

Cherwell District Council

Executive

4 March 2019

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

Report of Assistant Director: Environmental Services

This report is public

Purpose of report

To gain the support and the endorsement of the Executive regarding the Oxfordshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS).

1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the contents and the challenges of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
- 1.2 To adopt the Joint Management Waste Management Strategy to guide the delivery of waste management services in the Council.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 In 2007 the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership (OWP), the forerunner of the Oxfordshire Environment Partnership (OEP) agreed the first Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS). The strategy set out the steps that the Partnership wished to take to move from a recycling rate of around 33% to 55% in 2020, and detailed the infrastructure and collection changes that were needed.
- 2.2 The strategy is updated every five years and is due for its second review, the draft Strategy was discussed by OEP Members in July 2018, but with the announcement that the National Resources and Waste Strategy was due to be published that autumn, sign off and adoption was delayed in order to ensure it did not contradict any of Oxfordshire's proposed policies.
- 2.3 The national strategy after several delays was published on 18 December 2018 and the potential implications of this were presented at the last OEP meeting in late January 2019. The proposed JMWMS document (Appendix 1) is very similar to the document discussed by OEP in July 2018 but has been updated to reflect the publication of the national strategy. The document in Appendix 1 will have graphics and graphs created and the document will be designed to aid readability.

3.0 Report Details

- 3.1 The National Resources and Waste Strategy is bold and ambitious and has the potential to transform the waste industry. The Government is keen to preserve our stock of material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy. The national strategy addresses some well-known issues in the waste industry and embraces the circular economy approach of keeping products in use for as long as possible and making it easier to reuse, repair, refurbish or recycle them.
- 3.2 There are several policies that have the potential to impact local authorities depending on how they are implemented. The policies are in their infancy and will be developed following consultation over the next few years. Many of the consultations commence this year with implementation early in the next decade.
- 3.3 Oxfordshire's ability to reach the recycling targets proposed in the JMWMS may be affected by these policies. Oxfordshire's JMWMS proposes a 65% recycling rate by 2025, but policies such as extended producer responsibility and deposit return schemes do not get fully implemented until 2023. These new changes may not influence the recycling rate quickly and could lead to there being less recycled material passing through the local authority waste streams.
- 3.4 OEP has stated that they wish Oxfordshire's strategy to be ambitious, helping economic and population growth while using resources sustainably. It is therefore that the current recycling targets are kept to demonstrate all partners' commitment to reducing waste arising's and increasing recycling. The JMWMS will be reviewed in 2023/24 (in accordance with the five year cycle) and targets will then be reviewed and adjusted to reflect changing situations.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 The JMWMS is supported by the other five Oxfordshire authorities and fits in with the new National Resource and Waste Strategy.
- 4.2 The National Resource and Waste Strategy encourages waste partnerships to deliver the new strategy and this Oxfordshire JMWMS document is important to deliver this new strategy and the lowest cost to the Oxfordshire taxpayer.

5.0 Consultation

Public Consultation
Oxford City
Oxfordshire County Council
South Oxfordshire District Council
Vale of White Horse Council
West Oxfordshire District Council

6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

6.1 The following alternative options have been identified

Option 1: To adopt the Oxfordshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Option 2: To reject the Oxfordshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and ask officers to reconsider the strategy.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

7.1 There are no direct immediate financial implications with adopting this strategy. Any changes in the collection services which result from the new waste strategy will be considered in future business planning cycles.

Comments to be checked by:

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Legal Implications

7.2 Local authorities in two-tier areas in England (that is, areas where there is a county council responsible for waste disposal and a district council responsible for waste collection) are required to produce joint municipal waste management strategies (JMWMS) (section 32, Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003).

JMWMS should outline plans for diverting biodegradable waste away from landfill and increasing recycling rates, in accordance with the national waste strategy. Initial strategies had to be drawn up by May 2005 and kept under review.

Very high performing waste authorities, as confirmed and notified by the Secretary of State, may be exempt from the duty to prepare joint municipal waste strategies, under the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategies (Disapplication of Duties) (England) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/63).

Comments checked by:

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7.3 There are no direct risks from adopting this strategy as the waste collection has a high recycling rate and a strong customer satisfaction with services. Any changes in the collection services which result from the new waste strategy will be considered in future business planning cycles including any risk implications.

Comments checked by:

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8.0 Decision Information

Key Decision

Financial Threshold Met	No
Community Impact Threshold Met	No

Wards Affected

All

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

Cherwell: Safe, Clean and Green

Lead Councillor

Councillor Debbie Pickford, Lead Member for Clean and Green

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	Oxfordshire Municipal Waste Management Strategy
Background Papers	
None	
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