

CABINET

20 September 2016

Title: Waste Strategy 2016 - 2020: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle	
Report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene	
Open	For Decision
Wards Affected: All	Key Decision: Yes
Report Author: Tony Ralph Operational Director, Clean and Green	Contact Details: Tel: 020 8227 2974 E-mail: tony.ralph@lbbd.gov.uk
Accountable Strategic Director: Claire Symonds, Strategic Director Customer, Commercial & Service Delivery	
Summary: <p>Managing waste effectively is a key part of delivering a clean, green and safe borough. Residents have consistently said how important it is to them to live in a clean and green area. In 2014/15, Barking & Dagenham produced just under 90,000 tonnes of waste. This means, on average, each of the borough's households threw away approximately one tonne of rubbish. As a result, Barking and Dagenham has the highest level of waste production per household in London.</p> <p>This report presents a new Waste Strategy which has been developed in response to our residents' comments and independent expertise. The strategy sets out our vision and our key objectives of reducing the amount of waste we produce and throw away, reusing as much as possible and recycling more than we do now. This is about changing current behaviour and all working together to ensure a sustainable future for our borough.</p> <p>The Council's waste strategy vision for 2020 is: <i>"We want to reduce waste, increase re-use, increase recycling and provide effective, efficient and customer-focused waste services that demonstrate value for money."</i></p> <p>This strategy is aligned to the Ambition 2020 Programme, and covers its duration, which will transform our borough and how the Council works. Having already sustained the deepest cuts in government support in the last few years, further reductions mean that we will face a budget shortfall of £63 million, a third of our remaining budget, by 2020. The Council's Ambition 2020 Programme sets out plans for a new "Refuse" service that will be effective and efficient and will champion our 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' message.</p>	
Recommendation(s) <p>The Cabinet is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Approve the Waste Strategy 2016 – 2020: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle at Appendix 1 to the report; and(ii) Authorise the Strategic Director of Customer, Commercial and Service Delivery, in	

consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene, to agree minor amendments to the Strategy prior to its publication.

Reason(s)

This Strategy will contribute to the Council's corporate objectives of:

- Encouraging civic pride.
- Enabling social responsibility.
- Growing the borough.

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 The Draft LBBB Waste Strategy 2016 – 2020: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle is a key document in support of the Council's corporate objectives. It proposes overarching strategic objectives alongside quantifiable targets to form the basis of the Council's approach to waste management.

2. Proposal and Issues

2.1 This new Strategy has been developed over the last few months. There have been two pieces of work that have significantly informed its development - an independent report on the waste service, and a significant public consultation exercise.

2.2 The first, a report by Resource London, who were commissioned to review LBBB's waste and recycling services. The aim of the review was to see how efficiency savings could be made, and how volumes could be reduced and recycling increased. The recommendations made in the report have found to support the objectives identified in this strategy. The report detailed a desk-top review of the Council's household waste and recycling collection service. This comprised:

- A performance review examining tonnage trends over the last five years together with a benchmarking exercise comparing the Council's performance to other London Nearest Neighbours;
- A review of waste policies that are likely to effect tonnage trends, such as policies for dealing with side-waste/excess waste, bin replacements etc.; and
- An operational review that examined the efficiency of the current collection rounds.

2.3 The review identified a number of challenges. The borough's recycling rate continues to decline from a peak of 30% in 2011/12, with unaudited figures for 2015/16 at around 19.2%. Analysis and benchmarking highlighted that there is:

- High kerbside residual yields per household;
- Low kerbside recycling yields per household;
- Declining kerbside garden waste tonnages;
- High contamination levels in the recycling stream; and
- High bulky waste tonnages.

- 2.4 The report concluded that introducing restrictions on the amount of residual waste collected is the most effective way of reducing the amount of this waste collected and increasing recycling performance.
- 2.5 The report therefore supports the objective of the new Strategy to reduce waste and to educate the community in this aim as well. Set out in Appendix 2 is the Council's response to the Resource London's recommendations.
- 2.6 Alongside this report was a public consultation exercise. This was publicised widely and attracted 378 responses, a very high response rate for an exercise of this kind.

In the vast majority of cases the responses were supportive of the strategic direction suggested. There were many comments that suggested recycling was complicated and confusing and that we need to spend time educating our residents on what recycling they can do and how. There were also a lot of comments in support of enforcement, suggesting we should have a zero tolerance of those who fly tip which is viewed as an issue by many. Appendix 3 sets out in more detail the questions asked and the responses received.

- 2.7 In summary, the consultation responses endorsed the Strategy and have enabled a clear action plan to be developed to meet these objectives. This Action plan is attached as Appendix 4.

3. Options Appraisal

- 3.1 The strategy outlines the strategic objectives of the Council and how we expect to deliver on these.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 Internal consultation has been undertaken prior to this report being presented at Cabinet. We have listened to the views of members and their constituents and hope that we have shown in the document that these have been considered.
- 4.2 A large public consultation exercise was also undertaken, with publicity focussed on encouraging residents and businesses to comment on the draft Strategy. This exercise opened on the Consultation Portal on 21 July 2016 and closed on 19 August 2016. Appendix 3 sets out in more detail the questions asked and the responses received.

5. Financial Implications

Implications completed by: Katherine Heffernan, Group Manger -Services Finance

- 5.1 This report seeks approval to endorse the Draft LBBD Waste Strategy 2016 – 2020: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
- 5.2 In 2016/17, the Waste service is expected to deliver savings of £127k, which are due to be delivered by reduction in prestart payments to drivers (£17k) and ceasing the green garden waste collection service (£110k).The Green garden waste collection saving has been delayed and will not be achieved in 2016/17. The total

Waste service budget in 2016/17 is £2,810,740 and is currently operating at a pressure as a result of over established staff.

- 5.3 Further work is to be undertaken detailing the implementation plan to include specific activities and actions to be undertaken by the Council to achieve the strategic proposals as identified within the Waste Strategy document. This strategy is fundamental to delivering the operational efficiencies required to bring spend back in line with budget and also to implement future savings planned as part of the medium term financial strategy.
- 5.4 The implementation of proposals within the strategy will need to be met from existing resources. There is no additional funding available and there is an expectation of savings in the region of £1m to be delivered over the 4 years of the medium term financial plan, independent of the potential savings realised from achieving the waste volume reduction and recycling targets of the Waste Strategy.

6. Legal Implications

Implications completed by: Dr Paul Feild, Senior Governance Solicitor

- 6.1 The Council is a Waste Collection Authority (Environmental Protection Act 'EPA' 1990) following the waste collection, disposal is then managed by East London Waste Authority (ELWA) of which the Council along with Newham Council , Redbridge Council and Havering are all members. Any Waste Strategy needs to take account of the Council's commitment to ELWA and any contractual obligations for ELWA as a consideration. Most significantly in December 2002, through the ELWA partnership, LBBD entered into a 25 year integrated waste management contract with Shanks Waste Management Limited.
- 6.2 Although the Council is not legally required to have its own Waste Management Strategy, it is a legal requirement of the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003 for ELWA and the constituent Councils to have a joint municipal waste strategy. Consequently the constituent Councils need to produce their own action plan to append to the ELWA joint strategy. The new Barking and Dagenham Waste Management Strategy 2016-31 will need to complement this requirement.
- 6.3 In addition the Greater London Authority Act (GLA) 1999 (as amended) requires all London waste authorities to notify the Mayor of new waste contracts before they are advertised and requires waste authorities to act in general conformity with the with the provisions of the London Environment Strategy dealing with municipal waste management when undertaking their waste functions (under s.355 of the GLA Act, as amended by the Localism Act 2011). The Mayor also has a power of direction (under s.356 of the GLA Act) that he may exercise for the purposes of implementing his Municipal Waste Management Strategy. As there has been a change in Mayor it is not inconceivable as time moves on that his waste priorities may change accordingly.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1 **Corporate Policy and Customer Impact** – The implementation of the Waste Strategy will have an impact on the future design, development and delivery of the Council's waste management services.

Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report: None

List of appendices:

Appendix 1 - Draft LBBB Waste Strategy 2016 – 2020: Reduce, Reuse Recycle

Appendix 2 - Resource London Report Summary

Appendix 3 - Consultation Collated Analysis

Appendix 4 - Draft High-level Implementation Plan

Appendix 5 - Draft Waste Strategy 2016 – 2020 (1 Page Summary)