



Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee 10th September 2014

Report of: Simon Green, Executive Director

Subject: Update to Waste Strategy 2009 -2020

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Summary:

The Council's Waste Strategy (a statutory requirement) covering 2009 – 2020 was approved by Cabinet in 2009. There have been significant service changes and other external influences since this time that affect how much waste we produce in Sheffield. This update to our strategy will reflect these changes and explore how we will manage waste in the next period to 2020.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	X
Informing the development of new policy	X
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

Challenge thinking and to have an input into the development of the revised Waste Strategy

Background Papers: None

Category of Report: OPEN

Report of the Director of Place

Background to updating our Waste Strategy 2009 -2020

1. Introduction/Context

1.1 This paper is for background information covering: how we deliver waste Service in Sheffield, why we have a waste strategy and why we need to update our strategy.

1.2 The presentation to the Committee will build on this background information setting our future options to update the waste strategy for the next period to 2020, the impacts of these to our customers and the services we provide and costs.

2. Waste Services and the Waste Strategy in Sheffield

2.1 Sheffield Background Information

2.1.1 Waste services are provided on behalf of the Council by Veolia through a long term contract from 2001- 2036. All elements of the service are provided by Veolia including; waste and recycling collections; five household waste recycling centres and a network of recycling sites in the community (such as supermarkets etc); all treatment of waste – disposal, recycling and energy recovery through the facility at Bernard Road supplying the District Energy Network and all support functions including the call centre and customer support.

2.1.2 Key outputs of Veolia Waste Contract:

- Through the Contract Veolia manage around 185,000 tonnes of waste a year
- Provide 47,000 black bin and recycling collections a day
- Provides Energy to around 140 buildings via the District Energy Networks and provides surplus energy to the National Grid.

The Contract value is around £23m a year.

2.1.3 The Council retains a small client and contract management team of 9 staff to oversee the Contract, ensuring Veolia's delivery of the service plus the development of strategy and policies to ensure Sheffield meets all its statutory obligations.

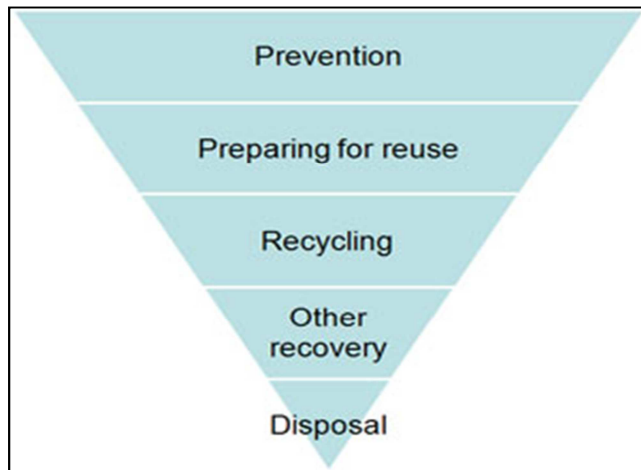
2.2 Purpose of the Waste Strategy

2.2.1 The purpose of the waste strategy is to understand and explore factors affecting how much waste will be produced in Sheffield and to identify practical, economic options for treating this waste in line with waste hierarchy (see below).

2.2.2 The Council is legally required to have a waste strategy, a waste minimisation and a recycling plan. It is our intention that these are combined as the waste strategy.

2.2.3 The waste hierarchy is the guiding principal to how we should manage waste, used commonly internationally. Starting at the top, **waste prevention** is

the most desirable outcome – if we can prevent waste in the first place (through good design for example) then we save all the resources of the materials and energy.



At the bottom of the hierarchy, disposal is the last step, the other options should be explored before this as they recover more value from materials saving energy and carbon. Each step down towards disposal represents greater environmental impact of treating waste.

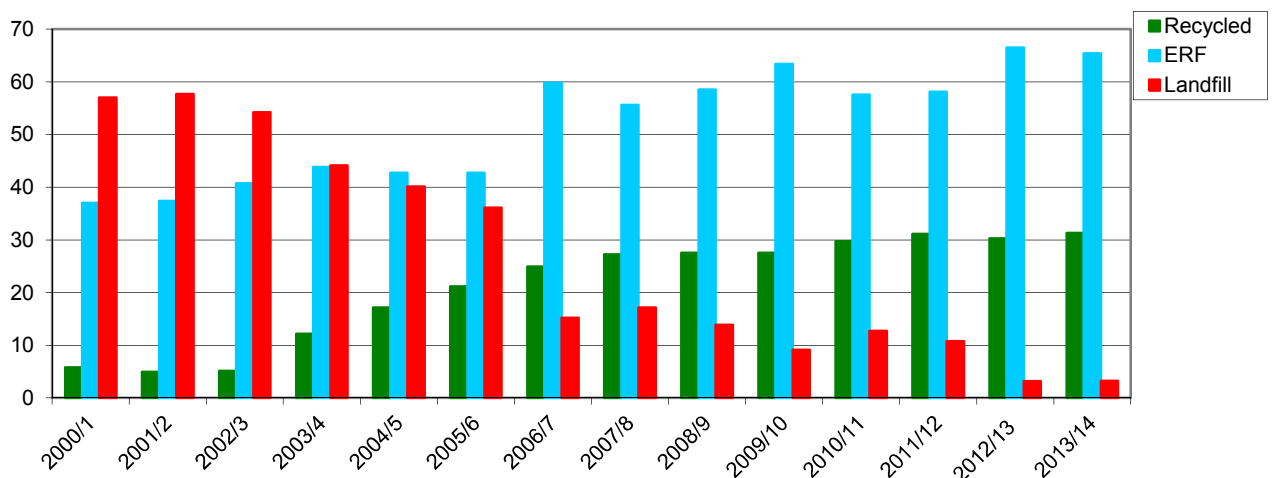
2.3 Updating Sheffield’s Existing Waste Strategy

2.3.1 Existing waste strategy (2009-2020) was agreed by Cabinet in 2009. Vision being to; Reduce the environmental impact of Sheffield’s waste and to exceed the expectations of our customers

The objectives we set and measures for these were:

Objective	Target for delivery
Reduce Sheffield’s Waste	2% reduction in waste each year
Help Sheffield residents and businesses to recycle	Working towards 45% recycling by 2020
Minimise Sheffield’s waste that goes to landfill	To reduce the proportion of Sheffield’s waste that is sent to landfill to less than 10% by 2020

2.3.2 The graph below shows the really positive move we have made in reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill for disposal whilst continuing to increase our recycling performance year on year



2.3.3 Since the last strategy was agreed in 2009 have made some further significant service and policy changes and it is important that we understand how these have contributed to the targets we set:

We have increased access to recycling through:

- Rolled out the new recycling service (moving from paper and card collected in a 140 litre bin, every 4 weeks to collecting glass, cans and plastic bottles as well as paper and card using a 55litre box and 140 litre bin, collected every other week)

Achieved significant cost savings though:

- Moving to alternate week collection for black bins
- Ceasing funding for garden waste collections
- Revising the open times of the 5 Household Waste Recycling Centres

2.3.4 We are proposing that we continue with original objectives we set back in 2009 because these objectives are broadly aligned to the waste hierarchy. We do want to review our targets and explore factors which will affect our ability to achieve these such as more households and people living in the city will impact if we can continue to reduce total waste each year.

2.3.5 So, in reviewing the outcomes we want to aim for we must consider how we can achieve these, i.e. what changes to services or policies would we need to implement to, what would these changes cost and what other external factors and influences such as the economic climate affect how much waste we all produce. These will be the key questions explored in the presentation to the Committee and help inform the Committee in any recommendations to the Cabinet.

3. What does this mean for the people of Sheffield?

3.1 The update to the Waste Strategy may include proposals for service changes to contribute achieving our outcomes. Any changes must be delivered within the Council's significant budget reductions.

4. Recommendation

4.1 Review the background paper and existing waste strategy ahead of the Committee discussion.