

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	18 October 2016
Subject:	Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee 2016/17 Action Plan Update and 2017/20 Business and Action Plan Outline
Report of:	Richard Kirk, Interim Head of Community Services
Corporate Lead:	Rachel North, Deputy Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Councillor J R Mason, Lead Member for Clean and Green Environment
Number of Appendices:	Two

Executive Summary:

Tewkesbury Borough Council joined the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee (GJWC) in December 2014. The GJWC produces a business plan which covers a three year horizon and an annual action plan. This plan replaces the individual plans of each of the member authorities and supersedes the Tewkesbury Borough Annual Waste and Recycling Plan which has been monitored by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee since June 2012.

This report provides an update on the progress to date on the Joint Waste Action Plan for 2016/17 and details the outline business plan for 2017/18 which was presented to the GJWC on 4 October 2016.

Recommendation:

- 1. To CONSIDER the progress made to date in relation to the 2016/17 Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee Action Plan.**
- 2. To CONSIDER the 2017/20 Outline Business Plan.**

Reasons for Recommendation:

To inform Members of the progress being made against the GJWC Action Plan.

Resource Implications:

None for this report.

Legal Implications:

None arising directly from this report.

Risk Management Implications:

None for this report.

Performance Management Follow-up:

Progress in delivering the JWC Action Plan will be reported to Overview and Scrutiny

Committee on an annual basis.

Environmental Implications:

None for this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION/ BACKGROUND

1.1 Five of Gloucestershire's local authorities are now members of the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee (GJWC) including Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Forest of Dean District Council, Gloucestershire County Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council.

1.2 The Joint Waste Team (JWT) is comprised of the officers who serve the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee. The officers were previously directly employed by the partners. As the GJWC is not an organisation in its own right, the JWT officers are employed by Gloucestershire County Council (as the administrating authority) on behalf of the GJWC.

1.3 The JWT's principal role is to specify, plan, procure (where authorised by the GJWC and budget holding authority/authorities), monitor, coordinate and improve the delivery of waste and street cleaning services to householders, delivered by a number of service providers and in-house teams. Across the partnership the aim is to divert waste from landfill through waste avoidance and reduction, material recovery (recycling), composting and anaerobic digestion.

1.4 Tewkesbury Borough Council is represented on the GJWC by Councillor J R Mason and Councillor M J Williams. The Interim Head of Community Services is the Senior Management Group representative.

2.0 GLOUCESTERSHIRE JOINT WASTE COMMITTEE BUSINESS AND ACTION PLAN

2.1 The GJWC Business and Action Plan covers a three year horizon and is updated on an annual basis. The priority of this plan is to provide a mandate for the GJWC to consider and make decisions, according to set governance and budgetary principles, without constant reference back to the partner authorities.

2.2 The outline business plan is presented to the GJWC in October each year with a draft plan being produced and considered at the GJWC December Board meeting. Members of the GJWC are asked to provide feedback and input to the outline plan from their respective authorities. The final plan is approved at the GJWC meeting in February each year.

3.0 ACTION PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS 2016/17 TO DATE

3.1 The GJWC Action Plan for 2016/17 is set out in full at Appendix 1 and the key

achievements are as follows:

- A guide for developers on requirements for refuse and recycling provision at new developments has been produced and published on the Tewkesbury Borough Council website.
- Considerable progress has been made on the problem of needle contamination in recycling bins in Tewkesbury from a minority of households and the number of incidents of needles at the materials recycling facility has fallen dramatically.
- A new service level agreement has been signed between the Council and the textile recycling contractor (European Recycling Company) as the previous provider went into administration. The number of textile recycling banks across the borough has increased, which has improved provision and the Council is receiving a higher level of income for the materials collected.
- The Council's service review is complete and the project is well underway to procure a new Materials Recycling Facility and a new vehicle fleet in readiness for April 2017.
- In August, the Forest of Dean implemented a new collection service adding cardboard, plastic bottles, textiles and small electricals to the items collected from the kerbside and changing the frequency of recycling collections from fortnightly to weekly.
- The new Household Recycling Centre (HRC) contract was mobilised in August with Ubico now operating the HRC's across the county and the Joint Waste team responsible for the management and sales of materials collected at the sites.
- Cotswold District Council's new waste and recycling collection zones, which affected 70% of households, went live in September. The aim of this project was to improve the efficiency of the service, increase resilience and address the demands on the service from property growth.
- Cheltenham Borough Council's service options review is in progress in preparation for implementation in September 2017.

4.0 WASTE COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

4.1 The key communication activities being undertaken or supported by the JWT during 2016/17 are detailed below:

- **Recycle Week "The Unusual Suspects"** - This was the theme of the national 'Recycle Week' campaign, aimed at raising awareness of recycling, including aerosols and shampoo bottles from areas of the home often forgotten about. The national campaign was supported by the JWT with local press releases, a radio interview and social media messages.
- **"Right Waste Right Place" Campaign** - This is aimed at addressing the low level of awareness of waste compliance amongst SME's. The campaign is run nationally, led by the Environmental Services Association, and key messages fit very well with Gloucestershire's drive to reduce fly-tipping and trade waste abuse at HRC's. The JWT are mirroring this campaign via social media, HRC posters, radio advertising and website promotion. Traders will be provided with information about their duty of care and their options for recycling and disposal of waste.
- **Textile (Clothing) Reuse** - Old clothes represent a significant proportion of black bag waste taken to HRC's, and the promotion of reuse and recycling alternatives is an ongoing challenge. This December, the Cheltenham Repair Café will be

running a textile themed event which the JWT will be supporting and assisting with. Options for running 'clothes swap' events elsewhere in the county is also being explored.

- **Helping People to Recycle More** - Following on from the success of Gloucester City's targeted intervention in low performing areas, the issue of 'excess capacity' and multiple bins at individual properties is to be addressed within the Forest of Dean over the coming months. Initial survey work undertaken in Coleford shows that a high proportion of people with multiple residual waste bins are, unsurprisingly, low recyclers, and that a number of properties have unapproved additional bins. A trial project will be undertaken in the Forest of Dean with the aim of encouraging non recyclers to recycle thus reducing waste to landfill. The results of this project will determine if similar projects can be rolled out in other areas during 2017/18.
- **Stroud District service change Support** - The introduction of food waste recycling in Stroud this November is the key project for increasing food waste recycling in Gloucestershire this year. Coupled with the move to fortnightly residual waste collection and restrictions on waste capacity this will bring Stroud into line with all other waste collection services in Gloucestershire. Support from Gloucestershire County Council is being provided in the same way as with all other districts, and during the period of service change this includes support for all the communications work being undertaken. In addition to directly communicating to all 50,000 households, further work in schools (utilising the same actor as previously supported Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and Forest of Dean) and additional support around Real Nappies is also being provided.
- **"What Happens to Your Recycling?"** - Work is underway to prepare an information leaflet (also available online) which will inform visitors to the HRC's what happens to the many different materials they bring for recycling.
- **Christmas Campaign and Council Tax Leaflets** – Advice on how to avoid generating excessive seasonal waste will once again be highlighted over the Christmas period. Key messages have in the past focused upon food waste and electrical gadgets. Although no decision has yet been made on this year's theme, it is likely to be one of these. During this period a decision also needs to be made by partners on the theme of the back page advert of the "Your Guide" Council Tax leaflet. Waste Management have priority for using the back page and a budget for this has been approved.

5.0 GJWC BUSINESS PLAN 2017-20

5.1 The outline of the 2017-20 Business Plan was presented to the GJWC at the Board meeting on 4 October 2016 and a copy of the report can be found at Appendix 2. The draft 2017-20 Business Plan will be considered at the Board meeting in December.

6.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

6.1 Gloucestershire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2007-20

7.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

7.1 None

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)

8.1 None

9.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)

9.1 Actions within the report will have the effect of reducing waste to landfill

10.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)

10.1 None

11.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

11.1 None

Background Papers: None

Contact Officer: Richard Kirk, Interim Head of Community Services
Tel: 01684 272259 Richard.Kirk@tewkesbury.gov.uk

Joint Waste Team Contacts:

Rachel Capon, Contracts Manager (Collection & Street Scene – West),
Joint Waste Team
Tel: 01594 812 406 Rachel.Capon@fdean.gov.uk

Julie Davis, Environment and Waste Policy Officer, Joint Waste Team
Tel: 01684 272354 Julie.Davis@tewkesbury.gov.uk

Appendices: Appendix 1 - GJWC Action Plan Update 2016/17
Appendix 2 - GJWC Outline of Business Plan 2017-20