

Report of the Executive Director

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREEN FUTURES PROGRAMME STRAND
9 UPDATE- RECYCLING**1. Purpose of report

To provide members with an update on the progress of the Recycling Strand in the Climate Change and Green Futures programme. Recycling is strand 9 of the Climate Change and Green Futures programme.

2. Background

Following the adoption of the Climate Change and Green Futures programme in September 2020 this update report will expand on the progress of key strategic actions within the Recycling Strand.

The update will provide details on what has been achieved in 2020/21 and will outline new strategic actions to be achieved for 2021/22.

Further information is shown in the appendix.

3. Financial implications

There are no additional financial implications relating to the Recycling Strand at this stage. Further reports will be brought to Committee in due course, should the financial position change.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to NOTE the report

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIXBackground

The Council provides a kerbside recycling collection service for glass, garden waste and co-mingled dry recyclables. In addition, there are a number of bring sites around the Borough. As well as infrastructure education and engagement plays a key role promoting good environmental behaviour.

For a significant proportion of 2020/21 lockdown measures were in place which has restricted community engagement with regards to waste and recycling. However, it is very pleasing to report that there still has been a number of successes during 2020/21 with regards recycling. The intention for 2021/22 is to build on these achievements now society has begun to get back to some sort of normality.

The achievement for 2020/21 and 2021/22 and planned strategic actions for 2021/22 are shown below.

2020/21 Achievements

- Frontline waste and recycling services maintained throughout the pandemic.
- Increase in kerbside recycling scheme tonnages: glass increased by 18%, garden increased by 11% and a 5% increase in the comingled collections.
- Increase in the Councils recycling rate by 0.5%.
- Engaged with local groups and promoted the Community Clean Teams initiative.
- Participated in national consultations relating to a Deposit Return Scheme and Consistency in household and business recycling in England as part of the consultation process for the Environment Bill.
- Continued to embed the intent within the Single Use Plastics Policy 2018 including for example reducing the use of plastic bags in refuse and the wider Council.
- Engaged with and provided advice to stakeholder groups to encourage behavioural change with regards to recycling and good environmental behaviour.

2021/22 Achievements

- Litter Strategy adopted 14 June 2021.
- Appointment of new Waste and Climate Change Manager who started with the Council 16 August 2021.

2021/22 Planned Actions

- Monitor the progression of the Environment Bill and report to Members on the implications for the Council once the Bill has received Royal Assent.
- Produce a full revised Waste Strategy for the Council.
- Appoint into post a new Waste and Recycling Engagement Officer whose purpose is to promote the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, promote good recycling behaviour and responsible waste management practices.
- Work with the Nottinghamshire Joint Waste Management Group to lobby for additional materials to be recycled.
- Develop educational material for schools, businesses, households, and employees in order to encourage behavioural change in regards to recycling.
- Engage with stakeholder groups on recycling and wider environmental themes
- Work in partnership with charities, for example on Clean and Green Bulky Waste days, to promote the reuse of items as an alternative to disposal.
- Evaluate the refuse and recycling rounds to consider whether further efficiencies can be made by round reconfiguration to reduce the use of fuel and vehicle emissions.
- Continue to embed the intent within the Single Use Plastics Policy 2018 including for example reducing the use of plastic bags in refuse and the wider Council.
- Continue to look for new platforms to promote good environmental behaviour.