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2015/
	QI	QZ	0,5	Q4	QI	QZ	Q.5	Q4	2016
Performance	54.8%	54.0%	45.9%	41.5%	55.5%	53.8%	45.5%	41.0%	
Target	53.9%	53.9%	53.9%	53.9%	54.5%	54.5%	54.5%	54.5%	55.0%
Forecast (March 2016)									48.3%

#### About the target

The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2008) set a target to achieve 55% recycling and composting by 2015. Quarterly targets reflect this but are seasonally-adjusted since most composting happens during April to September (Q1 and Q2).

#### About the target range

Given the number of separate figures which go into this calculation, a target range of +/- 0.5 percentage points allows for small fluctuations to remain on target.

#### About benchmarking

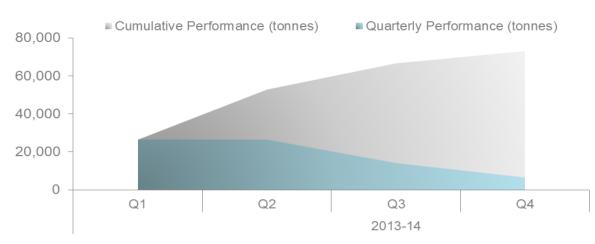
National data is available for each Local Authority. However, given the delay in finalising official figures, this is usually only available for the previous year, so needs to be treated with caution.



#### **Businesses Are Supported to Grow** Increase recycling Green waste composted The tonnage of green waste collected by either the County or District Councils which was sent for composting. Measured Green waste composted 14,548 30000 Tonnes 25000 **Quarter 3 December** 20000 2015 Tonnes 15000 10000 24,368 5000 Tonnes **Quarter 2 September** 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 2015 Performance 26188 24368 14548

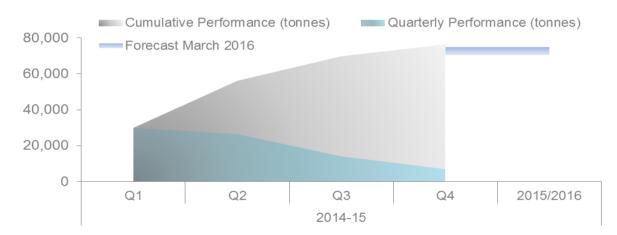
#### About the latest performance

This is an estimate until final figures have been verified by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (due in May). With the majority of the 2015/16 green waste having already been collected, it now seems likely that, over the whole year, we will collect around 5,000 tonnes (7%) less than in 2014/15. Whilst some of this may be down to weather conditions, this may also reflect the ongoing impact of charges which some of our District Councils have introduced for garden waste collections.



#### Green waste composted (tonnes)

#### Green waste composted (tonnes)



Measure Name	Green wa	Green waste composted							
	2013-14				2014-15	5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2015/ 2016
Unsubtantiated	26,307	26,349	13,965	6,353	29,796	26,124	13,665	6,592	
Cumulative									
Performance	26,307	52,657	66,621	72,974	29,796	55,920	69,585	76,177	
(tonnes)									
Forecast									72 600
(March 2016)									72,600
No targets as this measure is contextual									

#### About the target

No target has been set, as this is measured for reference purposes. The tonnage composted depends on how much green waste is presented to us by the public and external factors such as weather conditions.

#### About the target range

A target range is not applicable as this is a contextual measure.

#### About benchmarking

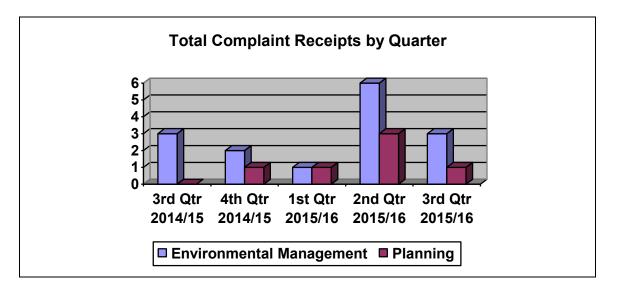
As tonnage of waste composted depends on the size of a Local Authority, comparisons with other councils is not meaningful.

## **Customer Satisfaction Information – Scrutiny Committees**

Environmental						
Scrutiny Committee	1 <sup>st</sup> of October – 31 <sup>st</sup> December 20	15 (1 <sup>st</sup> July – 30 <sup>th</sup>				
Date Range for Report	September 2015)					
Total number of complaints						
received across all LCC service	152 (149)* individual school comp	laints not included				
area. Total number of complaints						
relating to Environmental Scrutiny	4 (9)					
<u>Committee</u>						
Total number of compliments						
relating to Environmental Scrutiny	11 (3)					
<u>Committee</u> Total Service Area Complaints	Environmental Management	3 (6)				
	Planning	1 (3)				
Service Area Environmental Management Complaint Reasons	Breach of Confidence	0 (0)				
	Conduct/Attitude/	0 (3)				
	Rudeness of staff					
	Disability	0 (0)				
	Disagree with Policy Disagree with Procedure	2 (0) 0 (1)				
	Insufficient Information Provided	0 (0)				
	Other Policy of LCC not to Provide	0 (0)				
	Service (L)	0 (0)				
	Procedural - other	0 (1)				
	Procedure not followed	0 (1)				
	Race	0 (0)				
	Service Delay	1 (0)				
Service Area Planning Complaint Reasons	Breach of Confidence	1 (0)				
	Conduct/Attitude/Rudeness of staff	0 (1)				
	Disability	0 (0)				
	Disagree with Policy	0 (0)				
	Disagree with Procedure	0 (0)				
	Insufficient Information Provided	0 (0)				
	Lack of Choice	0 (0)				
	Other	0 (0)				
	Procedural - other	0 (1)				
	Professional - other	0 (1)				
Service Area Compliments	Environmental Management	11 (3)				
Control Arou Complimento	Planning	0 (0)				
		- \-/				

#### APPENDIX B

How many LCC Corporate complaints have not been resolved within service standard	10 (8)
Number of complaints referred to Ombudsman	7 (12)



#### Summary

#### LCC Overview of Complaints

The total number of LCC complaints received for this Quarter (Q3) shows a 2% increase on the previous Quarter (Q2). When comparing this Quarter with Q3 2014/15, there is a 20% increase, when 127 complaints were received.

#### **Overall Environmental Management & Planning Complaints**

The overall complaints received for Environmental Management & Planning this Quarter has decreased by 5 complaints compared to the previous Quarter (Q2), when 9 were received. This is the same as Quarter 3 2014/15.

#### Environmental Management Complaints

This Quarter Environmental Management has received 3 complaints which is an decrease of 3 from last Quarter when 6 were received. The complaints were regarding:

- 1 Complaint regarding household waste recycling centre procurement process.
- 1 Complaint regarding lack of advice/support regarding a bridleway issue.
- 1 Complaint regarding lack of investment in a public footpath.

Out of the 3 complaints, 2 were recorded as not substantiated and the outcome has not been given for the remaining 1.

#### Planning Complaints

This Quarter Planning received 1 complaint which is a decrease of 2 from last Quarter when 3 was received. This complaint is regarding:

- Lincolnshire County Council breaching confidence

This complaint was recorded as partly substantiated.

Overall Compliments

The overall compliments received for Environmental Management and Planning has increased by 8 compliments this Quarter when they received 11. Last Quarter, 3 compliments were received.

Environmental Management Compliments

Environmental Management received 11 compliments this Quarter. The compliments were:

- 2 Compliments were regarding the Willow Tree Fen cattle walk.
- 2 Compliments were regarding helpful and friendly staff at household waste recycling sites (Market Rasen and Sleaford).
- 1 Compliment was regarding a visit to Goltho Woods (Limewoods).
- 6 Compliments were regarding the maintenance of Public Rights of Way.

#### Planning Compliments

Planning received no compliments this Quarter.

#### Ombudsman Complaints

In Quarter 3 of 2015/16, 7 LCC complaints were registered with the Ombudsman. Environmental Management & Planning received no complaints that were considered by the Ombudsman.

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# Agenda Item 13



**Policy and Scrutiny** 

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Director responsible for Democratic Services				
Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee			
Date:	11 March 2016			
Subject: Environmental Scrutiny Committee Work Programme				

#### Summary:

This item enables the Environmental Scrutiny Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year.

#### Actions Required:

To consider and comment on the work programme as set out in Appendix A to this report.

#### 1. Background

The Committee's work programme for the coming year is attached at Appendix A to this report. The Committee is invited to consider and comment on the content of the work programme.

#### Work Programme Definitions

Set out below are the definitions used to describe the types of scrutiny, relating to the items on the Work Programme:

<u>Budget Scrutiny</u> - The Committee is scrutinising the previous year's budget, or the current year's budget or proposals for the future year's budget.

<u>Pre-Decision Scrutiny</u> - The Committee is scrutinising a proposal, prior to a decision on the proposal by the Executive, the Executive Councillor or a senior officer.

<u>Performance Scrutiny</u> - The Committee is scrutinising periodic performance, issue specific performance or external inspection reports.

<u>Policy Development</u> - The Committee is involved in the development of policy, usually at an early stage, where a range of options are being considered.

<u>Consultation</u> - The Committee is responding to (or making arrangements to) respond to a consultation, either formally or informally. This includes preconsultation engagement.

<u>Status Report</u> - The Committee is considering a topic for the first time where a specific issue has been raised or members wish to gain a greater understanding.

<u>Update Report</u> - The Committee is scrutinising an item following earlier consideration.

<u>Scrutiny Review Activity</u> - This includes discussion on possible scrutiny review items; finalising the scoping for the review; monitoring or interim reports; approval of the final report; and the response to the report.

#### 2. Conclusion

To consider and comment on the Work Programme.

#### 3. Consultation

#### a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

This report does not require policy proofing.

#### 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report					
APPENDIX A Environmental Scrutiny Committee Work Programme					
APPENDIX B	Forward Plan of Decisions relating to Environmental Scrutiny Committee				

#### 5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 01522 552102 or by e-mail at daniel.steel@lincolnshire.gov.uk

# ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE & FLOOD AND DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Councillor Lewis Strange
Vice Chairman:	Councillor Victoria Ayling

11 March 2016, 10:00am Environmental Scrutiny Committee							
ltem	Contributor	Purpose					
Capital Appraisal for Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre	Sean Kent, Group Manager Environmental Services	Pre-Decision Scrutiny Executive Councillor: 18 March 2016					
Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Credit Schemes	Sean Kent, Group Manager Environmental Services	Pre-Decision Scrutiny Executive Councillor: 11 March 2016					
Household Waste Recycling Centres Future Challenges	Sean Kent, Group Manager Environmental Services	Status Report					
Climate Local Action Plan Annual Report	Doug Robinson, Sustainability Team Leader	Update Report					
Energy Switch Scheme	Doug Robinson, Sustainability Team Leader	Update Report					
Street Lighting Transformation Project Update	Richard Hardesty, Senior Project Leader	Update Report					
District Heating Project Progress Report	Mike Reed, Environment Team Leader	Update Report					
Performance Report, Quarter 3 – (1 October to 31 December 2015)	Sean Kent, Group Manager Environmental Services	Performance Scrutiny					

29 April 2016 Environmental Scrutiny Committee						
Item Contributor Purpose						
OFFSITE VISIT						
Gibraltar Point / English Coastal Path						
Louth & Horncastle Flood Alleviation Schemes						

13 May 2016, 10:00am Flood And Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee					
ltem	Contributor	Purpose			
Investigations held under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010	Mark Welsh, Flood Risk and Development Manager	Update Report			
Environment Agency Update	Deborah Campbell, Environment Agency	Update Report			
Disaster Management Update	David Powell, Emergency Planning	Update Report			

10 June 2016, 10:00am Environmental Scrutiny Committee					
ltem	Contributor	Purpose			
Performance Report, Quarter 4 – (1 January to 31 March 2016)	Sean Kent, Group Manager Environmental Services	Performance Scrutiny			
SCORE Presentations	Doug Robinson, Sustainability Team Leader	Update Report			
Anglian Water Recycling Centres Update	Paul Dimbleby / Brian Kane Anglian Water	Update Report			
Mixed Dry Recyclables Contract	Sean Kent Group Manager Environmental Services	Update Report			

01 June 2016, 10:00am Environmental Scrutiny Committee						
Item Contributor Purpose						
<b>OFFSITE VISIT</b> CaNeBuZo – Carbon Neutral Business Zone, Stafford Proctor, Wash Frontagers' Group (WFG), Sutton Bridge Marina						

For more information about the work of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee please contact Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer on 01522 552102 or by e-mail at <u>daniel.steel@lincolnshire.gov.uk</u>

## Forward Plan of Decisions relating to Environmental Scrutiny Committee

DI	EC REF		DATE OF DECISION	MAKER	PEOPLE/GROUPS CONSULTED PRIOR TO DECISION	DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR DECISION	COMMENT PRIOR TO			DIVISIONS AFFECTED
10		Changes to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres and Voluntary Recycling Credits	11 March 2016	Executive Councillor: Waste, Recycling	Environmental Scrutiny Committee	Report	Environmental Services Tel: 01522 554833	Executive Councillor: Waste, Recycling and Executive Director for Environment and Economy	No	All
		Capital Appraisal for Boston Household Waste Recycling Centre	18 March 2016	Executive Councillor: Waste, Recycling, and, Executive Councillor: Finance and Property	Environmental Scrutiny Committee	Report	Environmental Services Tel: 01522 554833	Executive Councillor: Waste, Recycling and Executive Director for Environment and Economy		Boston Coastal; Boston East; Boston Fishtoft; Boston North West; Boston Rural; Boston South; Boston West

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