

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE
Economy Environment & Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date 25th September 2019

REPORT TITLE: Recycling & Waste Service

Submitted by: Head of Recycling & Fleet Services - Andrew Bird

Portfolio: Environment & Recycling

Ward(s) affected: All

Purpose of the Report

This report has been prepared for members to consider following requests from the Chair for updates and statements on the following issues:-

- Progress on the development for the introduction of the new recycling collection service.
- Quarter 4 performance – for information

Recommendations

That the report be noted.

1. **Background**

1.1 At its meeting on 17th October 2018, Cabinet resolved that the Economy, Environment and Place Scrutiny Committee receive regular updates from the Cabinet Member on the detailed planning and modelling of the new recycling service including timescales and costs in the run up to its implementation to help shape its design and direction and report back into the Cabinets decision making process.

2. **Issues**

2.1 **Progress on the development for the introduction of the new recycling collection service.**

Progress on development and implementation of the new recycling and food waste collection service is still progressing to plan.

The steering group, Chaired by the Executive Director of Operational Services, referred to in previous reports is meeting on a three weekly basis to monitor progress

of the project against the project plan and deal with any issues requiring cross departmental resolution.

In addition to this a workforce steering group has also been formed, with representatives from the operational workforce, who will help with development of the new service, and are contributing positively with discussions around route planning and options for different working patterns.

In terms of specific work streams, the following progress has been made –

Round Modelling

Round modelling has taken place using specialist software, called RouteSmart. This piece of work has provided a number of options in terms of different working patterns, i.e., do we operate on a four or five day week, double shift patterns, which are currently being evaluated. The final outcome will confirm the exact number of vehicles, together with necessary contingency arrangements to operate the complete service, including refuse and garden waste collections.

Testing of proposed new rounds is a vital element to the project, and the input from the operational staff is a key factor to the success of the process.

Testing of proposed rounds with correct type of vehicle is planned to take place starting in October for a minimum of twelve weeks, in order to ensure maximum reliability of collections.

Although no final decision has been made over what days the service will operate, maintaining a five working day system will have minimum impact on residents as only a small proportion will require day changes, in order to balance rounds and incorporating the new recycling and separate food waste collection services.

Procurement

Cabinet meeting held on the 4th September, has approved the Procurement of the following –

- Wheeled bins to hold Glass, Cans and Plastic
- Bags to hold cardboard and paper.
- Vehicles for the supply of at least 7 split body RCV's, and 7 food waste vehicles.
- Changes to Knutton Lane Depot Transfer Station to accommodate the new service
- Processing of Glass Cans and Plastic through a material recovery facility (MRF)

2.4 **Quarter 4 performance – for information**

The following table details the performance for recycling and composting, together with missed bin statistics for quarter 1 of this financial year.

Recycling Performance

	Quarter 4 2018/19 January to end of March 19	Quarter 1 2019/20 - April to end of June 19
Overall Recycling Rate	36.07%	46.70%
Dry Recycling Rate	18.97%	16.56%
Garden Composting	11.23%(No collections in January, part of February)	24.97%
Food Waste AD Composting	5.87%	5.17%
Residual Waste Kg's per household (low figure is good)	109.86kg's	100.62kg's

Reported Missed Bins

	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019
Total number of collections	407,768	429,856	375,750
Total missed collections	281	294	296
% of successful collections	99.93%	99.93%	99.92%

3. **Options Considered** (if any)

Not applicable to this report

4. **Proposal**

Not applicable to this report

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

Not applicable to this report

6. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

6.1 Development of a new recycling service is a key Corporate Priority.

7. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

7.1 The Council has a legal duty under the Waste Framework Directive 2012, to provide collection services for none recyclable waste, and to collect separately four streams of recycling, namely, paper/card (fibre), metal, plastic, and glass all free of charge.

8. **Equality Impact Assessment**

All recycling and waste collection services, both current and proposed are subject to the department undertaking a Equality Impact Assessment.

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

9.1 This report details financial implications as detailed in section 2.2 above.

10. **Major Risks**

Not applicable to this report

11. **Sustainability and Climate Change Implications**

Not applicable to this report

12. **Key Decision Information**

Not applicable to this report

13. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

Not applicable to this report

14. **List of Appendices**

None

15. **Background Papers**

None