

Agenda Item 6



Policy and Scrutiny

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Interim Executive Director for Place

Report to:	Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 February 2019
Subject:	Waste Strategy for Lincolnshire and National Resources & Waste Strategy

Summary:

This report summarises the contents, with regard to municipal waste, of the new Resources and Waste Strategy for England. In particular, it identifies the synergies between that national Strategy and the recently-adopted Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) for Lincolnshire.

The report also sets out how this committee can influence the enacting of those Strategies as LCC both responds to upcoming national consultations and develops a suite of measures to monitor environmental performance.

Actions Required:

The Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee is invited to:

1. Consider and Comment on the proposed list of performance measures for monitoring the Council's waste-related environmental performance.
2. Approve receiving additional information on any future consultations arising from the new Resources and Waste Strategy for England.

1. Background

During 2018 the Committee gave input into the development of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) for Lincolnshire, and subsequently recommended its adoption by the County Council. That JMWMS has since been adopted by all eight councils of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership (LWP).

Meanwhile, Defra were working on a Resources and Waste Strategy for England, and that was published on 18th December 2018. Consideration had been given to postponing the preparation of the Lincolnshire JMWMS so that the contents of the national Strategy could be fully taken into account. However, it was decided that this would unduly delay the final adoption of the JMWMS, particularly as many of the themes of the national Strategy have been reasonably clear for some time. This approach has proven to be justified as there are many synergies between the two Strategies.

Both Strategies state their intention to follow a "circular economy" approach to the resources management. From the LWP point of view, this means seeking to address issues higher up the supply chain rather than simply managing whatever waste the public present us with. The national Strategy promises a number of consultations which will allow the LWP to lobby on measures aimed at promoting a circular economy model – e.g. a proposed tax on plastic packaging containing less than 30% recycled plastic.

The main links and synergies between the documents, both of which can be viewed in full via the links at the end of this paper, are as follows.

National R&WS	Lincolnshire JMWMS
Opening "Case for Action" and throughout	
Multiple consultations planned. e.g. <i>Introduction</i> (page 7)	We want to lobby national government e.g. <i>Notes on Objective 4</i> (page 48)
Promoting a circular economy. e.g. <i>Introduction</i> (page 7)	We want to promote this. e.g. <i>Section 3.1</i> (page 12)
Chapter 3 – Recovering resources and managing waste	
Better quantity and quality in recycling. <i>Section 3.1</i> (page 68)	Objective 1 – To improve the quality and therefore commercial value of our recycling stream. Action Plan – Strategic Review of Kerbside MDR... (Stream 1)
Consistent dry recycling collections. <i>Section 3.1.1</i> (page 68)	Objective 2 – To move towards a common set of recycling materials. Action Plan – Strategic Review of Kerbside MDR... (Stream 1)
Separate food waste collections. <i>Section 3.1.2</i> (page 70)	Objective 3 – To consider the introduction of separate food waste collections... Action Plan – Food Waste Trial (Stream 2) Action Plan – Location of additional processing/disposal sites. (Stream 4)
Better partnership working between councils. <i>Section 3.1.4</i> (page 73)	Objective 9 – To regularly review the LWP governance model... Action Plan – Strategic Review of Options for Continuous Improvement... (Stream 3)
Amending recycling credit system. <i>Section 3.1.5</i> (page 74)	Section 7.2.1 – "finding innovative ways to fairly distribute costs and savings..." Action Plan – Strategic Review of Options for Continuous Improvement... (Stream 3)
Reviewing HWRC provision. <i>Section 3.1.6</i> (page 74)	Action Plan – Review of the Household Waste Recycling Centres. (Action 1.11)

National R&WS	Lincolnshire JMWMS
Need For new facilities (e.g. AD). <i>Section 3.2.2 (page 78)</i>	Objective 8 – To make an objective assessment of what further waste processing/disposal capacity is required and, as necessary, secure appropriate capacity. Action Plan – Location of additional processing/disposal sites. (Stream 4)
Chapter 7 – Research and innovation	
Support for innovation. <i>Section 7.1 (page 124)</i>	Objective 10 – To consider appropriate innovative solutions... Action Plan – Strategic Review of Options for Continuous Improvement... (Stream 3)
Chapter 8 – Measuring progress: data, monitoring and evaluation	
Move away from weight-based targets. <i>Section 8.1.2 (page 136)</i>	Objective 6 – To find the most appropriate ways to measure our environmental performance, and set appropriate targets. Action Plan – Choosing performance indicators appropriate to measure environmental performance. (Stream 5)
Use "carbon accounting". <i>Section 8.1.2 (page 136)</i>	Objective 7 – To seek to reduce our carbon footprint. Action Plan – Choosing performance indicators appropriate to measure environmental performance. (Stream 5)
Monitor composition of residual waste. <i>Section 8.1.6 (page 137)</i>	Section 5.3.2 – LWP-wide sampling undertaken in 2017.
List of proposed new performance indicators. <i>Section 8.2 (page 138)</i>	Objective 6 – To find the most appropriate ways to measure our environmental performance, and set appropriate targets. Action Plan – Choosing performance indicators appropriate to measure environmental performance. (Stream 5)

Whilst noting that the objectives of the two Strategies are broadly aligned, it is also clear that there are specific elements of the national Strategy which need to be taken account of in enacting the JMWMS through its accompanying Action Plan. These include the following which could change the quantity and composition of the waste which we need to handle, as well as the budget available to do so:

- A proposed deposit return scheme for drinks containers,
- "Ensuring a consistent set of dry recyclable materials is collected from all households and businesses",
- "Ensuring that producers pay the full net costs of managing packaging waste at end of life",
- Measures to reduce waste, particularly food and packaging, and
- Promoting higher recycled content in packaging.

To assist with the ongoing Action Plan, this committee may wish to contribute to:

- New ways of monitoring performance – The national Strategy mirrors the Lincolnshire JMWMS in seeking to move away from weight-based performance targets to ones which better evaluate environmental effects. The LWP are considering a list of proposed new measures as set out in Appendix A to this report. The Key Performance Measures under consideration include:
 - **WASTE HIERARCHY** –
 - Recycling Rate (“waste from households”);
 - Percentage of Municipal Waste Sent To Landfill;
 - Household Waste Collection (kilograms per head);
 - Residual waste per person per year
 - **CONTAMINATION** – Recycling contamination rate;
 - **CARBON** – Overall LWP waste management carbon footprint;
 - **VALUE FOR MONEY** –
 - Cost of household waste collection per household;
 - Cost of municipal waste disposal per tonne;
 - **CUSTOMER FRIENDLY** –
 - Percentage of people expressing satisfaction with waste collection; and
 - Percentage of people expressing satisfaction with waste disposal (local tips).
- Consultations – The national Strategy includes a commitment to consult on a variety of topics. Responding to these will enable the County Council and LWP to help shape national policy. Upcoming consultations include, but are not limited to:
 - Introducing a deposit return scheme for drinks containers;
 - Ensuring a consistent set of recyclable materials is collected from all households and businesses;
 - Ensuring that every householder and appropriate business has a weekly separate food waste collection; and
 - The provision of free garden waste collections for households with gardens.

2. Conclusion

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to review the proposed list of environmental performance measures and to give their feedback.

The Committee is also asked to confirm that they wish to be notified when details are available of any consultations arising from the new Resources and Waste Strategy for England, although it should be noted that any deadlines will be at Defra's discretion so may not tie in with the timetabled Scrutiny meetings.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Yes

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

The proposed new performance measures include monitoring of the environmental impacts identified by Strategic Environmental Assessment of the full JMWMS.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	List of performance measures under consideration

5. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Waste Strategy for Lincolnshire (JMWMS)	https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/recycle-for-lincolnshire/waste-strategy-for-lincolnshire/
Resources & Waste Strategy for England	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england

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