

SUBJECT:	Joint Waste Strategy Review
REPORT OF:	Officer Management Team - Director of Services Prepared by - Head of Environment

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update Members on the refresh of the Waste Partnership for Buckinghamshire's Joint Waste Strategy.

2. Links to Council Policy Objectives

- 2.1 This matter is related to the following local and national policy objectives:
- South Bucks Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan Key Theme - Sustainable Environment - protecting our heritage, protecting our future.
 - The current Joint Waste Management Strategy for Bucks policies, including "securing a long-term strategy for the management of wastes for which the member authorities are collectively responsible".
 - The Council's recycling/composting target of 60% by 2025 as part of the Joint Waste Management Strategy for Bucks. The national target of 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020. There are no longer District specific targets.

3. Background & Discussion

- 3.1 The Buckinghamshire Joint Waste Committee have undertaken a review of our county-wide Joint Waste Strategy. This documents sets out the aims and objectives for both District and County Councils in terms of waste prevention, collection and disposal.
- 3.2 Waste is no longer viewed as waste, but as a resource from which maximum value should be derived. There has been a shift toward economic factors in the refreshed strategy, including generating combined income to the benefit of all partnership members.
- 3.3 There has been significant progress in the past five years in Buckinghamshire: a new 'Energy from Waste' plant has been commissioned and is underway, which will significantly reduce our reliance as a partnership on landfill. All District Councils have also rolled out new services with the intention of saving money and improving recycling.
- 3.4 The review process has been undertaken in full consultation with the Joint Waste Committee. Members have been heavily involved in the process and have shaped the document as it stands today. A 'critical friend' event was held, at which three partnerships from England presented their partnership's strategic approaches. A 'member workshop' was also held, where an external local government officer facilitated an open and honest discussion with members and officers.
- 3.5 The objectives of the strategy were set, in consultation with members, as:
- a) Communicating and delivering an excellent service to local residents and businesses
 - b) Taking a commercial approach to our business, to maximise income and provide value-for-money for residents
 - c) High environmental performance is a priority for our partnership
 - d) Effective education is fundamental to our approach
- 3.6 These objectives are supported by a plan, which states ambitions and actions to ensure adequate delivery of the four objectives in the 2014-2020 period.

- 3.7 Key targets and monitoring indicators have also been set. We have set a minimum of 60% recycling, reuse or composting by 2020, and to reduce residual waste generated per household by 2020. We will also monitor food waste tonnages and landfill diversion, although members were clear that targets in these areas are not appropriate.
- 3.8 Finally, the strategy briefly sets out membership and governance arrangements for the partnership. Officer groups are defined, as are partnership support and the jointly-funded roles.
- 3.9 The Memorandum of Understanding has also undergone a refresh, and this document is referred to in the joint strategy as setting out the working principles and practices of the partnership.
- 3.10 The attached presentation provides further details on the strategy refresh and further detailed reports will be given as the refresh progresses.

4. Resource and Wider Policy Implications

- 4.1 South Bucks District Council makes a financial contribution to the Partnership in addition to supporting county wide campaigns and initiatives that requires Officer time and resources.

5. Summary

- 5.1 Cabinet to adopt the revised strategy.

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Background Papers:	None