



Ryedale District Council

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DATE: Thursday 7 August 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Phil Hancock
Performance Manager

SUBJECT: Waste Management Scrutiny Review

WARDS AFFECTED: All

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update Members on progress on the review.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

To note the report and to consider any further issues that may need to be examined.

3.0 INTRODUCTION

Scope of the review – How can the Council improve public satisfaction with the waste collection service whilst maintaining our recycling initiatives, meeting future changes in waste management and disposal but without increasing costs?

4.0 REPORT

At the last meeting the Committee agreed to consider a programme of briefing papers/presentations/other information on topics of interest to Members and these were prioritised as follows:

- a) packaging – the regulations in place and how local companies are dealing with these;
- b) the likely future impact of the landfill allowance trading scheme on the Council and its finances and ultimately the impact for the council tax payer;
- c) the opportunities for waste minimisation – Ryedale continues to see a year-on-year increase in the level of household waste collected – what can be done to reverse this trend so that overall levels of domestic waste are reduced;
- d) the state of the market for recycled material and its implications for the Council and its costs;

- e) the results of the plastics and cardboard recycling trails – the Committee needs to consider what it recommends here;
- f) what is the likely future for the disposal of waste and what implications might this have for residents and the Council;
- g) how trade waste is dealt with in the district, with particular regard to re-use and recycling, including the results of the recycling trial in Malton and Norton;
- h) the potential for joint waste authorities and the costs and benefits this may bring.

Papers on the first two areas have been previously considered by the Committee. Members have requested that the briefing paper on Trade Waste be prioritised and this is in preparation. In order to consider this briefing paper, reflect on progress with the review and consider the draft conclusions and recommendations to accompany the final report on the review, it is suggested that the Committee meets again on Thursday 14 August.

This will include reviewing the recent work that has been completed including:

- the visit to North Kesteven District Council on the 11 July;
- the views of the Waste Management Champion, Councillor Brian Cottam.

Ian Fielding, Assistant Director (Waste Management), North Yorkshire County Council, was unable to address the Committee on the 15 July on the strategic issues facing the County and their likely impact on Ryedale. Helen Bourne attended in his place, giving a short presentation. It was agreed that a further invitation be extended to Ian Fielding to meet with the Committee as Members had a number of questions that remained unanswered.

Arrangements are in progress for convening a focus group with a sample of residents currently receiving the trial kerbside recycling of plastic and cardboard in order to understand their views of the waste management service.

Outcomes from the review – recommendations on the future operation of the waste collection service to improve customer satisfaction and to raise awareness of the issues to be addressed.

Reporting timetable - Publish a final report by October 2008. Chairman to report to the Community Services and Licensing Committee on the 27 November.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a budget of £5,000 that it can use to assist in undertaking any review.

6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Committee is continuing the review before moving to consider the recommendations and the final report to be agreed

Background Papers:

None

OFFICER CONTACT:

Please contact Phil Hancock, Performance Manager, if you require any further information on the contents of this report. The officer can be contacted at Ryedale House on 01653 600666 x327 or e-mail at phil.hancock@ryedale.gov.uk