



**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S
LOCAL COMMITTEE IN
EPSOM & EWELL
WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY
ACTION PLAN**

31st JULY 2006

KEY ISSUE:

To update Members of the Local Committee on the proposals for the local area contained in the Waste Disposal Authority Action Plan.

SUMMARY:

The Waste Disposal Authority Action Plan and Business Case approved by the County Council's Executive on 27 June sets out the County Council's proposals to deal with municipal waste over the next 20 years. The Plan, which is subject to amendment following the outcome of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy consultation, includes a proposal to provide a new Community Recycling Centre within the area. In addition it provides for the construction of bulking facilities and introduction of incentives to encourage expansion of kerbside collection of household organic wastes. The plan also includes a comprehensive programme of initiatives aimed at minimising the amount of waste produced by households and business.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee is asked to note the report.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On 27 June, the County Council's Executive approved the Waste Disposal Authority's Action Plan and Business Case (WDA Action Plan). This Action Plan sets out how the County Council proposes to deal with waste over the next 20 years. Together with the Action Plans of the eleven Surrey districts and boroughs, it forms part of the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS).
- 1.2 Consultation on the draft JMWMS has just ended and the Waste Disposal Authority's Action Plan is therefore subject to the outcome of the public consultation and any subsequent revisions to the JMWMS, and the approval and adoption of the Surrey Waste Plan. Any proposals for specific sites are subject to the planning application process implemented by the Waste Planning Authority.
- 1.3 The Waste Disposal Authority Action Plan and Business Case comprises four elements:
 - Investment in Waste Minimisation
 - Incentivisation for district and borough councils to expand recycling services
 - Improvements to the Community Recycling Centres
 - The use of interim, out of county, facilities to divert waste from landfill until facilities can be built in Surrey.

2. ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The most visible impact of the Action Plan in the Epsom area will be the changes that are proposed to the Community Recycling Centre at Epsom.
- 2.2 It is proposed to construct a new purpose built Community Recycling Centre in the Epsom area. Once constructed, the existing public site at Blenheim Road would be closed and the area converted into storage bays for recyclable materials collected by district and borough councils. The waste transfer station would remain at its current location and would continue to deal with residual waste collected by the districts and boroughs and with trade waste. The new Community Recycling Centre would be designed to achieve recycling levels of around 60%.
- 2.3 Subject to the outcome of the JMWMS Consultation, the WDA would hope to build a new site in the Epsom area sometime in the financial year 2007/8. This timetable is however dependent on finding and acquiring suitable land and obtaining planning consent and a waste management licence.
- 2.4 Agents have been tasked with searching for a suitable replacement site, but one has not yet been found.

- 2.5 The WDA Action Plan also sets out proposals to incentivise district and borough councils to expand kerbside collection and recycling services. The incentives will largely be targeted at schemes that divert biodegradable waste from the residual waste stream, for example kitchen and garden waste. Allied to this will be the construction of three in-vessel composting facilities within Surrey. Tentative locations have been identified for these, however none is in the Epsom area.
- 2.6 In addition to the construction of the in-vessel composters, the WDA Action Plan proposes the construction of bulking bays or drop-off points for recyclables collected by district and borough councils. It is proposed to construct some of these bays at the Blenheim Road site following relocation of the Community Recycling Centre.
- 2.7 In the interim, Surrey Waste Management are proposing to construct a bulking bay for green waste at the existing site to service district and borough council kerbside green waste collections. A planning application for this has been submitted to the Waste Planning Authority.
- 2.8 The Waste Disposal Authority Action Plan also contains initiatives to minimise the amount of waste that is produced in Surrey. Historically, the amount of waste produced by householders has increased each year. Nationally the figure is around 3% growth per annum, although in Surrey the growth has been less over the past few years.
- 2.9 The WDA Action Plan aims to reduce the growth in waste to a figure of 0% per annum per head of population. The County Council will concentrate on a high-quality programme of waste minimisation initiatives, provided in-house. This will centre on projects which engage the community directly in waste minimisation and which improve the capacity of groups and individuals in Surrey to reduce their waste. The projects will aim to change public behaviour, attitudes and habits towards consumption of materials and disposal, and encourage re-use where waste does arise. A dedicated team of community projects staff, already in place, will deliver this programme.
- 2.10 Surrey County Council will engage directly with the business community in order to avoid 'up-stream' waste. A parallel team of business waste project staff, provided in house, is being assembled and a programme devised to target business waste, retail packaging and other materials that lead to unsustainable post-consumer waste.

- 2.11 The contractor, Surrey Waste Management Ltd, will focus on other clearly defined areas of work that avoid and reduce waste arisings. These will include public-facing initiatives to reduce waste arisings at the network of Community Recycling Centres (CRCs); measures to avoid commercial waste entering the domestic waste stream via CRCs and waste transfer stations; providing advice and information for site users and visitors; re-use initiatives for bulky items of 'waste'; and a formal education role/schools programme.

3 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee notes the local initiatives contained within the proposed WDA Action Plan.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY: ACTION PLAN AND BUSINESS CASE – Report to Executive dated 27 June 2006