
REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	AGENDA ITEM: 10
DATE OF MEETING:	19th AUGUST 2004	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	PAUL EVANS (EXTN.5764)	DOC: s:\cent_serv\committee reports\environmental & development\19-aug04\recycling plans comm aug04.doc
SUBJECT:	PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S RECYCLING PLANS (2004/05)	REF: PE
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS 07

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 To seek Members' approval to extend the pilot scheme for a fortnightly kerbside collection of paper, cans, glass, foil and textiles to a further 12,000 households in South Derbyshire.
- 1.2 To seek Members' approval to suspend Standing Orders in the procurement of the service.
- 1.3 To seek Members' approval to delay the September extension of the Compost Scheme in order to implement the above scheme.

2.0 Detail

The Scheme

- 2.1 Members approved last August the original pilot scheme for a fortnightly kerbside collection of paper, cans, glass, foil and textiles from 12,000 households.
- 2.2 The scheme commenced in January this year in 12,000 households serviced by the Compost Scheme and has proved highly successful both in terms of its popularity with residents and the amount of material being recycled.
- 2.3 The households on the scheme are provided with a 55 litre box in which to place paper, cans, glass, foil and textiles. It is still necessary to supply blue bags as well for the paper.
- 2.4 The collection crew empties the boxes on a nominated day each fortnight. The crew empties the materials into different containers on the vehicle and return the empty box to the kerbside.

- 2.5 It is anticipated that approximately 1300 tonnes of material per year will be recycled per 12,000 households on the new scheme as opposed to the 480 tonnes of paper likely to be recycled from the existing blue bag scheme. This will contribute an extra 2% towards the Council's recycling rate. The experience of other Authorities is that the amount of material collected from Recycling Centres only diminishes marginally when kerbside collection schemes are implemented.

Procurement

- 2.6 Members will be aware that Cheshire Recycling Group currently carries out kerbside collections of paper in South Derbyshire as well as in neighbouring Authorities (the blue bag scheme).
- 2.7 Members agreed last August to suspend Standing Orders to allow officers to negotiate the best price with Cheshire to change the service from paper only to multi-materials in order to undertake the initial pilot scheme. The Cheshire Group has implemented the scheme successfully for a number of Councils in the country and their experience has certainly contributed to the success of the Council's pilot scheme.
- 2.8 It is proposed, therefore, to make similar arrangements with Cheshire in order to extend the scheme to the further 12,000 households.
- 2.9 Early indications from Cheshire are that they need to raise their prices due to increases in their sub-contractor costs and the uncertainty of income in the recycling markets. They anticipate being in a position to start the scheme around November this year.
- 2.10 Members, therefore, are asked to suspend Standing Orders to allow officers to negotiate the best price with Cheshire so that the scheme may proceed as soon as possible.

Households

- 2.11 The Council's current plans to meet its recycling targets include the extension of the Compost Scheme across the whole of the district over the next three years
- 2.12 Members may wish to use the Compost Scheme timetable as a basis for the implementation of the new box scheme. Participation in the scheme is likely to be greater in households already separating waste for recycling and the additional service may help to relieve the pressure caused in some instances by the fortnightly emptying of the normal domestic bin. Many Authorities seem to be adopting this type of approach with some success. This has been borne out by the success of the Council's pilot scheme that has been introduced to 12,000 households that were already on the Compost Scheme.
- 2.13 The households that are currently on the Compost Scheme but are not on the multi-materials box scheme are as follows:

Location	Number of Households
Hartshome	1126
Woodville	1097
Linton	694
Castle Gresley & Rosliston	855
Walton on Trent & Coton in the Elms	712
Total	4484

2.14 The next approved expansions of the Compost Scheme are as follows:

Date	Location	Number of Households
September 04	Overseal, Acresford, Stanton, Castle Gresley (part), Netherseal, Lullington, Drakelow, Cauldwell, Catton.	2,169
March 05	Newhall (part), Midway (part)	1,953

2.15 However, as recommended earlier, it is proposed to delay the implementation of the September extension in order to take the opportunity of expanding the "box" scheme instead so that the total number of households with boxes would then exceed the number with brown bins. This should help to ease some residents' concerns with regard to the alternate week collection system when the Compost Scheme is introduced.

2.16 Furthermore, as Members will be aware of from previous reports, there are new regulations coming into force regarding the processing of waste to compost. The timing of and the implications of the implementation of the new regulations are now the subject of much discussion between officers and the Council's current partners.

2.17 It is considered prudent, therefore, to review the Council's timetable for the expansion of the Compost Scheme as part of these discussions and to submit a report of the proposed way forward with a revised timetable for Members' approval at a future meeting.

2.18 It is proposed, therefore, to expand the multi-materials scheme to the areas that are currently on the compost scheme but are not yet on the box scheme (as detailed in Paragraph 2.13) and to select the remaining households in accordance with the revised timetable for the expansion of the Compost Scheme.

3.0 Financial Implications

3.1 The additional cost to the Council over the next three years is £70,000 out of which £42,500 is for one-off costs for the purchase of the boxes and the publicity material.

3.2 The additional expenditure was approved by the Finance & Management Committee at its meeting on 22nd July 2004.

4.0 Community Implications

4.1 The scheme will require more effort from residents in separating their waste for recycling but is likely to be well received especially in households serviced by the Compost Scheme.

5.0 Conclusions

- 5.1 The extension of the multi-materials box scheme will provide an additional service to a further 12,000 households.
- 5.2 Finance & Management Committee has approved the financing of the scheme.
- 5.3 Cheshire Recycling Group is experienced in similar schemes, has a good working knowledge of the local area, and has performed well on the current pilot scheme. Members, therefore, are asked to suspend Standing Orders in order to allow officers to negotiate the best deal to deliver the best service for the Council.
- 5.4 The scheme will be particularly welcome in households serviced by the Compost Scheme and should be expanded into those areas in accordance with the revised expansion timetable. The timetable needs to be revised in order to take this opportunity to expand the multi-materials scheme and to take account of the implications of the new regulations affecting the composting process.
- 5.5 Funding should be sought to implement the multi-materials collection scheme across the whole of the district in the future if the current pilot scheme and expansion prove successful.