

## **MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the municipal waste management strategy that is currently being formulated. It also proposes specific waste management issues that this Council may wish to be included in the stage where industry views are sought on the content of the strategy.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1. The Waste Management Advisory Board is currently in the process of overseeing the creation of a municipal waste management strategy for Essex, Southend and Thurrock and in order to progress this project have appointed specialist consultants ERM/Babtie to produce a draft strategy document.
- 2.2. The consultants have met with officers from all of the Essex Districts to obtain information on each authority's waste management service including details on contracts, contractors, recycling schemes, costs, facilities, etc. in order to build up the current state of play, as it were.
- 2.3. Guidance given to the consultants has been that the following items should be taken into consideration in producing the draft strategy:-
- The strategy must reflect local needs in addition to the Essex wide position
  - The feasibility of different waste management practices and associated costs in conjunction with the best practical environmental option for different materials and local areas
  - Set out clear objectives and standards for the management of municipal waste in light of Government policy and EU legislation
  - Include policies and plans on how to meet these objectives and standards
  - Take into account the results of the high diversion trials in Braintree, Colchester and Chelmsford
  - The strategy is to cover a period of between 5-10 years.
- 2.4. The draft strategy is to be presented by ERM/Babtie to the Waste Management Advisory Board on 29 July 2002 to be followed by various

forms of consultation and then the final strategy agreed by the end of 2002.

### **3 INDUSTRY CONSULTATION**

- 3.1. It has been identified that a key part in devising the strategy is to liaise with industry to obtain their views on the deliverability of the strategy.
- 3.2. Each District has therefore been asked to put forward any particular waste management issues that it feels should be addressed with industry for their view.
- 3.3. A composite schedule of all the District's issues will then be put together for the meeting of the Waste Management Advisory Board on 29 July, from which industry will then be given the opportunity to provide their response.
- 3.4. The following list details suggested issues that this authority could put forward for consultation with industry:-
  - The provision of civic amenity sites within the District of suitable location and capacity
  - The provision of sufficient local waste disposal/transfer facilities, albeit not necessarily within the District itself
  - Obtain industry view on the most cost effective way of providing recycling services and collections on a kerbside basis and the provision of a recycling service to local businesses
  - The impact of the impending Paper Standard Regulation EN643 that requires newspaper/magazines to be presented and collected separately from other recyclables to avoid undue contamination.
  - The provision of an effective and efficient waste disposal system that does not include the use of incineration
  - Obtain industry view on alternative ways of dealing with the current problem of disposal of fridge/freezers
  - Obtain industry view on the way forward in dealing with the growing problem of abandoned cars
- 3.5. In considering the above list, Members are also requested to put forward any other issues they may feel are appropriate.

**4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. The implementation of an effective waste management strategy can significantly impact on the environmental conditions that exist within the District.

**5 RECOMMENDATION**

It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That Members consider the content of this report and agree the waste management issues that they wish this Council to put forward for liaison with industry as part of the process of devising a municipal waste management strategy for Essex, Southend and Thurrock.

Roger Crofts

Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)

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For further information please contact Jeremy Bourne on:-

Tel:- 01702 318163  
E-Mail:- [jeremy.bourne@rochford.gov.uk](mailto:jeremy.bourne@rochford.gov.uk)