

KENT JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Cabinet - 8 November 2018

Report of	Chief Officer, Environmental and Operational Services
Status	For recommendation
Also considered by	Direct and Trading Advisory Committee - 9 October 2018
Key Decision	Yes

Executive Summary: To provide an update on the recent refresh of the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS), and to recommend formally adopting the strategy up to 2020/21.

This report supports the Key Aim of a clean and sustainable environment.

Portfolio Holder	Cllr. Matthew Dickins
Contact Officers	Richard Wilson, Ext. 7262 Paldeep Bhatti, Ext. 7128 (Kent Resource Partnership Manager)

Recommendation to Direct & Trading Advisory Committee:

That it be recommended to Cabinet that the refresh of the KJMWMS up to 2020/21 be adopted.

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Reason for recommendation: To adopt the refresh of the KJMWMS up to 2020/21 to allow development of a longer term strategy of the management of the waste resource in Kent following this period.

Introduction and Background

- 1 The 13 Kent Councils (the 12 Kent Districts and the County Council) who form the Kent Resource Partnership (KRP), first adopted the original KJMWMS in 2007. The strategy sets out how Kent would manage its resource materials and household waste up to 2020. This was refreshed in 2012/13 with a view to refresh again in 2016/17, if required.

- 2 In February 2016, the KRP Members Board agreed to delay the refresh for the following reasons:
 - KCC were developing the Waste Disposal Strategy for 2017-2035.
 - The European Commission had published details in December 2017 that would change the European Waste Framework Directive 2008.
 - The current KJMWMS targets, policies and objectives remained valid up to 2020/21.
- 3 In February 2018 the KRP Member Board approved the Consultation process to obtain views of KRP Stakeholders on the refresh of the KJMWMS. A copy of the consultation document is provided at Appendix A and was considered by the Advisory Committee at its meeting on 13 March 2018.
- 4 On 6 July the KRP Members Board approved the refreshed strategy with a view to formally adopting the strategy by each of the 13 Councils that form the KRP.

The Refreshed KJMWMS

- 5 During the KJMWMS consultation period, 29 responses were received. They ranged from local Parish Councils, Kent councils, and key organisations across the supply chain the KRP have worked with over the years. All responses supported the KRP's decision to refresh its KJMWMS with the following key themes:
- 6 **Residual household waste per household tonnage**
Stakeholders welcomed the KRP's ambition to decrease the residual household waste per household tonnage across Kent. It was highlighted one of the optimum ways to achieve this appeared to be through reduced residual waste frequency or capacity. This was supported alongside the consistency in collections as outlined below.
- 7 **Landfill performance**
Stakeholders noted the significant improvement to Kent's landfill performance where in 2012/13 performance was recorded at 21.0% and in 2016/17; it was recorded at 2.8%. Stakeholders challenged the KRP to consider being more ambitious with its target given its high performance in recent years though no stakeholder went as far as saying the KRP should look to achieve zero waste to landfill. One stakeholder suggested a 2% target might be more challenging for the partnership.
- 8 **'On the go' recycling**
Stakeholders highlighted 'on the go' recycling as a key area for development and agreed this approach needed to be collaborative with the supply chain. It was also highlighted policy 1.5 could be strengthened and reflect the role 'on the go' recycling has a role to reducing litter too. As a starting point, it was suggested it might be best to focus on areas of high footfall or busiest areas e.g. towns, beaches etc.

- 9 **Food recycling**
Stakeholders reflected how policy 2.3 would reinforce the KRP's recycling ambitions up to 2020 and beyond. This has proven to be the case already in Kent with the majority of Kent council's already (or expected to) offer a separate food recycling service to its residents.
- 10 **Consistency in collections & quality recyclates**
Stakeholders highlighted how providing consistent recycling and waste services can result in high quality recyclates, as proven in Kent. Stakeholders wish for this approach to be continued as the consistency in collections would likely attract future investment and infrastructure in Kent and the South East.
- 11 **Transition to other metrics (as opposed to traditional weight-based targets)**
Stakeholders welcomed the KRP's proactive approach to research alternative metrics on waste and resource efficiency in Kent. There was a particular sub-theme focused on using carbon and further work was needed on this nationally too. It was therefore highlighted the KRP may wish to reference in its refreshed KJMWMS though wait upon further guidance as part of the Resource & Waste Strategy which is likely to be published later this year by Defra.
- 12 **EU Circular Economy Package & National Legislation**
Stakeholders highlighted the value for the KRP to align with key policies such as the EU Circular Economy Package, 25 Year Environment Plan and imminent Resource & Waste Strategy. In addition, to maintain a flexible approach to other potential changes that may come from Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) reform, Deposit Return Schemes (DRS), single-use plastic charges etc.
- 13 Taking on board these key themes, at Appendix B is the refreshed KJMWMS.
- 14 The KRP Manager, Paldeep Bhatti, will be attending the Advisory Committee to present the report and findings following the consultation.

Key Implications

Financial

The existing Council contribution to the KRP will continue to support core costs and project costs. Adoption of the refreshed strategy has no financial implications on the Council.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

There are no legal implications and no operational risks identified by adopting the refreshed KJMWMS.

Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Conclusions

The Council be recommended to formally adopt the refreshed Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy up to 2020/21.

Appendices

Appendix A - KJMWMS Refresh Consultation Document - March 2018

Appendix B - KJMWMS Refreshed Strategy 2018/19-2020/21

Background Papers

None

Richard Wilson
Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services