

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 26 SEPTEMBER 2014

Statement from: Councillor R A Shore, Executive Councillor for Waste, Recycling

PRESENT SITUATION

- The Energy from Waste facility continues to operate efficiently and effectively. An opening ceremony is being arranged.
- The five Waste Transfer Stations continue to provide a seamless service for the districts, as do the 13 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC).

CHALLENGES

- Great progress has been made with the new recycling contract. The District Chief Executives have realised accord over their counter proposal of recycling credit payments: the issue of contract risk appointment is still to be resolved. The invitation to tender documents for the countywide contract will be published by the end of September.
- A second fire at a waste transfer station in the last two months, caused by wastes arriving from a household waste recycling centre, has prompted a review of the control of material being placed in residual bins at HWRC sites. In both instances, the emergency procedures in place worked effectively and damage was kept to a minimum, allowing sites to be operational on the next working day.
- A countywide communications campaign, regarding the contamination of dry recyclables, continues to be progressed with the districts to reduce costs and maximise income. This issue will be an integral part of the new countywide recycling contract, with the aim of maximising quality and income for all partners, and for the benefit of residents.

SUCSESSES

- Agreement was reached on the principles of new arrangements for a countywide mixed dry recyclables contract covering the whole of Lincolnshire from 1 April 2015. This is a very significant move forward for all the authorities involved, and should promote greater competition from the private sector for this material, which should produce higher levels of income. The contract is expected to be awarded early in the New Year.
- A process of support payments for some districts facing a loss of income they currently receive has been agreed. The contract will be for a period of three years, with the option of up to two year's extension. This will allow time for the development of a new countywide waste strategy that will include the best,

and most cost-effective, way to deal with these and other waste streams in the future.

- The contract for a new HWRC in Gainsborough on the Corringham Road Industrial Estate has been awarded to GF Tomlinson, with an expected start on site late September, and operational in April 2015.
- Income continues to be received from HW Martin for the bulking and onward transportation of recyclates from North Kesteven District Council via the Sleaford Waste Transfer Station.
- The confirmation of income from the solar panels electricity production is expected imminently, with carbon production of all the waste services operations being neutrally offset.

FUTURE AMBITIONS/CONSIDERATIONS

Relevant updates on the various issues:

- A detailed business case for a Materials Recycling Facility in Lincolnshire to take the county's dry recyclables has been commissioned, following the feasibility report which considered the outline technical, financial and operational requirements. The business case will include detailed costings of building, equipping and operating such a facility, as well as estimates of the income that might be achieved from the sale of materials. This will inform the decision on whether this is a practical option for Lincolnshire.
- The agreement on a mixed dry recycling contract should now open the way for work to re-commence on the development of a countywide waste strategy and for the work done by leSE to be considered by Chief Executives.
- Some district councils are considering the introduction of a trade waste service, to provide a more comprehensive service for businesses - Boston Borough Council is already operating such a system. It is envisaged that our Waste Transfer network will help support these initiatives.
- Assessing potential sources of income from the waste resources presented at HWRCs is to be reviewed as part of the commissioning council consideration of the service.
- The Task & Finish group have completed their review of the textile service and it was considered at the September meeting of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee.
- The contracts for the Household Waste Recycling Centres operational services and waste streams have been extended for a year to align operations, and allow consideration of the waste service in a commissioning council.
- Partnership working with neighbouring authorities continues to progress to ensure that any opportunities for joint waste services provision are realised.

- We are undergoing a joint feasibility investigation with Economic Regeneration into a Heat Recovery Scheme that could give opportunities for reduced energy costs from the heat generated at the Energy from Waste facility.