

**Forest Heath District Council
St Edmundsbury Borough Council**

**WEST SUFFOLK WASTE
AND STREET SCENE
SERVICES JOINT
COMMITTEE**

12 June 2009

**REPORT NO
A31**

**Report of the Strategic Director (Services) (FHDC)
and the Corporate Director (Environment) (SEBC)**

PERFORMANCE UPDATE 2008/2009

Synopsis:

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the performance against national and local indicators within the Waste and Street Scene department.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Members note the performance for 2008/2009 and agree for the 2009/2010 performance to be reported to the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Joint Committee on a quarterly basis.

Commentary:

Background

- 1 Reporting on performance is not only a statutory duty of a local authority but is an important element of monitoring and measuring the quality of our services against national and local trends.
- 2 As a result, each and every tonne of waste collected is recorded and the summary is analysed on a monthly basis to help identify any anomalies and ensure that targets are being achieved.
- 3 With the need to ensure that costs are kept low but with an aim to improve performance year on year it is critical that opportunities for increases in waste diversion through existing infrastructure are identified and that we investigate potential for improvements in cleansing that does not require additional resources.
- 4 The table below lists the national indicators that relate to waste and street cleansing services for Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury for the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 and the tonnages collected during this period that provide useful information that support the changes in performance. Data for 2007/2008 is provided

to show performance compared with the previous year. Targets have been agreed and relate to 2009/2010.

Table 1 –Forest Heath Performance Data and Target

National Indicator	Definition	Actual (2007/08)	Actual (2008/09)	Target (2009/10)
NI 191	Kg of residual waste collected per household	519.68kg	513.65kg	515kg
NI 192	Percentage of household waste recycled and composted	46.43%	46.53%	46%
NI 193 (LAA)	Percentage of municipal waste landfill	Unavailable	57%	56%
NI 195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter)	6%	4%	7%
NI 195a	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of detritus)	20%	10%	18%
NI 195b	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti)	0%	0%	1%
NI 195c	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of fly-posting)	0%	0%	1%
NI 196	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of fly-tipping)	Not effective	Effective	Not effective

Table 2 –Forest Heath Tonnage Data

Tonnage data	Actual (2007/08)	Actual (2008/09)
Total tonnes of household waste collected	25,610.78	25,364.46
Tonnes of household waste diverted	11,889.62	11,802.36
Tonnes of household waste sent for landfill	13,721.16	13,562.10
% of household waste diverted	46.43%	46.53%

Table 3 – St Edmundsbury Performance Data and Target

National Indicator	Definition	Actual (2007/08)	Actual (2008/09)	Target (2009/10)
NI 191	Kg of residual waste collected per household	492kg	471kg	465kg
NI 192	Percentage of household waste recycled and composted	50.81%	51.29%	51%
NI 193 (LAA)	Percentage of municipal waste landfill	Unavailable	53%	52%
NI 195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter)	10%	5%	5%
NI 195a	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of detritus)	24%	12%	12%
NI 195b	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti)	4%	3%	3%
NI 195c	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of fly-posting)	0%	0%	0%
NI 196	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of fly-tipping)	Effective	Very Effective	Very Effective

Table 4 – St Edmundsbury Tonnage Data

Tonnage data	Actual (2007/08)	Actual (2008/09)
Total tonnes of household waste collected	46,714	46,186
Tonnes of household waste diverted	23,712	23,690
Tonnes of household waste sent for landfill	23,002	22,496
% of household waste diverted	50.29%	51.29%

Performance Analysis

5 The key points to note from these tables are listed below:-

- The overall amount of waste collected from each household has fallen compared to the previous year. This would suggest that households are producing less waste overall. This may be, in part, to do with an increased awareness of waste minimisation and may also be related to the economic downturn with households purchasing and wasting less.
- The percentage of waste recycled and composted has increased from the previous year. Interestingly, as seen in tables 3 and 4, the tonnage of waste collected for recycling has reduced, which may be through waste minimisation schemes such as Zero Waste Week having a positive effect on residents purchasing behaviour. As the contamination level in the blue bin has improved from 8.27% to 6.06% and the amount of waste sent to landfill was lower than the previous year the recycling rate has increased.
- The percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill is a new indicator (also measured through the LAA) and is a similar calculation to the percentage of household waste recycled/composted but includes waste collected from trade customers. It is predicted that with the expansion of the trade waste collection service, this indicator will improve in 2009/2010.
- The amount of waste sent to landfill per household has reduced from the previous year. This suggests that residents have been putting less waste in their black bin. This is typical of the trends in overall waste reduction that could be linked to residents being more conscious about what they throw away.
- There have been some significant improvements in street and environmental cleanliness particularly in the amounts of litter and detritus. This is due in part to a change in the way the indicator is calculated, where areas that only just fall below a pass are only graded as a half fail, but also more focused cleansing has been adopted.

6 The 2009/2010 cost of waste collection per household for Forest Heath is £48.85 and for St Edmundsbury is £46.99. This is an increase from the previous year due to gate fees for recycling and composting but this is still more cost effective than sending waste to landfill. The overall cost of the service is excellent value for money compared with other high performers.

Plans for increased performance in 2009/2010

- 7 The performance shown in the table above has demonstrated that we are continuing to improve in all areas. The targets that have been set for 2009/2010 are not accompanied by additional budgets and therefore a number of planned enhancements have been identified and are included within the Joint Service Plan that can be developed through existing budgets which will lead to increased performance.
- Develop and implement a strategy to reduce litter and detritus;
 - Improve capture rate and quality of waste recovered from the municipal waste stream for recycling and composting;
 - Review provision of recycling sites and bring bank service;
 - Identify options and agree proposals for the phased implementation of trade waste recycling; and
 - Review provision and distribution of sacks to difficult to reach areas.
- 8 It is proposed that the performance for both authorities are reported to the Joint Committee on a quarterly basis.

Finance/Budget/Resource Implications

- 9 The planned enhancements can be delivered within existing budgets. There is no additional budget to meet the 2009/2010 targets.

Environmental Impact and Sustainability

- 10 The performance achieved and targets set will ultimately reduce the negative impacts on the environment in an efficient and sustainable manner. None of the planned enhancements will have negative impact on the environment.

Policy Compliance/Power

- 11 There is no policy compliance issues associated with this report.

Performance Management Implications

- 12 The performance detailed in this report refers to the national and local indicators reported by each of the authorities. The planned enhancements directly relate to improvements in all performance monitoring.

Legal Implications

- 13 There is no policy compliance associated with this report.

Human Rights Act and Diversity Implications

- 14 There are no human rights or diversity implications associated with this report.

Cross Cutting Implications

- 15 There is no cross cutting implications associated with this report.

Risk Assessment

- 16 The targets for 2009/2010 have been chosen following consideration by Officers and have been given Member approval.
- 17 The planned enhancements are featured on the Joint Service Plan and have therefore been individually risk assessed.
- 18 The performance will be reported quarterly to the Joint Committee to monitor progress and ensure that targets are being achieved.

Council Priorities

- 19 Monitoring, measuring and reporting on performance will contribute to the following council priorities:-

Forest Heath:

- Community engagement and communications
- Street scene and environment

St Edmundsbury:

- Secure a sustainable and attractive environment
- Improve the safety and wellbeing of the community

Recommendations:

- 20 It is recommended that:-
 - (1) Members note the performance for 2008/2009; and
 - (2) agree for the 2009/2010 performance to be reported to the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Joint Committee on a quarterly basis.

Documents Attached

n/a

Nigel McCurdy
Strategic Director (Services)
20 March 2009

Sandra Pell
Corporate Director (Environment)
20 March 2009

CONTACT OFFICERS

Lisa Rosenthal – Forest Heath District Council
Daniel Sage – St Edmundsbury District Council