

Post Scrutiny - Executive Response

In Respect of: Scrutiny Review into the Impact of Bin Swap and Delivering Future Improvements to Recycling

Date: 13 June 2017

Executive Member: Councillor Allison Gwynne (Clean and Green)

Coordinating Officer: Ian Saxon, Assistant Executive Director, Environmental Services

Recommendations	Accepted/ Rejected	Executive Response	Officer Responsible	Action By (Date)
1. That the Council has a positive and proactive approach towards continually reviewing existing practices, with particular attention to frequency of collections for all bin types, to improve both recycling and seasonal capture rates.	Accepted	<p>Significant environmental and financial benefits have been achieved through Bin Swap. This has brought a more positive approach to change and an increased confidence in the Council's ability to deliver future improvements.</p> <p>A recent review of collections has resulted in the Council increasing the frequency of Blue Bin collections across the borough, which further increases household recycling capacity.</p> <p>It is imperative that the Council pushes on past Bin Swap and work to identify all possible improvements will be ongoing. This will include a constant review of collection rounds and lower performing areas.</p>	Garry Parker	September 2017

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<p>2. That significant priority and focus is placed on low performing areas, with the need to identify all potential barriers and deliver a more targeted, tailored and sustained approach to improve recycling rates.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Recycling performance data shows that there is still more work to do in some of Tameside's lowest performing areas for recycling.</p> <p>In conjunction with the increased collection frequency of blue bins, work will be undertaken to improve the way that contamination is identified, recorded, relayed back to residents and used to inform enforcement plans.</p> <p>A recent investment in technology allows more data to be recorded by all collection vehicles, ranging from missed bins and contamination.</p> <p>Further work will also be undertaken to identify all factors that create barriers to recycling, including ongoing education, property types and targeted pieces of work in specific areas.</p>	<p>Garry Parker</p>	<p>October 2017</p>
<p>3. With a fixed housing stock and type, the Council look to break down potential barriers to why certain residents fail to recycle effectively, ensuring feedback and practical experience from collection crews is factored within new strategies.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Waste Services operate collection rounds in a way that allows the recycling needs of all property types to be met. Tameside does have a relatively large number of terraced properties, which along with flats and apartments can present certain challenges for collection.</p> <p>Adding to the response to recommendation 2, the service is looking to maximise the amount of information and data it receives from all collection crews. Each vehicle has now been fitted with a tablet and during 2017 it is envisaged that greater staff engagement and recording will inform new strategies.</p>	<p>Garry Parker</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>

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4. That the Council maximises all available opportunities to improve local approach, using information and learning available from GMWDA and connections with other Greater Manchester authorities.	Accepted	<p>We will continue to work with our partners to continually review and improve the service offer. Links with GM Authorities is also valuable in order to maximise performance and reduce costs.</p> <p>The Council is well represented within GMWDA and the Strategic and Partnership Officers Groups. This allows Tameside to share learning and be well positioned to further strengthen local strategies.</p> <p>With a shared Greater Manchester target to achieve 50% recycling to meet the UK standards; we will share knowledge on associated work such as enforcement and communications activity.</p>	Garry Parker	July 2017
5. That where possible the Council look to pilot new ideas and build proposals to solve localised recycling issues, which support initiatives such as 'Zero Waste' and can generate GMWDA funding and support.	Accepted	<p>We will continue to work with our partners; service users and stakeholders to continually improve the service offer.</p> <p>Working with the GMWDA we monitor best practice across GM and plan future campaigns based on tested initiatives maximising the impact of all available resources.</p>	Garry Parker	December 2017
6. That evidence gathering with partners such as Registered Social Landlords can establish a clearer indication to what prevents households from recycling, leading to specific projects being trialled.	Accepted	We agree with this as an approach to tackling hard to reach areas and the some of the causes of wider anti-social behaviour. We accept the recommendation and will work with officers within housing and waste related partners to review our approach to this area.	Garry Parker	December 2017

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7. That close monitoring is undertaken on the actual number of fly tipping issues being reported within low recycling areas, with the view to improving intelligence and to support future interventions.	Accepted	<p>Flytipping information is collected and reported via the Enforcement Panel Reports and we the data will continue to be used to tailor the service and maximise impact.</p> <p>We have changed our approach to Flytipping and have set up a joint operational and enforcement team to quickly tackle areas where fly tipped waste is reported. Matching this data with known areas of low recycling allows us to have a bigger impact on the overall performance.</p>	Garry Parker	December 2017
8. That for enforcement initiatives such as overt CCTV, the Council ensures all necessary compliance with Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA).	Accepted	Waste Services will liaise with the Council's legal team during all enforcement activities to ensure legal compliance is maintained.	Garry Parker	Ongoing
9. That with some uncertainty associated with the UK leaving the European Union, the Council closely monitor all potential changes and impacts to ensure Tameside's Waste Strategy is as robust as possible.	Accepted	Working with our partners at GMWDA we will continually monitor and review the impact this may have on Waste Policy and any future waste ambition that the UK are likely to sign up to.	Garry Parker	Ongoing