

OXFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

10 July 2009

Charities and School Waste Update

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the OWP on progress on charities and schools waste.

2 Background

- 2.1 At the OWP meeting in March, it was agreed that partner councils should work together to change policies to allow charities to be classified as household waste.

- 2.2 Since the last meeting, an Officer Group has been meeting to progress this work and ensure that changes to policy are co-ordinated across the County and that they meet the objectives set out below:

- changes enable charity waste to be accepted as household waste (meaning that disposal costs no longer be levied from charities)
- changes encourage minimisation and recycling as a priority
- changes should be easy to use and customer focused.

- 2.3 Each partner council has now considered the services they can offer and any resultant impact upon their authority, and are making arrangements for those changes to be implemented. Whilst the policies are all in line with the objectives above there are some differences across the county which are dictated by contractual obligations and operational differences.

- 2.4 In progressing this work, the solutions reached can also be applied to schools. There are some considerations regarding the funding of schools waste, communications with schools and the County Council's existing contract that need to be addressed before these are implemented. This work will be completed over the summer and a further report will be brought back to the Committee at its next meeting detailing the agreed position on all organisations affected by this change.

3 Financial, Risk and Staff Implications

- 3.1 As previously reported, these waste streams are currently not accepted as household waste, a change in this policy will incur increased disposal costs for Oxfordshire County Council. It will also place an obligation on the Waste Collection Authorities to collect the waste from these organisations although a charge can be made for the collection. To minimise the implications of this policy change, partner authorities have to work together and with the organisations concerned.

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4 Areas Affected

- 4.1 County wide

5 Effect on Strategic Policies

- 5.1 Overall total waste arisings will increase but because of the emphasis to be placed recycling there could be some benefits too. There is likely to be an impact on several of the partnerships key performance indicators, including:
NI 191 – Residual waste collected per household.
NI 192 - Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting
NI 193 - Percentage of municipal waste landfilled
- 5.2 Effective and co-ordinated management of the change in policy is required to ensure it is in accordance with policy 6 which refers to the achievement of recycling and composting rates, policy 9 which refers to the achievement of landfill allowance targets and also policy 3 regarding help and advice provided to enable individuals to reduce their waste.

6 Options or Alternatives

- 6.1 N/A

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 To note and support the progress made on this issue.

8 Reasons for Recommendations

- 8.1 To ensure legal compliance and to ensure that waste is managed in accordance with the waste management hierarchy.

9 Contact Officer

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